

Sts. Peter and Paul Albanian Orthodox Church

First-enthroned of the apostles, teachers of the universe: Entreat the Master of all to grant peace to the world, and to our souls great mercy!

Rev. Nicholas Dellermann (*Rector*) (860) 861-7468 – Very Rev. H Gregory DuDash

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June 9, 2018

7TH SUNDAY OF PASCHA: HOLY FATHERS OF THE FIRST ECUMENICAL
COUNCIL AT NICAEA, AFTERFEAST OF THE ASCENSION
TONE 8

Today	10:00am	Divine Liturgy
	11:15am	Sunday School
	1:30pm	Blessing of the Graves (Oakland & Forrest Hill)
Wed. 12	7:00pm	Bible Study
Sat. 15	6:00pm	Vespers
Sun. 16	10:00am	Divine Liturgy

One must be baptized and chrismated an Orthodox Christian to receive Holy Communion. Guests are invited to receive a blessing at the chalice and partake of the post-Communion bread (Antidoron).

Fast Days: Wednesday and Friday (fasting from meat, fish, eggs, dairy, oil, wine and hard spirits as you are able.)

Troparion – Tone 8 (Fathers)

*Thou art most glorious, O Christ
our God,
Who hast established the Holy
Fathers as lights on the earth.
Through them Thou hast guided us
to the true Faith.
O greatly compassionate One, glory
to Thee!*

Kontakion – Tone 6 (Ascension)

*When Thou hadst fulfilled the
dispensation for our sake
and united earth to heaven,
Thou didst ascend in glory, O Christ
our God,
not being parted from those who
love Thee,
but remaining with them and
crying:
“I am with you, and there is no one
against you!”*

Welcome to all visitors! Please join us upstairs in the church hall for coffee hour after liturgy.

Prayers for those in our Sts. Peter and Paul community (parishioners, family, friends) can be listed for remembrance in our litanies during the Liturgy. Feel free to give names to Fr. Nicholas - please indicate how each person listed is connected to us (parishioner, family, friend, etc.), as well as why we are praying for them (health, memory, travel, etc.).

Confessions can be heard by appointment. If you need, I will come to you during the week. Please do not hesitate to call for a time to drop by the church or to have me visit you.

Remembrances for both the living and the dead during the prayers of preparation of the Eucharistic Lamb and during the Augmented Litany should be given the week before the desired remembrance so that the names can be put into the bulletin and given to the Deacons for the prayers. Any names of the living that are not marked as sick or traveling will be listed under general prayers.

SCRIPTURE THIS WEEK

Church Lectionary

Today

Acts 20:16-18, 28-36

John 17:1-13

Monday

Acts 21:8-14

John 14:27-15:7

Tuesday

Acts 21:26-32

John 16:2-13

Wednesday

Acts 23:1-11

John 16:15-23

Thursday

Acts 25:13-19

John 16:23-33

Friday

Acts 27:1-44

John 17:18-26

Saturday

Acts 28:1-31

John 21:15-25

Reading the Bible in a Year

June 09: Proverbs 13-16

June 10: Proverbs 17-20

June 11: Proverbs 21-24

June 12: Proverbs 25-28

June 13: Proverbs 29-31

June 14: Eccl 1-4

June 15: Eccl 5-8

Special Prayers

Ill/Home-bound:

Virginia Rifkin, Ruth Rifkin, Virginia Daka, Emmelia Stone, Liam, Denise Gormley, Sonya, Anna, George, Lyanna, Barbara, Katelyn, Margarita, Annmarie, Shpresa, Ralph John, Christina, Mary, Alexandra, Matthew, Fran, Sophie Plasari, Donna, Michael, Fr. Gregory & Mat. Linda DuDash, Leon, child Luka, child Makayla, Rhonda, Ashley, CJ, Elizabeth, Rebecca, Lev, Margarita, Ludmilla

General:

Michael Peterson, John, Darian, Tammy, Jean Dimitri, Cheryl Dimitri, Jason, Anna, George, Sonya, Catherine, Alisha, Sasha, Joseph, Kimberly, Niko, Kristin, Robert, Jerry, Pina, Jerry, Chris, Matt, Gianna, Menina, John, Eugenia and the child to be born of her, Sophia and the child to be born of her, - St. John Chrysostom

Memory Eternal: Newly Departed Priest George



Are you fasting? Show me your fast with your works. Which works? If you see someone who is poor, show him mercy. If you see an enemy, reconcile with him. If you see a friend who is becoming successful, do not be jealous of him!



June

09 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
11:15am Sunday School
1:30pm Blessing of the Graves
(Oakland & Forrest Hills)
12 – 7:00pm Bible Study
15 – 6:00pm Vespers

June/July Events

16 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Pentecost
19 – 7:00pm Bible Study
22 – 6:00pm Vespers
23 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
26 – 7:00pm Bible Study
29 – 6:00pm Vespers

30 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Feast of Ss. Peter & Paul Luncheon

July

03 – 7:00pm Bible Study
06 – 6:00pm Vespers
07 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour

Today: Connie Vrato

Next Week: Pentecost

Birthdays/ Anniversaries

Julianna Dellermann B – 6/10
Tatiana Kuzactsova B – 6/15

We are collecting donation items to go to Albania with Fr. Dennis Rhodes!

Our parish will take donations of all sizes and types of freshly laundered clothing for both boys and girls, sizes infant to teenagers, including dress clothes for church as well as casual everyday wear, socks and tights, shoes and sneakers, underwear, jackets, sweaters and sweatshirts. If the clothes cannot be used by the children at the orphanage he visits, they will be given to other needy children in the village.

Vendors are wanted for a Flea Market!

There will be a flea market held in the church parking lot on Saturday, June 15. Tables/spaces can be rented for \$10 and reserved by calling Nick Desloges at 215 630-7325.

Cemetery Blessings

Due to a variety of factors, the blessing of the graves was pushed back one week. The following is the revised schedule of cemeteries:

06/09 – Oakland & Forrest Hills
Other cemeteries will be visited by request

Acts 20:16-18, 28-36 (Epistle)

For Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he would not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hurrying to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the Day of Pentecost. From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called for the elders of the church. And when they had come to him, he said to them: "You know, from the first day that I came to Asia, in what manner I always lived among you, Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears. So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I have coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. Yes, you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, and for those who were with me. I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

John 17:1-13 (Gospel)

Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was. I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me. I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.

Children's Word

Have you ever done something to make somebody happy? Have you written a note or drawn a picture for somebody? Have you done a chore for somebody? Have you given somebody a compliment? It's a big deal to make somebody happy or joyful!

In today's Gospel reading, we hear how our Lord, Jesus Christ, prayed before His crucifixion. Our Lord prayed for His followers and He prayed that they would come even closer to God. Jesus prayed to His Father, "Now I am coming to You; and these things I speak in the world, that they may have my joy fulfilled in themselves."

Did you know that that's what Jesus wants for us? He wants us to have His joy! Now we are His followers too, and God wants us to come to Him. He wants us to have His joy—the joy of life with Him. Joy in heaven with no pain or sadness. That's why God is calling us to Him! He wants us to have His joy.

Sometimes we can think about what we do to make people happy, but today, let's think about what God does to make us happy. Really happy and really joyful! God wants us to give us life with Him forever!

ST. COLUMBA: ENLIGHTENER OF SCOTLAND

Do you know what it means to enlighten somebody? Well, it means to give somebody information or news. It means to let them know somebody they didn't before.

Today we celebrate Saint Columba. In our Church, we call him the "enlightener of Scotland," because this wonderful saint told the people of Scotland something they never knew before. And what was it? It was the good news of Jesus Christ. Saint Columba brought Scotland the light of Christ!

Saint Columba was born in Ireland in the 500's, but he left for Scotland because the people were pagan. Many people there worshiped things in nature, like trees. Saint Columba started a great monastery on the little Scottish island of Iona. He baptized the pagan king there, and he also baptized the king of the Scots there too.

Saint Columba understood the pagan people's love for nature. Saint Columba loved nature too. One story tells us that when the saint built the monastery in Iona, he wouldn't let even one tree be cut down! But Saint Columba knew that nature was God's gift to man. He knew that God had created the world, so he worshiped God and not the trees!

We celebrate St. Columba on Sunday, June 9th.

He Who Believes in Me

June 5, 2019 · Fr. Barnabas Powell

Christ is risen!

What does it mean to “believe in” something? I confess most of my life I’ve just taken for granted that I knew, and everyone around me knew, what that meant. I was wrong.

The word “believe” means so much more than just agreeing that certain ideas are correct. The Greek word used in the New Testament for believe is πιστεύω (pistevo). It comes from the noun πίστις, which means “faith.” That’s why the Symbol of the Faith begins with “Πιστεύω εἰς ἕνα Θεόν” I believe in one God...

But the Hebrew roots for this Greek concept reach even deeper than mere mental assent to certain agreed upon ideas. No, to “believe” in the New Testament way is to be so thoroughly convinced of a truth that it affects how you live. Short of this life changing belief, do you really believe what you say you believe?

Look at our lesson today in John 12:36-47:

The Lord said to the Jews who came to him, “While you have the light, believe in the light, that you may become sons of light. When Jesus had said this, he departed and hid himself from them. Though he had done so many signs before them, yet they did not believe in him; it was that the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: “Lord, who has believed our report, and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?” Therefore they could not believe. For Isaiah again said, “He has blinded their eyes and hardened their heart, lest they should see with their eyes and perceive with their heart, and turn for me to heal them.” Isaiah said this because he saw his glory and spoke of him. Nevertheless, many even of the authorities believed in him, but for fear of the Pharisees they did not confess it, lest they should be put out of the synagogue: for they loved the praise of men more than the praise of God.

And Jesus cried out and said, “He who believes in me, believes not in me but in him who sent me. And he who sees me sees him who sent me. I have come as light into the world, that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness. If any one hears my sayings and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world.”

Jesus confronts His hearers AND us with some powerful beliefs. He is The Light. He is The Way. He is The Truth. This is more than just a rhetorical claim to get attention. It is the statement of fact that is necessary for us to embrace SO THAT we don’t stumble in the darkness of our own self centeredness.

And that requires a deeper embrace of belief than goes beyond merely agreeing with certain ideas.

It goes to the heart of our behavior, how we choose to live our lives everyday. No longer is it enough for us to be “Sunday Only” Christians. We have to graduate from the kindergarten of faith, to a convinced place that insists our Faith inform our choices, our actions, and our priorities. Anything less, and the question will always nag us: “Do I really believe this?”

Of course, this doesn’t happen overnight. We are called “the Faithful” after all. But it does require an attentiveness to our own temptations of a thoughtless way of living. And it asks us to realize that when we believe in Jesus Christ, we also declare our belief in the Father, and the Spirit.

On this “leavetaking” of the Feast of Pascha, know that your life, in light of the conquering of death, has a great potential to show this day and age the power of the Lord’s Resurrection from the dead. So, do you believe?