

# 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 16, 2020

## 35TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON TONE 2

Today .....	10:00am	Divine Liturgy
Wed. 19 .....	7:00pm	Bible Study
Sat. 22 .....	7:00pm	Vespers and Dinner w/ Metropolitan Tikhon
Sun. 23 .....	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:** Fasting Wednesday and Friday.(fasting from meat, fish, eggs, dairy, oil, wine and hard spirits as you are able.)

### **Troparion – Tone 2** **(Resurrection)**

*When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal,  
Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead.  
And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,  
all the powers of heaven cried out:  
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!”*

### **Kontakion – Tone 3** **(from the Lenten Triodion)**

*I have recklessly forgotten Thy glory, O Father;  
and among sinners I have scattered the riches which Thou gavest me.  
And now I cry to Thee as the Prodigal:  
“I have sinned before Thee, O merciful Father;  
receive me as a penitent,  
and make me as one of Thy hired servants!”*

**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

1 Corinthians 6:12-20  
Luke 15:11-32

#### Monday

1 John 2:18-3:10  
Mark 11:1-11

#### Tuesday

1 John 3:11-20  
Mark 14:10-42

#### Wednesday

1 John 3:21-4:6  
Mark 14:43-15:1

#### Thursday

1 John 4:20-5:21  
Mark 15:1-15

#### Friday

2 John 1:1-13  
Mark 15:22-25, 33-41

#### Saturday

1 Corinthians 10:23-28  
Luke 21:8-9, 25-27, 33-36

### Reading the Bible in a Year

Feb 16: Deuteronomy 30-34  
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

## Special Prayers

Ill/Home-bound:

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, Donna, Fr. Gregory & Mat. Linda DuDash, child Luka, child Makayla, Rhonda, Ashley, John, Lev, Margarita, Ludmilla, Jake, Amanda, David, Thomas, Helen, Nahum, Alex, Olga, Maria, Elena, Natalia, Oleg, Heather, Oona, Edward, Valentina, Larry

General:

Michael, 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, Polina, Bree and the child to be born of her

Memory Eternal: Newly departed Elena



*I advise you to convince yourself  
and force yourself to prayer and  
every good action, even if you do  
not feel the desire for it. God  
seeing such labor and application  
will give you goodwill and zeal.  
Such good will and a certain  
attraction to prayer is often a  
result of habit. Get into this habit  
and it will draw you to prayer and  
good actions.*

-St. Tikhon of Zadonsk



### February

16 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy  
Sunday School  
19 – 7:00pm Bible Study  
22 – 7:00pm Vespers  
Visit with Met. Tikhon  
23 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy  
Sunday School  
26 – 7:00pm Bible Study  
29 – 6:00pm Vespers

### February/March Events

#### March

01 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy  
Forgiveness Vespers  
02 – 7:00pm Canon of St. Andrew  
03 – 7:00pm Canon of St. Andrew  
04 – 7:00pm Canon of St. Andrew  
05 – 7:00pm Canon of St. Andrew  
07 – 6:00pm Vespers & General  
Confession

08 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy  
Sunday School  
11 – 7:00pm Presanctified Liturgy  
Pot-luck dinner  
13 – 6:00pm Fun Night  
14 – 6:00pm Vespers  
15 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy  
Sunday School  
18 – 7:00pm Presanctified Liturgy  
Pot-luck dinner  
21 – 6:00pm Vespers

#### PHILADELPHIA ORTHODOX CLERGY BROTHERHOOD

#### MISSION VESPERS SCHEDULE GREAT LENT 2020

ALL SERVICES ARE SCHEDULED FOR 4:00 PM

Sunday of Orthodoxy 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday (March 08)	Ss Peter and Paul, Wilmington 1406 Philadelphia Pike, 19809
Sunday of St. Gregory 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday (March 15)	Palamas St Mark Church, Wrightstown 452 Durham Rd, 18940
Sunday of the Cross 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday (March 22)	Holy Trinity Church, Pottstown 1236 Juniper St, 19464
Sunday of St. John Climacus 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday (March 29)	St George Church, Upper Darby 8210 W. Chester Pike, 19082
Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday (April 05)	St John Chrysostom, Philadelphia 237 N 17th Street, 19103

#### Birthdays/ Anniversaries

Boris Mogilevich B – 02/17  
Sophia Shaloka B – 02/18  
Jennifer Dani B – 02/20  
Kyle Broeker B – 02/22

#### Coffee Hour

Today: Ladies Society

Next Week: Ladies Society

### **1 Corinthians 6:12-20 (Epistle)**

All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any. Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not! Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For “the two,” He says, “shall become one flesh.” But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him. Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.

### **Luke 15:11-32 (Gospel)**

Then He said: “A certain man had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.’ So he divided to them his livelihood. And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living. But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want. Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.”’ And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ And they began to be merry. Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.’ But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him. So he answered and said to his father, ‘Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a

young goat, that I might make merry with my friends. But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.’ And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.’”

## **Children's Word**

### **God gives us freedom**

Can you think of a time your parents gave you a choice to do something? Maybe they let you decide whether to go somewhere, or what to eat, or what color to paint the walls. They probably knew the best way, but they still let you decide.

Today, we hear a story that tells us how our loving God gives us that kind of freedom. He gives us freedom, even for things that matter a lot more than what to have for dinner! He lets us decide, even though He knows the best way.

Do you remember the story of the Prodigal Son, the story about the young man who wasted all his money and lived with the pigs? Do you remember how he felt sorry for what he had done, and he came back to his father?

And...do you remember if his father forced him to come back? Or did he let him choose to come back? The story of the Prodigal Son shows us how God loves us so much that He grants us the great gift of freedom. God knows when we do wrong, but He lets us make our own choices—bad or good! God lets us decide when to come back to Him. God lets us decide if we want to say we are sorry. God lets us decide how close we want to be to Him.

This gift of freedom is a big one. God respects us and loves us. He knows the right way, but never forces us to follow Him. Let’s thank God for freedom, and let’s choose the right way!

### **A SOLDIER SAINT ST. THEODORE THE RECRUIT**

Saint Theodore lived about 250 years after Christ lived. Just think... what happened 250 years ago for YOU? America was about to become its own country. Men were wearing funny wigs. Women were wearing long, poofy skirts. It seems like so long ago, doesn’t it? But for Saint Theodore, Christ’s death and resurrection was as alive to him and as real to him as if he had known Christ on earth himself. That’s because he had such a strong faith in our Lord!

St. Theodore was a young soldier. He is called “the recruit” because he had just been recruited to serve in the Roman army. In those days, being a Christian was absolutely forbidden. But St. Theodore knew what was important. He wasn’t trying to become emperor. He wasn’t trying to become rich or powerful. He loved God, and nothing could stop him from serving Him! So when he told the ruler he was a Christian, St. Theodore was punished a little. The ruler thought he’d come around and change his mind. But our saint did not. Instead, he burned the popular temple where people worshiped idols!

THAT was the last straw. St. Theodore was killed for his faith, and now he is alive again with Christ in Heaven!

We celebrate St. Theodore tomorrow, Feb. 17



# The Prime Directive

February 10, 2020 · Fr. Barnabas Powell

What is it about close relationships that either blind you or enlighten you? What I mean is, I've known folks who were so close to someone else that they were absolutely blind to that other person's faults. I've seen it get so bad that the two people were so enmeshed with each other that they really were their own worst enemies when it came to other friends and relatives. There's nothing like codependency to make for emotional slavery.

But then again, I've seen two people be so close and so connected, but with a healthy self-image and honest self-knowledge, that their relationship serves as a model of how two folks can really know one another and still be themselves. Our connections have real consequences and how we connect matters as well!

In today's Gospel Lesson our Lord Jesus gives His disciples good direction concerning how the world will treat them after He's ascended into heaven. To make a long story short: the followers of Jesus will be treated like the world treated Jesus.

Look here in John 15:17-27; 16:1-2:

*The Lord said to his disciples: "This I command you, to love one another. If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you, 'A servant is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted me, they will persecute you; if they kept my word, they will keep yours also. But all this they will do to you on my account, because they do not know him who sent me. If I had not come and spoken to them, they would not have sin; but now they have no excuse for their sin. He who hates me hates my Father also. If I had not done among them the works which no one else did, they would not have sin; but now they have seen and hated both me and my Father. It is to fulfill the word that is written in their law, 'They hated me without a cause.'*

*But when the Counselor comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness to me; and you also are witnesses, because you have been with me from the beginning. I have said all this to you to keep you from falling away. They will put you out of the synagogues; indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God."*

There are life-altering consequences from not knowing God. Of course, these consequences have been clearly declared by preachers for centuries. In our modern day, we have lost so much of our Christian birthright and connection to the wisdom of the centuries that these consequences have been reduced to the cartoonish "fire and brimstone" sermons meant to emotionally manipulate people rather than enlighten and woo them to God. The end result is that too many people think of God as some kind of cosmic terrorist rather than knowing Him as He is.

But the greatest consequence of this lack of knowing God is a profound self-confusion about my own identity. And that, my dearest, is a confusion that ripples through every relationship I will ever have. It is an inner blindness that guarantees a lack of spiritual maturity, lack of consistent peace, and the immature temptation to reduce all my relationships into what I can get for myself out of my connections. In other words, it is the trap of counterfeit communion.

Today, your first step, your first priority if you desire healthy relationships in your life, is to expend your best energy, make your first priority, your relationship with God. All other relationships in your life are, to varying degrees, an icon of that primary relationship. The effort you give to knowing God, loving God, and coming to know yourself through that primary relationship will impact every relationship you have. The Good News is God wants to be known and He has even wrapped Himself in our flesh to make that knowledge possible and intimate. Today, seek Him. He wants to be found by you! He wants you to be Orthodox on Purpose!

1-е Коринфянам 6:12-20

Все мне позволительно, но не все полезно; все мне позволительно, но ничто не должно обладать мною. Пища для чрева, и чрево для пищи; но Бог уничтожит и то и другое. Тело же не для блуда, но для Господа, и Господь для тела. Бог воскресил Господа, воскресит и нас силою Своею. Разве не знаете, что тела ваши суть члены Христовы? Итак отниму ли члены у Христа, чтобы сделать [их] членами блудницы? Да не будет! Или не знаете, что совокупляющийся с блудницею становится одно тело [с нею]? ибо сказано: два будут одна плоть. А соединяющийся с Господом есть один дух с Господом. Бегайте блуда; всякий грех, какой делает человек, есть вне тела, а блудник грешит против собственного тела. Не знаете ли, что тела ваши суть храм живущего в вас Святаго Духа, Которого имеете вы от Бога, и вы не свои? Ибо вы куплены [дорогою] ценою. Посему прославляйте Бога и в телах ваших и в душах ваших, которые суть Божии.

От Луки 15:11-32

Еще сказал: у некоторого человека было два сына; и сказал младший из них отцу: отче! дай мне следующую [мне] часть имения. И [отец] разделил им имение. По прошествии немногих дней младший сын, собрав всё, пошел в дальнюю сторону и там расточил имение свое, живя распутно. Когда же он прожил всё, настал великий голод в той стране, и он начал нуждаться; и пошел, пристал к одному из жителей страны той, а тот послал его на поля свои пасти свиней; и он рад был наполнить чрево свое рожками, которые ели свиньи, но никто не давал ему. Придя же в себя, сказал: сколько наемников у отца моего избыточествуют хлебом, а я умираю от голода; встану, пойду к отцу моему и скажу ему: отче! я согрешил против неба и пред тобою и уже недостойн называться сыном твоим; прими меня в число наемников твоих. Встал и пошел к отцу своему. И когда он был еще далеко, увидел его отец его и сжалился; и, побежав, пал ему на шею и целовал его. Сын же сказал ему: отче! я согрешил против неба и пред тобою и уже недостойн называться сыном твоим. А отец сказал рабам своим: принесите лучшую одежду и оденьте его, и дайте перстень на руку его и обувь на ноги; и приведите откормленного теленка, и заколите; станем есть и веселиться! ибо этот сын мой был мертв и ожил, пропадал и нашелся. И начали веселиться. Старший же сын его был на поле; и возвращаясь, когда приблизился к дому, услышал пение и ликование; и, призвав одного из слуг, спросил: что это такое? Он сказал ему: брат твой пришел, и отец твой заколол откормленного теленка, потому что принял его здоровым. Он осердился и не хотел войти. Отец же его, выйдя, звал его. Но он сказал в ответ отцу: вот, я столько лет служу тебе и никогда не преступал приказания твоего, но ты никогда не дал мне и козлёнка, чтобы мне повеселиться с друзьями моими; а когда этот сын твой, расточивший имение своё с блудницами, пришел, ты заколол для него откормленного теленка. Он же сказал ему: сын мой! ты всегда со мною, и всё мое твое, а о том надобно было радоваться и веселиться, что брат твой сей был мертв и ожил, пропадал и нашелся.

1 e Korintasve 6:12-20

Çdo gjë më lejohet, por jo gjithçka është e dobishme; çdo gjë më lejohet, por unë nuk do të nënshtrohem asnjërës. Gjellët janë për barkun dhe barku për gjellët; por Perëndia do të shkatërrojë edhe këtë edhe atë; por trupi nuk është për kurvëri, po për Zotin, dhe Zoti për trupin. Tani Perëndia siç e ringjalli Zotin kështu do të na ringjallë edhe ne me fuqinë e tij. A nuk e dini ju se trupat tuaj janë gjymtyrë të Krishtit? Të marr, pra, unë gjymtyrët e Krishtit dhe t'i bëj gjymtyrë të një kurve? mos qoftë ashtu! A nuk e dini ju se ai që bashkohet me një kurvë bëhet një trup me të? Sepse thuhet: "Do të jenë të dy, thotë Zoti, një mish i vetëm." Por ai që bashkohet me Zotin është një frymë me të. Largohuni nga kurvëria! Çdo mëkat që kryen njeriu është jashtë trupit, po ai që kurvëron mëkaton kundër trupit të vet. A nuk e dini se trupi juaj është tempulli i Frymës së Shenjtë që është në ju, të cilin e keni nga Perëndia, dhe se nuk i përkitni vetvetes? Sepse u bletë me një çmim! Përlëvdoni Perëndinë, pra, në trupin tuaj dhe në frymën tuaj, që i përkasin Perëndisë.

Luka 15:11-32

Tha akoma: "Një njeri kishte dy bij. Më i riu i tyre i tha babait: "Atë, më jep pjesën e pasurisë që më takon". Dhe i ati ua ndau mes tyre pasurinë. Mbas pak ditësh biri më i ri mblodhi çdo gjë, shkoi në një vend të largët dhe atje e prishi gjithë pasurinë, duke bërë një jetë të shthurur. Por, si i shpenzoi të gjitha, në atë vend ra një zi e madhe buke, dhe ai filloi të jetë në hall. Atëherë shkoi e iu ngjit pas një banori të atij vendi, i cili e çoi në arat e tij që të ruajë derrat. Dhe ai dëshironte të mbushte barkun me lendet që hanin derrat, por askush nuk ia jepte. Atëherë erdhi në vete dhe tha: "Sa punëtorëve mëditës të atit tim u tepron buka, kurse unë po vdes nga uria! Do të çohem dhe do të shkoj tek im atë dhe do t'i them: Atë, mëkatova kundër qiellit dhe para teje; nuk jam më i denjë të quhem yt bir; trajtomë si një nga mëditësit e tu". U çua, pra, dhe shkoi tek i ati. Por kur ishte ende larg, i ati e pa dhe dhembshuri; u lëshua vrap, ra mbi qafën e tij dhe e puthi. Dhe i biri i tha: "O atë, mëkatova kundër qiellit dhe para teje dhe nuk jam më i denjë të quhem biri yt". Por i ati u tha shërbëtorëve të vet: "Sillni këtu rrobën më të bukur dhe visheni, i vini një unazë në gisht dhe sandale në këmbë. Nxirrni jashtë viçin e majmur dhe thereni; të hamë dhe të gëzohemi, sepse ky biri im kishte vdekur dhe u kthye në jetë, kishte humbur dhe u gjet përsëri". Dhe filluan të bënin një festë të madhe. Djali i tij i madh ishte në ara; dhe kur u kthye dhe iu afrua shtëpisë, dëgjoji këngë e valle. Atëherë thirri një shërbëtor dhe e pyeti ç'ishte e gjitha kjo. Dhe ai i tha: "U kthye yt vëlla dhe yt atë theri viçin e majmur, sepse iu kthye djali shëndoshë e mirë". Kur i dëgjoj këto, ai u zemërua dhe nuk desh të hynte; atëherë i ati doli dhe iu lut të hynte. Por ai iu përgjigj të atit dhe tha: "Ja, u bënë kaq vite që unë të shërbej dhe kurrë s'kam shkelur asnjë nga urdhërat e tu, e megjithëatë kurrë s'më dhe një kec për të bërë një festë me miqtë e mi. Por, kur u kthye ky djali yt, që prishi pasurinë tënde me prostituta, ti there për të viçin e majmur". Atëherë i ati i tha: "O bir, ti je gjithmonë me mua, dhe çdo gjë që kam është jotja. Por duhet të festojmë dhe të gëzohemi, sepse ky vëllai yt kishte vdekur dhe u kthye në jetë, kishte humbur dhe u gjet përsëri".