

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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June 19, 2022

HOLY PENTECOST – FEAST OF THE HOLY TRINITY

Today 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Wed. 15 7:15pm Bible Study with
GoogleMeet
Sun. 19 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: All week! We are beginning the Apostles Fast (fasting from meat, fish, and eggs, dairy, wine and oil as you are able.)

**Troparion – Tone 8
(Resurrection)**

*Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One!
Thou didst accept the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!
O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!*

**Kontakion – Tone 8
(All Saints)**

*The universe offers Thee the God-bearing Martyrs as the first fruits of creation, O Lord and Creator.
By their prayers keep Thy Church, Thy habitation, in abiding peace through the Theotokos, O most Merciful One!*

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

Hebrews 11:33-12:2
Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38, 19:27-30

Monday

Romans 2:28-3:18
Matthew 6:31-34, 7:9-11

Tuesday

Romans 4:4-12
Matthew 7:15-21

Wednesday

Romans 4:13-25
Matthew 7:21-23

Thursday

Romans 5:10-16
Matthew 8:23-27

Friday

Romans 13:11-14:4
Luke 1:1-25, 57-68, 76, 80
Romans 5:17-6:2
Matthew 9:14-17

Saturday

Romans 3:19-26
Matthew 7:1-8

Reading the Bible in a Year

June 19: Isaiah 1-4
June 20: Isaiah 5-8
June 21: Isaiah 9-12
June 22: Isaiah 13-16
June 23: Isaiah 17-20
June 24: Isaiah 21-14
June 25: Isaiah 15-28

JUNE/JULY EVENTS

June

19 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
22 – 7:15pm Bible Study with
GoogleMeet
25 – 6:00pm Vespers
26 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Feast of Ss. Peter & Paul
Education Sunday
29 – 7:15pm Bible Study with
GoogleMeet

July

01 – 6:00pm Fun Night
03 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
06 – 7:15pm Bible Study with
GoogleMeet
10 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
13 – 7:15pm Bible Study with
GoogleMeet
17 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
20 – 7:15pm Bible Study with
GoogleMeet

Coffee Hour

This week's coffee hour is
provided by:
Donna Carmody
In Memory of Her Parents
Frani & Jack

Flower Donation

This week's flowers were
donated by:
Tina Murianka

Cemetery Blessings

Today we will be blessing the graves at Forrest Hills Cemetery at 2:00pm. We will be having a memorial for those buried there immediately following Divine Liturgy.

Icon Blessing!

Today is the Sunday of All Saints! If you would like to bring in an icon to be blessed, we will have a special prayer and blessing of the icons after Divine Liturgy!



"Strive for peace with all men, and for the holiness without which no one will see the Lord' (Heb. 12:14), Why did he say 'strive'? Because it is not possible for us to become holy and to be saints in an hour! We must therefore progress from modest beginnings toward holiness and purity. Even were we to spend a thousand years in this life we should never perfectly attain it. Rather we must always struggle for it every day, as if mere beginners."

-St. Symeon the New Theologian



A Prayer for the Week

Dear Lord, I am waking up to the reality that there is deeper healing needed in my life that is more than just making my pain go away. I am realizing that You intend to transform me into an eternal companion that is capable of knowing You and myself at such a profound level that I am truly free. I am ready to be made ready for this transformation so that I will become by grace what Christ is

by nature. Amen!

Hebrews 11:33-12:2

who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented – of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us. Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Matthew 10:32-33, 37-38, 19:27-30

Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven. He who loves father or mother more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who loves son or daughter more than Me is not worthy of Me. And he who does not take his cross and follow after Me is not worthy of Me. Then Peter answered and said to Him, “See, we have left all and followed You. Therefore what shall we have?” So Jesus said to them, “Assuredly I say to you, that in the regeneration, when the Son of Man sits on the throne of His glory, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name’s sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first.

Children's Word

The only one?

Do you have friends who are Christians? Sometimes you might feel kind of alone as an Orthodox Christian. At school, you might not be allowed to talk about your church or about God. You might be the only one to make the sign of the Cross at lunchtime, or maybe the only one to miss school on Holy Friday. Or maybe sometimes, you might be the only one standing up for something you know is right.

But do you know—you always have thousands and thousands of Christians on your side? They are ready to help you be strong. They are ready to help you keep you close to Jesus Christ. Who are these people? The saints! They are on God’s side too, and when we pray to them, they listen to us and help us with what we need.

In the Gospel reading today, we hear about how God wants us to remember Christ in front of other people. The Lord said, “Everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny him before my Father who is in heaven.” That means we have to be strong Christians, even when we feel like we’re the only ones! And when we do that, God promises that He will also remember us before His Father. He will keep us close to Him. What could be better than that?

SAINTS INNA, PINNA, AND RIMMA WORSHIPING THE SON OF GOD

This Tuesday is the summer solstice. Do you know what that means? If you live in the northern half of the world, it’s the longest day of the year. The sun shines longer that day than any other day of the year.

Long ago, many people were pagans. They worshiped many false gods. Sometimes, they even worshiped the sun, or a “sun god.” This day, the summer solstice, was a big party for them because it’s the day you see the sun the most! (Did you know that some people still do worship the sun?)

Saints Inna, Pinna, and Rimma were three saints who lived when most people were pagans. These three saints learned about Christ from the apostle Andrew, and St. Andrew baptized them. Then, they taught lots of pagan people about Christ too, and they baptized them and made them Christians! Sadly, the pagan prince captured the three men. He made them stay in an icy river until they died. But these saints wanted to worship the true Son—the Son of God, Jesus Christ—not the sun we see in the sky. They knew that what they said mattered. They kept their faith because they

loved the Lord, and they wanted to be with the Son forever! We celebrate these three saints tomorrow, June 20th.

The Beatitudes that Truly Heal

June 14, 2022 · Fr. Barnabas Powell

A dear priest friend of mine is on pilgrimage to the Holy Land and other holy sites in the area. Recently he and his fellow pilgrims came to the final resting place of Lazarus, the man the Lord raised from the dead. And that got me thinking about Lazarus and his miraculous healing and what followed.

You see, Lazarus died a second time and we have his relics with us to this day. Yep, two funerals. As an aside, it is said that the only time Lazarus really smiled after his own resurrection from the dead was when he saw a thief stealing a clay pot. It is reported that he smiled and said “Look, clay stealing clay.”

It is amazing in this day and age of materialism, secularism, and radical autonomy that the religious notion of physical healing still continues to be a focus. But it’s also true of medical science as well. We want to be healed, but we want this healing to be instantaneous, miraculous, and cost us nothing. Doesn’t that say something about us? We want salvation to be the same – Instant, painless, and free. And yet both physical well-being AND spiritual well-being are NEVER based on magic, but on faithful discipline.

In today’s Gospel Lesson Jesus does some amazing things but He teaches truths that are even more amazing. We know this passage as the Beatitudes.

Look at Matthew 4:23-25;5:1-13:

At that time, Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and preaching the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every infirmity among the people. So his fame spread throughout all Syria, and they brought him all the sick, those afflicted with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, and paralytics, and he healed them. And great crowds followed him from Galilee and the Dekapolis and Jerusalem and Judea and from beyond the Jordan.

Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down his disciples came to him. And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

“Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so men persecuted the prophets who were before you.

“You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trodden under foot by men.”

The passage starts out by saying Jesus is doing three activities throughout the area. He is Teaching, Preaching the “gospel of the kingdom” (significant), and “Healing every disease and every infirmity.” No wonder His fame spread like wildfire through this part of the world! Someone Who does this is certainly going to get people’s attention.

But think about it, every person the Lord healed physically eventually died, just like Lazarus. Every person whose ailment was healed still faced the mortality of their physical body.

That’s why the Lord went on to give us the spiritual healing treasures of these divine Beatitudes. He goes on to reveal to us that physical healing is one thing, but true and eternal healing of our inner lives is the healing that lasts forever! Become what He says of you in this wonderful list of virtues and faithfulness and you will not only gain eternal salvation but even your physical body will be caught up in His eternal life at the Resurrection of the dead. Now that’s what I call being Healed! Forever!

Today, why not abandon the narcissistic notion of “Please make my boo boo go away” for the long-term joys of a life disciplined and shaped by eternal healing that penetrates the deepest need of your soul? Why not allow the power of the Holy Spirit to so transform your inner life so that your outer life reflects the change inside you? Allow

the wisdom of the Faith to reveal you to the world as “Blessed” because of your priorities, choices, and love. This is the only path that truly leads to being Healed! Forever! This is what it means to be Orthodox on Purpose!

К Евреям 11:33-12:2

которые верою побеждали царства, творили правду, получали обетования, заграждали уста львов, угашали силу огня, избегали острия меча, укреплялись от немощи, были крепки на войне, прогоняли полки чужих; жены получали умерших своих воскресшими; иные же замучены были, не приняв освобождения, дабы получить лучшее воскресение; другие испытали поругания и побои, а также узы и темницу, были побиваемы камнями, перепиливаемы, подвергаемы пытке, умирали от меча, скитались в милотях и козых кожах, терпя недостатки, скорби, озлобления; те, которых весь мир не был достоин, скитались по пустыням и горам, по пещерам и ущельям земли. И все сии, свидетельствованные в вере, не получили обещанного, потому что Бог предусмотрел о нас нечто лучшее, дабы они не без нас достигли совершенства. Посему и мы, имея вокруг себя такое облако свидетелей, свергнем с себя всякое бремя и запинаящий нас грех и с терпением будем проходить предлежащее нам поприще, взирая на начальника и совершителя веры Иисуса, Который, вместо предлежавшей Ему радости, претерпел крест, пренебрегши посрамление, и воссел одесную престола Божия.

От Матфея 10:32-33, 37-38, 19:27-30

Итак всякого, кто исповедает Меня пред людьми, того исповедаю и Я пред Отцем Моим Небесным; а кто отречется от Меня пред людьми, отрекусь от того и Я пред Отцем Моим Небесным. Кто любит отца или мать более, нежели Меня, не достоин Меня; и кто любит сына или дочь более, нежели Меня, не достоин Меня; и кто не берет креста своего и следует за Мною, тот не достоин Меня. Тогда Петр, отвечая, сказал Ему: вот, мы оставили всё и последовали за Тобою; что же будет нам? Иисус же сказал им: истинно говорю вам, что вы, последовавшие за Мною, -- в пакибытии, когда сядет Сын Человеческий на престоле славы Своей, сядете и вы на двенадцати престолах судить двенадцать колен Израилевых. И всякий, кто оставит дома, или братьев, или сестер, или отца, или мать, или жену, или детей, или земли, ради имени Моего, получит во сто крат и наследует жизнь вечную. Многие же будут первые последними, и последние первыми.

Hebrenjve 11:33-12:2

të cilët me anë të besimit mundën mbretëri, punuan drejtësi, fituan premtime, mbyllën gojë luanësh, shuan fuqinë e zjarrit, shpëtuan nga tehu i thikës, morën fuqi nga dobësitë, u bënë të fortë në luftë, thyen ushtritë e të huajve. Gra morën të vdekurit e tyre të ngjallur; edhe të tjerë u munduan, sepse nuk pranuan shpëtimin, që të fitonin një ngjallje më të mirë. Edhe të tjerë u provuan me të përqeshura e me të rrahura, po edhe me të lidhura e me burgime. U vranë me gurë, u sharruan më dysh, u nganë, vdiqën të vvarë prej shpate; endeshin lart e poshtë veshur me lëkurë dhensh, e me lëkurë dhish, në nevojë, në shtrëngime, në keqtrajttime, ata për të cilët bota nuk ishte e denjë; – duke u endur nëpër shkretëtira e nëpër male e nëpër shpella e nëpër vrimat e dheut. Edhe këta të gjithë, ndonëse morën dëshmi të mirë me anë të besimit, nuk morën premtimin, sepse Perëndia pati urdhëruar që përpara një gjë më të mirë për ne, që të mos bëhen të përsosur pa ne. Prandaj dhe ne, të rrethuar prej një reje kaq të madhe dëshmitarësh, le të hedhim tej çdo barrë dhe mëkatin që na pushton lehtë, edhe me durim le të vrapojmë në rrugën që është përpara nesh, duke shikuar tek Jisui që është kryet dhe fundi i besimit, i cili për gëzimin që ishte përpara tij duroi kryqin, duke përbuzur turpin, edhe ndenji në të djathtë të fronit të Perëndisë.

Mattheut 10:32-33, 37-38, 19:27-30

Kushdo, pra, që të më pohojë përpara njerëzve, edhe unë do ta pohoj atë përpara Atit tim që është në qiejt. Por këdo që të më mohojë përpara njerëzve, do ta mohoj edhe unë atë përpara Atit tim që është në qiejt. Ai që do të atin ose të ëmën më tepër se mua, nuk është i denjë për mua; edhe ai që do bir a bijë më tepër se mua, nuk është i denjë për mua. Edhe ai që nuk merr kryqin e tij e nuk vjen pas meje, nuk është i denjë për mua. Të gjitha m'u dhanë në dorë nga im Atë; edhe asnjë nuk e njeh Birin, veç Ati; edhe as Atin s'e njeh njeri, veç Biri edhe ai, të cilit do të dojë Biri t'ia zbulojë. Ejani tek unë gjithë sa jeni të lodhur e të ngarkuar, edhe unë do t'ju preh ju. Ngrini zgjedhën time mbi veten tuaj, edhe mësoni prej meje, se jam i butë dhe i përrulur në zemër. Edhe do të gjeni prehje në shpirtrat tuaj. Sepse zgjedha ime është e butë, edhe barra ime është e lehtë.