Ss. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church

A parish of the Orthodox Church in America

Rectory: 98 W. 28th Street, Bayonne, N.J. 07002

Telephone: (201) 436-3244

Rector: V. Rev. W. Sophrony Royer Choir Director: Mr. Yuriy Galkin

September 20, 2026 / 16th Sunday After Pentecost (Tone 7)

RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION IN TONE SEVEN

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death. / To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. / For the Myrrh-bearers Thou didst change weeping into joy, / and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, / to proclaim that Thou art risen, // granting the world great mercy.

FESTAL TROPARION IN TONE ONE

O Lord, save Thy people, / and bless Thine inheritance! / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries; / and by virtue of Thy Cross, // preserve Thy habitation!

TROPARION OF GREAT-MARTYR EUSTATHIUS IN TONE FOUR

Thy holy martyr Eustathius and his wife and sons, O Lord, / through their sufferings have received incorruptible crown from Thee, our God. / For having Thy strength, they laid low their adversaries, / and shattered the powerless boldness of demons. // Through their intercession, save our souls!

- *Choir sings troparion of Apostles Peter & Paul*
- *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

RESURRECTIONAL KONTAKION IN TONE SEVEN

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, / for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. / Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry: / "The Savior has come to those in faith; // enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!"

- *Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

FESTAL KONTAKION IN TONE FOUR

As Thou wast voluntarily raised upon the Cross for our sake, / grant mercy to those who are called by Thy Name, O Christ God; / make all Orthodox Christians glad by Thy power, / granting them victories over their adversaries // by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Thy weapon of peace!

PROKEIMENON IN TONE SEVEN

The Lord shall give strength to His people. The Lord shall bless His people with peace.
v. Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord!

THE EPISTLE

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians (2:16-20).

Brethren, knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified. But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians (6:1-10).

Brethren, we then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain. For He says: "In an acceptable time I have heard You, and in the day of salvation I have helped You." Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We give no offense in anything, that our ministry may not be blamed. But in all things we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings; by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love, by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, by honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and yet true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as chastened, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

ALLELUIA IN TONE ONE

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
v. Remember Thy congregation, which Thou hast gotten of old!
v. God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth!

THE GOSPEL

The Reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (8:34-9:1).

When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And He said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power."

The Reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (25:14-30).

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money.

19 After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. "So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, 'Lord, you delivered to me five talents;

look, I have gained five more talents besides them.' His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.' He also who had received two talents came and said, 'Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.' His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.' "Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.' "His lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. 'For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

FESTAL MEGALYNARION IN TONE EIGHT (sung instead of "It Is Truly Meet')

v. Magnify, O my soul, the most precious Cross of the Lord!
Thou art a mystical Paradise, O Theotokos, / who, though untilled, hast brought forth Christ; / through Him the life-bearing wood of the Cross was planted on earth. / Now at its Exaltation, / as we bow in worship before it, we magnify thee.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! The light of Thy countenance has been signed upon us, O Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

TODAY'S SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Altar Vigils offered by Helen Wanko in memory of Mary Grudinoff (anniversary of repose). **Sanctuary Lamp** offered by Reader Stephen Wasilewski for the health of Melissa King.

SAINTS COMMEMORATED TODAY

Commemorated on September 20: *Afterfeast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross*. Great-martyr Eustathius Placidas, his wife, Martyr Theopistes, and their children, Martyrs Agapius and Theopistus, of Rome; Virgin-martyr Candida of Carthage; St. Glycerius, Archbishop of Milan; St. Vincent Madelgarius; Nun-martyr Eusebia, Abbess of Saint-Cyr Convent (in Marseille, France), and Companions; St. Eustathius, Archbishop of Thessalonica; Martyr and Confessor Prince Michael, and his councilor, Theodore, Wonderworkers of Chernigov; St. Oleg, Prince of Briansk; New Monk-martyr Hilarion the Cretan, of St. Anne Skete (Mt. Athos).

UPCOMING SERVICES

5:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers
9:20 AM (Sunday) – Third Hour & Divine Liturgy

CHURCH EVENTS

- **Today**, A special collection will be taken today for the benefit of this year's diocesan charity, Operation Buffalo."
- **September 25-27 (Friday-Sunday)**, Mountain Men's Respite, Adirondacks (New York State).
- **September 26 (Saturday)**. Parish Council Conference, Ss. Peter & Paul Cathedral, Jersey City, NJ.

- **October 2-4 (Friday-Sunday),** Fall Teen Retreat, YMCA in Claryville, NY.
- **October 25 (Sunday),** Our parish's Pasta & Meatball Dinner, in the church hall at 12 PM. See flyer on bulletin board in the vestibule for more information.
- **October 29-30 (Thursday-Friday)**, Diocesan Assembly, Mother of God Church, Princeton, NJ.