



Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church Bulletin

1406 Philadelphia Pike
Wilmington, DE 19809

www.sspeterandpauluoc.org

www.orthodoxdelaware.net



Father Stephen Hutnick
(302) 798-4455
E-mail: otche@aol.com

HOLY MYSTERIES

VISITATIONS OF THE SICK AND INFIRM – If you are going into the hospital for any reason, please inform Father Stephen at the Rectory. Our hospitalization code for Christiana and Wilmington Hospitals is **UKR**.

EMERGENCY CALLS – Please call the Rectory anytime (day or night) in an Emergency!

BAPTISMS – Celebrated by appointment.

CROWNING IN MARRIAGE – Please discuss timing with Father prior to setting a date. At least six months notice is needed. There are three 2-hour courses that must be attended prior to the Wedding.

BULLETIN DEADLINE – The deadline for getting information printed in the Weekly Bulletin is Wednesday.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS – For the Needs of the Parish; 2nd Youth Ministry

February 18, 2024
Volume 60: Number 07
Schedule of Services and Activities
Week of February 18 - 25, 2024
Celebrating our 97th year of Service to the Lord

Sunday, February 18 – Sunday of Zacchaeus – Tone 4

8:30 AM - Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM - Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Panakhya: +Myrophora Christo (40th Day) – Father Gus and Pani Georgia
Coffee Hour

Monday, February 19 – Saint Dorothea – Veneration of the Relics

9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, February 21 – St. Theodore Stratalates – Veneration of the Relics

7:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

8:00 AM – Butter and Onions

6:00 PM - Lenten Service Aldersgate Methodist Church

Thursday, February 22 - Metropolitan Council Meeting

Friday, February 23 - Metropolitan Council Meeting

7:00 AM – Peeling potatoes

10:00 AM – Making cheese balls

3:00 PM – Making potato balls

Saturday, February 24 - Guardians of the Metropolia

8:00 AM – Making pyrohy

Sunday, February 25 – Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee – Tone 5

8:30 AM - Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM - Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Panakhya: +Tamara Bazinova – Anatoliy and Elena Bazin

Coffee Hour – UOL Meeting

1:00 PM – Service for Peace 2nd Anniversary of War in Ukraine

SCRIPTURAL READINGS

Sunday of Zachaeus – Matins: Luke 24:1-12; Liturgy: 1 Timothy 4:9-15; Luke 19:1-10

Monday - 1 Peter 2:21-3:9; Mark 12:13-17

Tuesday - 1 Peter 3:10-22; Mark 12:18-27

Wednesday – 1 Peter 4:1-11; Mark 12:28-37

Thursday – 1 Peter 4:12-5:5; Mark 12:38-44

Friday – 2 Peter 1:1-10; Mark 13:1-8

Saturday – 2 Timothy 2:11-19; Luke 18:2-8

Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee – Matins: Matthew 28:16-20; Liturgy: 2 Timothy 3:10-15; Luke 18:10-14

Virgin Martyr Dorothy at Caesarea, in Cappadocia, and those with her Commemorated on February 6/19

The Holy Martyr Dorothy, the Martyrs Christina, Callista and the Martyr Theophilus lived in Caesarea of Cappadocia and suffered under the emperor Diocletian in either the year 288 or 300.

Saint Dorothy was a pious Christian maiden, distinguished by her great beauty, humility, prudence, and God-given wisdom, which astonished many. Arrested upon orders of the governor Sapricius, she steadfastly confessed her faith in Christ and was subjected to tortures.

Failing to break the will of the saint, the governor sent to her two women, the sisters Christina and Callista, who once were Christians, but fearing torture, they renounced Christ and began to lead impious lives. He ordered them to get Saint Dorothy to offer sacrifice to the pagan gods, but just the reverse happened. Saint Dorothy convinced them that the mercy of God is granted to all who repent, so they corrected themselves and returned to Christ. The tormentors tied them back to back and burned them in a vat of tar. Through martyrdom, Christina and Callista atoned for their sin of apostasy, receiving from God not only forgiveness, but crowns of victory.

Saint Dorothy was again subjected to tortures, but she gladly endured them and accepted the death sentence. She cried out with joy, thanking Christ for calling her to Paradise and to the heavenly bridal chamber. As they led the saint to execution Theophilus, one of the governor's counselors, laughed and said to her, "Bride of Christ, send me an apple and some roses from the Paradise of your Bridegroom." The martyr nodded and said, "I shall do that."

At the place of execution, the saint requested a little time to pray. When she finished the prayer, an angel appeared before her in the form of a handsome child presenting her three

apples and three roses on a pure linen cloth. The saint requested that these be given to Theophilus, after which she was beheaded by the sword.

Having received the gracious gift, the recent mocker of Christians was shaken, and he confessed Christ as the true God. His friends were astonished, and wondered whether he were joking, or perhaps mad. He assured them he was not joking. Then they asked the reason for this sudden change. He asked what month it was. "February," they replied. "In the winter, Cappadocia is covered with ice and frost, and the trees are bare of leaves. What do you think? From where do these apples and flowers come?" After being subjected to cruel tortures, Saint Theophilus was beheaded with a sword.

The relics of Saint Dorothy are in Rome in the church dedicated to her, and her head is also at Rome, in a church of the Mother of God at Trastevere.

Troparion — Tone 4 - Your Martyrs, O Lord, in their contest for You / have received as a prize the crowns of incorruption and life from You, our immortal God; / for since they possessed Your strength, they cast down the tyrants / and wholly destroyed the demons' powerless presumption. / O Christ God, by their prayers, save our souls, since You are merciful.

Kontakion — Tone 8 - O divine martyrs, you appeared as bright beacons, / illumining all of creation with the radiance of your miracles; / do not cease to entreat Christ to deliver us all from our maladies, / and drive away from us the profound darkness of ignorance.

Greatmartyr Theodore Stratelates "the General"

Commemorated on February 8/21

The Great Martyr Theodore Stratelates came from the city of Euchaita in Asia Minor. He was endowed with many talents, and was handsome in appearance. For his charity God enlightened him with the knowledge of Christian truth. The bravery of the saintly soldier was revealed after he, with the help of God, killed a giant serpent living on a precipice in the outskirts of Euchaita. The serpent had devoured many people and animals, terrorizing the countryside. Saint Theodore armed himself with a sword and vanquished it, glorifying the name of Christ among the people.

For his bravery Saint Theodore was appointed military commander [stratelatos] in the city of Heraclea, where he combined his military service with preaching the Gospel among the pagans subject to him. His gift of persuasion, reinforced by his personal example of Christian life, turned many from their false gods. Soon, nearly all of Heraclea had accepted Christianity.

During this time the emperor Licinius (311-324) began a fierce persecution against Christians. In an effort to stamp out the new faith, he persecuted the enlightened adherents of Christianity, who were perceived as a threat to paganism. Among these was Saint Theodore. Licinius tried to force Saint Theodore to offer sacrifice to the pagan gods. The saint invited Licinius to come to him with his idols so both of them could offer sacrifice before the people.

Blinded by his hatred for Christianity, Licinius trusted the words of the saint, but he was disappointed. Saint Theodore smashed the gold and silver statues into pieces, which he then distributed to the poor. Thus he demonstrated the vain faith in soulless idols, and also displayed Christian charity.

Saint Theodore was arrested and subjected to fierce and refined torture. He was dragged on the ground, beaten with iron rods, had his body pierced with sharp spikes, was burned with fire, and his eyes were plucked out. Finally, he was crucified. Varus, the servant of Saint Theodore, barely had the strength to write down the incredible torments of his master.

God, however, in His great mercy, willed that the death of Saint Theodore should be as fruitful for those near him as his life was. An angel healed the saint's wounded body and took him down from the cross. In the morning, the imperial soldiers found him alive and unharmed. Seeing with their own eyes the infinite might of the Christian God, they were baptized not far from the place of the unsuccessful execution.

Thus Saint Theodore became "like a day of splendor" for those pagans dwelling in the darkness of idolatry, and he enlightened their souls "with the bright rays of his suffering." Unwilling to escape martyrdom for Christ, Saint Theodore voluntarily surrendered himself to Licinius, and discouraged the Christians from rising up against the torturer, saying, "Beloved, halt! My Lord Jesus Christ, hanging upon the Cross, restrained the angels and did not permit them to take revenge on the race of man."

Going to execution, the holy martyr opened up the prison doors with just a word and freed the prisoners from their bonds. People who touched his robe were healed instantly from sicknesses, and freed from demonic possession. By order of the emperor, Saint Theodore was beheaded by the sword. Before his death he told Varus, "Do not fail to record the day of my death, and bury my body in Euchaita." He also asked to be remembered each year on this date. Then he bent his neck beneath the sword, and received the crown of martyrdom which he had sought. This occurred on February 8, 319, on a Saturday, at the third hour of the day.

Saint Theodore is regarded as the patron saint of soldiers. He is also commemorated on June 8/21.

Troparion — Tone 4 - Truly enlisted with the King of Heaven, / you became an outstanding general for Him, passion-bearer Theodore; / you armed yourself wisely with the weapons of faith / and conquered hordes of demons, revealing yourself as a victorious athlete. / Therefore, in faith we always call you blessed.

Kontakion — Tone 2 - With the word of God as a spear in your hand, / in courage of soul and armed with faith, / you vanquished the enemy, Theodore, glory of martyrs, / with whom you unceasingly pray to Christ God for us all.

PREPARATION FOR LENT

1. THE DESIRE : SUNDAY OF ZACCHAEUS

Long before the actual beginning of Lent, the church announces its approach and invites us to enter into the period of pre-Lenten preparation. It is a characteristic feature of the Orthodox liturgical tradition that every major feast or season - Easter, Christmas, Lent, etc. - is announced and "prepared" in advance. Why? Because of the deep psychological insight by the Church into human nature. Knowing our lack of concentration and the frightening "worldliness" of our life, the Church knows our inability to change rapidly, to go abruptly from one spiritual or mental state to another. Thus, long before the actual effort of Lent is to begin, the Church calls our attention to its seriousness and invites us to meditate on its significance. Before we can "practice" Lent we are given its "meaning". This preparation includes five consecutive Sundays preceding Lent, each one of them - through its particular Gospel lesson - dedicated to some fundamental aspect of repentance.



The very announcement of Lent is made the Sunday on which the Gospel lesson about Zacchaeus (Luke 19:1-10) is read. It is the story of a man who was too short to see Jesus but who **DESIRED** so much to see Him that he climbed up a tree. Jesus responded to his desire and went to his house. Thus the theme of this first announcement is **DESIRE**. Man follows his desire. One can even say that man **IS** desire, and this fundamental psychological truth about human nature is acknowledged by the Gospel: "Where your treasure is," says Christ, "there will your heart be." A strong desire overcomes the natural limitations of man; when he passionately desires something he does things of which

"normally" he is incapable. Being "short", he overcomes and transcends himself. The only question, therefore, is whether we desire the right things, whether the power of desire in us is aimed at the right goal, or whether - in the words of the existentialist atheist, - Jean Paul Sartre - man is a "useless passion".

Zacchaeus desired the "right thing"; he wanted to see and approach Christ. He is the first symbol of repentance, for repentance begins as the rediscovery of the deep nature of all desire: the desire for God and His righteousness, for the true life. Zacchaeus is "short" - petty, sinful and limited - yet his desire overcomes all of this. It "forces" Christ's attention; it brings Christ to his home. Such, then, is the first announcement, the first invitation: ours is to **DESIRE** that which is deepest and truest in ourselves, to acknowledge the thirst and hunger for the Absolute which is in us whether we know it or not, and which, when we deviate from it and turn our desires away, makes us indeed a "useless passion". And if we desire deeply enough, strongly enough, Christ will respond.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY - is expressed to Jennifer Robinson, 2/19 & Carl Krauthauser, 2/22. May God grant them a very happy birthday and keep them for many, happy & blessed years!

SPECIAL PARISH MEETING – will be held on Sunday, March 3 after the Divine Liturgy with the sole purpose of discussing the issue of the Liturgical Calendar – the Julian Calendar (Old Calendar) or the Revised Julian Calendar. This will be the only issue discussed and voted on at this meeting. Please plan to attend.

SOUPER BOWL DONATIONS – are being accepted today only by our UOL for the Soup Kitchens in Ukraine. If you would like to donate to this worthy cause, please see Nancy Hlywiak or Linda Hnatow. Thank you for your support!

SCHEDULING FOR THE PARISH – Please remember that all events, work parties, use of the hall must be cleared through the calendar kept by Father Stephen so that dueling events can be avoided.

DONATIONS (CREDIT CARDS) ACCEPTED – for those who are interested, we can accept donations to the Church through credit cards. See Mark Andreas or Lorraine Neff for details.

BAZAAR WORK SCHEDULE

Saturday, February 25 – making pyrohy

Thursday, March 7 – making Orange Cranberry bread

Saturday, March 16 – making pyrohy

Tuesday, March 19 – 10AM – Frying cabbage

Thursday, March 21 – 9AM – cutting the veggies for the soup

Friday, March 22 – 8AM Making soups

12 Noon set up

12 Noon – 5 PM – Bake table drop off

Saturday, March 23 – S P R I N G B A Z A A R

DONATIONS NEEDED FOR THE BAZAAR – Some of the things needed are Coke products, cases of water, and dishwashing detergent.

CALLING ALL BAKERS – we always rely on your tasty treats that you donate to the Bake Table. Again, we ask for your sweet donations.

TENTATIVE CALENDER OF EVENTS

Wednesday, February 28 – Community Lenten Service (here)

Sunday, March 10 – Eagle Court of Honor

Monday, March 18 – 1st Day of the Great Fast

Saturday, March 23 – Spring Bazaar

Friday, May 3 – Good and Holy Friday

Sunday, May 5 – Pascha

Saturday, May 11 – Visit Cemeteries

Sunday, May 12 – Mother's Day Dinner

Saturday, June 8 – Hall Rented

Saturday, June 29 – Wine Tasting Event 5PM – 8PM

Sunday, June 16 – Father's Day Dinner

Monday, July 1 – Apostles' Fast

Sunday, July 14 – Patronal Dinner

Saturday, August 3 – UOL Flea Market

Saturday, November 2 – Fall Bazaar

Tuesday, November 26 – Community Thanksgiving Service – Atonement Methodist

MINISTRY SCHEDULE

(Please find a substitute if you cannot make a given week)

February 18 – Lorraine Neff and John Plachuta

February 25 - Lorraine Neff and John Plachuta

March 3 – Linda Hnatow and Matthew Andreas

March 10 – Linda Hnatow and Matthew Andreas

March 17 – Victor Kaliakin and Lorraine Neff

March 24 – Victor Kaliakin and Lorraine Neff

MEETINGS

UOL MEETING – Sunday, February 25 after Liturgy

PARISH BOARD – Tuesday, March 12 @ 6:30 PM

CLEANING OF THE CHURCH MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Week of February 19 - Michael Tilson & Linda Hnatow, Irene Maskaly

Week of February 26 – Mark & Laura Andreas

Week of March 4 - Earle and Jennifer Robinson

Week of March 11 - Thomas and Lynn Sulpizi

Week of March 18 - Nancy Hlwiak, Jean Roeth, Zina Twardus

Week of March 25 - Earle and Jennifer Robinson

READERS MINISTRY SCHEDULE

February 11 - Jean Roeth

February 18 - Andrew Duncan

February 25 - John Plachuta

March 3 – Linda Hnatow

March 10 - Pani Elizabeth Hutnick

March 17 - Thomas Sulpizi

GREETER MINISTRY SCHEDULE

February 18 - Zina Twardus and Nancy Tur

February 25 - Sandy Cramer

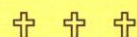
March 3 - Lorraine Neff, Sonya Patronik

March 10 - David and Eve Lazaration

REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL – Metropolitan Antony, Archbishop Daniel, Archimandrite Raphael, Father George Bazylevsky, Father Vasyl Dovhan, Father Oleh Hucul, Father Andrew Molewski, Father John Nakonechney, Father James Norton, Father Gerald Ozlanski, Father Volodymyr Wronskyj, Father Michael Zaparyniuk, Matushka Andrejuk, Matushka Laura Odell, Matushka Lisa Weremedic, Pani Matka Oksanna Bazylevsky, Pani Matka Annette Zaparyniuk, , Alicia, Nerry, Mykola, Brennan, Henry, Deborah, Galina, Dolores, Julian, Madison, Maria, Marie, Matt, Michele, Mykola, Penelope, Rita, Ryan, Jonathan Angelo, Randy Allen, Carolyn Angelo, Colby Atkinson, Shannon Austin, Stephania Bacha, Joyce Belles, Neil Belles, Joyce Bendoakas, Ethel Bernhard, Yaroslav Bilinsky, Irene Billon, James Bolton, Maria Borowski, Betty Bosland, Becky Bosley, Angie Brengle, Paul Brengle, Patricia Bringle, Richard Bringle, Thomas Bringle, John Brick, Fedir Bukacz, Christine Cain, Mark Cello, Kathy Chalfont, Erik Colazo, Alex Czernik, Sharon Dalaski, Stephen Dalecki, David Dalldorf, William Dewhurst, Peter DiVirgilio, James Dudrick, Kathleen Dugan, Margaret Durell, Mary Eagleton, Maria Economou, Mary Eagleton, Rose Eldridge, Thomas Fagan, Archantula Fanjoy, Mary Farell, James Garrett, Lisa Gee, Peter Glenn, Ivan Golovniou, Kathleen Gortva, Staci Gray, Charles Gunther, David Hamilton, Richard Haslam, Rick Hastings, Victoria Herrschaft, Carla Hitchings, Greg Hitchings, Alicia Hlywak, John Hlywak, John Hnatow, Michael Hnatow, Daniel Holoviak, Jennifer Huertes, Sally Hutnick, Joette Jago, Stephen Johnson, Linda Josepinson, Michael Kapelus, Walter Katolik, Diane Keyser, Wendy Klinedinst, Judith Kocinski, Lorissa Kozakova, Ludmyla Krawchenko, Mykola Krawchenko, Volodymyr Krasnopera, Sue Kreisa-Christian, Marlene Kuhar, Ron Lazaration, Karen Livick, Charles Lontor, Alla Lysenko, Jeremy Madea, Andrew Makolynyk, Jean Marano, Frederick McCarthy, Beth McKirachan, Fred McKirachan, Stephen McNulty, Ronald Michel, Mary Ann Michalcewicz, Michelle Michalcewiz, Lisa Miller, Matthew Miller, Mary Elizabeth Moran, Barry Morris, Elsie Moroz, Karen Needham, Julie Neff, Lorraine Neff, Ann Nester, Laurie Newman, Betty Painter, Anastasios Pantelopulos, Anthony Pantelopulos, Linda Phillips, Joseph Pierson, Barry, Bernice & Ryan Pinkowicz, Daphne Pantelopulos, Joseph Porini, Robert Powers, Joanne Procak, Joseph Ptak, Carol Purse, Sharon Reigh, Christopher Riehl, Arlene Roginski, Wyatt Roland, Andrea Roman, Jeff Rozwadowski, Glenn Runyan, Carol Rusk, Isaac Schmidt, Joella Seale, Clay Seman, John Serth, Larissa Serth, Dawn Sheets, Justin Sheets, Emily Smitheman, Kimberly Smitheman, Georgie Smolyar, Alexandra Sparco, Natalia Stanford, Rich Steinman, Joseph Stevens, Noel Strobino, Charles Joseph Sweeney, Evelyn Synczyszyn, Michael Synczyszyn, Pavlo Tabak, Nicholas Taylor, Sue Taylor, Elenora Thomas, Lydia Thomas, Michael Tilson, Brysen Tomei, Dominic Tomei, Mark Tomei, Violet Tomei, Aria Tonner, Mariel Trimble, Martha Vignali, Jack Vognetz, Margaret Vognetz, Marilyn Wagner, Olena Wasylevska, James Watts, Chris Way, Leah Way, Barbara Weeks, Peter Weremedic, Laura Worley, Jack Ziegler & James Zook.



GOD KEEPS A PROMISE



According to the law of Moses, all Hebrew parents were required to bring their first-born son to the Temple on the 40th day after his birth. This was done in remembrance of the Hebrew exodus from Egypt and their freedom from slavery -- when their first-born sons were protected from the "angel of death," -- who slew the young male children of the Egyptians. It was customary to bring a sacrifice to the Temple that day in thanksgiving to God.

Obedient to the precepts of their people, Joseph and Mary brought the infant Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem 40 days after His birth. As their sacrifice, they brought two young doves with them. While there, they encountered the Righteous Simeon -- a pious man who was advanced in years. God promised him that he would not die until he saw the coming of the Messiah. When Simeon came upon Christ and His parents, he knew that this was the One for Whom the world had waited: the Light Who would enlighten the Gentiles. Indeed, Simeon knew that he could now "depart in peace." Simeon blessed them and proclaimed that: "this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel." (Luke 2:34)

Before returning home, Mary, Joseph and Jesus also met Anna, a prophetess who had lived in the Temple some 84 years as a widow. She, too, recognized the true identity and mission of the young Child.

This event is celebrated as the FEAST OF THE MEETING OF THE LORD by our Holy Orthodox Church in February each year. To further emphasize the coming of the "Light" into a darkened world, candles are blessed on this holy day.

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.