



# CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

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## BULLETIN OF JUNE 3, 2007

### SUNDAY, JUNE 3<sup>RD</sup>

#### ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

8:40a.m. Hours  
9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy  
Coffee Hour

### SATURDAY, JUNE 9<sup>TH</sup>

6:00p.m. Vespers; Confessions

### SUNDAY, JUNE 10<sup>TH</sup>

#### ALL SAINTS OF NORTH AMERICA

8:40a.m. Hours  
9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy  
Coffee Hour



Do we forgive our neighbors their trespasses? God also forgives us in His mercy. Do we refuse to forgive? God, too, will refuse to forgive us. As we treat our neighbors, so also does God treat us. The forgiveness, then, of your sins or unforgiveness, and hence also your salvation or destruction, depend on you yourself, man. For without forgiveness of sins there is no salvation. You can see for yourself how terrible it is.

Saint Tikhon of Zadonsk

### Father John is Away

from Monday, May 28<sup>th</sup> through Tuesday, June 5<sup>th</sup>. In his absence Fr. Daniel will serve the Divine Services and be available in case of an emergency. Should you need to contact Fr. John during this time, you may do so via email or by calling his cell phone: 908-872-6589.



### Church Reading Schedule

Until we all get accustomed to our new Readers' Schedule, readers for the upcoming weeks will be posted in the Sunday bulletin and the back of the church. It is requested that those who already know how to read make themselves available to guide those who are learning.

May the Lord bless those who offer themselves in this holy service!

### Sunday Collection Offering Envelopes

are now available for your use. Please pick up a box of envelopes from the ushers in the back of the church. If you make offerings weekly or monthly you are encouraged to use our new envelope system. If you have any questions, please see Fr. John or Susan Pappas, our Treasurer.



### The Fast of Ss. Peter & Paul

begins on Monday, June 4<sup>th</sup> (the day after All Saints Sunday) and extends until the celebration of the feast of the Holy Apostles on June 29<sup>th</sup>. During this fasting period we should seek to avail ourselves of Confession and Holy Communion.

### SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS



The Sunday following Pentecost is dedicated to All Saints, both those who are known to us, and those who are known only to God. There have been saints at all times, and they have come from every corner of the earth. They were Apostles, Martyrs, Prophets, Hierarchs, Monastics, and Righteous, yet all were perfected by the same Holy Spirit.

The Descent of the Holy Spirit makes it possible for us to rise above our fallen state and to attain sainthood, thereby fulfilling God's directive to "be holy, for I am holy" (Lev. 11:44, 1 Peter 1:16, etc.). Therefore, it is fitting to commemorate All Saints on the first Sunday after Pentecost.

This feast may have originated at an early date, perhaps as a celebration of all martyrs, then it was broadened to include all men and women who had borne witness to Christ by their virtuous lives, even if they did not shed their blood for Him.

### READER SCHEDULE



#### Sunday, June 10<sup>th</sup>

Hours: Jen Alexion  
Epistle: Nick Borodulia

#### Sunday, June 17<sup>th</sup>

Hours: Oleg Dudkin  
Epistle: Oleg Dudkin



Soon after the descent of the Holy Spirit, the Apostles Peter and John went into the Temple for prayer at the ninth hour, or in our terms, three o'clock in the afternoon, the hour of the death of our Lord Jesus Christ. At the gate of the Temple which was called Beautiful, there sat a beggar, lame from birth. He stretched out his hand to the apostles and asked for alms.

The Apostle Peter said to him, "I have no silver and gold, but I give you what I have. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, stand up and walk." He took him by the right hand and raised him up.

Immediately the feet and ankles of the lame man were made strong. He started to walk and entered the Temple with the apostles. All the people were filled with wonder at this great miracle, and ran to the portico called Solomon's, where the apostles were. Here the Apostle Peter delivered a second sermon about the risen Lord. Many of those who heard his word believed, and the number of the men came to about five thousand.

The many great miracles performed by the Lord through the apostles and the abundant gifts of the Holy Spirit, which moved through them, excited in the believers reverential fear and at the same time, joy and happiness. They tried in everything to fulfill the commandments of Christ and to live holy and pure lives. The believers gathered in the Temple every day and listened to the preaching of the apostles, and on the day of the Resurrection, the first day of the week – Sunday, they gathered in homes for the breaking of bread, for the sacrament of Holy Communion. All of them were united in great love, so that it was as if they had one heart and one soul. Many sold their possessions and asked the apostles to distribute the money received to the poor. All of the believers gave thanks to God. For their love and good deeds they gained the respect and love of the surrounding people, and the number of believers increased daily. With time, all the believers in the Lord Jesus Christ began to be called Christians, and the teaching and life by faith in Christ – Christianity.



**HOMILY – ON THE SPIRIT OF THIS WORLD AND THE SPIRIT OF GOD**

*"Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is of God" (1 Cor. 2:12)*

The spirit of this world, my brethren, is the spirit of pride and brutality. The Spirit of God is the Spirit of meekness and grace. God's Apostle emphasizes that Christ's followers have not received the spirit of this world but the Spirit which is of God; that is, which proceeds from God the Father like a refreshing fragrance from flowers, flowing through the soul of a man, making it strong, radiant, peaceful, thankful and gentle.

Men are by nature good and gentle. Tertullian writes, "The soul of man is Christian by nature", but it is excited and enraged by the spirit of this world. The spirit of this world makes sheep into wolves, while the Spirit of God makes wolves into sheep.

The Apostle adds that we have received the Spirit of God in order to "know the things that are freely given to us of God", that we might see, then, what is of God and what is not, and that we might feel the sweetness of that which is of God and the bit-

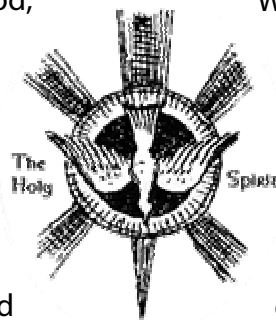
terness of that which is not of Him but of the spirit of the world. While a man is outside his own nature, he finds the bitter sweet and the sweet bitter. But when, by the Spirit of God, he returns to his true nature, he tastes the sweet as sweet and the bitter as bitter.

Who can turn a man back to God? Who can heal a man of the poison of sinful bitterness? Who can teach him by experience to differentiate true sweetness from bitterness? No-one other than the Spirit which is of God.

Therefore we pray, my brethren, that God will give us His Holy Spirit, as He gave Him to the apostles and saints. And when that Holy Spirit comes and abides in us, the Kingdom of God has come to us, in which are all sweetness, goodness, light, meekness, and grace.

O Holy Spirit, Thou Spirit of meekness and grace, come and abide in us. To Thee be glory and praise forever. Amen.

*By Saint Nikolai Velimirovich*





### THE HOLY APOSTLES PETER AND PAUL

*Celebrated June 29<sup>th</sup>*

From the 4th Century on, the Church of Rome has celebrated the Feast of the Holy Apostles on June 29. This became the usage of the Universal Church. Spiritually the Feast is linked with Holy Pentecost, as the witness of the Apostles is the immediate fruit of the descent of the Holy Spirit which came upon them. The Feast is preceded by the Fast of the Holy Apostles which begins on the Monday following All-Saints' Sunday (1st after Pentecost). The two most important Apostles of the early Church were Peter and Paul and, according to Church Tradition, they were both martyred in Rome, Paul by beheading and Peter by crucifixion. Thus this Feast became especially prominent in Rome.

Although St. Peter had a special zeal concerning Christ and is considered the chief of the Apostles, he did not have any special authority over the other Apostles, but was only first in honor. When there were important questions in the Church, it was a Church council that decided them, and St. Peter himself was sent by a council to preach the Word of God.

According to St. John Chrysostom, St. Paul sought dishonor more than we seek honor, death more than we seek life, poverty more than we seek wealth, sorrows more than we seek joy, and that he prayed for his enemies more than others pray against their enemies. For him there was only one thing to be feared: that he might offend God! He desired nothing more in life than to please God and the whole meaning of his life was his love for Christ.

### SOME QUESTIONS ON THE GOSPELS

- 1) When Christ first began to preach, what was His first message?
  - a) "A new commandment I give to you that you love one another!"
  - b) "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."
  - c) "My peace I give to you."
  - d) "Repent for the Kingdom of heaven is at hand!"
  
- 2) According to the Gospel of St. Luke, about how old was Christ when He began His public ministry?
  - a) 12 years
  - b) 30 years
  - c) 40 years
  - d) None of the above
  
- 3) Which of the Apostles were fishermen?
  - a) Matthew, Simon, and Judas
  - b) Peter, Andrew, James, and John
  - c) Thomas, Peter, Philip
  - d) None of the above
  
- 4) Who said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of heaven"?
  - a) Jesus Christ
  - b) Apostle Peter
  - c) King David
  - d) John the Baptist
  
- 5) In which Gospel do we find Christ miraculously changing water into wine at a marriage feast in Cana?
  - a) Matthew
  - b) Mark
  - c) Luke
  - d) John



### AN ATTITUDE ABOUT LIFE

Think of life as something God has given us to manage or take care of. Everything comes from God. We may use our talent or ability to achieve material goods, but the talent of ability is a gift from God to begin with.

Once you look at life this way, as a stewardship, it becomes clear that we just give of what we are, as well as what we have. It means cultivating an attitude of generous giving and getting into the habit of thinking of others.

*From Parish Publishing, LLC*

## SENSE OF HUMOR NEEDED!

Instead of great rejoicing on the part of all Christians, some consider stewardship education a time of positive gloom and doom.



If there is any area of life in which we need a sense of humor, it's where our money and pocketbooks are concerned. Humor is always a sign of good feeling and of balance. So occasionally laugh over attitudes about money.

You have heard that "you can't take it with you." We want to share with you the response of an undertaker to that. He said, "it's true that you can't take it with you, but I've seen a lot of people drag it awfully close to the grave!" We need to have a sense of humor about money.

We are encouraged to be like the cow who daily gives her master a gift, rather than like the pig who only gives her master a gift at the end of her life. Sometimes we can't decide whether we are being complimented or not when we are asked to be more bovine than porker; but at least there is some humor there.

*From Parish Publishing, LLC*

## JUNE CONGRATULATIONS!

### Anniversaries:

- 6/9 George & Monica Stoicovy
- 6/12 Fr. John & Mat. Emily Parsells
- 6/17 Alan & Denise Royal
- 6/22 Francis & Renie Abdow
- 6/24 Bill & Kathy Parrish
- 6/27 Harry & Olga Holowach

### Birthdays:

- 6/9 Jennifer Alexion
- 6/16 Sandra St. Germain
- 6/19 Richard Evanusa
- 6/28 Renie Abdow
- 6/30 Bill Parrish

### Namesdays:

- 6/29 *Holy Apostles Peter & Paul*  
Paul St. Germain

*If your name is not on this list and it should be, please see Fr. John, as soon as possible!*

## ON THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Faith and love which are gifts of the Holy Spirit are such great and powerful means that a person who has them can easily, and with joy and consolation, go the way Jesus Christ went. Besides this, the Holy Spirit gives man the power to resist the delusions of the world so that although he makes use of earthly good, yet he uses them as a temporary visitor, without attaching his heart to them. But a man who has not got the Holy Spirit, despite all his learning and prudence, is always more or less a slave and worshipper of the world.



*St. Innocent of Alaska*  
*Indication of the Way into the Kingdom of Heaven*

## FOR CONSIDERATION

*By Saint Nikolai Velimirovich*

There is no one so foolish as he who cannot see his own sins and another's virtue. There is none so enlightened as he who can see and acknowledge his own sin and another's virtue. St. John Chrysostom compares those who discover only another man's faults, and criticize them, with flies that attack wounds, not to heal them but to gnaw at them. Blessed Theophilus of Kiev, who died in 1853, says: "God has sent us here for penance." The man who knows and feels that he is doing penance will immerse himself in silence and the consideration of his own sinfulness, which has brought him to do penance. This same saint said: "Weep also for the sins of those nearest you – for without this no one human soul shall be saved." Do we weep or do we spread abroad – how is it written, my son? Blessed Theophilus writes: "Weep, or help the devil to spread it abroad." On his death, Theophilus left this testament for his brethren: "Remember vile Theophilus!" Such was the last testament of the holiest soul in Kiev in 1853.

## ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON THE GOSPELS

1. d      2. b      3. b      4. a      5. d