



# SAIN'TS 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!

<b>August 28, 2011</b>	<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Afterfeast of the Dormition</b>	<b>Divine Liturgy</b>	<b>9:30 am</b>
August 29	Monday	<b>Beheading of the Holy Prophet John the Baptist</b>	<b>Divine Liturgy</b>	<b>9:30 am</b>
September 3	Saturday		Great Vespers	4:00 pm
September 4	12 <sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost		Divine Liturgy	9:30 am

**Saints of the Day:** Venerable Moses the Black of Scete (400). Uncovering of the relics of Venerable **Job** of Pochaev (1651). New Martyrs Archimandrite Sergius (Zaytsev) and Monks of Zilantov Monastery of Kazan (1918) Hieromonks Laurence (Nikitin), Seraphim (Kuz'min), Hierodeacon Theodosius (Alexandrov), Monks Leontius (Kariagin), Stephen, Brothers Gregory (Timofeev), Hylarion (Pravdin), John (Sretensky), Sergius (Galina) (1918). New Hieromartyr Priest Nicholas (1931). New Hieromartyr Priest Basil (1937). Synaxis of the Saints of the Kiev Caves whose relics repose in the Far Cave of Venerable Theodosius. Venerable Sabbas, Abbot of Krypetsk (1495). Righteous Anna the Prophetess and Daughter of Phanuel, who met the Lord at the Temple in Jerusalem (1st c.). Martyr Queen Shushaniki (Susanna) of Georgia (475). Saint Amphilochius, Bishop of Vladimir, Volhynia (1122). Righteous Hezekiah, King of Judah (691 BC). Venerable Theodore. Monk Theodosius of the Kiev Caves, Prince of Ostrog (1483). New Hieromartyr Chrysostom, Metropolitan of Smyrna (1922). 33 Martyrs of Nicomedia. Martyrs Diomedes and Laurence.

**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, Athanasy, Isidore, Nectarios, Pachomy.

**God Grant Many Years!** Prayers for the health of newly-ordained Priest Leonid and Matushka Laura Schmidt were offered August 21 at Liturgy and Moleben at the request of Simon and Mary Herbert.

**God Grant Many Years!** Prayers for the health of Archbishop DIMITRI, Bishop MELCHISEDEK, Father Joseph Lickwar, Misha Murtez, Joe Rabik, Michael Geeza, Helen Riley, Archpriest Daniel and Matushka Mary Geeza, Paul Kachur, Nina Tkachuk Dimas were offered today at Liturgy and Moleben at the request of Father John Udics.

**Memory Eternal.** Anniversary Prayers for the repose of the soul of those killed in the Beslan School Attack were offered today at Liturgy and Litiya at the request of Father John Udics.

**Memory Eternal.** Prayers for the repose of the souls of godparents John and Rose Medvick were offered today at Liturgy and Litiya at the request of Father John Udics.

**Memory Eternal.** Prayers for the repose of the souls of Daniel Krenichyn, Michael Ciko, Mary Mezick, Mary Zawko, Donald Sterzin, Evgenia Hrynda, Walter Spytko, Stephen Zelezniak and Paul Sokol, were offered today at Liturgy and Litiya.

**A word from the desert.** An elder was asked, "How can a fervent brother not be shocked when he sees others returning to the world?" And he said, "Watch the dogs who chase hares. When one of them has seen a hare he pursues it until he catches it, without being concerned with anything else; the others, seeing the dog launched in pursuit, run with it for a short time, and soon come back. Only the one who has seen the hare follows it till he catches it, not letting himself be turned from his course by those who go back, and not caring about the ravines, rocks, and undergrowth. So it is with him who seeks Christ as Master: ever mindful of the Cross, he cares for none of the scandals that occur, till he reaches the Crucified One."

August was the usual month to collect non-perishable food and monetary donations to give to the **Herkimer Food Pantry**. Father didn't know this before now and the month is almost at an end, so we will take care of this as quickly as possible (we'll be late this year). We don't have an envelope in the envelope box for this, but you may make out checks and we'll take them, along with whatever food is donated, and someone will take these donations down to the Pantry on September 14, Feast of the Holy Cross.

**THE VENERABLE SAVA OF PSKOV AND KRYPETSK** was a Serb by descent. He lived a life of asceticism, at first, in the monastery of the Holy Birth-giver of God in Pskov and then was abbot of that monastery. But they praised him and he fled from the glory of men and withdrew to the shores of Lake Krypetsk where he founded a new community dedicated to Saint John the Theologian. Nevertheless, even here, he was unable to conceal his fame and prominence. He was visited by Prince Yaroslav of Pskov and his wife. Sava would not allow his wife to enter the monastery but rather blessed her and prayed to God for her outside the monastery and healed her of a certain disease. This saint of God found rest in the year 1495 A.D. and his relics were and remained miracle-working. Among his visitors to Krypetsk, the Abbot Dositheus is mentioned.

**VENERABLE MOSES THE BLACK [THE ROBBER]** was an Ethiopian by birth and by profession, at first, a robber and leader of a band of robbers and, after that, a penitent and great ascetic. As the slave of a master, Moses escaped and joined the robbers. Because of his great physical strength and arrogance, the robbers chose him as their leader. Suddenly, Moses was overcome with pangs of conscience and repentance for the misdeeds, which he had committed. He left the group, entered a monastery and gave himself completely in obedience to his spiritual father and to the monastic rule. He benefited much from the teachings of Saints Macarius, Arsenius and Isidore. Later, he withdrew to solitude in a cell where he dedicated himself completely to physical labor, prayer, vigils and godly-thoughts. Tormented by the demon of fornication, Moses confessed to Isidore, his spiritual father, and from him, received counsel to fast even more and never to eat to full satisfaction. When even this did not help he, at the counsel of the elder, began to keep vigil at night and to pray standing; after that, he began the practice of bringing water to the elderly monks from a distant well all night long. After six years of terrible struggles, St. Isidore finally miraculously healed him of fornicating thoughts, fantasies and dreams brought about on him by demons. Moses was ordained a priest in old age. He founded his own monastery and had seventy-five disciples and lived in this life for seventy-five years. He foresaw his death and, one day, he told his disciples to flee for the barbarians were going to attack the monastery. When the disciples also urged him to flee with them, Moses said that he must die by violence for, at one time, he himself committed violence and, according to the words: "For all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword" (St. Matthew 26:52). He remained there with six brethren and the barbarians came and slew them. One of the brethren, hidden in the vicinity, beheld and saw seven shining wreaths as they descended upon the seven martyrs.

### **REFLECTION by Saint Nikolai of Zhicha**

A true Christian avoids the praise of men; not only avoids, but has a true fear of it. Saint Sava of Pskov left the office of abbot, the monastery and the good brotherhood of the monastery and fled to a desolate place to escape the praise of men, for praise of men robs our heart.

A devout prince, upon hearing of the mortification of Saint Moses Murin [the Black], went with his retinue into the desert to see him. Informing Moses that the prince was coming to his monastery, Moses quickly ran out and began to flee and to hide somewhere, but he unexpectedly encountered the high-ranking visitors. "Where is the cell of Abba Moses?" the servants of the prince asked not suspecting that this was Moses himself. Moses opened his mouth and said: "What do you want him for? He is an ignorant old man, very untruthful and completely impure in life." Hearing this, the visitors were astonished and continued on. When they arrived at the cell of Moses, they inquired about the elder and the monks said that he was not there. Then they began to relate what a monk on the road had said about Moses. The monks were saddened and asked them: "How did he look, this old man, who spoke to you mocking words about this holy man?" and when they said that he was very dark in the face, tall and in a miserable garment; the monks cried out loudly: "but that was indeed the Abba Moses!" By this incident, the prince benefited greatly spiritually and returned rejoicing to his home.

**A word from the desert.** Life is blessedness, and not simply because we believe in blessed eternity; but here on earth life can be blessed, if we live with Christ – fulfilling His holy commandments. If a man is not tied to earthly goods, but will in all things rely only on God, will live for Christ and in Christ, then life here on earth will become blessed. Saint Barsanuphius of Optina +1913

### **Los Angeles Orthodox Church Vandalized**

Please keep the parish family of Saint Andrew, Los Angeles, CA in their prayers during these difficult days. In the early morning hours of 15 August, an intruder broke into the parish Church and desecrated the Holy Altar, Tabernacle, Iconography and the entire altar and sacristy area. The most devastating aspect of this horrendous crime was the scattering of the Reserve Sacrament on the floor among and beneath the various altar crosses, candles and vestments strewn throughout the church. The Holy Altar itself was pulled from its foundation and dragged through the Royal Doors into the nave of the church. It was a senseless act of destruction and obvious anger that left the Church and the neighboring community in much distress.

Father Vasyl Shtelen and members of the parish were able, following the completion of the police investigation and the insurance examination, to gather the scattered religious vessels and items, clean them and bless them through special prayers and sprinkling with Holy Water in time for the celebration of Divine Liturgy on the Great Holy Day of the Transfiguration of our Lord. We pray that Father Vasyl and the members of his flock were able to experience the Glory and presence of our Lord on this Feast, saying, as did the Apostle Peter - "Lord, it is good for us to be here" – in spite of the obvious hurt and sorrow they have experienced.

We assure Father Vasyl and all Saint Andrew Parish members of our continued prayers. Insurance coverage will most likely cover most of the expenses to repair or replace many of the damaged vessels, vestments and other items, there will most certainly be additional expenses. Any parishes, organizations or individuals who might contribute to assist our brothers and sisters will be appreciated more than words can express.

Donations may be sent to Saint Andrew Parish Support Fund, Consistory UOC of USA, P.O. Box 495 South Bound Brook, NJ 08880. All contributions will be listed and accompany the funds when they are forwarded to the parish. They would like us to forward the funds by the end of September.

[Please mention Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church, Herkimer, NY or bring the donation to church and we will mail all of them in from the Parish.]

Saint George Antiochian Orthodox Church, 350 Higby Road, New Hartford, will hold their '**Mediterranean Festival**' on Saturday September 10, from noon to 9:00 pm, with live music and delicious food. Great Vespers will also be served at 5:00 pm.

**Fly the flag on 9/11** to demonstrate your allegiance to the U. S. A. and to memorialize the victims.