



SS Peter and Paul Albanian Orthodox Church
9230 Old Bustleton Avenue
Philadelphia, PA 19115
Church Phone: 215-676-3311

Pastor: Father Stephen Siniari
Rectory Phone: 1-609-385-3757



Church Bulletin ~ October 2008

Father Stephen's Message to the Faithful Gossip, Anyone?

One who trusts others too quickly has a shallow mind,
and one who sins does wrong to himself.
One who rejoices in wickedness will be condemned,
but one who hates gossip has less evil.
Never repeat a conversation,
and you will lose nothing at all.
With friend or foe do not report it,
and unless it would be a sin for you, do not reveal it;
for someone may have heard you and watched you,
and in time will hate you.
Have you heard something? Let it die with you.
Be brave, it will not make you burst!
Having heard something, the fool suffers birth-pangs
like a woman in labour with a child.
Like an arrow stuck in a person's thigh,
so is gossip inside a fool.

Question a friend; perhaps he did not do it;
or if he did, so that he may not do it again.
Question a neighbour; perhaps he did not say it;
or if he said it, so that he may not repeat it.
Question a friend, for often it is slander;
so do not believe everything you hear.
A person may make a slip without intending it.
Who has not sinned with his tongue?
Question your neighbour before you threaten him;
and let the law of the Most High take its course.

— *Ecclesiasticus: Sirach 19:4-17*

Special Announcements from Fr. Stephen

*** *Father Stephen* may be reached at **609-385-3757, Monday - Friday, 8 AM - 5 PM** or by e-mail: **ssiniari@covenanthouse.org**
Please remember that all confessions and consultations on Sunday mornings shall take place from 9 AM to 10 AM before the Divine Liturgy. Thank you.

Events & Announcements

Liturgical Schedule - October/November/December 2008

ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM'S FEASTDAY & HIS GRACE BISHOP NIKON'S VISIT TO OUR SISTER PARISH - DECEMBER 20 - 21 - *NO SERVICES AT SS PETER & PAUL*

NATIVITY OF CHRIST - THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25TH - **Divine Liturgy 10 AM**

EVE OF THE CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD & ST BASIL THE GREAT - WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31 - **Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St Basil, 6 PM**

Schedule of Other Services

BIBLE STUDY - EVERY WEDNESDAY - 7 PM - 8:30 PM in the Church Hall - Bible Study led by **Fr. Dn. Gregory**. The title for the Bible Study is "*Seeking the Treasure of Christ Throughout Scripture*." The study will use the new Orthodox Study Bible of the Old and New Testament as a base. The first topic of discussion will be the meaning of the story of Adam and Eve and the discussions will proceed with a journey through the Hebrew Bible.

Church News & Reminders

MEMBERSHIP DUES 2008 - *Please note: THE CHURCH FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30TH; please have your dues of \$115 per person paid as soon as possible.* Dues can be paid at any time to James Schaeffer, our Treasurer. *Thank you!*

ICON PLEDGES - Due by end end of December 2008 and can be paid at any time to our treasurer, James Schaeffer. ***Please note: when returning your Icons, please return them to the Church Store. You will be given a receipt for all Icons returned. All Icons are to be returned as soon as possible.***

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING - The 1st Monday of each month, 7 PM. All Parishioners are welcome to attend.

SPECIAL SERVICES - If you are planning to have a special service in the Church, please be considerate and notify either Father Stephen or the Church Committee one week in advance. When you are planning for a Baptism, Wedding, Funeral, or any other Prayer Service in the Church, please speak with Father Stephen in advance to determine if there is any way you can contribute to help the Church in helping others. Thank you. *Please note: if the services of the Church Choir are required, please notify the Choir Director, Christina Murianka, as soon as possible.*

Memorials: Any help in setting up and cleaning up from the families involved is truly appreciated and welcomed by the Ladies Society.

NO SMOKING/NO CELL PHONES - Please remember that SS Peter & Paul has a no smoking policy in the building and that ringers on cell phones should be off during the Divine Liturgy.

The Joy of Giving

CHURCH LIBRARY DONATIONS - We are greatly in need of monetary donations for buying books to establish our Church Library to help all of us continue to learn about

the Orthodox Faith. Any amount is truly appreciated and can be given to our Treasurer, James Schaeffer, at any time. *May God bless you for your generosity!*

PASTORAL FUND/POOR BOX - Please note: There are now 2 collection boxes in the back of the church, **the Poor Box AND a Pastoral Fund Box.** *Please donate generously!*

CASSEROLES FOR THE HOMELESS - **In August:** *14 casseroles and 1 bag of toiletries were delivered.* **In September:** *12 casseroles, 2 bags of toiletries and 10 washcloths were delivered.* Disposable razors and individual/small tubes of hand lotion are still needed. Please continue to help feed the hungry. Frozen casseroles are collected by Harry Halkedis. A \$10 donation for casseroles can be given at any time. *Thank you!*

COLLECTION FOR THE POOR - A special collection for the poor will be held on the 1st Sunday of every month. Please plan to give generously every month to those whose lives are less fortunate than ours. Donations can also be placed in the **Poor Box** at any time.

ORTHODOX HERALD COLLECTION - Collections for the *Orthodox Herald* will take place every 2nd Sunday of the month. Please donate generously.

DONATIONS OF WINE & OIL - Altar wine and virgin olive oil for the altar lamps are always needed. The name of the altar wine is **Mavrodaphne of Patras** and it is available at most PA State Stores. Please help make sure that we always have a plentiful supply.

PASTORAL FUND COLLECTION - Collections for the Pastoral Fund will take place every 3rd Sunday of the month. Please donate generously. "Pastoral Fund" donation envelopes are found in the Church foyer, on the left side of the glass partition, should you wish to donate at another time.

POP TAB COLLECTION PROGRAM FOR RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE - RJ (and his parents, Debbie & Bob Krimetz) is collecting flip tabs from any aluminum cans to donate to the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House. *Help by bringing in your tabs! Thank you*

Ladies Society News

HOT DOG/PIZZA SUNDAY - October 12

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BAZAAR - Sunday, December 7, after Divine Liturgy. Donations of new, unused items for the raffle are welcomed. Monetary donations are also welcomed. *Please help with your time, donations, or special talents! Thank you!*

General Interest

"UNITY FOR THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA" CONFERENCE - Saturday, November 15, 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM - at St Michael's Orthodox Church, 4th & Fairmount, Phila. **Registration:** Adults, \$20; Senior Citizens, \$15; Students, Free. *Includes coffee hour, lunch, speaker fees. Last minute registration at the door.* If you can't afford it, come anyway; no one turned away! **EVERYONE IS WELCOME! BRING FRIENDS!**

Topics/Speakers: *"The Necessity for American Orthodox Unity"* and *"The Future of American Orthodox Unity"* -- Archpriest Chad Hatfield (Chancellor of St Vladimir's Seminary, Crestwood, NJ); *"Historical Attempts at American Orthodox Unity"* -- Archpriest Vincent Severino (Pastor of St Michael's Church, Phila., PA)

Contact: Fr John Udics, 610-713-9358 or john.udics@comcast.net. For last minute information, call St Michael's Church, 215-627-6148.

Copies of the flyer will be available in the Church Hall and online via a link in the Bulletin Page.

ANCIENT FAITH RADIO - 24 hour a day Orthodox radio station providing high quality internet-based Orthodox programming, music, teaching, interviews, features, convert testimonies, conference recordings, and much more! The URL is: **<http://ancientfaithradio.com>**

ALBANIAN FORUM ON THE INTERNET (FORUMI SHQIPTAR) - has a section on: Komuniteti Orthodhoks. It has extensive offerings on Orthodoxy in the Albanian language. They are divided into many themes, i.e. "The Birth of Christ," "The Church is One," a catechism and includes Fr. Thomas Hopko's entire Rainbow series.

Ne gjuhen shqipe: per te dhena informative mbi Kishen Orthodhokse, klikoni "Komuniteti Orthodhoks" ne uebsajten Forumi Shqiptar me poshte:

Theurlis: **www.forumishqiptar.com/forumdisplay.php?f=186**

Miscellaneous

SS PETER & PAUL CHURCH STORE - Open every Sunday at 9:30 AM (one half hour before Divine Liturgy) and after Divine Liturgy until 1:30 PM

Items available: Icons; Crosses (Baptismal, lapel pins, Georgian style, orthodox); Prayerbooks (Georgian and English); Censors; Unique and different wearing apparel; CDs and cassettes; Religious Books

WEB PAGE/E-MAILS - SS Peter & Paul Webpage: **<http://homepage.mac.com/alicaj17/sspeterpaulhome1.html>**. New Bulletins can be viewed the Saturday before distribution by 8 PM. If you would like to be kept up-to-date by e-mail or to be removed from our "paper" mailing list, please send me an e-mail at: **alicaj17@mac.com**

ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEWS ABOUT PARISHIONERS - If you have any items to include in next month's Bulletin, please see Alicia or call her at **215-742-0492** or e-mail: **alicaj17@mac.com**. *The deadline for the next Bulletin is Sunday, **October 26**. Thank you! Parishioners will be able to pick up the Bulletins at the Church on Sunday **11/2/08**.* Bulletins will be mailed to any Parishioners unable to attend.

Please remember to let Alicia know the names of our members who are ill or in need of prayer so that they can be included in our Bulletins.

Thank You to all members of the Parish who have helped out or volunteered in any way with their time and efforts, and a very special **thank you** to anyone whose name was inadvertently omitted from the Bulletin.

Parishioner's Corner

A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY is wished to the following parishioners and friends who are celebrating **October** Birthdays: Helen Arndt, Raisa Belous, Elena (Nina) Horowitz, Lucille John, Margie Kelly, Ted Muzekari, Jr., Matushka Irene Rachko, Jean Rifkin, Jim Schaeffer, Fr. Stephen Siniari, Ann Stephano, James Vesho



May God grant them all many, many years!

GREGORY VRATO, SR., is at the **John Neumann Nursing Home**, Room 726, at the intersection of Haldeman & Tomlinson Road (make a right on Tomlinson and the parking lot is immediately on your right). Visitors are welcome anytime from noon to 8:00 PM.

Please continue to keep Gregory in your prayers. May God grant him good health!

THE SS PETER & PAUL PARISH DIRECTORY UPDATE - Please make certain you have contacted Alicia (215-742-0492 or e-mail: aliciaj17@mac.com) **by October 19, 2008** for any changes, corrections or additions. *The Parish Directory will be mailed along with the November Church Bulletin.* Thank you for your attention to this matter.

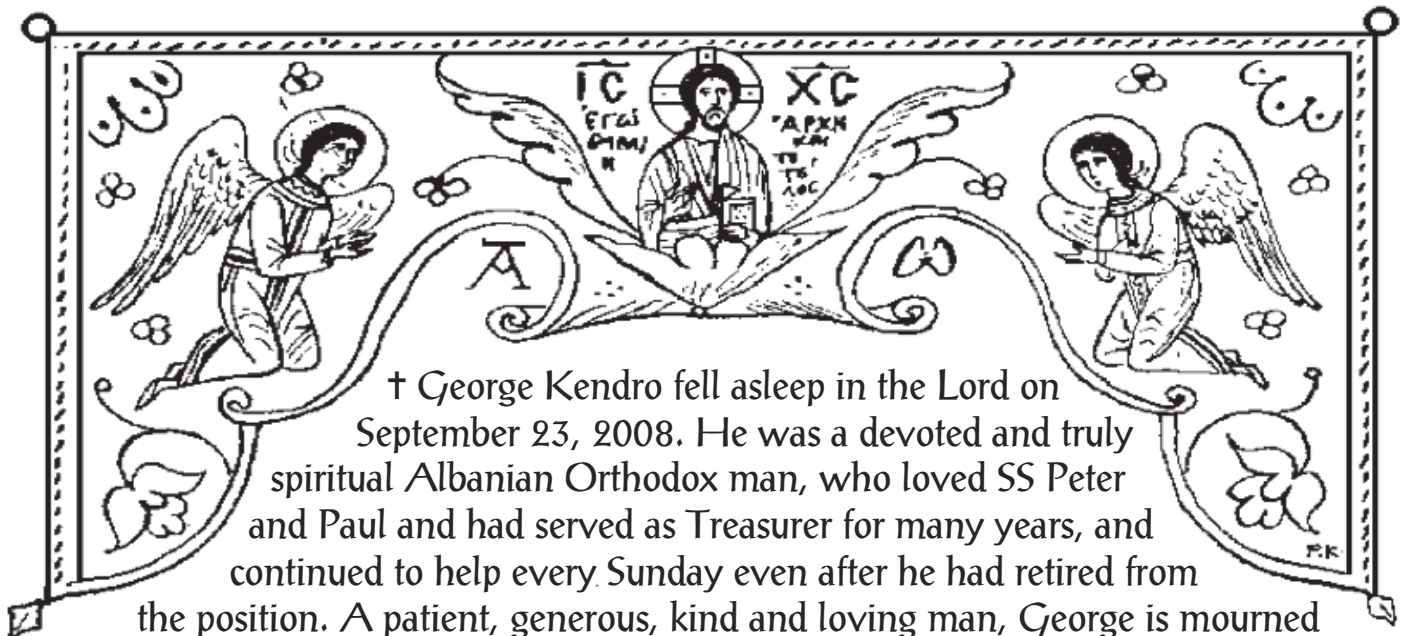
Let Us Keep Them in our Prayers

Please continue to pray for the full and speedy recovery of: **Gregory Vreto, Sr., Nina Horowitz, Spiro Costas, Matthew Murianka, Joyce Dorsey, Andi Steffa, John Palmerick, Thimi Daka, Al Rifkin, Sophie Bacon, Angie Kozlowski, James Vesho, Margot Craig, Hope Vrato, Eteri Okropiridze**

*** God knows the names and ages of all who need His love and mercy...

Memory Eternal

THE MEMORIAL FOR †GEORGE STEFFA AND †GRANDSON JOHN will be on Sunday, October 19. *Memory Eternal.*



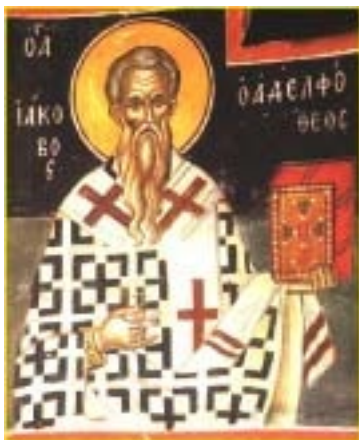
† George Kendro fell asleep in the Lord on September 23, 2008. He was a devoted and truly spiritual Albanian Orthodox man, who loved SS Peter and Paul and had served as Treasurer for many years, and continued to help every Sunday even after he had retired from

the position. A patient, generous, kind and loving man, George is mourned by his 3 children (Kathleen, Nancy, and George K.) and by 9 grandchildren and 7 great-grandchildren. His smile, his warmth, his congenial story-telling, his unfailing sense of humor, and most of all, his benevolent presence, will forever be lovingly remembered and genuinely missed by family, friends, Church members, and all those whose lives George so deeply influenced and genuinely touched. May George's memory be eternal!

Holy Days and Name Days in October

- October 1 - Protection (Pokrov) of The Most Holy Theotokos
- October 6 - Holy Apostle Thomas; St Innocent, Metropolitan of Moscow
- October 8 - Ven Pelagia the Penitent; Ven Taisia of Egypt
- October 9 - Holy Apostle James, Son of Alphaeus; St Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow
- October 10 - Martyrs Eulampia & Eulampius; Ven Ambrose of Optina
- October 16 - Martyr Longinus the Centurian
- October 17 - Prophet Hosea
- October 18 - Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke
- October 19 - Prophet Joel
- October 23 - Holy Apostle James, Brother of The Lord
- October 24 - Bl Elesbaan, King of Ethiopia
- October 25 - St Tabitha
- October 26 - Greatmartyr Demetrius
- October 28 - Ven Job of Pochaev
- October 29 - Martyr Anastasia of Rome
- October 31 - Hieromartyr John Kochurov

Prophet Zachariah the father of St John the Baptist (Commemorated September 5)



Holy Apostle James, the Brother of God (Adelphotheos) was the son of Righteous Joseph the Betrothed of the Most Holy Theotokos. From his early years James was a Nazarene, a man especially dedicated to God. The Nazarenes vowed to preserve their virginity, to abstain from wine, to refrain from eating meat, and not to cut their hair. The vow of the Nazarenes symbolized a life of holiness and purity, commanded formerly by the Lord for all Israel. When the Savior began to teach the nation about the Kingdom of God, St James believed in Christ and became His apostle. He was chosen as the first Bishop of Jerusalem.

St James presided over the Council of Jerusalem and his word was decisive. In his 30 years as bishop, St James converted many of the Jews to Christianity. Annoyed by this, the Pharisees and the Scribes plotted together to kill St James. They led the saint up on the pinnacle of the Jerusalem Temple and asked what he thought of Jesus. The holy Apostle began to bear witness that Christ is the Messiah, which was not the response the Pharisees were expecting. Greatly angered, the Jewish teachers threw him off the roof. The saint did not die immediately, but gathering his final strength, he prayed to the Lord for his enemies while they were stoning him. St James' martyrdom occurred about 63 A.D.

The holy Apostle James composed a Divine Liturgy, which formed the basis of the Liturgies of Sts Basil the Great and John Chrysostom. The Church has preserved an Epistle of St James, one of the books of the New Testament.

In 1853, Patriarch Hierotheus of Alexandria sent to Moscow a portion of the relics of St James. The Church distinguishes between the holy Apostle James the Brother of God, and St James the son of Zebedee and St James the son of Alphaeus.

~ Reading and Icon Courtesy of OCA Webpage ~

SS Peter & Paul Annual Clam Bake Saturday, September 20, 2008

"Mmm...mmm... Delicious! One More Time!"

A SUPER HUGE THANK YOU to **David Lane** and all the wonderful **volunteers** who made this year's Clam Bake another spectacular success!



