



Ss. PETER AND PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

A PARISH OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA, DIOCESE OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY

98 West 28th Street, Bayonne, NJ 07002

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February 6, 2011

36th Sunday after Pentecost Sunday of Zacchaeus

- 9:00am – General Confession, Hours
- 9:30am – Divine Liturgy
Epistle: 1 Tim. 4:9-15
Gospel: Lk. 19:1-10
- Church school
- Blessing of Icon, Installation of Officers of the Carpathian Club, and Panikhida - in memory of all departed members of the Carpathian Club.
- Fellowship – Please come downstairs for a breakfast in our Church Hall, sponsored by Carpathian Club followed by Oath of Office done by Mayor Mark Smith.

Schedule of Services

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12TH

6:00pm - Great Vespers & Confessions

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 13TH

9:10am – Hours

9:30am - Divine Liturgy

Visit us online at:

www.SsPeterAndPaulBayonne.org

To Suffer for Doing Right

On February 8 we celebrate the memory of the Greatmartyr Theodore Stratelates, whose title is often translated as "commander" or "general."

Theodore was one of those multi-gifted people who attract both admiration and jealousy. He was a brave soldier, and at the same time he was an articulate Christian who convinced many to join him in the faith. Several icons of Theodore depict an unusually handsome face with strong features.

The pagan emperor Licinius was well aware of his military commander's qualities, and those qualities worried him. He didn't want an enemy—Christianity—to have such a powerful advocate. So he called Theodore to the imperial court, and invited him to offer sacrifice to the pagan gods. Theodore came, and asked to take some of the pagan idols home, saying he would return with them the next day to offer sacrifice. What he actually did was to melt down the precious metal they were made of, and then distribute the valuable chunks to the poor.

Theodore would pay dearly for his dedication to Christ. He was tortured and crucified, and when those things miraculously failed to kill him, he was beheaded.

We remember Theodore as the patron saint of soldiers. But he also fulfilled a Biblical exhortation which we read on this day: "Always be prepared to make a defense to anyone who calls you to account for the hope that is in you" (1 Peter 3: 15b). Theodore gave himself up to the emperor's men, and was heard to say, "Glory to God" as he died.

What does it mean in our lives, in our day, to "be prepared to make a defense" of our faith? For one thing, Christians should be ready to challenge public assertions that go against the words of Jesus Christ. One example is a recent book by Deepak Chopra, a well-known advocate of alternative medicine. In 2010 he produced a book called "Muhammad: A Story of the Last Prophet."

For Christians there is only one "last prophet" and that is John, the Baptist and Forerunner. Jesus says, "The law and the prophets were until John" (Matthew 11:13). These words tell us that the Old Testament law and prophecies have been fulfilled in Christ, to whom John was Forerunner. John's own words about Christ, found in John the Evangelist's writings (John 1:26-34), are also fulfilled. Christ has completed all the prophecies, and the time of prophets is done.

Intercessory Prayer

THE LIVING:

Benedict and Eva Benda, Valentina Benda, Cathryn Christensen, Olga DeMay, Marianne Guagenti, George Hook, Andrew Koch, Peter Mazula, Walter Milk, Helen Pirniak, Matilda Skripak, Stephen and Lillian Sokol, Elizabeth Zuber.

May God grant you Many Years!

THE NEWLY DEPARTED:

Helen Pawlush, Mary Milk, Antonina Rotko

THE DEPARTED:

Helen Cotrone, June Bianchini, Maryanne Benda, Anne Verona, Ann Fondak, Theodor Bacha, Margaret Dellabella, George Makara, Julia Brelinsky, Steven Petronko, Agnes Silberman.

Memorv Eternal! Вечная Память!

Welcome Visitors

We welcome all visitors to our Divine Liturgy. It is our joy to have you with us today. If this is your first visit to our parish, we welcome you and invite you to return as often as you are able.

While Holy Communion may only be received by prepared Orthodox Christians, our non-Orthodox guests are welcome to join us in venerating the Cross, receiving blessed bread at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy and for fellowship in our Church Hall after the service

Some people say it's fine for everyone to believe as they wish; we can call John the last of the prophets and others can say the last is Muhammad. But calling Muhammad the last means that Islam's claims are true, and those of Christianity are false. This would be a denial of the One who ended all prophecy by fulfilling it, the One who, as Peter further writes, "has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers subject to Him" (1 Peter 3: 22).

Today's Memorial Offering



• *Sanctuary Lamp* – in memory of John Yendrey, on his Anniversary of Repose – by Mary Macinsky.

• *St John's Cross* – in memory of Mary Milk – by Marie Lopen.

• *St Nicholas' Cross* – in memory of Antonia Rotko – by Sandra Barker.

• *Church Wine & Bread* – in memory of John and Kathryn Yendrey – by Mary Macinsky



Announcements

❖ Please sign up at the candle desk to have your home blessed, or speak with Fr. Igor to arrange a date and time. If possible, plan a time when everyone in your household is at home. Please bear in mind that Father's visit is primarily for the purpose of prayer and to answer any questions you may have regarding our Faith and practice.

❖ Church musicians and singers of our Diocese are invited to spend a day with Bishop Michael and fellow musicians on Feb. 12, 2011 at Holy Resurrection Church in Wayne, NJ. For more info see a flyer at the bulletin board.

❖ Annual Wine & Cheese festival at Holy Trinity Orthodox Church will be on Friday, Feb. 18 at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$20. for more info see a flyer at the bulletin board.

❖ Coffee Hour Sponsors are needed. Have it in memory or in honor of your loved ones. Please sign-up at the candle desk. Upcoming Coffee Hours: Feb. 13th – by Matthew & Tonya Galati, Feb. 20th – by Chris Bygonaise.

❖ A&P and ShopRite Shopping Cards available at the candle stand. Do your shopping as you always do it, and help our church raise funds at NO COST to you.

❖ Available at the candle desk are memorial candles, Altar bread and wine to be sponsored in prayerful intentions of your loved-ones.