

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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February 17, 2019

SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND PHARISEE

TONE 5

Today	10:00am	Divine Liturgy
		Sunday School
Wed. 20	7:00pm	Bible Study
Sat. 23	6:00pm	Vespers
Sun. 24	10:00am	Divine Liturgy
		Sunday School

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: This is a fast free week!

Troparion – Tone 5 (Resurrection)

*Let us, the faithful, praise and
worship the Word,
co-eternal with the Father and the
Spirit,
born for our salvation from the
Virgin;
for He willed to be lifted up on the
Cross in the flesh,
to endure death,
and to raise the dead
by His glorious Resurrection.*

Kontakion – Tone 4 (from the Lenten Triodion)

*Let us flee from the pride of the
Pharisee!
Let us learn humility from the
Publican's tears!
Let us cry to our Savior:
"Have mercy on us,
O only merciful One!"*

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

2 Timothy 3:10-15
Luke 18:10-14

Monday

2 Peter 1:20-2:9
Mark 13:9-13

Tuesday

2 Peter 2:9-22
Mark 13:14-23

Wednesday

2 Peter 3:1-18
Mark 13:24-31

Thursday

1 John 1:8-2:6
Mark 13:31-14:2

Friday

1 John 2:7-17
Mark 14:3-9

Saturday

2 Timothy 3:1-9
Luke 20:46-21:4

Reading the Bible in a Year

Feb 17: Joshua 1-4
Feb 18: Joshua 5-8
Feb 19: Joshua 9-12
Feb 20: Joshua 13-16
Feb 21: Joshua 17-20
Feb 22: Joshua 21-24
Feb 23: Judges 1-4

Special Prayers

Ill/Home-bound:

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

General:

Michael Peterson, John, Darian, Tammy, Jean Dimitri, Cheryl Dimitri, Jason, Anna, George, Sonya, Catherine, Alisha, Sasha, Joseph, Kimberly, Fr. Gregory DuDash, Niko, Kristin, Robert, Jerry, Pina, Jerry, Chris, Matt, Gianna, Menina,

***"Recollect the fall of the strong,
that thou mayest remain humble
under thy virtues. And think of the
heavy sins of those who fell and
repented; and of the praise and
honour they received afterwards,
so that thou mayest acquire
courage during repentance."***

-St. Isaac the Syrian

Memory Eternal: Newly departed Bishop Athanasius,
Newly departed Frosina, Newly departed Martha Linski,
Newly departed Helen, Catherine Halkedis

February

17 - 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Sunday School
20 - 7:00pm Bible Study
23 - 6:00pm Vespers
24 - 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Sunday School
27 - 7:00pm Bible Study

February/March Events

March

02 - 6:00pm Vespers & General
Confession
03 - 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Sunday School
06 - 7:00pm Bible Study
08 - 6:00pm Fun Night

09 - 6:00pm Vespers
10 - 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Sunday School
Forgiveness Vespers
11 - 7:00pm Canon of St. Andrew
12 - 7:00pm Canon of St. Andrew
13 - 7:00pm Canon of St. Andrew
14 - 7:00pm Canon of St. Andrew
16 - 6:00pm Vespers

Today immediately following Divine Liturgy, we will be having a BAKE SALE fundraiser at SS. Peter & Paul Albanian Orthodox Church. Thanks to Donna Bacon for organizing, to everyone who baked and donated items and to everyone who purchases the treats provided!

Coffee Hour

Today:

Next Week:

Birthdays/ Anniversaries

Boris B - 02/17
Sophia Shaloka B - 02/18
Jennifer Dani B - 02/20
Kyle Broeker B - 02/22
Virginia Daka - 02/23

There will be a Niko Chocheli Art Exhibit, with a short presentation by Niko, on Saturday, Feb. 23, 2019, at 2pm, at the American Academy of the Sacred Arts, located at 1629 Porter St, Philadelphia, PA, 19145. The parish is invited to attend. Please be aware that there is street parking only.

2 Timothy 3:10-15 (Epistle)

But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, long suffering, love, perseverance, persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra – what persecutions I endured. And out of them all the Lord delivered me. Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

Luke 18:10-14 (Gospel)

“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank You that I am not like other men – extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.’ And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”



LIFE THROUGH DEATH

AN ORTHODOX REFLECTION
WITH FR. JOHN BEHR

St. George Orthodox Church Annual Lenten Retreat Series

Friday March 1

Youth and Young Adult Discussion - 7:00p

“A Christian ending to our life: painless, blameless and peaceful”

Supplication Service to St. David of Wales - 9:30pm

Saturday March 2

Trisagion for Saturday of Souls - 10:00am

Lunch - 11:00am

Session 1 - 12:00pm

Presentation “A Christian Ending: Ministry to the Dying” - 1:30pm

Session 2 - 2:00pm

Vespers 4:00pm

St. George Orthodox Church

8210 W. Chester Pike

Upper Darby, PA 19082

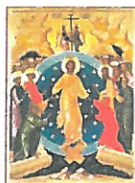
To Register Please Visit:

Saintgeorgeupperdarby.org

Or call

610-853-1171

Suggested Donation: \$10/person; or \$25/family



Children's Word

Have you ever tried to follow a map? Sometimes it's hard to get the hang of it, but once you get started, you just follow along the path. But if you get off track, sometimes it's hard to get back on the right path.

In today's epistle reading, Saint Paul writes about how we can stay on the right path with our Lord, Jesus Christ. Saint Paul wrote, “Continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.”

Saint Paul tells us Christians that we must continue on our path, just like when we follow along on a map! We learn things about God when we are little. We learn how to share and how to be gentle and nice to people. We learn how to read about God through the stories in the Bible. We learn how to love God and we learn how to pray to Him and to ask for help when we need it. We learn all these things even when we are little kids.

Saint Paul tells us Christians that we should continue doing all those things! Let's continue along the path with the map. And what's the map? The sacred writings... that's the Bible! The Bible is our map!

SAINT MARIAMNE: THE SISTER OF THE APOSTLE PHILIP

Do you know what an apostle is? An apostle is somebody who is sent out. Remember, after Jesus died on the Cross and rose from the dead, He sent out His disciples. He sent His disciples out to spread the good news of Jesus Christ. These disciples and friends became His apostles!

You've heard about the 12 apostles, who are all men. (You know, Peter and Andrew, and James and John, Philip, and more.) But remember, God wants all of us to spread the good news of Jesus Christ.

After the resurrection, Saint Philip told many people about Christ, and he went lots of places with his sister Mariamne. Together with the apostle Bartholomew, they worked hard to spread the Gospel. Once, the governor's wife was bitten by a snake, and the three saints prayed for her to be healed. When the governor's wife was healed, she decided to become a Christian. The governor (who was not Christian), was not happy about this, so he arrested the three saints. The apostles Philip and Bartholomew were later killed in the same way Christ was — on a cross. Saint Mariamne never stopped telling people about Christ, and she later died in peace.

Saint Mariamne wasn't one of the 12 apostles, but in a way, she was an apostle too! We are all “sent out” by God to spread the news of the love and hope of Christ!

We celebrate St. Mariamne today, Feb 17th

You Are Quite Wrong!

February 12, 2019 · Fr. Barnabas Powell

Here's a quote I need to remember: "When you've done something wrong, admit it and be sorry. No one in history has ever choked to death from swallowing his pride."

And yet, we humans struggle with being mistaken or admitting we are wrong. But that initial reluctance rarely serves us well. In fact, I am convinced this fear of being seen as wrong or vulnerable or mistaken is one of the strongest enemies that keep us enslaved to patterns of behavior that prevent us from being in healthy relationship with God and with each other.

No wonder one of the most neglected Divine Mysteries of our Faith is confession!

Look at our lesson today in Mark 12:18-27:

At that time, Sadducees came to Jesus, who say that there is no resurrection; and they asked him a question, saying, "Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies and leaves a wife, but leaves no child, the man must take the wife, and raise up children for his brother. There were seven brothers; the first took a wife, and when he died left no children; and the second took her, and died, leaving no children; and the third likewise; and the seven left no children. Last of all the woman also died. In the resurrection whose wife will she be? For the seven had her as wife." Jesus said to them, "Is not this why you are wrong, that you know neither the scriptures nor the power of God? For when they rise from the dead, they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. And as for the dead being raised, have you not read in the book of Moses, in the passage about the bush, how God said to him, 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is not God of the dead, but of the living; you are quite wrong."

The Sadducees were the most educated and sophisticated leaders in the nation of Israel. They were the intellectuals and usually very wealthy and the people considered them "the elite." They were a group of scholar leaders who only held that the first 5 books of Moses were scripture, even dismissing much of the Psalms and certainly the Prophets. They also held that the Faith was about the "here and now" not some empty daydream about living forever or there ever being a resurrection from the dead as the Pharisees believed along with the majority of the people of Israel.

That's why they were "sad, you see!" (Sorry, had to get that joke in somewhere!)

This is why they posed this question to Jesus. They were pridefully convinced they had concocted a question to show just how silly and illogical any notion of a physical resurrection truly was, and they had every intention of publicly embarrassing Jesus and proving their own wisdom and insight.

Jesus turns the tables on these "elites" and proves to them that if they deny the power of God to overcome death, they actually prove the absurdity of their own religion. If God is the God of the Living and their own scripture declares, then He is not the God of the dead! Plus, they get marriage all wrong as well! Talk about having the tables turned on you!

This is why the Faith insists you see humility as your greatest virtue. This is why the Faith offers us countless tools to tame our passions and keep our egos in check. This is why the Church confronts us with the absolute necessity of confession. Because if you can't ever admit you're wrong, you'll NEVER be right!

Today, where do you struggle to admit your own wrongness? Why haven't you made time for confession in your practice of the faith? Are you embarrassed? Don't be. We all need this Divine Mystery to keep our hearts tender and soft so that we can be merciful to others. Take the time this week to seek out an opportunity to admit when you're wrong, and cut off the damaging spiritual illness of arrogance and pride while the sickness is small in your heart. That's the best way to be Orthodox on Purpose.