

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!

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February 9, 2020

34TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST, SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE

TONE 1

Today	10:00am	Divine Liturgy Icon Pledge Sunday
Wed. 05	7:00pm	Bible Study
Sat. 08	6:00pm	Vespers
Sun. 09	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: Fast Free Week!

Troparion – Tone 1 (Resurrection)

*When the stone had been sealed by
the Jews,
while the soldiers were guarding Thy
most pure body,
Thou didst rise on the third day, O
Savior,
granting life to the world.
The powers of heaven therefore cried
to Thee, O Giver of Life:
"Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ!
Glory to Thy Kingdom!
Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou
who lovest mankind!"*

Kontakion – Tone 1 (Feast)

*By Thy Nativity Thou didst
sanctify the Virgin's womb
and didst bless Simeon's hands, O
Christ God.
Now Thou hast come and saved us
through love.
Grant peace to all Orthodox
Christians,
O only Lover of Man!*

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

1 Peter 2:21-3:9
Mark 12:13-17

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 09: Deuteronomy 1-4
Feb 10: Deuteronomy 4-8
Feb 11: Deuteronomy 9-12
Feb 12: Deuteronomy 13-16
Feb 13: Deuteronomy 17-20
Feb 14: Deuteronomy 21-24
Feb 15: Deuteronomy 25-29

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, Sophie Plasari, Donna, Fr. Gregory & Mat. Linda DuDash, Leon, 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 Natasha, Katherine, Alla, Maria, Antonina, Valentina, David,



“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



February

09 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Sunday School
Icon Pledge Sunday
12 – 7:00pm Bible Study
15 – 6:00pm Vespers
Visit with Michael
Gregory

February/March Events

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

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

The Icon Pledge is today! Please Stay to bid on your icons and then join us upstairs for a luncheon and fellowship! This is a major part of our yearly budget and we would like to thank everyone for their generosity over the past years! May God bless you and your gifts to His Holy Church.

Birthdays/ Anniversaries

Joanne & George Johns A – 2/9

Coffee Hour

Today: *Icon Pledge*

Next Week: Ladies Society Bake Sale

2 Timothy 3:10-15 (Epistle)

But you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, 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.”

PHILADELPHIA ORTHODOX CLERGY BROTHERHOOD

MISSION VESPERS SCHEDULE

GREAT LENT 2020

ALL SERVICES ARE SCHEDULED FOR 4:00 PM

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

Children's Word

What does God want from YOU?

Do you ever think about what you want from God? It's good to pray to God and ask Him for health, for strength, to help you be better at things. But did you ever wonder what God wants from YOU?

Today is the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee—You know, the day we hear the Gospel reading about the two men who went into the temple to pray. One of them was proud and bragging. The other (the one we want to be like) “would not even lift up his eyes to heaven...” but he said “God be merciful to me, a sinner!” Not too long ago, a saintly and very humble man lived in Greece. His name was Elder Paisios (now he's a saint). Lots of people knew he was a holy man, so they would ask him for advice. They wanted to know how they could become holy, too! St. Paisios would always tell people how important it was to be humble—like the man in the Gospel today.

“The only thing Christ is asking us is our humility. The rest is taken care of by His grace.” We don't want to show off and try to make ourselves look great. We want to put others first. We want to be humble. That's it! If we can be humble, God will take care of everything else. What God wants from YOU is that you are humble. God will help us with everything else!

SAINT ANNA OF NOVGOROD THE RIGHT KIND OF PRINCESS

Almost every little girl likes to talk about princesses—where they live, who they marry, what kind of fancy things they have. Tomorrow, we will remember a princess who used all of these things to show her love for God.

Saint Anna was born in Sweden, and her name was Ingegard at first. When she grew older, she married the Great Prince Yaroslav. He lived in Kiev (a city in Ukraine today) and he was a strong Christian, too. Anna and Yaroslav wanted the great city of Kiev to be a Christian city. They wanted the people to know about our one, true God. They built a huge and beautiful church called Saint Sophia's Cathedral. It is right in the middle of the city, so people can't miss it. Soon, lots of people were being baptized as Christians, too. Saint Anna was a great mother too. She had 10 children and she taught them to love God, just like she loved Him, too. Later on, Saint Anna lived in another important city—Novgorod (which is now in Russia). She helped build a great church there too, along with her son, Prince Vladimir. We celebrate St. Anna tomorrow, Feb. 10th.

10 WAYS TO PREPARE FOR OUR LENTEN JOURNEY

February 9, 2015 by Orthodox Mom

Can you believe it is time for Great Lent already? We just celebrated the Sunday of The Prodigal Son, which is the second Sunday of the Triodion! I swear Christmas was just last week!

Soon we'll be celebrating my favorite Vespers service of the year on Forgiveness Sunday, the day before Lent is officially underway. No matter how many times I experience Forgiveness Sunday vespers, it always feels so new and amazing. What better way to begin our journey toward Pascha than with forgiveness and repentance? Such liberation from the bondage of sin!

The thing I love most about this service is how at the end, everyone in the church does a prostration to each other and asks their forgiveness. It is such a humbling and beautiful act. You leave feeling a hundred times lighter and with a firm resolve to take on the challenge that lies before us for the next 40 days until Holy Week. And oh, Holy Week! What a magnificent and powerful time of year as we actively participate in all the events leading up to Christ's Crucifixion and glorious Resurrection.

How can we anticipate something so much and not physically do something? We need to take advantage of the things the Church provides for us. This is the perfect time to make sure our family is prepared spiritually for this journey. Here are 10 ways we can help ourselves and our families prepare for our lenten journey.

1. Make confession appointments for our entire family. Be sure to check out the fantastic Guide to Confession for children from St. Spyridon's Church in Colorado. They have two guides, one for children ages 6-10 and the other for ages 11 & up. Go to <https://lenten-embassy.myshopify.com/collections/all> to view all their lenten materials.
2. Check the schedule of services and plan on attending as many as possible. Don't forget Pre-sanctified Liturgy's!
3. Sit your family down and discuss the sobriety and importance of this fast. Agree to cut back on tv time, video games and other electronics and choose some spiritual books to read during those times instead. We'll be reading *The Way of a Pilgrim* and *Pascha Transforms* Wolfman Tom this year.
4. On Saturday evenings, read the Gospel for the following day and discuss each Sunday in Lent. (Sundays in Lent are Sunday of Orthodoxy, St. Gregory Palamas, Veneration of the Holy Cross, St. John Climacus of the Ladder, St. Mary of Egypt, and of course, Palm Sunday.)
5. Pick one or two fun activities for the kids to do. We will be doing our Pascha Passports again this year (Click the link to see how awesome they are!) and our lenten coloring books from Potamitis Publishing. We also had *a ton of fun* with our Special Agents of Christ project last year but we have a lot going on this year and unfortunately don't think we'll have time for both the training and the passports.
You can find all the details for this project at <http://www.orthodoxmom.com/2014/03/03/special-agents-of-christ-spring-training-lenten-activity-for-kids/>
6. We need to be especially mindful of our fasting (both what goes into our mouths and comes out) by keeping our PMS (Potty Mouth Syndrome) in check.
8. Become more prayerful. One prayer that should be added to our daily prayer rules is the prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian.
O Lord and Master of my life, a spirit of idleness, curiosity, ambition and idle talk, give me not. (prostration)
But a spirit of chastity, humility, patience and love, bestow upon me, Thy servant. (prostration)
Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see mine own failings and not to condemn my brother; for blessed art Thou unto the ages of ages. Amen. (prostration)
Then we do our cross and make twelve bows, after which we repeat the concluding verse of the prayer:
Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see mine own failings and not to condemn my brother; for blessed art Thou unto the ages of ages. Amen. (prostration)
9. Stretch out our hands to those in need more often. Our almsgiving should definitely increase during fasting periods. I hope to knit several scarves and prayer shawls for the boys to pass out to people we see on the streets this time of year and doing several other outreach activities.
10. Lastly, be conscious of all of our actions. Struggle daily to think and act as a true Orthodox Christian. Be more mindful of the way you speak, dress, behave and even think.

Offend less, forgive more. Speak less, listen more. Humble yourself and let the love and light of Christ shine through you.

<http://www.orthodoxmom.com/2015/02/09/10-ways-to-prepare-for-great-lent/>

2-е Тимофею 3:10-15

А ты последовал мне в учении, житии, расположении, вере, великодушии, любви, терпении, в гонениях, страданиях, постигших меня в Антиохии, Иконии, Листрах; каковые гонения я перенес, и от всех избавил меня Господь. Да и все, желающие жить благочестиво во Христе Иисусе, будут гонимы. Злые же люди и обманщики будут преуспевать во зле, вводя в заблуждение и заблуждаясь. А ты пребывай в том, чему научен и что тебе вверено, зная, кем ты научен. Притом же ты из детства знаешь священные писания, которые могут умудрить тебя во спасение верою во Христа Иисуса.

От Луки 18:10-14

два человека вошли в храм помолиться: один фарисей, а другой мытарь. Фарисей, став, молился сам в себе так: Боже! благодарю Тебя, что я не таков, как прочие люди, грабители, обидчики, прелюбодеи, или как этот мытарь: пощусь два раза в неделю, даю десятую часть из всего, что приобретаю. Мытарь же, стоя вдали, не смел даже поднять глаз на небо; но, ударяя себя в грудь, говорил: Боже! будь милостив ко мне грешнику! Сказываю вам, что сей пошел оправданным в дом свой более, нежели тот: ибо всякий, возвышающий сам себя, унижен будет, а унижающий себя возвысится.

2 Timoteut 3:10-15

Dhe ti ndoqe nga afër mësimin tim, sjelljen, këshillat, besimin, durimin, dashurinë, ngulmin, përndjekjet, vuajtjet që më ndodhën në Antioki, në Ikonio, dhe në Listra; ti e di çfarë përndjekjesh hoqa, por Perëndia më shpëtoi nga të gjitha. Të gjithë ata që duan të rrojnë me perëndishmëri në Krishtin Jezus do të përndiqen, por njerëzit e këqij dhe mashtrues do të shkojnë keq e më keq, duke gënjyer dhe duke u gënjyer vetë. Por ti qëndro në ato që mësove dhe u binde plotësisht, duke e ditur prej kujt i mësove, dhe se që nga fëmijëria i njeh Shkrimet e shenjta, të cilat mund të të bëjnë të ditur për shpëtimin me anë të besimit që është në Krishtin Jezus.

Luka 18:10-14

“Dy njerëz u ngjitën në tempull për t’u lutur; njëri ishte farise dhe tjetri tagrambledhës. Fariseu rrinte në këmbë dhe lutej në vetvete kështu: "O Perëndi, të falënderoj që nuk jam si njerëzit e tjerë, grabitqarë, të padrejtë, kurorëshkelës, dhe as si ai tagrambledhës. Unë agjëroj dy herë në javë dhe paguaj të dhjetën e gjithçkaje që kam". Kurse tagrambledhësi rrinte larg dhe as që guxonte t’i çonte sytë drejt qiellit; por rrihte krahatorin e vet duke thënë: "O Perëndi, ji i mëshirshëm ndaj mua mëkatarit". Dhe unë po ju them se ky, dhe jo tjetri, u kthye në shtëpinë e vet i shfajësuar; sepse kushdo që lartohet do të ulet, dhe kush ulet, do të lartohet.”