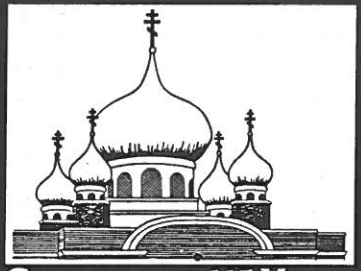
# SS. Peter & Paul Russian Orthodox Church

Orthodox Church in America
Diocese of NY & NJ

1905 – 2020



Celebrating 115 Years



76 Whitehead Avenue
South River, NJ 08882

Office Phone: (732) 257-0102
Father's Cell: (732) 740-6230

E-Mail: dfmg@aol.com
Website: www.saintpeterandpaul.org

Parish Mailing Address:
153 Kamm Ave, South River, NJ 08882

Very Rev. David F. Garretson, Rector • Basil Kozak, Choir Director • James Kornafel, Starosta


**October 25, 2020**

**TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—Tone 3**

Martyrs Marcian and Martyrius the Notaries of Constantinople; St. Tabitha the widow raised from the dead by the Apostle Peter; Martyr Athanasius the Fuller at Salona in Dalmatia; Ven. Martyrii the Deacon and Martyrii the Recluse of the Kiev Caves; St. Front, Bishop of Perigueux; Martyr Miniatus of Florence; SS. Crispinus and Crispinianus the Romans martyred under Diocletian at Soissons; St. Matrona the Confessor of Diveyevo; St. George, Bishop of Amastris; St. Macarius, Bishop of Paphos on Cyprus

Epistle: Galatians 1:11-19 Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

## The Church at Worship & Study

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sat, Oct 31 | 6:00 p.m. | Confession by appointment ONLY |
| | 7:00 p.m. | Great Vespers |

Sun, Nov 1 — **21ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST—Tone 4**
9:00 a.m. — **Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian**
Divine Liturgy — Epistles: Gal 2:16-20; 1 Cor 12:27-13:8 (Saints) — Gospels: Luke 8:26-39; Matt 10:1, 5-8 (Saints)

## Welcome Your Eminence, Archbishop MICHAEL "Eis Polla Eti, Despota!"

Today we have the blessing and great joy of the archpastoral visit of our diocesan hierarch, **Archbishop MICHAEL**, as we assemble to celebrate the 115th anniversary of this parish. In addition to our own **Father David** and **Subdeacon Joshua Chup**, concelebrating with His Eminence today are **Subdeacons Mark Federoff** and **Matthew Ortiz**. It is always an honor to have Vladika with us. We thank him for coming and offer to him our prayers, support and love, as he continues to watch over this community and the diocese for as long as the Lord see fits. Eis Polla Eti, Despota!

## Our Parish Life

In consideration of the Coronavirus, services are open for limited attendance and are also live-streamed. Note that accommodation is strictly on a **first-come, first-served basis**, with any overflow being directed to the hall. If we see that our attendance exceeds our legal capacity, we will then consider instituting an online sign-up sheet and/or a rotation by alphabetical order. Also, there will continue to be **NO COFFEE HOUR** until further notice, as we're required to limit group gatherings. In order to proceed in this manner, we are obligated to follow all regulations; otherwise, we must close the doors to the church for inability to heed the safety requirements from the county, state and diocese. We are doing everything in our power to stay open, so join us in following the guidelines, as challenging as they may seem.

We strongly urge those with pre-existing conditions to refrain from coming to church and putting themselves and others at risk. You shouldn't use church attendance as an excuse before one's conscience and neighbors for disrespecting the measures of self-isolation.

With permission of the family, Fr. David can now visit not-at-risk parishioners in hospitals and nursing homes. He also continues to be available to address any spiritual needs during these trying times. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact him.

It is now more important than ever that we continue to contribute towards our parish ministries and expenses. If you cannot be with us physically, send your offering envelopes to the parish office, either through the mail or by dropping them in the mailbox at the rectory. **YOU CAN NOW ALSO DONATE THROUGH THE PARISH WEBSITE!**

Christ's Church and this parish have existed through world wars, infectious diseases, terrorist attacks, plagues, persecution and other periods of challenge and concern. Our church stands as a symbol of faith; it is a place where we come together as a community to pray, receive the holy sacraments and be in fellowship with one another. However, in this time and, because of the unpredictable nature of this insidious virus, all the directives, rules and limitations set forth must be enforced and accepted. We want to see you; we want to pray with you; but, above all, we want you to be safe, healthy and able to worship in a manner that is best for the entire parish. May God continue to bless and protect you and your families.

## News Bites

**FOR THE RECORD** Attendance at the Divine Liturgy last Sunday was **44**.

**PLEASE CHECK** that all cell phones are turned **OFF** before entering church. Thanks.

**SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION** Anyone wishing to schedule an appointment for confession may do so by contacting Fr. David via telephone (732-257-0102) or E-mail (dfmg@aol.com). As our Orthodox Church teaches, confession is an opportunity to cleanse our souls in a second baptism. We should all consider regular participation in this sacrament as a priority in our lives as followers of Jesus Christ.

**THANK YOU** to **Philip & Natasha Rogozenski** for their recent donation to the *Church General Fund* in memory of **James Anthony Ashton**. May Christ keep them in His loving care, as they so lovingly care for this parish.

**UPDATE ON FIRES IN THE WESTERN US** The terrible fires in the West continue, causing unspeakable heartache and massive destruction. Many families have experienced the loss of their homes in Washington, Oregon and California. His Eminence, Archbishop BENJAMIN, is grateful to all of the parishes and faithful throughout the United States who've responded to the ***Fire Appeal;*** the generosity extended has been crucial in assisting parishioners and neighbors who are suffering through this disaster. Many of those who are now homeless were low-income families who were unprepared for such devastation. Contributions are still being accepted; they can be sent to *Diocese of the West, 1520 Green Street, San Francisco, CA 94123.* Thank you in anticipation of joining together to help our fellow brothers and sisters in Christ in their time of need.

**TALKING DURING CHURCH** Isn't it great to come into the church and see friends and family? There's nothing wrong by acknowledging them with a simple *"Hello"* or *"Good Morning,"* but it is certainly NOT appropriate to converse with them at length, especially during the reading of the Hours or during the Liturgy itself. Besides being disrespectful towards God, it's rude. Talk to the Lord while in church through your prayers/hymns and converse with your friends afterwards. Thank you.

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME** ends **next Sunday**. Do not forget to set your clocks **back one hour**, as we return to standard time. Let's all enjoy that one extra hour of sleep!

**REACHING OUT** If you know of former or current parishioners or interested individuals who would like to become involved with the parish, please contact Fr. David or Starosta with any or all information you have. Your help in this matter will be appreciated.

**READER CORNER** If you would like to learn to read the Hours and/or Epistle, see or contact Basil Kozak (917-697-8058).

**HALLOWEEN** is this Saturday. The practice of children dressing up and receiving treats can be one of life's simple childhood memories. We destroy those innocent times when we allow them to dress in costumes that celebrate evil and destruction. There is nothing innocent in our children looking like witches, devils, mass murderers from movies, etc. Please let us take some thought about what we are teaching our youth. When we trivialize evil, we invite it to enter our lives.

**DAILY PRAYER LIFE** We pray for the following parishioners, family members and friends:

| ***Departed*** | | ***Servicemen*** |
|---|---|---|
| Irene Mitchell | Metropolitan THEODOSIUS (Lazor) | Priest Sean Levine |
| Paul Petro | Deacon Donald Rogozinski | Todd Adams |
| Anthony Kasmer | | Mark Lopez |

***Sick***

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Kaitlyn Fox | Beth Giordano | Jeff Bush |
| Janet Hartman | John Dragan | Svetlana Nerush |
| Miriam Eby | Victor A. Rugala Jr. | Michael Dargento |
| Jay Pelleriti | Ruth Curtis | Clare Carbone |
| Barbara Trojan | Josefa Calero | Ellen Dargento |
| Marilyn Fields | Walentyna Posluszny | Steven Mitchell |
| Janice Sadlon | Veronica Genito | William Domanow |
| Arthur Zenkert | William Taylor | Mario Troyani |
| Eileen Swenticky | Karey Anne Coppage | Cynthia Longo |
| Dean Prestino | Lauren Horvath | Allen Zdroik |
| Mary Martin | Andrea Londensky | Jonathan Dzoba |
| Beth Van Orden | Christine Marie Parker | James D'Amore Jr. |
| Jamie Arango | Archpriest Daniel Andrejuk | Aidan Brown |
| Robert Ferro | Landon Drew Policastro | Gregory Staples |
| Virginia Staples | Doris Gorman | Stephen Sueling |
| Neil Gluckman | Giovanni Celkupa | Joyce Major |
| Jean Newman | Dr. Richard Fitzpatrick | Brit Davis |
| Barbara Koch | Louis Catana | Stefania Lazor |
| Karen Berezniak | Carol Luongo | Suellen Shimski |
| Raymond Curtis | Diego Savino | Robin Sueling |
| Doris Melillo | Paul Matyas | Dylan Lascoli |
| Michael Kaney | Margaret DeVito | Nicholas Stchur |
| David Sommers | Robert DiPaolo | Miriam Gaum |
| Lucia Bennett | Thomas Swenticky | Linda Mignone |
| Margaret Nerush | Nikolai Schijan | Jay Sommers |
| Carson Prisco | Laura Borak | Natalie Demidenko |
| Leonid Kulnich | John Langenbacher | Mark Davis |
| Adalyn Aleman | Debbie Williams | Judy Barlow |
| Ruth Diehl | Michele Sanchez | Elaine Wolak |
| Michelle Telesca | Alexander Zenko | Riley Dolan |
| David Coleman | Arthur Londensky | Mary Jane Schaaf |
| Daria Bishara | Archbishop DAVID (Mahaffey) | Becky Fine |
| Ellen Soucheck | Sandra Saurman | Bonnie Halaycio |
| Linda Perretti | Charles Howard | Donna Helfrey |

Please update Fr. David or Starosta of any additions and/or deletions to this list.

**OUR THOUGHTS & PRAYERS** are with **Philip (Natasha) Rogozenski** on the falling asleep of his beloved brother, **Deacon Donald Rogozenski**, this past Friday. May he be comforted with the Lord's great love as He guides him and his family through this time of grief.

**BEST WISHES** to **Kelly Robinson** who'll be celebrating her 31st birthday tomorrow. May God grant her good health and happiness for many years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

**OUR WARMEST WISHES** to **Edward & Elaine Boshko** who are celebrating their 69th wedding anniversary this week. Their love for each other brings such joy to all of us. May they continue to grow in God's grace for many years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

**CHURCH BULLETIN** Please send any announcements to either Fr. David or Starosta James Kornafel. You can reach Father at the rectory or get in touch with Jim by telephone (732-462-3388), E-mail (jimmyk@optonline.net) or fax (732-845-3515). The deadline for submissions is **Thursday evening**.

*Congratulations are extended to everyone as we celebrate today the 115th anniversary of this parish. Through good times and bad, the Lord has brought us a mighty long way and, because He has never left us or forsaken us, we know the future of our church will continue to blessed for at least another 115 years!*

*We have not made it this far by ourselves, but there have been many who have gone on before that have paved the way for where we are now. As St. Paul says in Ephesians 2:19-22:* ***"This means that you are strangers and foreigners no longer. No, you are fellow citizens of the saints and members of the household of God. You form a building which rises on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus Himself as the cornerstone. Through Him, the whole structure is fitted together and takes shape as a holy temple in the Lord; in Him you are being built into this temple, to become a dwelling place for God in the Spirit."*** *SS. Peter & Paul has grown upon a firm foundation of faith, with Christ being the Chief Cornerstone. And, as we reflect on the ministry of days gone by, we can see the fruit of the labor of many.*

*As time passes and inevitably changes, it is most important to honor the past; trust God for the present; and look ahead to the future. Let us not rest on our "laurels" or wallow in a mire of regrets, keeping in mind that what we do now, we are doing for generations to come. We need to pray for one another; encourage one another; support one another; be accountable to one another; and serve one another. In these ways, we'll show to the world that we are disciples of Christ.*

*May this anniversary of our church be a sign of its continued good work and blessed ministry. Thank you for all you've done and will continue to do. Many Years—Mnogaya Lyeta!*

## Fall "Take-Out" Festival

In light of the pandemic and restrictions on holding indoor events, a **Fall "Takeout" Festival** will be held on **Saturday, November 7**, from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. There will be great food and the popular Babka Sale, as well as a small Tricky Tray while you wait for your orders. All the proceeds will go to support the *Church General Fund.*

**Deborah Silowka** (732-735-1359) is the chairman of this fundraiser; contact her to see what you can do to help.

**ALL FOOD AND BABKAS MUST BE PRE-ORDERED**; a form to do so was included in the October 11 bulletin; as well as on the website. *(Extra copies are available at the Candle Desk.)* Walk-ins **WILL NOT** be available. Food pre-orders will be taken through **Wednesday, Oct 28**; babka pre-orders can be placed through **next Sunday, Nov 1**. Completed forms can either be phoned-in or E-mailed to **Karen Berezniak** (732-609-6126 / orders.berezniak@gmail.com).

Monetary donations to offset the cost of the food are appreciated.

Although this event can't be celebrated as usual this year, a mouth-watering array of authentic Slavic delights is available; make a purchase and host your own *Fall Festival* in the safety of your home!

## In Memoriam: His Beatitude, Metropolitan THEODOSIUS

It's with profound grief that we announce the falling-asleep of our former archbishop and retired primate of the *Orthodox Church in America,* **The Most Blessed Metropolitan THEODOSIUS**, on Monday, October 19. Although he was in failing health the past few months, the shock of his death has been visibly and profoundly felt by all those with whom he had contact throughout the world.

During his 25 years of service as Metropolitan, we were fortunate to have been graced with his presence on several occasions, including the celebrations of our 75th and 90th anniversaries, as well as a very snowy St. Nicholas Day. His genial personality, unique charm and down-to-earth character will long be remembered by those of us who had the chance to speak and be with him during his visits.

The character of His Beatitude's life can be summed up in a few words: he was sincere; he was earnest; he was dedicated; and he was faithful. What he preached, he practiced and what he believed, he believed with heart and soul. For half of the existence of the OCA, he labored with such devotion to have this new autocephalous Church recognized worldwide as a bulwark of Holy Orthodoxy. His accomplishments in doing so will always remain as a source of continued inspiration to all.

The work on this earth of Metropolitan THEODOSIUS was of eternal value. May our Lord God reward him for his endeavors; forgive him of his faults and failures; and grant him that blessed gift promised to all those who serve Him steadfastly: *"Well done, my good and faithful servant; come and share your Master's joy."* (Matt 25:21) Memory Eternal—Vechnaya Pamyat!