

SS. PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN OF SEPTEMBER 29, 2019

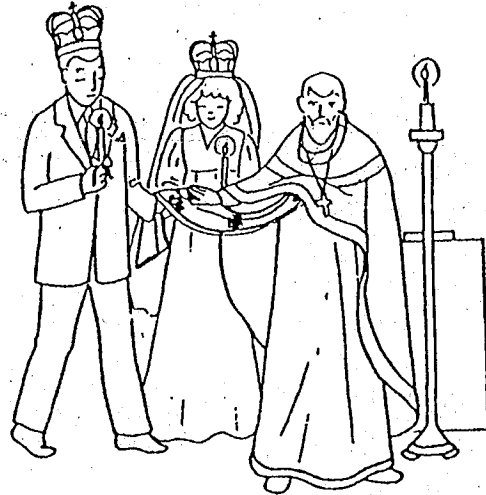
SUNDAY/SEPTEMBER 29

15th Sunday After Pentecost

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour; Church School

2:00 Marriage of Steven P. & Geena G.



MONDAY/SEPTEMBER 30

7:00p.m. Vespers

TUESDAY/OCTOBER 1

Protection of the Holy Theotokos

8:00a.m. Divine Liturgy

WEDNESDAY/OCTOBER 2

6:30p.m. Compline

7-8:30p.m. Study Class: *"The Clergy & Laity in Worship" Part One*

SATURDAY/OCTOBER 5

9:30a.m. Akathist to our Lord; Confessions

5:30p.m. Vigil; Confessions

SUNDAY/OCTOBER 6

16th Sunday After Pentecost

St. Innocent of Alaska & Siberia (+1879)

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy

Food Basket Day; Coffee Hour

WISDOM FROM THE FATHERS



God is the life of all free beings. He is the salvation of all, of believers and unbelievers, of the just and the unjust, of the pious and the impious, of those freed from the passions and those caught up in them, of monks and those living in the world, of the educated or the illiterate, of the healthy or the sick, of the young or of the old. He is like the outpouring of light, the glimpse of the sun, or the changes of the weather, which are the same for everyone without exception.

St. John of the Ladder

If a man has no care whatever for himself because of love for God and virtuous deeds, knowing that God will take care of him - such hope is true and wise. But if a man takes care of his own affairs and turns to prayer only when unavoidable misfortunes overtake him and he sees no way of averting them by his own power, only then beginning to hope in God's aid - such hope is vain and false. True hope seeks the Kingdom of God alone and is convinced that everything earthly that is necessary for this transitory life will unfailingly be given.

St. Seraphim of Sarov

As it is impossible to verbally describe the sweetness of honey to one who has never tasted honey, so the goodness of God cannot be clearly communicated by way of teaching if we ourselves are not able to penetrate into the goodness of the Lord by our own experience.

St. Basil the Great

Offerings for Week of September 29

Relic Candle: in honor of St. John Maximovitch; in memory of Michael, Justina, Anastasia; Rosalia, Melania and Ivanna; for the health of Vera and in memory of John.

Olive Oil: in memory of Sarchisian and Bocai families; for the health of Jeffery (birthday).

Wine: for the health of Marie (birthday) and in memory of Julia; for the health of Alyena Karen.

Flowers: in honor of the Theotokos, our Great Protectress.

Parish Synodicon: Memory Eternal!

Nov. 01 40th Day Stephanie Kachek
Sept. 30, 1954 Wasyl Kluchnik
Sept. 30, 1966 Anna Gnointsky
Sept. 30, 1983 Anna Motoviloff
Sept. ?, 1930 Stephen Chemeris
Oct. 02, 1990 Stella Labay
Oct. 03, 1922 John Milanich
Oct. 03, 1946 Stephen Blisak
Oct. 03, 1971 Dimitri Pegene
Oct. 03, 1978 Pauline Andreyko
Oct. 06, 1961 Michael Gorobetz
Oct. 06, 1963 Daniel Vitorenko

Coffee Hour Schedule

Sept. 29 Sokol, Naledysheva, Staina & Sarchisian
Oct. 06 Chirnoaga, Moldoveanu, Vajda & Sue

Counters Schedule

Sept. 29 Paulina N. & Peter B.
Oct. 06 Katerina G. & Ekaterina M.

Ushers Schedule

Sept. 29 Dennis F.
Oct. 06 Timothy S. & Peter B.

Readers Schedule

Sept. 29 Peter G. / Oct. 06 John Z.

Announcement of Marriage & Invitation to All Parishioners

On September 29th at 2:00p.m., the Marriage of Steve James Parlacoski and Geena Marie Gladysiewicz in our church. Their families invite all parishioners of Ss. Peter & Paul Church to the Marriage and to the Reception to follow immediately after the Service. The address of the Reception is: The Frieri Residence, 1621 Cooper Road Scotch Plains, NJ. **(NB: the address is Cooper Road – not Copper Road as posted incorrectly in the bulletin of Sept. 15th).**

The Newly-Published Orthodox Christian Prayerbook (St. Tikhon's Press 2019 edition)

A new supply of these Prayer books will arrive in October. The cost is \$20. You may preview a sample copy on the vestibule stand. Sections of some of the unique prayers are being posted in the Sunday Bulletins.

Memory Eternal!

The newly-Departed Nicetas Tsokris (+Sept. 22) and Stephanie Kachek (+Sept. 23). Our prayers for their blessed repose and our sympathy to their families.

Names Day Greetings

Protection of Theotokos/Oct. 1: Pam Marie Stone & Marie Turri;
St. Dionysios/Oct. 04: Dennis Fedechko
Many Blessed Years!

Study Classes: Oct. 2 & Oct. 9, Wed. 7-8:30pm

"The Clergy and Laity - Our Roles in Worship & Administration" Part One: Oct. 2 & Part Two: Oct. 9

Many Blessed Years!

To Steven and Geena on their Blessed Union in the Holy Mystery of Marriage today!

Food Basket Day – Oct. 6th, Sunday

Foods may be brought to the vestibule in support of local needs here in Manville.

THE NETWORKS OF COMMUNICATION

From the OCA Mission Resource Kit

The single most comprehensive, contemporary lesson in Church growth (specifically, how to evangelize effectively in your parish) can be learned by standing in any Orthodox church on the first Sunday of Great Lent (Great Lent being a traditional time for the catechumenate) and listening to the Gospel reading (John 1:35ff.). A paraphrase of the events in this passage is as follows:

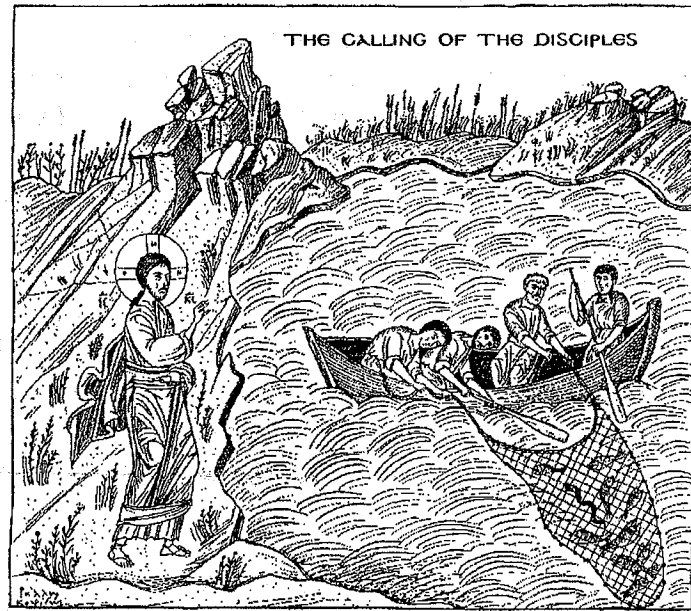
- ❖ Jesus told Andrew, "Come and see," and they did.
- ❖ Because it was important, Andrew went and found his brother Simon Peter and brought him to Jesus.
- ❖ Jesus told Philip, "Follow me," and he did.
- ❖ Because it was important, Philip went and found his friend Nathanael and told him, and Nathanael came to Jesus.

Anyone who can fully grasp the implications of points 2 and 4, and is willing to apply them actively, is on the way to successful evangelism in their local parish. The following statistics on recruited membership are generally accepted by Church analysts in North America. Typically, members of any parish have joined their church because of:

- ❖ Visitations (by priest or parishioner) 1-2 %
- ❖ Walked in off the street 2-3 %
- ❖ Special need met by parish 2-3 %
- ❖ Program offered by parish 3-4 %
- ❖ Sunday School 3-5 %
- ❖ Clergy 3-5%
- ❖ "Crusade" .001 %
- ❖ A relative or friend 70-90 %

Chances are very great that if you are reading this, you are a baptized Christian because a relative or a friend brought you to the Church. (It would be strange to expect anything else.) Further analysis of the 70-90 % in the last category is illuminating: If a majority of the people were brought by relatives, then the parish is more static; if they were brought by friends, then the parish is more dynamic.

A principle related to the family-friends phenomenon illustrated above is found in the New Testament emphasis on evangelism through households. The calling of Zacchaeus and the bringing of salvation to him



and to all his house is (not coincidentally) the Gospel reading that alerts us to preparation for Great Lent, the time of the catechumenate, as mentioned above. Similarly, we note the same paradigm in Acts when Paul evangelizes Lydia and her house, the jailer and his house, and the leader of the synagogue and his house, to mention a few. Our Church normally appoints the Zacchaeus passage for the prayer and blessing of a new house, recognizing the principle of the natural growth of the Church through the family and the associations of the household.

Throughout the New Testament, it is assumed that the primary mode of Church growth is evangelism. Sometimes individuals from native Orthodox cultures lose sight of this reality because of their native situation. There are only three means whereby people become members of parishes: birth, transfer, and evangelism. Christian parenting cannot be expected to be the process by which the entire world becomes Christian. Likewise, transfer of membership to a "new" parish means that an "old" parish has lost a member, so the process is a "wash."

The icon or image that we are given to imitate is that of evangelism, the draught of fishes, the making of disciples. Individuals who hear the Gospel are expected to proclaim the Gospel.

PRAYERS FOR VARIOUS OCCASIONS

For My Family to the Mother of God

O most blessed Lady, take my family under thy protection, implant peace in the heart of my (wife, husband, parents, children, siblings, etc.) and plant there also a love and obedience to everything good, and let none of my family be given over to separation or bitter division, nor to incurable afflictions, not to an untimely or sudden death. Protect our house and all of us living in it from fiery conflagration, attacks of thieves, and every evil threat, addiction, or delusion, so that, together and apart, in open and in secret, we might glorify and praise thy holy Name, now and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Prayer of the Righteous Tobias & Sarah

For a Husband and Wife

The Husband Prays:

O Lord God of our fathers, may the heavens and the earth, and the sea, and the fountains, and rivers, and all of thy creatures that are in them, bless thee. Thou madest Adam of the mud of the earth, and gavest him Eve for a helper and stay. And now, Lord, thou knowest that not for fleshly lust do I take thy handmaid to wife, but out of sincerity and for the sake of posterity, in which thy Name may be blessed unto ages of ages.

And his wife Prays:

Have mercy on us, O Lord, have mercy on us, and let us grow old together in health. Amen.

(Orthodox Christian Prayer Book, St. Tikhon's Press 2019)

ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

COMMENTARY ON MATTHEW'S GOSPEL

"HOW JESUS CHRIST LOVE US"

I am a father for you, a brother, a bridegroom, and a home, a nurse, and a dress, a root, and a cornerstone. Whatever you want, I am for you. I don't want you to be in any need. I will serve you, because I came not to be served but to serve.

I am a friend, and a member, and a head, and a brother and a sister, and a mother. I am everything for you.

Only be in contact with me. I have been poor for you and a wanderer for you. I have been on the cross and in the tomb for you. High above I mediate for you. Down here I arrived as an ambassador sent by the Father to you. You are everything to me, a brother and a co-heir, a friend and a member of my Body.

What more do you desire?

ON UNDERSTANDING THROUGH THE HOLY SPIRIT

St. Silouan the Athonite

People don't understand the Scriptures; they find them almost incomprehensible. It's only when they're taught by the Holy Spirit that everything becomes clear and the soul feels it's in heaven. Because the same Spirit is in heaven and on earth, in the Holy Scriptures and in the souls of those who love God. Without the Holy Spirit, people go astray and are unable to know God truly and to be comfortable with Him, even if they study all the time. Believe in the Gospel and in the testimony of the holy Church. Then even here on this earth, you'll taste some measure of the bliss of Paradise. Truly the Kingdom of God is within us and His love grants Paradise to the soul. Many princes and rulers abandoned their thrones when they came to know the love of God. This is readily understandable, because God's love is a fiery flame. By the Grace of the Holy Spirit, the joy of the soul extends to tears, and nothing on earth can be compared to this joy.

