

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!

Rev. Nicholas Dellermann (Rector) (860) 861-7468 - Very Rev. Dennis Rhodes

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

September 25, 2022

15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST: REPOSE OF VEN. SERGIUS, ABBOT AND WONDERWORKER OF RÁDONEZH AND ALL RUSSIA

Today 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Wed. 28 7:15pm Bible Study with GoogleMeet
Sun. 02 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 6 (Resurrection)

*The Angelic Powers were at Thy tomb;
the guards became as dead men.
Mary stood by Thy grave,
seeking Thy most pure body.
Thou didst capture hell not being tempted by it.
Thou didst come to the Virgin,
granting life.
O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead,
glory to Thee.*

Kontakion – Tone 8 (St. Sergius)

*Bound by the love of Christ, O venerable one,
and following Him with unwavering desire,
thou didst despise all carnal pleasures, shining like the sun in thy land.
Therefore, Christ has enriched thee with the gift of miracles.
Remember us, who venerate thy most holy memory
and who call out to thee: “Rejoice, O Sergius, made wise by God!”*

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 Corinthians 4:6-15
Luke 5:1-11

Monday

Galatians 4:28-5:10
Luke 4:37-44

Tuesday

Galatians 5:11-21
Luke 5:12-16

Wednesday

Galatians 6:2-10
Luke 5:33-39

Thursday

Ephesians 1:1-9
Luke 6:12-19

Friday

Ephesians 1:7-17
Luke 6:17-23

Saturday

1 Corinthians 10:23-28
Luke 5:17-26

Reading the Bible in a Year

Sept 25: 2 Macc 5-8
Sept 26: 2 Macc 9-12
Sept 27: 2 Macc 13-15
Sept 28: 1 Esdras 1-4
Sept 29: 1 Esdras 5-9
Sept 30: PrMan; PS 151
Oct 01: 3 Macc 1-3

Flower Donation

This week's flowers were
donated by:
Tina Murianka

Sunday September 25 is Education Sunday. Please make sure that your children attend so that they can be blessed for the coming school year at Divine Liturgy. All teachers are also welcome to come for the blessing as well.

A Prayer for the Week

Creator of the universe, setting times and seasons by Your sole authority, bless the cycle of the year of Your grace, O Lord, guarding our rulers and Your nation in peace, at the intercession of the Theotokos, and save us. For You are a Good God and You love mankind, and to You, we send up glory, to the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit! Amen.

Coffee Hour

This week's coffee hour is
provided by:
Ladies' Society

SEPTEMBER EVENTS

September

25 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
28 – 7:15pm Bible Study with
GoogleMeet

October

02 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
05 – 7:15pm Bible Study with
GoogleMeet
07 – 6:00pm Fun Night
25 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy



"When reading the Holy Scriptures, he who is humble and engaged in spiritual work will apply everything to himself and not to someone else."

- St. Mark the Ascetic



A Healthy Soul Does Not React

Each day brings on new challenges regarding the health of our soul. Those moments when a family member or coworker makes a remark that is meant to anger us, are those times we need to guard our heart. When those around us are gossiping about someone, that is an opportunity for us to keep silent. The driver who's just cut us off on the freeway; the woman who pushes her way in front of us in the check-out line; the condescending rudeness of a neighbor, are all moments in time when we can take control and grow stronger spiritually.

Trials and temptations, when confronted with a peaceful heart, bring forth healing and make the soul that much stronger and healthier. Reacting does nothing but bring forth paralysis of the soul, binding us to our fallen nature. Receiving all these temptations with a peaceful heart, and not reacting to outside negative stimuli, helps strengthen us for the next round of trials and temptations. Then, little by little, we will find that the Peace of Christ fills our every waking moment, bringing on a joyful spirit and a peaceful heart.

Love in Christ,
Abbot Tryphon

"Cast yourself into the arms of God and be very sure that if He wants anything of you, He will lift you for the work and give you strength."

- Philip Neri

2 Corinthians 4:6-15

For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed – always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So then death is working in us, but life in you. And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, "I believed and therefore I spoke," we also believe and therefore speak, knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. For all things are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.

Luke 5:1-11

So it was, as the multitude pressed about Him to hear the word of God, that He stood by the Lake of Gennesaret, and saw two boats standing by the lake; but the fishermen had gone from them and were washing their nets. Then He got into one of the boats, which was Simon's, and asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the multitudes from the boat. When He had stopped speaking, He said to Simon, "Launch out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." But Simon answered and said to Him, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net." And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. So they signaled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!" For he and all who were with him were astonished at the catch of fish which they had taken; and so also were James and John, the sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid. From now on you will catch men." So when they had brought their boats to land, they forsook all and followed Him.

Children's Word

Fishing—Thy will be done!

Have you ever been fishing? If you have, you might know how hard it is to wait for the fish to bite! But most of us fish for fun. You might not even keep what you catch. Imagine if you were a fisherman, and you had to catch fish to live!

One of Jesus's disciples, St. Peter, was a fisherman. In today's Gospel reading, we hear what St. Peter says when he talked with Jesus, "We worked all night and caught nothing!" Even so, Jesus asked him to still let down his nets and try to catch some fish. St. Peter listened to Him, and he let down his nets into the water.

What happened then? They caught so many fish that their nets were breaking! St. Peter and the other fishermen could never have imagined it would happen that way. But still, they listened to Jesus and did what He said to do.

Many times, we might think we know what we need, so we pray for it. But did you know God knows what we need even more than we do? That's why in the Lord's Prayer, we say that God's "will be done." That means we are praying for what God wants—which might not be what we want! We might not even know what to pray for.

Just think of St. Peter. He listened to God, and he caught more than he could have ever dreamed. God knows our needs, and He is ready to help us.

GOOD KING WENCESLAS PRINCE OF THE CZECHS

You probably have heard of good King Wenceslas, haven't you? At Christmastime, we sing the carol that tells a story about him. Even though he was a king, he went out into the snow to help a poor man, to give him food and warmth. We hear this carol at Christmas, but we celebrate this good king, St. Wenceslas, this week!

Saint Wenceslas lived in what is now the country of the Czech Republic. He was born in the capital, Prague. His grandparents became Christians when they heard the Good News of Jesus Christ from Saints Cyril and Methodios, two special saints of our Church. Sadly, it took a long time for the people of the Czech land to turn to Christ. Many people were still pagan and worshipped false gods.

Even Wenceslas's own mother was a pagan, and she tried to teach him her ways. But his grandmother, Ludmilla, taught Wenceslas about Christ. She taught him to be good and loving and Christ-like. He kept these ways in his heart all his life. St. Wenceslas built churches for the Christians. He helped the poor and the needy, even after he became king.

Later on, Wenceslas's brother (who wasn't a Christian) got jealous of St. Wenceslas, because he wanted to be king himself. He plotted against him and had him killed! St. Wenceslas is a special example to us. He was a humble man who was really a Good King. We celebrate St. Wenceslas on Wednesday, Sept. 28th.

The Day

September 22, 2022 · Fr. Barnabas Powell

I remember the preacher looking at his congregation and saying “One day every crooked place is going to be made straight, and every low place is going to be made high, and every high place is going to be made low!” Then he added the kicker: “Ain’t nobody going to escape coming face to face with justice! There’s going to come a reckoning” I confess this made me squirm in my seat.

It seems there is embedded in the psyche of every human that notion that one day all will be made right and justice and righteousness will prevail for all people. This hope, this dream, drives us to seek out justice and “fairness” now. We instinctively believe that “doing right” should be what everybody wants. And we have in all of human literature, especially in religious expectations, the common thread of the “Day” when everything will be good and holy, and all people will be at peace and satisfied. No one will be left out and all will be well.

It is a beautiful expectation. It really is a blessed hope. AND it is a terrifying thought!

What? Are you insane? A terrifying thought? Seriously? Yes, seriously, especially IF you take this truth seriously!

Yes, seriously. Look at our Gospel Lesson in Luke 4:16-22:

At that time, Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up; and he went to the synagogue, as his custom was, on the sabbath day. And he stood up to read; and there was given to him the book of the prophet Isaiah. He opened the book and found the place where it was written, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.” And he closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant, and sat down; and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.” And all spoke well of him, and wondered at the gracious words which proceeded out of his mouth.

You see most folks hold this hope without fully realizing the implications of what they hope for. We are exceedingly adept at self-delusion. Because, if there is coming a Day when all injustices will be corrected, if there is coming a Day when all hurts will be healed, all lies exposed, all mistreatments, insults, and wounds addressed and corrected, then every person I’ve mistreated, or hurt, or lied about, or selfishly taken advantage of will be avenged and I will stand revealed for my mistakes. On that Day, instead of reveling in the delicious payback meted out to those who mistreated me, I will be standing in the light of the righteous judgment of my own faults and my own mistreatment of others. Kinda casts a different light on things, doesn’t it?

It is a wonderful thing to look forward to that Day when all will be made right. But, for those who are spiritually mature and not simply seeking a time when everybody who has hurt them is made to pay, the deeper truth of this hope is that I must work diligently NOW to repent and ask forgiveness and allow the grace of God to transform my actions toward others into righteous and peaceful love. No wonder the Church teaches me to pray for “a Christian end to our lives, peaceful, without shame and suffering, and for a good account of ourselves before the awesome judgment seat of Christ, let us ask the Lord. Grant this O Lord.”

Today, let’s ask God to so reveal His love for us so that we are given the grace to search our own hearts for our own faults and not even take notice of the faults of others. Let us become so gracious in our words, in our actions, in our choices, that when The Day comes, we will be joyous in the righteous judgments of the Lord when every motivation is brought to light, when every action, every word, is examined, and those who have already become practiced in humble forgiveness and repentance will naturally and quickly lay all their burdens and expectations at the feet of Christ and cry out “Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner.” By the way, Happy New Year! Let’s be Orthodox on Purpose all year long.

2-е Коринфянам 4:6-15

потому что Бог, повелевший из тьмы воссиять свету, озарил наши сердца, дабы просветить [нас] познанием славы Божией в лице Иисуса Христа. Но сокровище сие мы носим в глиняных сосудах, чтобы преизбыточная сила была [приписываема] Богу, а не нам. Мы отовсюду притесняемы, но не стеснены; мы в отчаянных обстоятельствах, но не отчаиваемся; мы гонимы, но не оставлены; низлагаемы, но не погибаем. Всегда носим в теле мертвость Господа Иисуса, чтобы и жизнь Иисусова открылась в теле нашем. Ибо мы живые непрестанно предаемся на смерть ради Иисуса, чтобы и жизнь Иисусова открылась в смертной плоти нашей, так что смерть действует в нас, а жизнь в вас. Но, имея тот же дух веры, как написано: я веровал и потому говорил, и мы веруем, потому и говорим, ная, что Воскресивший Господа Иисуса воскресит через Иисуса и нас и поставит перед [Собою] с вами. Ибо всё для вас, дабы обилие благодати тем большую во многих произвело благодарность во славу Божию.

От Луки 5:1-11

Однажды, когда народ теснился к Нему, чтобы слышать слово Божие, а Он стоял у озера Геннисаретского, увидел Он две лодки, стоящие на озере; а рыболовы, выйдя из них, вымывали сети. Войдя в одну лодку, которая была Симонова, Он просил его отплыть несколько от берега и, сев, учил народ из лодки. Когда же перестал учить, сказал Симону: отплыви на глубину и закиньте сети свои для лова. Симон сказал Ему в ответ: Наставник! мы трудились всю ночь и ничего не поймали, но по слову Твоему закину сеть. Сделав это, они поймали великое множество рыбы, и даже сеть у них прорывалась. И дали знак товарищам, находившимся на другой лодке, чтобы пришли помочь им; и пришли, и наполнили обе лодки, так что они начинали тонуть. Увидев это, Симон Петр припал к коленям Иисуса и сказал: выйди от меня, Господи! потому что я человек грешный. Ибо ужас объял его и всех, бывших с ним, от этого лова рыб, ими пойманных; также и Иакова и Иоанна, сыновей Зеведеевых, бывших товарищами Симону. И сказал Симону Иисус: не бойся; отныне будешь ловить человеков. И, вытащив обе лодки на берег, оставили всё и последовали за Ним.

II Korinthianëve 4:6-15

Sepse Perëndia që tha të ndriçojë dritë nga errësira, është ai që ndriçoi në zemrat tona për të dhënë ndriçimin e njohjes së lavdisë së Perëndisë në personin e Jisu Krishtit. Edhe kemi këtë thesar në enë balte, që të jetë teprimi i fuqisë nga Perëndia dhe jo nga ne. Jemi në çdo gjë të shtrënguar, po jo të dërrmuar; të ngatërruar, po jo të dëshpëruar; të përndjekur, po jo të braktisur; të vënë poshtë, po jo të humbur, duke rrethsjellë gjithmonë në trup vdekjen e Zotit Jisu, që edhe jeta e Jisuit të shfaqet në trupin tonë. Sepse ne që rrojmë, gjithnjë jepemi në vdekje për Krishtin, që edhe jeta e Jisuit të shfaqet në trupin tonë të vdekshëm. Kështu vdekja vepron në ne, edhe jeta në ju. Edhe duke pasur po atë frymë besimi, sipas Shkrimit “Besova, prandaj fola”, edhe ne besojmë, prandaj edhe flasim, duke ditur se ai që ngjalli Zotin Jisu do të na ngjallë edhe ne me anë të Jisuit, edhe do të na nxjerrë përpara tij bashkë me ju. Sepse të gjitha janë për ju, që hiri, duke tepruar për falënderimin e më të shumtëve, të teprojë në lavdinë e Perëndisë.

Llukait 5:1-11

Edhe ndërsa turma ishte duke e shtrënguar atë që të dëgjonin fjalën e Perëndisë, ai qëndronte pranë liqenit Gjenisaret. Edhe pa dy lundra duke qëndruar pranë bregut të liqenit; edhe peshkatarët dolën nga ato, e lanin rrjetat. Edhe ai hyri në njërin nga lundrat, në atë të Simonit, dhe i kërkoi atij të largohej pak prej tokës. Edhe si ndenji mësonte turmën nga lundra. Edhe si pushoi së foluri, i tha Simonit: Sill lundrën në ujëra të thella, dhe hidhni rrjetat tuaja për të zënë peshq. Edhe Simoni u përgjigj e i tha: Mjeshtër, gjithë natën u munduam, dhe nuk zumë gjë; po për fjalën tënde do ta hedh rrjetën. Edhe si bënë këtë, mbyllën brenda një mori të madhe peshqish, edhe rrjeta e tyre po çahet. Edhe u bënë me shenjë shokëve që ishin në lundrën tjetër, që të vinin e t’u ndihmonin; edhe ata erdhën, edhe mbushën të dy lundrat, kaq sa ato po fundoseshin. Edhe Simon Pjetri, kur pa, ra në gjunjët e Jisuit, duke thënë: Dil prej meje, Zot, sepse jam njeri mëkatar. Sepse habi e pushtoi atë dhe ata që ishin bashkë me të, për gjahun e peshqve që zunë; gjithashtu edhe Jakovin e Joanin, të bijtë e Zevedheut, të cilët ishin shokë të Simonit. Edhe Jisui i tha Simonit: Mos ki frikë, se që nga tani do të zësh njerëz. Edhe si sollën lundrat në tokë, i lanë të gjitha dhe shkuan pas tij.