

Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church

Albanian Archdiocese - OCA

9230 Old Bustleton Avenue

Philadelphia, PA 19115

215-676-3311

Rev. Nicholas Dellermann – Rector (860-861-7468)

SUNDAY, JULY 28

5th Sunday after Pentecost

**Holy Apostles of the Seventy and Deacons: Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, and
Parmenas**

**Tone 4
Troparion
(Resurrection)**

*When the women disciples of the Lord
learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy
Resurrection,
they cast away the ancestral curse
and elatedly told the apostles:
“Death is overthrown!
Christ God is risen,
granting the world great mercy!”*

**Tone 3
Troparion
(Apostle)**

*Holy Apostles Próchorus, Nícanor, Tímon, and
Parménas,
entreat the merciful God,
to grant our souls forgiveness of transgressions!*

**Tone 4
Kontakion
(Resurrection)**

*My Savior and Redeemer
as God rose from the tomb and delivered the
earth-born from their chains.
He has shattered the gates of hell,
and as Master,
He has risen on the third day!*

**Tone 1
Kontakion
(Apostles)**

*The glorious Nícanor, Próchorus, Parménas, and
Tímon,
the honored deacons and eyewitnesses of the
Word,
have been revealed as chosen vessels of the Faith.
Therefore, we celebrate your holy memory today,
blessing you with gladness of heart.*

✠ Prokeimenon ✠

Tone 4 (Resurrection)

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works; / in wisdom hast Thou made them all. (Ps. 103:26)

V. Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, Thou art very great! (Ps. 103:1)

vi.

✠ The Epistle Reading ✠

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 10:1-10

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but it is not enlightened. For, being ignorant of the righteousness that comes from God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. For Christ is the end of the law, that every one who has faith may be justified. Moses writes that the man who practices the righteousness which is based on the law shall live by it. But the righteousness based on faith says, Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?" (that is, to bring Christ down) or "Who will descend into the abyss?" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart (that is, the word of faith which we preach); because, if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For man believes with his heart and so is justified, and he confesses with his lips and so is saved.

Letra e Apostull Pavlit drejtuar Romakëve 10:1-10

Vëllezër, dëshira e zemrës sime, edhe lutja që i bëj Perëndisë për Izraelin, është për shpëtim të tyre. Sepse dëshmoj për ata se kanë zell për Perëndinë, po jo me vetëdije. Sepse duke mos njohur drejtësinë e Perëndisë, edhe duke kërkuar të vendosin drejtësinë e tyre, nuk iu bindën drejtësisë së Perëndisë. Sepse fundi i ligjit është Krishti, për drejtësi të cilido që beson. Sepse Moisiu shkruan për drejtësinë që është prej ligjit: "Se njeriu që bën këto, do të rrojë me anë të tyre". Po drejtësia që është prej besimit thotë kështu: "Mos thuaj në zemrën tënde: Kush do të ngjitet në qiell?" domethënë, që të zbresë Krishtin. Apo: "Kush do të zbresë në humnerën e pafund?" domethënë, që të sjellë lart Krishtin prej së vdekurish. Po ç'thotë? "Fjala është afër teje, në gojën tënde e në zemrën tënde", domethënë, fjala e besimit që predikojmë; se në rrëfesh me gojën tënde Zotin Jisu, edhe në besofsh në zemrën tënde se Perëndia e ngjalli atë prej së vdekurish, do të shpëtosh. Sepse njeriu beson me zemër për drejtësi, edhe me gojë rrëfëhet për shpëtim.

К Римлянам 10:1-10

Братия! желание моего сердца и молитва к Богу об Израиле во спасение. Ибо свидетельствую им, что имеют ревность по Боге, но не по рассуждению. Ибо, не разумея праведности Божией и усиливаясь поставить собственную праведность, они не покорились праведности Божией, потому что конец закона--Христос, к праведности всякого верующего. Моисей пишет о праведности от закона: исполнивший его человек жив будет им. А праведность от веры так говорит: не говори в сердце твоём: кто взойдет на небо? то есть Христа свести. Или кто сойдет в бездну? то есть Христа из мертвых возвести. Но что говорит Писание? Близко к тебе слово, в устах твоих и в сердце твоём, то есть слово веры, которое проповедуем. Ибо если устами твоими будешь исповедывать Иисуса Господом и сердцем твоим веровать, что Бог воскресил Его из мертвых, то спасешься, потому что сердцем веруют к праведности, а устами исповедуют ко спасению.

Tone 4

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth! (Ps. 44:3b)

V. For Thou lovest righteousness, and hatest iniquity. (Ps. 44:6)

We are again participating in FOCUS Back to School Backpack Initiative.

It is an opportunity to support children in our community with the resources they need to succeed in school, while establishing a relationship that serves both our parish and community. A backpack filled with school supplies is \$25.00. Our goal is 24 backpacks.

ALL DONATIONS ARE GREATLY APPRECIATED.

We will be having special collections on Sundays to support this cause. Also, you may mail or venmo your donation to church. Please specify "BACKPACKS".

Mailing address:

St. Peter & St. Paul Albanian Orthodox Church

9230 Old Bustleton Ave.

Philadelphia, PA 19115

Venmo Account:

St Peter St Paul Alb Orth Ch James Schaeffer

Any questions/donations, please see Debbie Krimez 215-206-0202, zdebonline@gmail.com

The Gospel Reading

The Gospel According to Matthew 8:28-34; 9:1

At that time, when Jesus came to the country of the Gergesenes, two demoniacs met him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one would pass that way. And behold, they cried out, "What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?" Now a herd of many swine was feeding at some distance from them. And the demons begged him, "If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of swine." And he said to them, "Go." So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and perished in the waters. The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what had happened to the demoniacs. And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighborhood. And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city.

Ungjilli Sipas Matheut 8:28-34; 9:1

Edhe kur erdhi ai në anën e përtejme, në vendin e Gjergjesinëve, i dolën përpara dy të demonizuar, që dilnin nga varret, fort të egër, kaq sa s'mund të shkonte njeri nga ajo udhë. Edhe ja tek bërtitën duke thënë: Çfarë ka mes nesh dhe teje, o Jisu, bir i Perëndisë? Erdhe këtu përpara kohës që të na mundosh? Edhe larg atyre ishte një tufë e madhe derrash duke kullotur. Edhe demonët i luteshin atij, duke thënë: Po na nxore që këtej, lërna të shkojmë në tufën e derrave. Edhe u tha atyre: Shkoni. Edhe ata dolën e shkuan në tufën e derrave. Edhe ja gjithë tufa e derrave tek u hodh nga gremina në det, edhe ngordhën në ujërat. Edhe barinjtë ikën e erdhën në qytet, e lajmëruan për të gjitha edhe për sa u ndodhi të demonizuarve. Edhe ja gjithë qyteti tek doli për të takuar Jisuin; edhe kur e panë atë, iu lutën të ikë nga kufijtë e tyre. Edhe si hyri në lundër, u hodh përtej, e erdhi në qytetin e tij.

От Матфея 8:28-34; 9:1

И когда Он прибыл на другой берег в страну Гергесинскую, Его встретили два бесноватые, вышедшие из гробов, весьма свирепые, так что никто не смел проходить тем путем. И вот, они закричали: что Тебе до нас, Иисус, Сын Божий? пришел Ты сюда прежде времени мучить нас. Вдали же от них паслось большое стадо свиней. И бесы просили Его: если выгонишь нас, то пошли нас в стадо свиней. И Он сказал им: идите. И они, выйдя, пошли в стадо свиное. И вот, всё стадо свиней бросилось с крутизны в море и погибло в воде. Пастухи же побежали и, придя в город, рассказали обо всем, и о том, что было с бесноватыми. И вот, весь город вышел навстречу Иисусу; и, увидев Его, просили, чтобы Он отошел от пределов их. Тогда Он, войдя в лодку, переправился [обратно] и прибыл в Свой город.



Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! *(Ps. 148:1)*
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

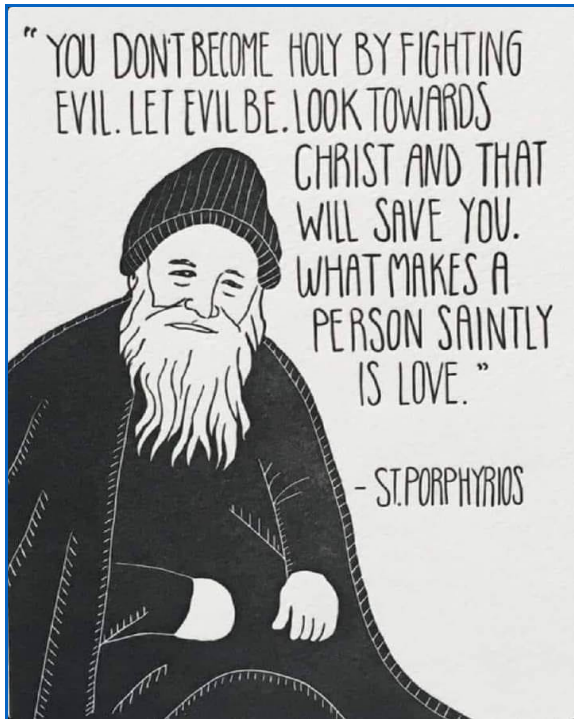
PRAYERS	Birthdays, Names-days, & Anniversaries	SCRIPTURE THIS WEEK	
<i>For Those Who Have Fallen Asleep</i>		SCRIPTURE THIS WEEK	
<p>Alexa Maria</p> <p><i>[To be inserted after the petition for the departed]</i> Again we pray for those who have lost their lives because of conflicts in Ukraine, Armenia, and the Middle East: that the Lord our God may look upon them with mercy, and give them rest where there is neither sickness, or sorrow, but life everlasting.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>Seven-Day Vigil Candles</u></p> <p>Llukan Dylgjeri – health Tina Murianka - Health</p> <p>Seven-Day Vigil Candles are used for the Eternal Light that hangs above the Royal Doors and are often placed in front of the icons of Christ or the Birth-giver of God. If you would like to donate a Seven-Day Vigil Candle, Please include the name or names of those for whom the candle is donated, and we will place them in this section for special prayers.</p>	<p><u>Church Lectionary</u></p> <p><i>Today</i> Romans 10:1-10 Matthew 8:28-34; 9:1</p> <p><i>Monday</i> Romans 16:17-24 Matthew 13:10-23,43</p> <p><i>Tuesday</i> Acts 15:35-41 Matthew 13:24-30</p> <p><i>Wednesday</i> I Corinthians 2:9-16;3:1-8 Matthew 13:31-36</p> <p><i>Thursday</i> Hebrews 11:33-40;12:1-2 Matthew 10:16-22</p>	
<i>For Those Who Are Sick And Home-bound</i>			
<p>Virginia, Denise, Marie, James, Alexandra, Andrew, Christina, Louise, Porter, Alvin, Tracy, Kathy, Andrew, Maria, Helen, John, Nina, Sophia, Spresha, Kristin, Niko, Spiro, Angjeliki, Melod, Olgay, Ruth, Terry, Naomi, Annette, Tatiana, Lester Jr., Natalia, Otari, Lasha, Fr. Nikolas, Llukan, Marina, Sophia, Fr. Maxwell, Christina, Anastasia, Mary, Elena, Tatiana, Lauren, Tracy, Anita, Sandi, Anibal, Kakha, Christina, Jane, Vano, Isla</p>		COFFEE HOUR	
<i>Prayers In General</i>			
<p>The community of Ss. Peter & Paul Miami, Fr. Dennis and his family, Fr. Ioan, Christian, Michael, Erica, Kaida, DuDash family, Michael, Robert, Ally, Steve, Jake and Amanda and their children, Katherine, Ron, Anthony, Volodymyr, Nick, Michael, Rafael, Bob, Barbara, Sandra, Enoch, John, Victoria, Melenie, Grace, Michael, Barbara, Giorgi, Molly, Jim, Chloe, Marsha, Ann, Lilly, Stephen, Gela, Gabriel Joseph, Lombrino, Kondakciu, Diana, Tyler, Alexi, Nora, Sophia, Davor, Davorka, Yannis, Logan, Monique & family, Richard, Thomas, Rizwan, Andreas, Alexander, Benjamin, William, Skylar</p> <p><i>[To be inserted after the petition for the living]</i> Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, for those who are suffering, wounded, grieving, or displaced because of the conflicts in Ukraine, Armenia, and the Middle East.</p> <p><i>[Petitions at Augmented Litany]</i> Again we pray for a cessation of the hostilities in Ukraine, Armenia, and the Middle East, and that reconciliation and peace will flourish in these places, we pray thee, hearken and have mercy.</p>	<p>Coffee Hour is a wonderful chance for us to get together to break bread and spend time with each other, to celebrate those whom we have held memorials for, and to come together as the family of God outside of worship. To sign up, to host a coffee hour, contact Fr. Nicholas or Donna Bacon.</p>	<p><i>Friday</i> Acts 6:8-15;7:1-5,47-60 Mark 12:1-12</p> <p><i>Saturday</i> Romans 9:1-5 Matthew 9:18-26</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>Reading the Bible in a Year</u></p> <p>July 28: Ezekiel 37-40 July 29: Ezekiel 41-44 July 30: Ezekiel 45-48 July 31: Daniel 1-4 Aug 01: Daniel 5-8 Aug 02: Daniel 9-12 Aug 03: Hosea 1-5</p>	

Let The Light Shine

FR. BARNABAS POWELL/JUL 25, 2024

The best way to defeat darkness isn't fighting darkness. It is becoming more and more bright with the Light of Christ within you through repentance and devotion.

St. Porphyrios said, "Do not fight to expel darkness from the chamber of your soul. Open a tiny window for the light to enter, and the darkness will disappear!"



What a contrast to our current cultural chaos, where it seems all sides want to "fight" all the time. We are driven by our egos to "defend" this or that, and, in the process, we become the very thing we hate. We "fight" like the evil one wants us to, and this corrupts even our good intentions. It is better to be so attentive to Christ and His transforming power in my own life that this shines above all our rhetoric and banishes the darkness of the slavery of immorality, division, and ego. More light is produced by righteousness than by being "right!"

So, am I saying to ignore evil? Not in any way! I am saying that there is little lasting value in "defeating" your enemies and much more in loving your enemies, even the "enemies" within your soul! But the key is to allow that love of your enemies to heap the hot coals of mercy and love on them rather than reducing everything to a debate and declaring "winner."

It's time to let the LIGHT shine!

Thank you for reading Faith Encouraged. This post is public so feel free to share it.

Look at our lesson today in Luke 8:16-21:

The Lord said, "No one after lighting a lamp covers it with a vessel, or puts it under a bed, but puts it on

a stand, that those who enter may see the light. For nothing is hid that shall not be made manifest, nor anything secret that shall not be known and come to light. Take heed then how you hear; for to him who has will more be given, and from him who has not, even what he thinks that he has will be taken away."

Then his mother and his brothers came to him, but they could not reach him for the crowd. And he was told, "Your mother and your brothers are standing outside, desiring to see you." But he said to them, "My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it."

This passage is so familiar to us, and that may be the biggest problem. Familiarity often allows us to assume we know more than we do!

But this passage has a powerful message for us today, especially as we celebrate the Feast of the Conception of the Theotokos. And that message is to put your light where it belongs! Put your light where it will do the intended job: Help others find their way!

There is something antiseptic about light. It illuminates even uncomfortable truths within us and outside us. This Light that Jesus speaks of is that light lit by God in your life and my life. It is the inescapable reality that you and I are made in God's image to become LIKE Him. He is selfless, thinking of others and helping others. This Light is meant to be a help to everyone who sees it. This Light is not meant to hide because if you put it under a basket or bed, it will go out, smothered by not fulfilling its purpose! This is a great danger to a person of faith when they hide their love for God.

Then, it's no wonder Jesus reacts as He does to the news that His mother and brothers are here to see Him. His response reveals once again the purpose of the Light: to reveal and invite others to hear, obey, and be set free from the darkness of self-centered delusion.

Too many want to use Jesus' response as an excuse to ignore the historically consistent veneration of the Lord's

mother. They want to say, "See, Jesus doesn't want us to praise His mother." But falling for that too-small notion is another way the devil tempts us to "hide" the Light.

When we fail to properly understand just WHY the Faith has, since its earliest days, called us to venerate the Theotokos and the saints, we "hide" the Good News that God's grace can make us like Christ IF we embrace and live out His Word to us. We gain nothing by hiding the consistent witness of the Faith through the centuries with all its fullness and wisdom. We only retreat into the "too small" self-centered "me and Jesus got our own thing going" mentality that ends up doing the very opposite of what we think it will do!

It is no wonder the Church has us remember the Lord's grandparents in practically every service. Today, we remember the falling asleep of the Theotokos' mother, Anna. St. Anna is said to have been 69 when she passed away, and her husband, Joachim, was 80 years old when he died just two years before St. Anna. So this is one of the main reasons Sts. Joachim and Anna asked St. Joseph to watch over Mary when she came of age after having been raised in the Temple from her third birthday. They knew they wouldn't live long enough to ensure Mary was cared for. St. Anna is a model of holy grandmothers caring for and forming their children to see generations blessed by her example. She certainly didn't hide the Light!

Today, are you hiding the Light within you? Normal Orthodoxy gets in the way of the Light of Christ so HE can shine the darkness away! The Light is the Light of Jesus Christ, and your life is meant to reflect and share that Light with everyone. It is the very reason for the disciplines of the Faith to polish, discipline, and form your life so that the Light shines from a Normal Orthodox life!

July/August Events	
<p>July 28 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy 31 – 12:00pm Sixth Hour 7:15pm Bible Study via GoogleMeets</p> <p>August 02 – 7:30am Matins 04 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy 06 – 9:00am Divine Liturgy <i>Feast of the Transfiguration</i> 07 – 12:00pm Sixth Hour 7:15pm Bible Study via GoogleMeets 09 – 7:30am Matins 6:00pm Fun Night 11 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy 14 – 12:00pm Sixth Hour 7:15pm Bible Study via GoogleMeets 15 – 9:00am Divine Liturgy <i>Feast of the Dormition</i> 16 – 7:30am Matins 18 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy 21 – 12:00pm Sixth Hour 7:15pm Bible Study via GoogleMeets 23 – 7:30am Matins 25 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy 28 – 12:00pm Sixth Hour 7:15pm Bible Study via GoogleMeets 30 – 7:30am Matins</p>	 <p><i>The heart is the eye of the human being. The purer it is, the quicker, farther, and clearer it can see.</i></p> <p><i>Righteous John, Wonderworker of Kronstadt</i></p> 

Can't join us in person?

We stream our services on our YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@sspeterpaulorthodoxchurcho1810>

Want to donate by Venmo?

St Peter St Paul Alb Orth Ch James Schaeffer