

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. Dennis Rhodes

fnicholas490@aol.com - <http://sspeterpaulphila.org/>

March 6, 2022

MEATFARE SUNDAY – SUNDAY OF THE LAST JUDGMENT REPOSE OF ST. RAPHAEL, BISHOP OF BROOKLYN

Today	10:00am	Divine Liturgy Forgiveness Vespers <i>Lenten Luncheon</i>
Tue. 08	7:00pm	Canon of St. Andrew
Wed. 09	7:00pm	Canon of St. Andrew
Fri. 11	6:00pm	Fun Night
Sat. 05	6:00pm	Vespers
Sun. 06	10:00am	Divine Liturgy Lenten Vespers

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: Every day (fasting from meat, fish, and eggs, dairy, wine and oil as you are able.)

Troparion – Tone 4 (Resurrection)

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: "Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy!"

Kontakion – Tone 6 (from the Lenten Triodion)

O Master, Teacher of wisdom, Bestower of virtue, Who teachest the thoughtless and protectest the poor, strengthen and enlighten my heart! O Word of the Father, let me not restrain my mouth from crying to Thee: "Have mercy on me, a transgressor, O merciful Lord!"

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 13:11-14:4
Matthew 6:14-21

Monday

Isaiah 1:1-20
Genesis 1:1-13
Proverbs 1:1-20

Tuesday

Isaiah 1:19-2:4
Genesis 1:14-23
Proverbs 1:20-33

Wednesday

Isaiah 2:3-11
Genesis 1:24-2:3
Proverbs 2:1-22

Thursday

Isaiah 2:11-21
Genesis 2:4-19
Proverbs 3:1-18

Friday

Isaiah 3:1-15
Genesis 2:20-3:20
Proverbs 3:19-34

Saturday

2 Timothy 2:1-10
John 15:17-16:2
Hebrews 1:1-12
Mark 2:23-3:5

Reading the Bible in a Year

Mar 06: 1 Samuel 21-24
Mar 07: 1 Samuel 25-28
Mar 08: 1 Samuel 29-31
Mar 09: 2 Samuel 1-4
Mar 10: 2 Samuel 5-8
Mar 11: 2 Samuel 9-12
Mar 12: 2 Samuel 13-16

MARCH EVENTS

March

05 – 6:00pm Vespers

06 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Forgiveness Vespers

Ladies Society Luncheon

08- 7:00pm Canon of St. Andrew

09- 7:00pm Canon of St. Andrew

11 – 6:00pm Fun Night

12 – 6:00pm Vespers

13 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Icon Procession

16 – 7:00pm Presanctified Liturgy

Pot Luck & Lenten Study

19 – 6:00pm Vespers

20 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy

23 – 7:00pm Presanctified Liturgy

Pot Luck & Lenten Study

24 – 7:00pm Vesperal Liturgy

Feast of Annunciation

Coffee Hour

Ladies Society Lenten Luncheon

Flower Donation

Children's Word

Don't be a show-off!

Do you know somebody who's a show-off? You know, somebody who likes to show everybody how much he knows, or how he can dribble behind his back, or how much money he has, or how he's done different things. Nobody likes to hear from a show-off!

Tomorrow starts our special season of Great Lent, and the Gospel tells us how we shouldn't be church show-offs either! Our Lord gives this advice, "When you fast, do not look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men...But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by men but by your Father who is in secret."

God doesn't want us to show off all the good things we're doing in church. God doesn't want us to tell everybody how hard we are fasting, and how much we are helping the poor, and how much we are going to church. Of course, it's good to do those things, but we shouldn't show off about it!

This Lent, when we do something good, let's try to keep it to ourselves, just the way God wants us to do. When we talk about it, and show off about it, we lose what's special about it. Let's keep it a secret. It's a secret, between God and you!

SAINT AARON THE HIGH PRIEST BROTHER OF MOSES

You remember a little bit about Moses, don't you? You remember the story of the Exodus out of Egypt, and the burning bush, and the Ten Commandments. God chose Moses to do many special things for His people.

Moses had an older brother, Aaron, and God chose Aaron to serve Him too. The Bible tells us that Moses was "slow of speech" when he spoke to his Hebrew people. Maybe he was nervous, or maybe he just talked in a funny way. God told Aaron to speak for his brother; God would tell something to Moses, and Moses would tell it to Aaron, and Aaron would speak to the people.

Later on, Aaron also spoke to Pharaoh (the king) for Moses too. Do you remember when they asked him to let the Hebrew people go, to be free?

After that, Aaron became a high priest. That meant he could make sacrifices to God, asking God for help. The Hebrew people would come to Aaron, because they knew he had this special place with God.

We can read many other stories about Aaron in the Bible. He is one important person who brought us all closer to God. Did you know he is a great, great (many greats...) grandfather to Saint John the Baptist? We remember Saint Aaron on Saturday, March 12th.



Thou art the good Shepherd; seek me, Thy lamb, and neglect not me who have gone astray.

Thou art my sweet Jesus, Thou art my Creator; in Thee, O Savior, I shall be justified. I confess to Thee, O Savior, I have sinned, I have sinned against Thee, but absolve and forgive me in Thy compassion.

-The Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete



Romans 13:11-14:4

And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts. Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over doubtful things. For one believes he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who does not eat, and let not him who does not eat judge him who eats; for God has received him. Who are you to judge another's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. Indeed, he will be made to stand, for God is able to make him stand.

Hebrews 12:1-10

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. For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin. And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: "My son, do not despise the chastening of the LORD, nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; for whom the LORD loves He chastens, and scourges every son whom He receives." If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness.

A Prayer for the Week

O Master, Prudence, Guide of Wisdom, Instruction to the foolish and Defender of the poor, strengthen my heart and grant it discernment. Give me words, Word of the Father, for behold, I shall not keep my lips from crying out to You, "O Merciful One, have mercy on me who has fallen."

Matthew 6:14-21

For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Matthew 20:1-16

For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. Now when he had agreed with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And he went out about the third hour and saw others standing idle in the marketplace, and said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right I will give you.' So they went. Again he went out about the sixth and the ninth hour, and did likewise. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing idle, and said to them, 'Why have you been standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and whatever is right you will receive.' So when evening had come, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, 'Call the laborers and give them their wages, beginning with the last to the first.' And when those came who were hired about the eleventh hour, they each received a denarius. But when the first came, they supposed that they would receive more; and they likewise received each a denarius. And when they had received it, they complained against the landowner, saying, 'These last men have worked only one hour, and you made them equal to us who have borne the burden and the heat of the day.' But he answered one of them and said, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what is yours and go your way. I wish to give to this last man the same as to you. Is it not lawful for me to do what I wish with my own things? Or is your eye evil because I am good?' So the last will be first, and the first last. For many are called, but few chosen."

Archpastoral Message of His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon

March 7, 2022

To the Clergy, Monastics, and Faithful of the Orthodox Church in America,
Dear Beloved Children in the Lord,

As we stand at this moment, the threshold of Great Lent, with all turmoil and violence unfolding in the world, the Lenten fast comes like a spring breeze to refresh our souls. It is a time during which we take stock of our hearts, discard the unnecessary things of this world, refocus our spiritual vision, and bring our pains and griefs before God's healing presence.

Even in the midst of everything we endure; a pandemic, social unrest, economic uncertainty, and now war in Ukraine, we must remember to always attend to doing good and becoming ever-brighter beacons of Christ's light in this darkening world.

We hear this through the Prophet Isaiah, where the Lord tells us what distinguishes our true fast:

*"Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of wickedness,
to undo the cords of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?" (Is 58:6)*

In this turbulent moment, the Fast is a call to freedom as children of God through our spiritual discipline. In our time, there are many "bonds of wickedness" and "cords of the yoke" which Lent urges us to loose—but above all, the sins which bind our souls.

We also remember that Lent calls us to control not just our stomachs but our eyes, hands, feet, and mind. We avoid gluttony of food, but likewise we ought to avoid gluttony of all sorts: in recreation, media, or conversation with others. As the Scriptures tell us, "Every athlete exercises self-control in all things" (1 Cor 9:25).

This Lent, be especially on guard with social media, which too easily inflames our passions, devours our time, and devolves into the "foolish controversies" which Saint Paul warns us to avoid, "for they are unprofitable and futile" and only disturb our brothers and sisters in Christ (cf. Titus 3:9).

We are assured in the Letter to the Galatians that "For freedom Christ has set us free; stand fast therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery" (Gal 5:1). With these words we fast with cheerful hearts, because it is in our self-denial that we find freedom in the Resurrection.

So as we take up the spiritual disciplines given to us by our Lord, I pray that it is with a spirit of renewed commitment and not with a spirit of gloominess. Nor should we, as Christ warns, "look dismal, like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by men" (Mt 6:16). Great Lent is our much needed time of refreshment of the heart and cleansing of the soul, so that we may more clearly perceive the light of Christ on Great and Holy Pascha.

When we each ask God to "open to me the gates of repentance" this Lent, remember that we do not fast to earn God's love or to impress others around us. Over the next forty days we break the chains of sin and evil by controlling the things which control us—and so become free people. Let us run towards this freedom in the coming weeks.

Beloved children in the Lord, I conclude by directing you to keep in prayer those suffering in the calamity of war: the wounded, the grieving, and the displaced. Please also be of service to them in your charity and almsgiving this Lent. Remember also those who have been killed in this war. May God keep their memory eternal.

I humbly ask your forgiveness. May you have all the blessings of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ in your Lenten journey.

I remain sincerely yours in Christ,

+TIKHON

Archbishop of Washington

Metropolitan of All America and Canada

К Римлянам 13:11-14:4

Так [поступайте], зная время, что наступил уже час пробудиться нам от сна. Ибо ныне ближе к нам спасение, нежели когда мы уверовали. Ночь прошла, а день приблизился: итак отвергнем дела тьмы и облечемся в оружия света. Как днем, будем вести себя благочинно, не [предаваясь] ни пированиям и пьянству, ни сладострастию и распутству, ни ссорам и зависти; но облечитесь в Господа нашего Иисуса Христа, и попечения о плоти не превращайте в похоти. Немощного в вере принимайте без споров о мнениях. Ибо иной уверен, [что можно] есть все, а немощный ест овощи. Кто ест, не уничижай того, кто не ест; и кто не ест, не осуждай того, кто ест, потому что Бог принял его. Кто ты, осуждающий чужого раба? Перед своим Господом стоит он, или падает. И будет восстановлен, ибо силен Бог восстановить его.

К Евреям 12:1-10

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. Помыслите о Претерпевшем такое над Собою поругание от грешников, чтобы вам не изнемочь и не ослабеть душами вашими. Вы еще не до крови сражались, подвизаясь против греха, и забыли утешение, которое предлагается вам, как сынам: сын мой! не пренебрегай наказания Господня, и не унывай, когда Он обличает тебя. Ибо Господь, кого любит, того наказывает; бьет же всякого сына, которого принимает. Если вы терпите наказание, то Бог поступает с вами, как с сынами. Ибо есть ли какой сын, которого бы не наказывал отец? Если же остаетесь без наказания, которое всем обще, то вы незаконные дети, а не сыны. Притом, [если] мы, будучи наказываемы плотскими родителями нашими, боялись их, то не гораздо ли более должны покориться Отцу духов, чтобы жить? Те наказывали нас по своему произволу для немногих дней; а Сей--для пользы, чтобы нам иметь участие в святости Его.

От Матфея 6:14-21

Ибо если вы будете прощать людям согрешения их, то простит и вам Отец ваш Небесный, а если не будете прощать людям согрешения их, то и Отец ваш не простит вам согрешений ваших. Также, когда поститесь, не будьте унылы, как лицемеры, ибо они принимают на себя мрачные лица, чтобы показаться людям постящимися. Истинно говорю вам, что они уже получают награду свою. А ты, когда постишься, помажь голову твою и умой лице твое, чтобы явиться постящимся не пред людьми, но пред Отцом твоим, Который втайне; и Отец твой, видящий тайное, воздаст тебе явно. Не собирайте себе сокровищ на земле, где моль и ржа истребляют и где воры подкапывают и крадут, но собирайте себе сокровища на небе, где ни моль, ни ржа не истребляют и где воры не подкапывают и не крадут, ибо где сокровище ваше, там будет и сердце ваше.

От Матфея 20:1-16

Ибо Царство Небесное подобно хозяину дома, который вышел рано поутру нанять работников в виноградник свой и, договорившись с работниками по динарию на день, послал их в виноградник свой; выйдя около третьего часа, он увидел других, стоящих на торжище праздно, и им сказал: идите и вы в виноградник мой, и что следовать будет, дам вам. Они пошли. Опять выйдя около шестого и девятого часа, сделал то же. Наконец, выйдя около одиннадцатого часа, он нашел других, стоящих праздно, и говорит им: что вы стоите здесь целый день праздно? Они говорят ему: никто нас не нанял. Он говорит им: идите и вы в виноградник мой, и что следовать будет, получите. Когда же наступил вечер, говорит господин виноградника управителю своему: позови работников и отдай им плату, начав с последних до первых. И пришедшие около одиннадцатого часа получили по динарию. Пришедшие же первыми думали, что они получат больше, но получили и они по динарию; и, получив, стали роптать на хозяина дома и говорили: эти последние работали один час, и ты сравнял их с нами, перенесшими тягость дня и зной. Он же в ответ сказал одному из них: друг! я не обижаю тебя; не за динарий ли ты договорился со мною? возьми свое и пойди; я же хочу дать этому последнему [то же], что и тебе; разве я не властен в своем делать, что хочу? или глаз твой завистлив оттого, что я добр? Так будут последние первыми, и первые последними, ибо много званых, а мало избранных.

Romanëve 13:11-14:4

Edhe këtë ju them, duke ditur kohën se tashmë është ora të zgjohemi nga gjumi; sepse tani shpëtimi ynë është më afër sesa kur besuam. Nata u thye dhe dita u afrua; le të hedhim pra tej veprat e errësirës, dhe le të veshim armët e dritës. Le të ecim hijshëm si ditën; jo në argëtime e dehje, jo në shtretër kurvërie e shturje, jo në grindje e smirë; po vishni Zotin Jisu Krisht, edhe mos bëni kujdes për mishin që t'i plotësoni dëshirimet. Edhe atë që është i dobët në besim, mirëpriteni, por jo për rrahje mendimesh. Sepse dikush beson se mund të hajë nga të gjitha, kurse ai që është i dobët ha lakra. Ai që ha le të mos përbuzë atë që s'ha; edhe ai që s'ha le të mos gjykojë atë që ha; sepse Perëndia e ka pranuar. Cili je ti që gjykon shërbëtorin e huaj? Prej të zotit të vet ai qëndron ose bie; por do të qëndrojë; sepse Perëndia është i fortë ta bëjë të qëndrojë atë.

Hebrenjve 12:1-10

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. Sepse kujtoni atë që duroi prej mëkatarëve një kundërshtim të tillë mbi veten e tij, që të mos lodheni duke u ligështuar në shpirtrat tuaj. Ju ende s'keni rezistuar deri në gjak, duke luftuar kundër mëkatis. Edhe keni harruar këshillën, që posi bijve u flet juve: "Biri im, mos e shpërfill ndëshkimin e Zotit; mos e humb zemrën, kur qortohesh prej atij. Sepse atë që do Zoti e ndëshkon, edhe rreh çdo bir që pret pranë vetes". Në durofshi ndëshkimin, Perëndia sillet me ju si me bij; sepse cili është ai bir që s'e ndëshkon i ati? Po të jeni pa ndëshkim, në të cilin u bënë pjesëtarë të gjithë, atëherë jeni fëmijë të paligjshëm dhe jo bij. Për më tepër ne kemi patur etërit tanë sipas mishit që na ndëshkonin edhe ne i nderonim ata; a nuk do t'i ulim kryet shumë më tepër Atit të shpirtrave, edhe të rrojmë? Sepse ata na ndëshkonin për pak ditë, siç e mendonin ata; ndërsa ai për të mirën tonë, që të bëhemi pjesëtarë të shenjtërisë së tij.

Mattheut 6:14-21

Sepse nëse ua falni njerëzve fajet e tyre, do t'juja falë edhe juve Ati juaj qiellor. Po nëse nuk ua falni njerëzve fajet e tyre, as Ati juaj nuk do të falë fajet tuaja. Edhe kur të agjëroni, mos u bëni të vrenjtur si hipokritët; sepse ata prishin fytyrat e tyre, që të duken ndër njerëzit se agjërojnë. Me të vërtetë po ju them juve, se ata e kanë marrë pagën e tyre. 17 Por ti, kur të agjërosh, lyej kryet tënd, dhe laj fytyrën tënde; që të mos dukesh tek njerëzit se agjëron, por tek Ati yt, që është në të fshehtë; dhe Ati yt që sheh fshehurazi, do të ta shpërblejë ty haptas. Mos mblidhni thesarë për veten tuaj mbi dhe, ku krimbi dhe ndryshku i prish, edhe ku vjedhësit rrëmojnë dhe vjedhin. Po mblidhni thesarë për veten tuaj në qiell, ku nuk i prish as krimb as ndryshk, edhe ku vjedhësit nuk rrëmojnë as vjedhin. Sepse ku është thesari juaj, atje do të jetë edhe zemra juaj.

Mattheut 20:1-16

Sepse mbretëria e qiejve ngjan me një njeri zot shtëpie, i cili doli që menatë të pajtojë punëtorë për vreshtin e tij. Edhe si u mor vesh me punëtorët për një dinar në ditë, i dërgoi në vreshtin e tij. Edhe si doli rreth orës së tretë, pa të tjerë duke ndenjtur në treg pa punë. U thotë edhe atyre: Shkoni edhe ju në vresht, edhe do t'ju jap ç'të jetë e udhës. 5 Edhe ata shkuan. Përsëri doli rreth orës së gjashtë e të nëntë, edhe bëri po ashtu. Edhe si doli rreth orës së njëmbëdhjetë, gjeti të tjerë duke ndenjtur pa punë. Edhe u thotë: Pse keni ndenjtur këtu tërë ditën pa punë? I thonë: Sepse asnjë s'na pajtoi. U thotë: Shkoni edhe ju në vresht, edhe do të merrni ç'të jetë e udhës. Edhe si u ngrys, i zoti i vreshtit i thotë kujdestarit të tij: Thirr punëtorët, edhe jepu pagën atyre, duke nisur nga të fundit deri tek të parët. Edhe erdhën ata që ishin pajtuar rreth orës së njëmbëdhjetë, edhe morën nga një dinar. Edhe kur erdhën të parët, pandehën se do të marrin më shumë; po edhe ata morën nga një dinar. Edhe si i morën, qaheshin kundër të zotit të shtëpisë, duke thënë se: Këta të fundit bënë një orë, edhe i bëre të barabartë me ne që mbajtëm peshën e ditës dhe vapën. Po ai u përgjigj e i tha njërit nga ata: Mik, nuk po të bëj padrejtësi. A nuk bëre fjalë me mua për një dinar? Merr tëndin dhe ik. Edhe këtij të fundit dua t'i jap njëlloj si edhe ty. Apo nuk më lejohet të bëj ç'të dua në punën time? Apo syri yt është i lig, sepse unë jam i mirë? Kështu do të jenë të fundit të parë, edhe të parët të fundit. Sepse shumë janë të thirrur, por pak të zgjedhur.