

ICHC NTKA SAINTS PETER AND PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America
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Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory to God for All Things!

August 14, 2011	Forefeast of the Dormition	Divine Liturgy	9:30 am
August 15	Monday	Dormition of our Lady the Mother of God, Ever-Virgin Mary	Liturgy 9:30 am
August 20	Saturday	Great Vespers	4:00 pm
August 21	10 th Sunday after Pentecost	Divine Liturgy	9:30 am

Saints of the Day: Prophet Micah (8 c BC). Translation of the relics of Venerable Theodosius of the Kiev Caves (1091). New Hieromartyr Basil Bishop of Chernigov and with him Hieromartyr Mathew and Martyr Alexis (1918). New Hieromartyr Priest Vladimir (1920). New Hieromartyrs Priests Vladimir and Nicholas, Hieromartyr Eleupheria, Virgin-Martyr Eudokia and Martyr Theodore (1937). New Hieromartyr Schema-archimandrite Eleutherius of Chimkent (Kazakhstan) (1937). Venerable Alexander Confessor (1961). Venerable Monk Arcadius, of Vyazma and New Torzhok (1077). Hieromartyr Marcellus, Bishop of Apamea (389). Martyr Ursicius at Nicomedia. Saint Fachanan, Abbot of Ross Carbery, Cork, Ireland (ca. 600). Hieromartyr Nazarius, Metropolitan of Kutaisi, Georgia, with Priest-martyrs Herman, Hierotheus and Simon, and Archdeacon Bessarion (1924). Synaxis of the New Martyrs of Georgia who suffered under the Atheist Yoke (20 c). New Martyr Simeon of Trebizond (1653). Martyr Luke the Soldier.

Please remember in your prayers: Mother Raphaela, Priest Sergius, Archpriest Jason, Susan, Ada, Rea, Daniel, Aaron, Mark, Jennifer, Nina, Nadine, Helen, Anna, Thomas, Archpriest Vincent, John, Ron, Dan, Albert, Michael, Gregory, Emma, Cathy, Mykola, Wayne, Nina, Dan, Isaiah, Robert, Robert, Kevin, Andrew, David, Warren, Michael, Archimandrites Alexander, Athanasys, Isidore, Nectarios, Pachomy.

God Grant Many Years! Prayers for the health of newly ordained Priest Leonid and Matushka Laura Schmidt, Bruce Morgenthaler, Gregory and Laura Polk, Warren Ewart, Archpriest David Clooney, Rose Udics and James Gomes and Archpriest John and Matushka Naomi Takahashi, were offered today at Liturgy and Moleben at the request of Father John Udics.

+Please remember in your prayers: newly departed Lukia Cottros, Donald Udics.

Memory Eternal. Prayers for the repose of the souls of aunt Katherine Kurap, Archpriest Basil Stroyen, Mary McCartney, Hieromonk Sergius [Udics] and Archpriest Igor Tkachuk were offered today at Liturgy and Litiya at the request of Father John Udics.

Memory Eternal. Prayers for the repose of the souls of Stephen Byrda, Michael Kuzenech, Steve Gius, George Rinko, Piza Dulak, Martha Brelinsky, Sophia Barbey, Julia Gallik, Joseph Mamrosch, Michael Dedla and John Prawlocki were offered today at Liturgy and Litiya.

THE HOLY PROPHET MICAH was of the tribe of Judah and from the village of Morasth for which he is called the "Morasthite." He was a contemporary of the prophets Isaiah, Amos, Hosea and the Jewish kings Jotham, Ahaz and Hezekiah. Micah rebuked the vices of his people and rebuked the false prophets who prophesied "of wine and of strong drink" (Micah 2:11). He foretold the destruction of Samaria. He also foretold the destruction of Jerusalem, which will come because their leaders accept bribes, the priests teach for lucre and its prophets tell fortunes for money. "Therefore shall Zion for your sake be plowed as a field and Jerusalem shall become as heaps" (Micah 3:12). But, of all his prophecies, the most important prophecy is that of the Messiah, especially the place of His birth. He mentioned Bethlehem as the birthplace of the Messiah, "Whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting" (Micah 5:2). It is not known exactly whether this prophet was slain by the Jews or whether he died a peaceful death. "Micah the Morasthite prophesied in the days of Hezekiah king of Judah and spoke to all the people of Judah saying, Thus said the Lord of hosts; Zion shall be plowed like a field and Jerusalem shall become heaps and the mountain of the house as the high places of a forest. Did Hezekiah king of Judah and all Judah put him at all to death? Did he not fear the Lord and besought the Lord and the Lord repented him of the evil which he had pronounced against them? Thus might we procure great evil against our souls" (Jeremiah 26:18-19). However, it is known that he was buried in his village and his relics were found, together with the relics of the Prophet Habakkuk, during the reign of Emperor Theodosius the Great according to a mysterious revelation, which Bishop Zevin of Eleutheropolis received.

Let's try a little quiz! Here are a dozen questions about the basics of our faith. Answers next week.

1. Can you name the ten Commandments of the Old Testament? What did Jesus say are the two most important Commandments? What is the New Commandment which Jesus gave us?
2. Can you say the Beatitudes? Why are they important?
3. Can you name the Seven Sacraments, grace-filled gifts of the Holy Spirit administered by the Christian Church?
4. How many of the twelve Apostles can you name?
5. What are some of the normal daily prayers every Orthodox Christian ought to know and use?

6. Name three of the four divine liturgies celebrated by the Orthodox Church.
 7. How many of the twelve Great Feasts of the Orthodox Church can you name?
 8. Name the four fasting seasons of the Orthodox Church and tell the rules for fasting.
 9. Can you recite the prayer of Saint Ephrem the Syrian which we use every day during Great Lent?
 10. How many Great Ecumenical Councils were there?
 11. What famous historical events took place in: 312? 988? 1054? 1453?
 12. What are the liturgical colors of the Orthodox Church? When are they used?
- Bonus: At the top of our Bulletin are the letters "IC XC NI KA." What do they signify?

Everything that needs to be said has already been said. But since no one was listening, everything must be said again. - *André Gide*

Ground Zero: Yes to mosque, no to church

By Pamela Geller – with the author's permission.

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This will make your blood boil. While New York City officials rush to build the Ground Zero mosque, a 15-story middle finger to America, they've allowed the rebuilding of the 95-year-old St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, which stood at the base of the World Trade Center towers and was destroyed by Muslim terrorists on Sept. 11, 2001, to be mired in obstruction and endless red tape.

The church has fought a 10-year-long Sisyphean battle to rebuild that magnificent icon, but still can't rebuild, while the Islamic supremacist grifters behind the Ground Zero mosque have been helped by city officials to clear all obstacles.

In a letter to Christopher O. Ward, executive director of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, CeCe Heil, senior counsel for the American Center for Law and Justice, charged that the Port Authority had "misrepresented the nature of its preliminary agreement with St. Nicholas Church, engaged in fraud while moving away from negotiations, relied upon defamation to mask its activities, and trespassed on St. Nicholas Church property without warrant or legal justification." Heil added that "the Port Authority's activities are a violation of St. Nicholas Church's rights under federal law 42 U.S.C. §1983 and the First, Fifth, and Fourteenth Amendments of the U.S. Constitution."

Heil accused the Port of "bad-faith dealings and obstructionist tactics towards the St. Nicholas Church" and charged that "the extensive delay caused by the Port Authority's bad-faith negotiations coupled with an arrogant attitude toward people of faith lead to the conclusion that the Port Authority's actions towards St. Nicholas Church are motivated by hostility toward religion – a violation of equal protection of the laws under both the U.S. and New York constitutions."

Contrast that to New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg's haste to build the cultural obscenity that is the Ground Zero mosque. He is even lobbying for 9/11 taxpayer funds for the mosque. The New York Daily News has reported that "Mayor Bloomberg's top deputies went to great lengths to help those trying to build a mosque at Ground Zero – even drafting a letter to the community board for them." The documents, emails and various exchanges between Bloomberg's office and the radical Ground Zero mosque Imam Feisal Abdul Rauf and his colleagues showed evidence of collusion, inappropriate political support for the mosque and favoritism given to the project. Why did the mayor apparently break ethical rules for an imam who has radical ties and is a slumlord whose buildings were placed in receivership?

Evan C. Lambrou is a former editor of the National Herald, the country's oldest and largest Greek-American newspaper. He told me in an exclusive statement that it was "very disgraceful that the Port Authority has compelled the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese to file a federal lawsuit just to rebuild one of our churches. And it's simply astounding that people work themselves into such a frenzy about Park 51; that so many elected officials have rushed to defend development of an Islamic community center two blocks away from Ground Zero; and that virtually no one cares about the Port Authority's plans to exclude a Christian church from Ground Zero altogether."

According to Lambrou, New York Gov. Andrew Cuomo could "order Mr. Ward and the Port Authority to remove roadblocks to church reconstruction, but he hasn't." Lambrou said that his entreaties to Cuomo and State Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver had largely been ignored, except for "one feel-good call from a press officer at the Lower Manhattan Development Corporation assuring me that the 'Cuomo administration cares' and a message from an aide to Silver saying that he was 'concerned' about the church." Silver, Lambrou said, is "easily the most influential legislator in Albany," and yet he has taken "a hands-off approach, even though the church is in his Assembly district."

Lambrou says that New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie "could also be helpful. He could, and should, weigh in on the debate, and come down on the side of the church." But "the lack of response to my concerns has been deeply disheartening. Orthodox Christian rights are being violated by a powerful public entity under their watch, and the people who should be defending us are doing nothing about it. ... That indicates they're actually willing to relegate this innocent and historic house of worship to oblivion and, in so doing, perpetuate the tragedy of 9/11."

How does it do that? Lambrou explains: "This issue is a matter of a Christian minority's rights to rebuild one of its churches in that church's historic setting. To oppose that right is an obstruction of a minority faith community's religious freedom. If public officials support Park 51, they should also support Saint Nicholas Church. It's hypocritical to do otherwise."

We are going to stand against this hypocrisy at Ground Zero on Sept. 11. Book your travel arrangements now and be at our 9/11 Freedom Rally. Stand with us for freedom and human rights, against the Islamic supremacist Ground Zero mosque and for the rebuilding of St. Nicholas Church. It's a matter of justice.

Read more: [Ground Zero: Yes to mosque, no to church](http://www.wnd.com/index.php?fa=PAGE.view&pageId=326397#ixzz1Tk6OW5bU)
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