

SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN OF MAY 8, 2011

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

SUNDAY/MAY 8

3rd Sunday of Pascha (Tone 2)

The Holy Myrrh-Bearers

St. John the Theologian

8:00a.m. Church Open

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour; Church School

12-2p.m. Church Doors Open

TUESDAY/MAY 10

7:00p.m. Vespers

WEDNESDAY/MAY 11

**SS. Cyril & Methodius, Equal-to-the
Apostles, Enlightener of the Slavs**

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy

6:30p.m. Compline

7-8:30p.m. Adult Study Class

FRIDAY/MAY 13

6:00p.m. 40th Day Memorial for (+) Helen
Macinko

SATURDAY/MAY 14

9:00a.m. Memorial for George & Fannie Huzinec

9:30a.m. Akathist; Confession

SUNDAY/MAY 15

4th Sunday of Pascha (Tone 3)

The Paralytic at the Pool

8:00a.m. Church Open

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour; Teen Class; Church School

4:30p.m. Concert: "Spirit of Orthodoxy" and
Festal Reception



Lessons in Divine & Christian Love (56)

That which among the beasts is not condemnation, is to be condemned among men. All our knowledge of animals cannot explicate the interior feeling of animals. We do not know what is inside them, but only on the surface. Still we can say for certain that they live according to their nature by the grace and predetermination of the creator. From their origin they live in the same way, each according to its gender and unerring. It is not possible to speak of sin among animals. But man commits sin if he lives in accordance with bestial lusts. And still such lusts are called by the holy name of love! Neither can man lower himself to the level of an animal without lowering himself even below the animal.

Fr. Callistratus of Mileseva (Serbia)

Parish Synodicon: Memory Eternal!

May 14th 40th Day for Helen Macinko
May 18th 40th Day for Murza Kristani
May 09, 1972 Pauline Lasin
May 10, 1984 Ignaty Chwat
May 11, 1962 Olga Kluchnik
May 11, 1999 Peter Grenther
May 12, 1990 John Yalsh
May 13, 1933 Maria Yaskovsky
May 13, 1958 Jacob Popko
May 14, 1953 Della Marchisin
May 14, 1956 Pelagia Carko
May 14, 1965 Metropolitan Leonty
May 15, 1925 Maria Barna
May 15, 2005 Olga Shemansky



Offerings for the week of May 1

Olive Oil – in memory of Michael and Justina; for the health of Stephanie (birthday); In memory of Vaschen and Emilia; in memory of Joan and for the health of Sandy; for the health of Robert; for the health of Greg and Stephanie.

Wine – in memory of Deacon Gregory; for the health of Alexandra Long (birthday).

Flowers – in memory of Pearl Kulwinski.

Coffee Hour Hosting

May 08 - Nana, Nona and Nino
May 15 - Motoviloff, Kachek and Torrisi
May 22 - Combs, Mantafos, Parsells, Sokol

Congratulations!

To Nicholas Mattei on his receiving of the Orthodox Scouting Award of St. George. Many Blessed Years!

Namesday Greetings

St. Susanna/3rd Sun. of Pascha: Susan Gorbatuk
St. Emilia/May 8: Amelia Fetchko;
Many Blessed Years!

Mothers Day Celebration

Many Years to all Mothers, Grandmothers, Godmothers, Mothers-in-law on the civil holiday today of Mothers Day!

Pascha Photos on Parish Website

101 photos for your delight.

The Calendar

May 4/11/18. Weds. Adult Study Classes

May 15/Sun. "Spirit of Orthodoxy Concert" at 4:30p.m. with reception to follow

May 19/Thurs. Parish Council Meeting, 7:00p.m.

June 2/Thurs. Ascension Day (40th Day of Pascha)

June 4&5/Sat. & Sun. Visitation of Bishop Michael to our Parish

June 12/Pentecost Sun. Memorial at Cemetery at 4:00p.m.

June 19/Sun. Recognition of Graduates

June 25/Sat. Parish Council Workshop in Trenton

June 29/Wed. Ss. Peter & Paul Feast Day

Church Open Door Ministry

In May and June month the Church Doors are left "open" from 12-2p.m. Door-Keepers are sought.

Graduates Spring 2011

On Sunday, June 19th, we will recognize our parish graduates. Please submit names to Father James as soon as possible.

Sorry – No May Movie

In June month we will again feature on the 2nd Sunday and 2nd Tuesday our monthly film presentation.

Visitation of Bishop Michael to our Parish

Please reserve the weekend of June 4th, Saturday and June 5th, Sunday for the visit of Bishop Michael to our parish.

And unto us He has given eternal life, let us worship His resurrection on the Third Day!

THE TESTIMONY THAT CHRIST ROSE FROM THE DEAD

From Mystagogy: johnsanidopoulos.com

It may come as a surprise that one of the most reliable testified events in the ancient world is the resurrection of Christ, recorded in writing within a generation after the event (see 1 Corinthians 15) and fully testified within two generations while the majority of the witnesses were still alive. To understand how rare this is in the ancient world, one need only look at such a historical figure as Alexander the Great, whose earliest biography was not written until about 400 years after his death, after the earliest written testimony for Jesus.

Twelve Resurrection Appearances in the New Testament

There are twelve indisputable resurrection appearances recorded in the New Testament which spanned a time period of forty days following the event of the resurrection. They are to the following people:

- ❖ Mary Magdalene (Mk. 16:9-11; Jn. 20:11-18)
- ❖ The Myrrh-bearing women (Mt. 28:9-10)
- ❖ Two disciples on way to Emmaus (Mk. 16:12-13; Lk. 24:13-32)
- ❖ Peter (Lk. 24:34; 1 Cor. 15:4)
- ❖ Ten disciples (Lk. 24:36-43; Jn. 20:19-25)
- ❖ Eleven disciples (Mk. 16:14; Jn. 26-29)
- ❖ Seven disciples (Jn. 21: 1-23)
- ❖ Eleven disciples on the mountain (Mt. 28:16-20)
- ❖ Over five hundred disciples (1 Cor. 15:6)
- ❖ James, the brother of our Lord (1 Cor. 15:7)
- ❖ Disciples in Bethany at Ascension (Lk. 24:50-53; Acts. 1:2-12)
- ❖ Paul (1 Cor. 15:8)



We should mention that Acts 1:3 records that the Lord appeared many times over a forty day period following His resurrection from the dead, so the appearances are not limited to only twelve.

How many saw the resurrected Christ?

Over a period of forty days Christ rarely appeared to only one individual disciple. Usually many were present, and He gave ample evidence that His resurrection was in His physical body (they touched His wounds and saw Him eat). From the testimony in the New Testament, we know that well over five hundred people saw the risen Jesus, usually in groups, and there are no contradictions in the accounts nor recorded disputes about these appearances by those who saw Him.

When did they see the resurrected Christ?

Interestingly, all the resurrection appearances occurred either during the day, afternoon or towards evening. Never is a resurrection appearance recorded at night, lest it be confused with a dream.

Where was the risen Christ seen?

The risen Christ appeared in many different areas, both indoors and outdoors. He was seen:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| ❖ Near His tomb | ❖ Inside a home | ❖ Outdoors |
| ❖ On a well travelled road | ❖ A mountain | ❖ Judea |
| ❖ The seashore | ❖ A city | ❖ Galilee |

How did they see the risen Jesus?

The appearances of Christ were not passing visions, but they lasted over many hours to people of different backgrounds and occupations, where He would eat with those He appeared to and have conversations with them. None of them had previously believed that He would rise from dead, so initially the appearances confirmed the event and clarified teachings they may not have understood.

- ❖ The Apostle John writes in 1 Jn 1:1-4 that they heard, they saw, and they handled the risen Christ.
 - ❖ The Apostle Peter says in Acts 10:41 that they ate and drank with the risen Christ.
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The Holy Myrrhbearers

commemorated on the Third Sunday of Pascha

The First Witnesses to the Resurrection

On the second Sunday after the Resurrection, the Church celebrates the first witnesses of the Lord's Resurrection — the women who came to anoint His body with fragrant oils, the "Myrrhbearers" — and the men who buried Him, St. Joseph of Arimathea & St. Nicodemus.

Jesus Christ was crucified on Friday — the day before the Sabbath (Saturday) and the day before the Old Testament Passover feast. When He died, it was imperative that He be buried before the Sabbath, because it was against the Law to work on the Sabbath. St. Joseph & Nicodemus took His Body down from the cross, hastily anointed the Lord with aloe and myrrh, and wrapped Him in a sheer strip of linen. They placed Him in the newly-completed tomb — dug out of solid rock! — that was intended for the wealthy St. Joseph when he died, and sealed the tomb with a massive stone.

While St. Peter and the other male disciples slept, the women disciples of the Lord bought more expensive, fragrant oils and myrrh. They went to the tomb as soon as the Sabbath-day ended — in the middle of the night — to anoint His body properly. As they walked, they discussed how they could even get into the tomb, sealed by the huge stone that was too big for them to move.

When they arrived, the tomb was open, and He was gone! They made several trips back and forth to Jerusalem, telling the disciples the good news, leading them back to the tomb, and searching for His Body to confirm the Resurrection the angels proclaimed.

The faithful women who visited the tomb of Jesus Christ on the morning of the Resurrection included:

- Mary Magdalene**, from whom the Lord cast out seven devils — she was the first witness to the Resurrection
- the **Theotokos**, referred to as "Mary the mother of Jesus" (Jesus was one of the sons of St. Joseph the Betrothed by his first wife; Mary was his step-mother)
- Joanna**, the wife of Chouza, the steward/administrator of King Herod Antipas
- Salome**, a daughter of St. Joseph the Betrothed by his first wife, who was also the wife of Zebedee and the mother of the Apostles James and John

After the Resurrection, St. Mary Magdalene went to Rome. Tradition teaches that when Mary first met the Roman emperor, Tiberius Caesar, she held a plain egg in her hand and greeted him with the words, "Christ is risen!" Tiberius exclaimed: "How can someone rise from the dead? This is hard to believe. It is just as likely that Christ rose from the dead as it is that the egg you are holding will turn red." Even as he spoke, the egg turned a brilliant red! She then preached the good news of Jesus Christ to the emperor and the imperial household.

Mary Magdalene told Tiberius all that Pontius Pilate and the leaders of the Jews had done to the Savior. Her testimony was enough to condemn them to death.

St. Mary Magdalene left Rome for the city of Ephesus, where she died and was buried by the Bishop there, the Apostle John (the Theologian)! Emperor Leo the Wise later moved her relics to Constantinople.



**Spirit of Orthodoxy Choir Concert
Hymns of Pascha (Easter), the Feast of Feasts:
Celebrating Christ's Resurrection in Song!**

SUNDAY, MAY 15 - 4:30 PM

**Free Will Offering for Relief of the Japanese Orthodox Church:
All Proceeds to International Orthodox Christian Charities (IOCC)**

**Ss. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church
605 Washington Avenue, Manville, NJ 08835**

***Reception following in Parish Hall
with foods from many Orthodox cultures & countries***

About the Choir:

Directed by Aleksei Shipovalnikov, the Choir sings the great *a capella* works of Orthodox music in English (some selections in Church Slavonic).

About the Church:

Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Church is a Christian community of people from various backgrounds who share a commitment to the Lord, each other, and the Apostolic Faith. We warmly welcome all families, couples, and individuals who are looking for a deeper experience of the salvation offered in Jesus Christ. *Come, see and hear!*

For more information:

Father James Parsells, Rector
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