

Ss. 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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July 24, 2022

6TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

HOLY MARTYRS AND PASSIONBEARERS BORIS AND GLEB

Today 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Wed. 27 7:15pm Bible Study with
GoogleMeet
Sun. 31 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, and eggs, dairy, wine and oil as you are able.)

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 3 (Sts. Boris and Gleb)

Today your most glorious memory shines forth, noble participants in the passion of Christ, holy Boris and Gleb, for you call us together to sing praises to Christ our God. Praying to Him before your sacred images, we receive the gift of healing by your prayers, for you are indeed divine healers.

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

Romans 8:28-39
John 15:17-16:2
Romans 12:6-14
Matthew 9:1-8

Monday

Galatians 4:22-31
Luke 8:16-21
1 Corinthians 5:9-6:11
Matthew 13:54-58

Tuesday

Philippians 3:7-14
Mark 10:29-31, 42-45
1 Corinthians 6:20-7:12
Matthew 14:1-13

Wednesday

2 Timothy 2:1-10
John 15:17-16:2
1 Corinthians 7:12-24
Matthew 14:35-15:11

Thursday

1 Corinthians 7:24-35
Matthew 15:12-21

Friday

1 Corinthians 7:35-8:7
Matthew 15:29-31

Saturday

Romans 12:1-3
Matthew 10:37-11:1

Reading the Bible in a Year

July 24: Ezekiel 21-24
July 25: Ezekiel 25-28
July 26: Ezekiel 29-32
July 27: Ezekiel 33-36
July 28: Ezekiel 37-40
July 29: Ezekiel 41-44
July 30: Ezekiel 45-48

JULY/AUGUST EVENTS

July

24 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
27 – 7:15pm Bible Study with
GoogleMeet
31 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Education Sunday

August

03 – 7:15pm Bible Study with
GoogleMeet
06 – 9:00am Divine Liturgy
Feast of the Transfiguration

07 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
08-13 **Rally**
10 – 7:15pm Bible Study with
GoogleMeet
12 – 6:00pm Fun Night
14 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Feast of the Dormition
16-18 **Vacation Bible School**
21 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy

A Prayer for the Week

Dear Lord, You are a consuming Fire! We, who are created, cannot come into Your Presence without confronting reality and that confrontation will reveal whether my life is filled with the precious stones of spiritual maturity or the flammable waste of selfish living. When I confront this reality, I am filled with dread. Please help me live a life of repentance so that I can come into Your Presence, having prepared myself through Your grace to possess spiritual treasures and not waste my life hiding from reality! Amen.

Coffee Hour

This week's coffee hour is provided by:

Flower Donation

This week's flowers were donated by:
Tina Murianka



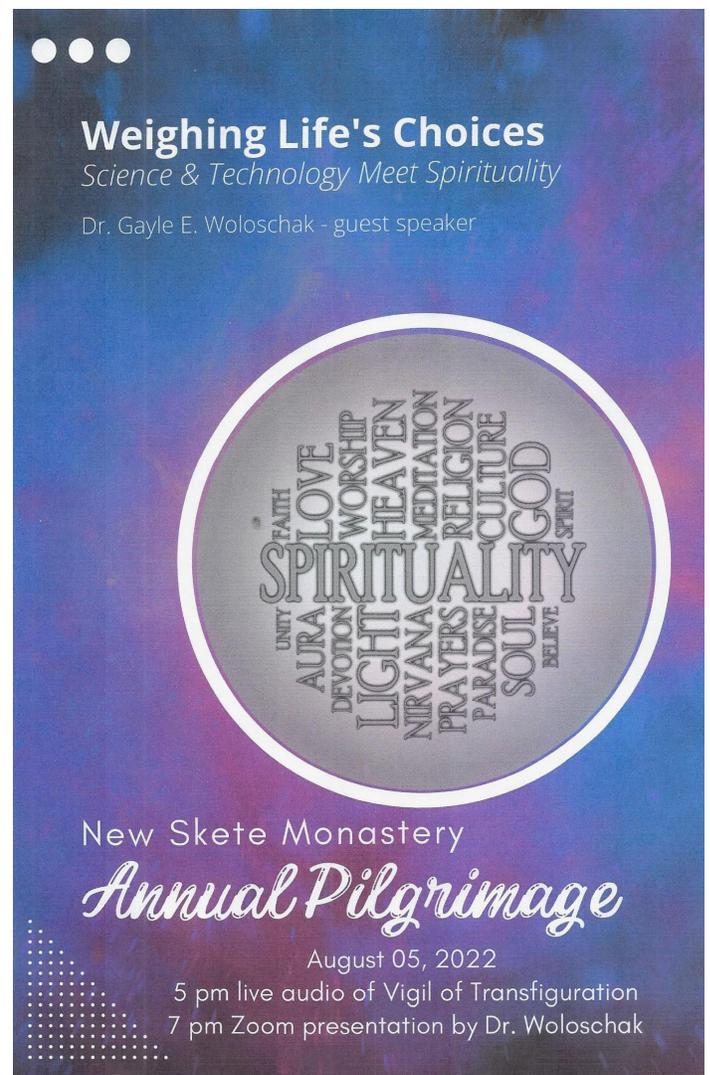
Youth Rally
2022
August 8th - 13th

For ages
9 - 17

Greater love has no one than this,
than to lay down one's life for his friends.
– John 15:13

At:
St. Methodius Faith and Heritage Center
Contoocook, NH

www.dneyouthrally.com



Weighing Life's Choices
Science & Technology Meet Spirituality
Dr. Gayle E. Woloschak - guest speaker

SPiritUALITY

New Skete Monastery
Annual Pilgrimage
August 05, 2022
5 pm live audio of Vigil of Transfiguration
7 pm Zoom presentation by Dr. Woloschak

Romans 12:6-14

Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil. Cling to what is good. Be kindly affectionate to one another with brotherly love, in honor giving preference to one another; not lagging in diligence, fervent in spirit, serving the Lord; rejoicing in hope, patient in tribulation, continuing steadfastly in prayer; distributing to the needs of the saints, given to hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse.

Matthew 9:1-8

So He got into a boat, crossed over, and came to His own city. Then behold, they brought to Him a paralytic lying on a bed. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, be of good cheer; your sins are forgiven you." And at once some of the scribes said within themselves, "This Man blasphemes!" But Jesus, knowing their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins" – then He said to the paralytic, "Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." And he arose and departed to his house. Now when the multitudes saw it, they marveled and glorified God, who had given such power to men.



In spite of our sinfulness, in spite of the darkness surrounding our souls, the Grace of the Holy Spirit, conferred by baptism in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, still shines in our hearts with the inextinguishable light of Christ ... and when the sinner turns to the way of repentance the light smooths away every trace of the sins committed, clothing the former sinner in the garments of incorruption, spun of the Grace of the Holy Spirit. It is this acquisition of the Holy Spirit about which I have been speaking.

-St. Seraphim of Sarov



Children's Word

The Fear of God

Are you afraid of anything? Everybody has something he's at least a little afraid of: maybe snakes, or the dark, or going up on high places.

Today, in the Gospel reading, we hear about a different kind of fear. First, we hear how our Lord heals another man who couldn't walk. After Christ healed him, the man stood up and walked home! The Bible says, "When the crowds saw it, they were afraid, and they glorified God."

But why were they afraid? Are we supposed to be afraid of God, too? When our priest is ready to give us Holy Communion, he says, "With the fear of God, with faith and love, draw near." Should we be afraid, just like the crowds in the Gospel today were afraid?

Well, this time, when we have fear, it's not like when we are afraid of snakes or spiders or sharks. We stay away from those! But when we have fear of God, we show that we are amazed by Him! We show God that we are amazed at what He has done. We are amazed by His power. We are amazed by His love.

When we come for Holy Communion, we come with fear. God is so powerful that He could heal the paralyzed man in the story today. God is so powerful, but He is also so loving that He wants us to come closer to Him!

SAINT ANNA THE GRANDMOTHER OF OUR LORD

Do you get to talk to your grandparents often—maybe on the phone, or even in person? Would you like to know about Jesus's grandparents?

In just about 3 weeks, we will celebrate the falling asleep (the Dormition) of Mary, the Mother of God. We celebrate it (instead of being sad about it), because the Theotokos was close to God and we know that she is still close to Him!

Well, tomorrow, we celebrate the Dormition of her mother, Saint Anna. (She was the grandmother of Jesus.) We celebrate her death, because we know that she is in heaven too!

Saint Anna lived a life close to God too. She and her husband, Joachim, were very old, but they prayed to God for a long time that they would have a baby. God heard their prayer, and gave them one of the best gifts ever—baby Mary!

Many people pray to Saint Anna if they wish they could have a child, but can't. Also, many married couples pray to Saints Joachim and Anna because they gave such a great example of a loving marriage, and they were always faithful to God. God listens to our prayers, just as He listened to the prayers of Saint Anna and her husband, Saint Joachim! We celebrate Saint Anna on Monday, July 25th.

Reality! It's What You Need

July 13, 2022 · Fr. Barnabas Powell

American author Laird Barron once said “Mom was all about hellfire and brimstone. Her Old Testament God was a colossal, ancient brute, a maelstrom of blood and fire, of appetite and wrath.” Sounds familiar.

Our society has been shaped by a narrative, both subtle and overt, about how we think of God. And, for many people (could we say the majority?), God is exactly like Barron’s mother described: A colossal and angry deity, filled with exacting wrath to punish the “evildoer.” Here’s the problem; that description sounds more like the pagan deities of the ancient days than the God described in the scriptures. To be sure, there is lots of talk about wrath and God’s “anger”, but do those words mean what we think they mean?

Look at our lesson today in Romans 1:18-27:

BRETHREN, the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and wickedness of men who by their wickedness suppress the truth. For what can be known about God is plain to them, because God has shown it to them. Ever since the creation of the world his invisible nature, namely, his eternal power and deity, has been clearly perceived in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse; for although they knew God they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking and their senseless minds were darkened. Claiming to be wise, they became fools, and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling mortal man or birds or animals or reptiles. Therefore God gave them up in the lusts of their hearts to impurity, to the dishonoring of their bodies among themselves, because they exchanged the truth about God for a lie and worshiped and served the creature rather than the Creator, who is blessed for ever! Amen. For this reason God gave them up to dishonorable passions. Their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural, and the men likewise gave up natural relations with women and were consumed with passion for one another, men committing shameless acts with men and receiving in their own persons the due penalty for their error.

St. Paul certainly talks about God’s wrath here in this passage and he’s pretty specific about who are the folks subject to the wrath of God.

Notice what he says: The wrath of God is “revealed” (significant!) against people who know better! The people who have every advantage in knowing the truth, in knowing God Himself; the folks who have access to the wisdom of the ages; the faith “once delivered to the saints,” they are the ones who experience the wrath of God.

And what does God do? He “gave them up” (an amazing phrase that literally means God gave them exactly what they wanted: the freedom to do whatever they wanted) to their desires. And He did this because He loved them and never intended to impose Himself on anyone! And this all resulted BECAUSE they exchanged the true God for “gods” created in their own image rather than humbly embrace the God Who Is! They preferred their delusions and illusions over the Real Thing! They preferred their fantasy to reality.

And the result is that God’s wrath is “revealed from heaven against all ungodliness” In other words, the Love of God is experienced by these people who prefer fantasy over reality as punishment. It’s like how kids experience the kitchen light coming on while they are stealing cookies! And to make matters worse, these folks should know better! They have purposefully chosen to reject reality for their own “creation.” They insist on being “god” in their own fantasy and actively reject the reality of the True God.

No wonder Paul describes how they experience being forced to deal with reality as wrath! Just like we hate to “wake up” after a “good dream” these folks despise having to deal with the reality of their fantasy. They hate being told “No, that will hurt you. Don’t do that.” They rebel against any suggestion that what they want must be tempered and tamed by what is good. In other words, they feel like they are being punished when in reality they are BEING LOVED!

Today, are you willing to deal with reality and stop living in a fantasy world of your own creation? You have so many spiritual treasures available to you to help you wake up and live in reality. Rejecting these treasures will mean when you can’t run from reality anymore, you’ll think God is angry with you or punishing you. But He isn’t. He’s just calling you to be Orthodox on Purpose!

К Римлянам 12:6-14

И как, по данной нам благодати, имеем различные дарования, [то], [имеешь ли] пророчество, [пророчествуй] по мере веры; [имеешь ли] служение, [пребывай] в служении; учитель ли, --в учении; увещатель ли, увещевай; раздаватель ли, [раздавай] в простоте; начальник ли, [начальствуй] с усердием; благотворитель ли, [благотвори] с радушием. Любовь [да будет] непритворна; отвращайтесь зла, прилепляйтесь к добру; будьте братолюбивы друг к другу с нежностью; в почтительности друг друга предупреждайте; в усердии не ослабевайте; духом пламенейте; Господу служите; утешайтесь надеждою; в скорби [будьте] терпеливы, в молитве постоянны; в нуждах святых принимайте участие; ревнуйте о странноприимстве. Благословляйте гонителей ваших; благословляйте, а не проклинаяте.

От Матфея 9:1-8

Тогда Он, войдя в лодку, переправился [обратно] и прибыл в Свой город. И вот, принесли к Нему расслабленного, положенного на постели. И, видя Иисус веру их, сказал расслабленному: дерзай, чадо! прощаются тебе грехи твои. При сем некоторые из книжников сказали сами в себе: Он богохульствует. Иисус же, видя помышления их, сказал: для чего вы мыслите худое в сердцах ваших? ибо что легче сказать: прощаются тебе грехи, или сказать: встань и ходи? Но чтобы вы знали, что Сын Человеческий имеет власть на земле прощать грехи, --тогда говорит расслабленному: встань, возьми постель твою, и иди в дом твой. И он встал, [взял постель свою] и пошел в дом свой. Народ же, видев это, удивился и прославил Бога, давшего такую власть человекам.

Romanëve 12:6-14

Edhe kemi dhurata të ndryshme sipas hirit që na u dha; në kemi profeci, le të profetizojmë sipas pjesës së besimit që na takon; ose shërbesë, le të qëndrojmë në shërbesë; kush është mësues, le të jepet pas mësimit; kush ka dhuratën e këshillimit, le të japë këshilla; kush jep, le të japë me thjeshtësi; kush është i parë, le të jetë me kujdes; kush përdëllen, le të përdëllejë me gaz. Dashuria le të jetë pa shtirje; urreni të ligën, ngjituni pas së mirës. Të doni fort njëri-tjetrin me dashuri vëllazërore; kalojeni në nderim njëri-tjetrin. Në punë të jeni të papërtueshëm, në shpirt të nxehtë; Zotit t'i shërbeni. Në shpresë të gëzoheni; në shtrëngim të duroni; në lutje të qëndroni; në nevojat e shenjtëve të ndihmoni; nga mikpritja mos hiqni dorë. Bekoni ata që ju përndjekin; bekonit e mos mallkoni.

Mattheut 9:1-8

Edhe si hyri në lundër, u hodh përtej, e erdhi në qytetin e tij. Edhe ja tek i prunë një të paralizuar të dergjur mbi shtrat; edhe Jisui si pa besimin e tyre, i tha të paralizuarit: Merr zemër, o bir, të janë falur mëkatet. Edhe ja ca nga shkruerit tek thanë me veten e tyre: Ky po blasfemon. Edhe Jisui si pa mendimet e tyre, tha: Përse mendoni ju ligësira në zemrat tuaja? Sepse ç'është më lehtë, të them: T'u falen mëkatet; apo të them: Ngrihu e ec? Po që ta dini se i Biri i njeriut ka pushtet mbi dhe të falë mëkate, – atëherë i thotë të paralizuarit: – Çohu, ngri shtratin tënd, edhe shko në shtëpinë tënde. Edhe ai u ngrit edhe shkoi në shtëpinë e tij. Edhe turmat, kur panë, u çuditën, edhe lavdëruan Perëndinë, që u dha njerëzve një pushtet të këtillë.