

SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN OF JULY 21, 2019

SUNDAY/JULY 21

5th Sunday After Pentecost
Prophet Ezekiel (+ 6th c. BC)

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy;
Blessing of Autos & Bikes; Coffee Hour

MONDAY/JULY 22

7:00p.m. Compline & Akathist to the Icon,
"Joy of All That Sorrow" (July 23)

THURSDAY/JULY 25

7:00p.m. Compline & Akathist to
St. Jacob of Alaska (+1864)

FRIDAY/JULY 26

7:00p.m. Vespers & Confessions

SATURDAY/JULY 27

St. Panteleimon the Healer (+304)

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy
5:30p.m. Vigil; Confessions

SUNDAY/JULY 28

6th Sunday After Pentecost

St. Irene of Cappadocia (+9th c.)

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy and
Blessing of Apples; Coffee Hour; Q. & A. Period

"Work as if
expecting to live a
hundred years, and
pray as if expecting
to die tomorrow."

SERBIAN PROVERB

"Live as if Christ
died yesterday, rose
from the dead today,
and is coming back
tomorrow."

A SAYING

GREAT-MARTYR AND HEALER PANTELEIMON

Commemorated July 27th

Panteleimon was born in Nicomedia of a Christian mother and a pagan father. His mother was called Eubufa and his father Eustorgius. As a young man he studied the science of medicine. The priest, Hermolaus, invited Panteleimon to be with him and taught him the Faith of Christ



and baptized him. Panteleimon miraculously cured a blind man whom the other doctors treated in vain; he cured him by the power of Christ and baptized him. Out of envy the doctors accused Panteleimon of being a Christian and he went before the Emperor Maximian to stand trial. "He stood before the earthly king in body but in thought he stood before the heavenly King." Before the emperor, he freely declared that he was a Christian and, before the eyes of the emperor, he healed a paralytic of a long-standing illness. This miracle drew many pagans to the Faith of Christ. The emperor subjected him to torture but the Lord appeared to him on several occasions and delivered him whole and unharmed. Saint Hermolaus with Hermippas and Thermocrates were then martyred. Sentenced to death, Saint Panteleimon knelt for prayer. At that moment the executioner struck him on the neck with a sword and the sword broke as though it were made of wax. The executioner was unable to execute him until the saint completed his prayer and until Panteleimon told him to behead him. His relics possessed the ability to heal. Panteleimon was executed under an olive tree which, after that, became all adorned with fruit. PANTA LEON means, "all merciful" "all compassionate." The All-merciful God received his righteous soul and glorified him among His great saints. This wonderful martyr suffered honorably for Christ in his youth, on July 27, 304 A.D. Saint Panteleimon is invoked in prayers at the time of the "Blessing of Waters" and in the blessing of the holy oils used in the "The Sacrament of Holy Unction," together with Saint Hermolaus and the other unmercenary saints and wonder-workers. A most beautiful church dedicated to this saint is located on Holy Mount Athos.

From the Prologue of Ochrid

Offerings Week of July 21

Relics candle: in honor of St. John of San Francisco; in memory of Michael, Melania, Justina, Rosalie, Anastasia and Ivanna; in memory of Nicholas, Eleanore, Ann Marie, John and Jerome.

Olive Oil: for the health of Vera and in memory of Jan; for the health of Nicole & Jacob; for the health of Robert & Stacey (wedding anniversary); for the health of Hyaden (birthday); in memory of Clara & Alex.

Wine: in memory of Eva & for safe travel.

Flowers: for the health and salvation of Rebecca (birthday); in honor of the Theotokos, our Great Protectress.

Parish Synodicon: Memory Eternal!

July 22, 1982 Ann Holovach
July 22, 1989 Helen Stashkevetch
July 23, 1988 John Suseck
July 23, 1988 David Riegler
July 24, 1950 Joseph Hamernick
July 24, 1965 Steven Sabat
July 24, 1996 Roman Bodenchuk
July 24, 2004 Elizabeth Tyevech
July 25, 1941 Maria Kuch
July 25, 1966 Jospheh Verkon
July 25, 1973 John Pawlik
July 26, 1917 Michael Khout
July 26, 1956 Michael Evanoff
July 26, 1977 Clara Bartushak
July 26, 1977 Peter Cresina



Coffee Hour Schedule

July 28 Peterson, Bakaletz, Mattei,
Erkman & Stone
Aug. 04 & 11: Dormition Lent: no
meat, dairy or fish
Aug. 04 Kita, Nevitt, Keller, Turri,
Torrise & Kachek

Counters Schedule

July 28 Larissa M. & Paulina N.
Aug. 04 Katerina G. & Ekaterina M.

Ushers Schedule

July 28 Edward S. & Kahka K.
Aug. 04 Timothy S. & Peter B.

Reader's Schedule

July 28 Daniel T. / Aug. 04 John Z.

Names Day Greetings

St. Ann/July 25: Lisa Ann Keller, Jill Ann Peterson, Dolly Ann Bakaletz & Anna Kaliashvili;
Many Blessed Years!

Sunday Coffee Hour Hosts – Please remember

All setting up needs to be completed before Liturgy starts. Only after the time of Communion should you leave the church for further preparations. For the Sundays of August 4th and 11th, foods should be Lenten (that is, no meat, dairy or fish).

St. Andrew's Diocesan Camp

In this month of July a "matching grant" will be given up to \$10,000 to match contributions for the new multi-purpose building to be erected. Please see the Sunday Bulletin of July 14th for exact information or the diocesan website: www.nynjoca.org

Appreciation to the Crew That worked on the Church Floor – July 13th

May the Lord bless your contribution of time and labor.

The Blessing of Apples – July 28th, Next Sunday on Feast of St. Irene

It is a custom in some churches to bless apples on this day in memory of the Miracle of Apples Sent from Paradise (this you can read about in today's bulletin). You may bring apples at the liturgy for blessing. The Blessing of Fruits (of all kinds) is the Feast of Transfiguration, August 6th.

The Dormition Lent: August 1st-14th

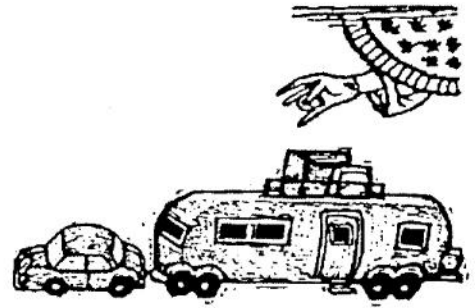
This two week fast is in honor of the repose, burial, resurrection and ascension into heaven of the Holy Mother of God.

A fast is observed from meat, dairy and fish. Days permitting modifications to the fast are found on parish wall calendar and the Sunday Bulletins.

Regular Communicants must go to Confession in August month to be able to continue to receive Holy Communion, if they have not been to Confession any time after Pascha (April 28th).

THE BLESSING OF AUTOMOBILES

O Lord our God, Who makes the clouds Thy chariot and Who walks on the wings of the wind, Who has sent to Thy servant, the Prophet Elias, a chariot of fire, Who has guided man to invent this (car, truck, motorcycle, etc.) which is as fast as the wind. We thank Thee for Thou hast provided Thy servants with this vehicle to serve their various needs. Therefore, O Master, pour out now upon it Thy heavenly blessings; assign to it a guardian angel to preserve it from all evil. And as Thou didst grant faith and grace by Thy deacon Philip to the man from Ethiopia who was sitting in his chariot and reading holy Scripture, show the way of salvation to Thy servants. So that helped by Thy grace and always intent on doing good works, they may after all the trials of their pilgrimage on earth, attain to everlasting joys, through the intercessions of our Most-pure Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, by the power of the precious and life-giving Cross; through the prayers of the holy Angels; of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker and of all the Saints: For Thou art the Provider and Sanctifier of all things and to Thee do we ascribe glory, and to Thy Only-begotten Son, and Thy All-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.



10 COMMANDMENTS FOR DRIVERS

- I. Always begin a trip with prayer, making the Sign of the Cross and entrusting yourself to the Lord.
- II. Never drink and drive.
- III. Never try to shorten the time of a trip. If you started out late, you will arrive late. Do not speed.
- IV. Apologize to a driver whom you have interfered with, even when you did not intend to. After all, when we are walking, and bump someone, we apologize without thinking. So why should there be a different ethic behind the wheel?
- V. Always yield way to someone who is in a great hurry, or is driving aggressively. If you do not yield, he will still pass you, but the situation will be more dangerous.
- VI. Give a wave of thanks to a driver who makes way for you.
- VII. Drive in such a way that you won't fear seeing a police car. Remember that God is watching, even if the police are not.
- VIII. Stay as far away as possible from cars that have dents or show signs of accidents. But be careful not to judge, or you may share in their misfortune.
- IX. Never speed up when another driver tries to pass you, or to get into your lane. Do not treat your neighbor in a way you do not want to be treated.
- X. After every trip, thank God for its safe completion. Be thankful after any trip, and not just a successful one. After all, almost always it could have been worse!

ASK FATHER: 3 QUESTIONS / 3 ANSWERS

Q. Is it better not to show up if I know I'm going to be late to church?

A. It's always better to show up late to church rather than not at all. That being said though, it is always better to be not just on time for church, but even a little early. We should try to be a little early so that we can gather our thoughts from the cares of the world and redirect them to God. By doing this before the service begins we will be ready to receive Christ who tells us that when two or three are gathered together in His Name, He is in their midst. (Matt. 18:20)



Even in the secular world, if we are expecting the visit of person of honor, we make sure that we not only arrive before he does but we also make sure that we are ready to receive him properly. This is why we should arrive in church early and then instead of conversing with our neighbor (which there is time to do after the service), we should set about our primary task, which is to turn our minds to God and warm our hearts in prayer.

Q. Please forgive me for this question, is it safe to share one spoon when receiving the Holy Communion?

A. In a word, Yes, it is safe to receive Holy Communion from the same spoon. The reason why it is safe is because of what is being received – the Body and Blood of Christ. In the nearly two thousand year history of the Church there has never been a case where a person became sick or contracted a disease from receiving Holy Communion. The only time people have become sick through partaking of Holy Communion is when they partake without proper preparation. This is why the Apostle Paul warns: "But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of that bread and drink of that cup. For he who eats and drinks unworthily eats and drinks condemnation to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this cause many among you are weak and sickly, and many sleep. For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged." (1 Cor. 11:28-31)

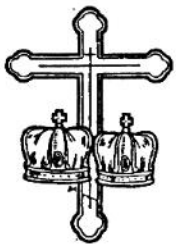


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On a practical note, the safest way to receive Holy Communion, that is so that an accident does not take place, is to open one's mouth wide, and then close one's mouth on the spoon in the normal fashion.

Q. Father, I've heard that marriages in the Orthodox Church are not performed on certain days. What days are these, and why is this?

A. In the Orthodox Church marriages are not performed:



1. On the Eves of Wednesdays and Fridays throughout the year.
2. On the Eves of Sundays, Twelve Great Feasts, the feast of the parish, and some other great feasts.
3. During the Great Lent, Apostle's Fast, Dormition Fast, and Nativity Fast.
4. From Christmas (Dec. 25th) through the Synaxis of the Baptist (Jan. 7th).
5. During Cheesefare Week and Bright Week.
6. On the Day and Eve of the Beheading of the Baptist (Aug. 29th) and the Elevation of the Cross (Sept. 14th).

Marriages are not performed on these days so that the wedding celebrations do not compete with the festivities of holy days, nor conflict with the solemn character of our fasts. Before setting a day for your wedding be sure to speak with your priest.



ST. IRENE OF CHRYSOVALANTOU AND THE THREE GOLDEN APPLES

St. Irene was a deaconess and abbess, that lived in the 9th century. During her life, she governed a monastery of nuns and was noted for her piety and miracles.

Once, she received a gift from heaven. Here is the story.

On the feast of St. Basil the Great, a compatriot of Abbess Irene, who was also from Cappadocia, before the day began to dawn, a bodiless voice said to the saint: "Receive the sailor who shall bring you fruit today. Eat them rejoicing and let your soul be glad."

After the nuns chanted Matins, the abbess sent two nuns, saying, "Go to the door and permit entry to the sailor you shall find outside." When the sailor approached the holy abbess, they bowed to one another and, praying, they sat. Saint Irene then inquired of him how he came to the convent. He answered, "I am a sailor from the island of Patmos. On account of my work, I took a ship bound for the capital city of Constantinople. As we were passing the tip of my island, I observed a handsome and godly looking elder, who called out to us to wait for him. Now we were unable to drop anchor because we had a strong wind as we were racing to pass by the rocks. Nevertheless, the elder, shouting louder, commanded the ship to halt. Forthwith, we stopped until the old man walked upon the waves. When he came up to our vessel, he took three apples from his breast and gave them to me, saying, 'When you shall arrive in the Imperial city, give these to the Patriarch Methodius, and tell him you did receive them from the All-Good God and His servant John from Paradise.' Then he took out three similar apples, and said, 'Give these to the Abbess of Chrysovalantou, named Irene, and tell her, Eat from these and whatever your good soul desires shall be realized; for now I have come from Paradise and brought them.' After he said this, he blessed God and bade all on board Godspeed. Straightway, the ship then moved and became invisible. I gave the three apples to the Patriarch; therefore, I brought your holiness the other three apples."

When the venerable Irene heard this, from her joy, she wept and offered up many thanks to the beloved Apostle and Theologian John, who delivered such a gift. The sailor then took out a gold-colored silk handkerchief where he kept and valued the three apples as holy objects. He then gave them over to the saint with much reverence. St. Irene received the fruits as divine gifts from God.

The three holy apples from Paradise were superior to the earth's fruits: first and foremost in beauty; second, according to fragrance; third, they were markedly larger and extraordinary. Thus, at that time, in the capital, none was holier than St. Methodius and St. Irene. The sailor then took the abbess' blessing and, by her leave, he departed.

The First Apple

St. Irene then fasted for one week, offering thanks unto the Lord for the gifts which he sent. Afterwards, to His glory, she began to eat a little from one of the apples everyday, without partaking of any other foods. She did not even partake of water for forty days. The beauty of fragrance that emitted from her mouth was sensed



by the nuns and all in the monastery, as though myrrh and precious spices were prepared by her daily. The atmosphere itself was permeated with this sweet and wondrous scent of Paradise.

The Second Apple

After this, Great and Holy Thursday arrived. The abbess ordered all the nuns to receive Holy Communion. After they communicated of the Holy Mysteries, the saint divided the second apple and gave each of the nuns a slice to partake. However, from whence the apples came they were not told. They only wondered at the fragrance and sweetness they sensed in their mouths; and much rather, they marveled at the delight and joy in their souls. The third apple was preserved as a precious keepsake; and whenever St. Irene inhaled its outstanding fragrance, she received rest and joy in her soul.

The Third Apple

Since the blessed Irene was also human, it was necessary that she too, depart this world. It was the 26th of July when Mother Irene celebrated the consecration of their convent Church of the Holy

Archangels. The angel that always accompanied her revealed her repose when he said, "Know that in the coming year, on the 28th of this month (July), when you will celebrate the feast of the Great-Martyr Panteleimon, you will come before the throne of the Godhead."

The following year, according to her custom, St. Irene would communicate of the Divine Mysteries, after fasting and praying for one week. Indeed, she ate nothing and did not even drink water. At that time, she partook of that marvellous third apple, sent from Paradise by the beloved disciple of Christ, St. John the Theologian. She knew the time arrived to depart to her much desired Bridegroom.

We know how she partook of the two previous apples. The third apple, she saved, so that in this place of exile she might have it in the event of faintheartedness and discouragement, which she had once, as is human. Then there were other times when she needed consolation because of the sorrows and complaints of the nuns. Whenever she would take the apple into her hands and perceive its inexhaustible fragrance, all bitterness and irritability vanished. Mother Irene's sorrow and faintheartedness would turn into cheer and joy. This is because she would rejoice upon remembering that future rest she would inherit forever in the heavenly Kingdom.

After the saint partook of the third apple, again, all of the convent was replete with that otherworldly fragrance. Shortly after this, St. Irene peacefully reposed in the Lord.

It is a custom in some churches to bless apples on the feast of St. Irene, July 28th, commemorating her friendship with God.

