



**SAINT PAUL  
OF THEBES**

**SAINT JOHN  
THE HUT-DWELLER**

## **Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church Bulletin**

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### **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; 2<sup>nd</sup> Youth Ministry

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**January 27, 2019**  
**Volume 55: Number 04**  
**Schedule of Services and Activities**  
**Week of January 27 – February , 2019**  
**Celebrating our 92<sup>nd</sup> year of Service to the Lord**

Sunday, January 27 – 35<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 2

8:30 – 9:00 AM – Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Pankhyda: +Dorothy Sacco (40<sup>th</sup> Day)

Special Luncheon Coffee Hour

3:00 PM – Blessing of the Schuylkill (2 Boathouse Rd, Philadelphia)

Tuesday, January 29

6:00 PM – Sisterhood Board Meeting

Thursday, January 31

7:00 PM – Boy Scouts

Sunday, February 3 – 36<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Tone 3

8:30 – 9:00 AM – Confessions

9:15 AM – Hours

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy for the Faithful

Super Bowl Sunday – Parish Annual Meeting

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**SCRIPTURAL READINGS**

35<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Matins: Mark 16:1-8; Liturgy: Colossians 3:12-16; Luke 18:18-27

Monday – Hebrews 11:17-23, 27-31; Mark 9:42-10:1

Tuesday – Veneration of the Precious Chains of Saint Peter – Acts of the Apostles 12:1-11; John 21:15-25; Day: Hebrews 12:25-26, 13:22-25; Mark 10:2-12

Wednesday – Venerable Anthony the Great – Matins: Matthew 11:27-30; Hebrews 13:17-21; Luke 6:17-23; Day: James 1:1-18; Mark 10:11-16

Thursday – James 1:19-27; Mark 10:17-27

Friday – James 2:1-13; Mark 10:23-32

Saturday – Colossians 1:3-6; Luke 16:10-15

36<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Matins: Mark 16:9-20; Liturgy: 1 Timothy 1:15-17; Luke 18:35-43

**TUESDAY - The Veneration of the Honorable Chains of the Holy and All-Praised Apostle, Peter:** The details of this feast are present in the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter of the Acts of the Holy Apostles. The first serious persecution of Christians began under King Herod Agrippa. He had St. James the Apostle killed by sword and Peter imprisoned. St. Peter was behind bars, put in iron fetters and guarded by 16 soldiers. The very night when Herod was about to bring him out to kill him, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison. An angel of the Lord appeared, and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." The chains fell off his hands. The angel said to him, "Dress yourself and put on your sandals. Wrap your mantle around you and follow me." Peter did as he was told went out and followed him. He did not know that what was done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened to them of its own accord, and they went out and passed on through one street; and immediately the angel left him. Peter came to himself, and said, "Now I am sure that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting."

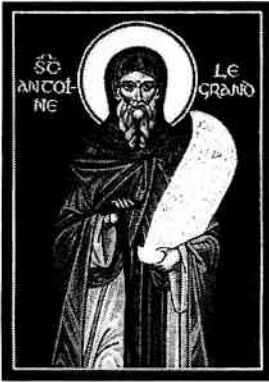
When he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John whose other name was Mark, where many were gathered together and were praying. And when he knocked at the door of the gateway, a maid named Rhoda came to answer. Recognizing Peter's voice, in her joy she did not open the gate but ran in and told that Peter was standing at the gate. They said to her, "You are mad." But she insisted that it was so. They said, "It is his angel!" But Peter continued knocking; and when they opened, they saw him and were amazed. But motioning to them with his hand to be silent, he described to them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, "Tell this to James and to the brethren." Then he departed and went to another place.

The chains were carefully preserved by the early Christians and have been preserved from the fourth century in Rome and in Constantinople. Small filings from the chains have been distributed to holy places throughout the world and are venerated as precious relics which had healing powers.

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**Venerable and God-bearing Father Anthony the Great  
Commemorated on January 17 (January 30)**

Saint Anthony the Great is known as the Father of monasticism, and the long ascetical sermon in **The Life of Saint Anthony** by Saint Athanasius (Sections 16-34), could be called the first monastic Rule.



He was born in Egypt in the village of Coma, near the desert of the Thebaid, in the year 251. His parents were pious Christians of illustrious lineage. Anthony was a serious child and was respectful and obedient to his parents. He loved to attend church services, and he listened to the Holy Scripture so attentively, that he remembered what he heard all his life.

When Saint Anthony was about twenty years old, he lost his parents, but he was responsible for the care of his younger sister. Going to church about six months later, the youth reflected on how the faithful, in the Acts of the Apostles (4:35), sold their possessions and gave the proceeds to the Apostles for the needy.

Then he entered the church and heard the Gospel passage where Christ speaks to the rich young man: "If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give it to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come follow Me" (Mt.19:21). Anthony felt that these words applied to him. Therefore, he sold the property that he received after the death of his parents, then distributed the money to the poor, and left his sister in the care of pious virgins in a convent.

Leaving his parental home, Saint Anthony began his ascetical life in a hut not far from his village. By working with his hands, he was able to earn his livelihood and also alms for the poor. Sometimes, the holy youth also visited other ascetics living in the area, and from each he sought direction and benefit. He turned to one particular ascetic for guidance in the spiritual life.

In this period of his life Saint Anthony endured terrible temptations from the devil. The Enemy of the race of man troubled the young ascetic with thoughts of his former life, doubts about his chosen path, concern for his sister, and he tempted Anthony with lewd thoughts and carnal feelings. But the saint extinguished that fire by meditating on Christ and by thinking of eternal punishment, thereby overcoming the devil.

Realizing that the devil would undoubtedly attack him in another manner, Saint Anthony prayed and intensified his efforts. Anthony prayed that the Lord would show him the path of salvation. And he was granted a vision. The ascetic beheld a man, who by turns alternately finished a prayer, and then began to work. This was an angel, which the Lord had sent to instruct His chosen one.

Saint Anthony tried to accustom himself to a stricter way of life. He partook of food only after sunset, he spent all night praying until dawn. Soon he slept only every third day. But the devil would not cease his tricks, and trying to scare the monk, he appeared under the guise of monstrous phantoms. The saint however protected himself with the Life-Creating Cross. Finally the Enemy appeared to him in the guise of a frightful looking black child, and hypocritically declaring himself beaten, he thought he could tempt the saint into vanity and pride. The saint, however, vanquished the Enemy with prayer.

For even greater solitude, Saint Anthony moved farther away from the village, into a graveyard. He asked a friend to bring him a little bread on designated days, then shut himself in a tomb. Then the devils pounced upon the saint intending to kill him, and inflicted terrible wounds upon him. By the providence of the Lord, Anthony's friend arrived the next day to bring him his food. Seeing him lying on the ground as if dead, he took him back to the village. They thought the saint was dead and prepared for his burial. At midnight, Saint Anthony regained consciousness and told his friend to carry him back to the tombs.

Saint Anthony's staunchness was greater than the wiles of the Enemy. Taking the form of ferocious beasts, the devils tried to force the saint to leave that place, but he defeated them by trusting in the Lord. Looking up, the saint saw the roof opening, as it were, and a ray of light coming down toward him. The demons disappeared and he cried out, "Where have You been, O Merciful Jesus? Why didn't You appear from the very beginning to end my pain?"

The Lord replied, "I was here, Anthony, but wanted to see your struggle. Now, since you have not yielded, I shall always help you and make your name known throughout all the world." After this vision Saint Anthony was healed of his wounds and felt stronger than before. He was then thirty-five years of age.

Having gained spiritual experience in his struggle with the devil, Saint Anthony considered going into the Thebaid desert to serve the Lord. He asked the Elder (to whom he had turned for guidance at the beginning of his monastic journey) to go into the desert with him. The Elder, while blessing him in the then as yet unheard of exploit of being a hermit, decided not to accompany him because of his age.

Saint Anthony went into the desert alone. The devil tried to hinder him, by placing a large silver disc in his path, then gold, but the saint ignored it and passed by. He found an abandoned fort on the other side of the river and settled there, barricading the entrance

with stones. His faithful friend brought him bread twice a year, and there was water inside the fort.

Saint Anthony spent twenty years in complete isolation and constant struggle with the demons, and he finally achieved perfect calm. The saint's friends removed the stones from the entrance, and they went to Saint Anthony and besought him to take them under his guidance. Soon Saint Anthony's cell was surrounded by several monasteries, and the saint acted as a father and guide to their inhabitants, giving spiritual instruction to all who came into the desert seeking salvation. He increased the zeal of those who were already monks, and inspired others with a love for the ascetical life. He told them to strive to please the Lord, and not to become faint-hearted in their labors. He also urged them not to fear demonic assaults, but to repel the Enemy by the power of the Life-Creating Cross of the Lord.

In the year 311 there was a fierce persecution against Christians, in the reign of the emperor Maximian. Wishing to suffer with the holy martyrs, Saint Anthony left the desert and went to Alexandria. He openly ministered to those in prison, he was present at the trial and interrogations of the confessors, and accompanying the martyrs to the place of execution. It pleased the Lord to preserve him, however, for the benefit of Christians.

At the close of the persecution, the saint returned to the desert and continued his exploits. The Lord granted the saint the gift of wonderworking, casting out demons and healing the sick by the power of his prayer. The great crowds of people coming to him disrupted his solitude, and he went off still farther, into the inner desert where he settled atop a high elevation. But the brethren of the monasteries sought him out and asked him to visit their communities.

Another time Saint Anthony left the desert and arrived in Alexandria to defend the Orthodox Faith against the Manichaean and Arian heresies. Knowing that the name of Saint Anthony was venerated by all the Church, the Arians said that he adhered to their heretical teaching. But Saint Anthony publicly denounced Arianism in front of everyone and in the presence of the bishop. During his brief stay at Alexandria, he converted a great multitude of pagans to Christ.

People from all walks of life loved the saint and sought his advice. Pagan philosophers once came to Abba Anthony intending to mock him for his lack of education, but by his words he reduced them to silence. Emperor Constantine the Great (May 21) and his sons wrote to Saint Anthony and asked him for a reply. He praised the emperor for his belief in Christ, and advised him to remember the future judgment, and to know that Christ is the true King.

Saint Anthony spent eighty-five years in the solitary desert. Shortly before his death, he told the brethren that soon he would be taken from them. He instructed them to preserve the Orthodox Faith in its purity, to avoid any association with heretics, and not to be negligent in their monastic struggles. "Strive to be united first with the Lord, and then with the saints, so that after death they may receive you as familiar friends into the everlasting dwellings."

The saint instructed two of his disciples, who had attended him in the final fifteen years of his life, to bury him in the desert and not in Alexandria. He left one of his monastic mantles to Saint Athanasius of Alexandria (January 18), and the other to Saint Serapion of Thmuis (March 21). Saint Anthony died peacefully in the year 356, at age 105, and he was buried in the desert by his disciples.

The Life of the famed ascetic Saint Anthony the Great was written by Saint Athanasius of Alexandria. This is the first biography of a saint who was not a martyr, and is considered to be one of the finest of Saint Athanasius' writings. Saint John Chrysostom recommends that this Life be read by every Christian.

"These things are insignificant compared with Anthony's virtues," writes Saint Athanasius, "but judge from them what the man of God Anthony was like. From his youth until his old age, he kept his zeal for asceticism, he did not give in to the desire for costly foods because of his age, nor did he alter his clothing because of the infirmity of his body. He did not even wash his feet with water. He remained very healthy, and he could see well because his eyes were sound and undimmed. Not one of his teeth fell out, but near the gums they had become worn due to his advanced age. He remained strong in his hands and feet.... He was spoken of everywhere, and was admired by everyone, and was sought even by those who had not seen him, which is evidence of his virtue and of a soul dear to God."

In the year 544 the relics of Saint Anthony the Great were transferred to Alexandria, and after the conquest of Egypt by the Saracens in the seventh century, they were transferred to Constantinople. The holy relics were transferred from Constantinople in the tenth-eleventh centuries to a diocese outside Vienna. In the fifteenth century they were brought to Arles (in France), to the church of Saint Julian.

**Troparion — Tone 4-** You imitated the ways of zealous Elijah, \* and followed the straight path of John the Baptist. \* You became a desert dweller \* and strengthened the world by your prayers. \* Father Anthony, intercede with Christ God that our souls may be saved.



**Kontakion — Tone 2** - You rejected the tumult of this life \* and lived your life to the end in solitude, \* imitating the Baptist in every way. \* With him we honor you, most venerable Anthony, foundation of the Fathers.

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### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**THE POWER OF PRAYER** – Please remember your daily prayer for our country.  
Today, we begin Day 33.

**GREAT BLESSING OF THE WATERS AT THE SCHYLKYLL** The Greater Philadelphia Orthodox Clergy Brotherhood invites all to come on Sunday, January 27 beginning at 3:00 PM at 2 Boathouse Row in Philadelphia. The Pan Orthodox Choir will be singing the responses. All are invited to attend.

**DO YOU SHOP ON AMAZON?** – Did you know that if you would get on Smile Amazon and choose our Parish as your beneficiary that Amazon would donate a percentage of your purchase to us? Search on Orthodox Wilmington and choose SS Peter & Paul Ukrainian (yes it is misspelled and we've tried to correct it). Try it and help our Parish Family benefit from your shopping experience!

### **MEETINGS - MINISTRIES**

**SISTERHOOD BOARD MEETING** – Tuesday, January 29 @ 6:00 PM

**ANNUAL PARISH MEETING** – Sunday, February 3

**PARISH BOARD MEETING** – Tuesday, March 5 @ 6:30 PM

### **GREETER MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

January 27 - David & Eve Lazaration

February 3 - Lorraine Neff, Sonya Patronik & Alexander Smith

February 10 - Nancy Tur, Zina Twardus

February 17 - John and Sandy Cramer

### **READER MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

January 27 - Jean Roeth

February 3 - Thomas Kasprzak

February 10 - John Plachta

February 17 - Irene Maskaly

February 24 - Andrew Duncan

March 3 - Jean Roeth

March 10 - Linda Hnatow

March 17 - Pani Elizabeth Hutnick

## **TRUSTEES MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

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

January 27 – Victor Kaliakin and Ann Duncan  
February 3 - Victor Kaliakin and Ann Duncan  
February 10 – Irene Maskaly and Linda Hnatow  
February 17 – Irene Maskaly and Linda Hnatow  
February 24 – Lorraine Neff and Victor Kaliakin

## **PYROHY – ORDERS (9-11AM) (302) 798-4588**

**Monday – Tuesday**

February 18 & 19

March 18 & 19

## **MAKING & PICKUP**

**Friday**

February 22

March 22

## **CLEANING OF THE CHURCH MINISTRY SCHEDULE**

Week of January 28 - Dawn Daniels, David Duncan & Kathy Duncan

Week of February 4 - Mark & Laura Andreas, Paul Andreas

Week of February 11 - John Cramer, Victor Melnychenko & Joseph Thurstlic

**Week of February 19 - WE NEED A TEAM TO TAKE THIS TIME SLOT**

Week of February 26 - Nancy Hlywiak, Jean Roeth, Zina Twardus

Week of March 5 - Michael Tilson & Linda Hnatow, Irene Maskaly

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

## **Tentative 2019 Schedule**

Sunday, February 3 – Parish Annual Meeting – Election of Officers

Sunday, February 3 – UOL Souper Bowl Sunday

Monday, March 11 – First Day of the Fast

Saturday, April 13 – Spring Bazaar

Sunday, April 28 – Pascha

Sunday, May 5 – St. Thomas Sunday – Cemeteries

Sunday, May 12 – Mother’s Day Dinner

Sunday, June 16 – Father’s Day Dinner

Monday, June 24 – First Day of the Apostle’s Fast

Sunday, July 14 – Patronal Feast Dinner

Monday, July 15 – 19 – Summer Camp

Saturday, August 3 – UOL Flea Market

Saturday, November 2 – Fall Bazaar

**PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR THOSE WHO ARE ILL** – Metropolitan Antony, Archimandrite Raphael, Father Vasili Andrejuk, Father Paul Bigelow, Father John Bohush, Father Oleh Hucul, Father Nestor Kowal, Father Andrew Molewski, Father John Nakonechney, Father James Norton, Father Victor Wronskyj, father Volodymyr Wronskyj, Pani Dobrodyka Lisa Weremedic, Mykola, Brennan, Deborah, Charles, Galina, Dolores, Krystyna, Julian, Madison, Mykola, Rita, Ryan, Randy Allen, Carolyn Angelo, Colby Atkinson, Shannon Austin, Stephania Bacha, Joyce Belles, Neil Belles, Mary Berbick, Ethel Bernhard, Yaroslav Bilinsky, Betty Bosland, Angie Brengle, Paul Brengle, Patricia Bringle, Richard Bringle, John Brick, Fedir Bukacz, George Burns, Christine Cain, Mark Cello, Betty Charney, Mildred (Myrophora) Christo, Erik Colazo, Mary Crystal, Patricia Crystal, Alex Czernik, Sharon Dalaski, Stephen Dalecki, David Dalldorf, Peter DiVirgilio, John Dmytryk, James Dudrick, David Duncan, Rose Eldridge, Thomas Fagan, Stephen Farrell, James Garrett, Peter Glenn, Ivan Golovnirov, Kathleen Gortva, Staci Gray, Charles Gunther, David Hamilton, Mary Eleanor Hamilton, Rick Hastings, Dolores Helms, Victoria Herrschaft, Daniel Holoviak, Caroline Humphrey, Richard Humphrey, Sally Hutnick, Joette Jago, Stephen Johnson, Linda Josepinson, Rosalie Ann Kane, Josephine Kapelus, Sandra Kasch, Thomas Kasprzak, Charles Kaszytski, Julia Kaszytski, Diane Keyser, Barbara Kirylic, Judith Kocinski, Ludmyla Krawchenko, Mykola Krawchenko, Emma Krasnopera, Volodymyr Krasnopera, Sue Kreisa-Christian, Marlene Kuhar, Karen Livick, Charles Lontor, Alla Lysenko, Andrew Makolynyk, Paul Markow, Natalia McDonough, Ronald Michel, Lisa Miller, Matthew Miller, Mary Elizabeth Moran, Barry Morris, Elsie Moroz, Michael Moroz, Karen Needham, Julie Neff, Ann Nester, Laurie Newman, Betty Painter, Anastasios Pantelopulos, Linda Phillips, Joseph Pierson, Barry Pinkowicz, Bernice Pinkowicz, Ryan Pinkowicz, Valentina Plachuta, Joseph Porini, Robert Powers, Joanne Procak, Lynn Procak, Joseph Ptak, Carol Purse, Sharon Reigh, Christopher Riehl, Arlene Roginski, Wyatt Roland, Andrea Roman, Fred Royer, Alla Rudawsky, John Ruczhak, Glenn Runyan, Carol Rusk, Maria Russak, Dana Sargent, Charles Scully, Doris Scully, Joella Seale, Clay Seman, Larissa Serth, Dawn Sheets, Justin Sheets, Richard Simmons, Emily Smitheman, Georgie Smolyar, Rich Steinman, Joseph Stevens, Charles Joseph Sweeney, Evelyn Synczyszyn, Wasyl Szeremeta, Tatiana Szweg, Pavlo Tabak, Nicholas Taylor, Sue Taylor, Elenora Thomas, Lydia Thomas, Brysen Tomei, Dominic Tomei, Mark Tomei, Violet Tomei, Aria Tonner, Anna Tur, Charles Tyrawsky, Richard Twardus, Martha Vignali, Jack Vognetz, Margaret Vognetz, Marilyn Wagner, John Wardigo, Olena Wasylevska, James Watts, Chris Way, Leah Way, Peter Weremedic, Stephen Wienkowitz, Laura Worley, & James Zook.

## SPIRITUAL WEALTH THROUGH MATERIAL POVERTY!

**W**e have all heard the saying that “money can’t buy happiness.” The life of **ST. PAUL OF THEBES** is a testimony to the truthfulness of that adage. St. Paul lived in Egypt during the reign of the Emperor Decius in the 3rd century. His parents were wealthy landowners, and when they died, Paul inherited a small fortune. Somehow, however, he became increasingly uncomfortable with the social surroundings he had been thrust into by virtue of his inheritance. Finally, at the tender age of 22, Paul forsook his entire estate and withdrew into the desolate desert region outside of Egypt to devote his life to God. He found a cave, where he lived his life in constant prayer and meditation. It is said that he sustained himself totally from the fruit of a tree and water from a small spring that existed near the entrance of his cave! Like the Prophet Elijah of the Old Testament, Paul was also provided with bread by ravens from time to time.

Paul lived this life of extreme asceticism for over 90 years! One of his few known visitors was St. Anthony the Great, who is commonly called the “Father of Eastern Monasticism.” After seeing this saintly man in his humble surroundings, St. Anthony returned to his monastery and proclaimed to his fellow monks: “**I HAVE SEEN ELIJAH. I HAVE SEEN JOHN IN THE DESERT. I HAVE SEEN PAUL IN PARADISE!**”

The sacred tradition of the Church tells us that when St. Anthony returned to visit his friend, he found that Paul had passed away in his familiar posture of prayer. He died as he lived: on his knees! He fell asleep in the Lord in the year 342 A.D. at the advanced age of 114.