



SAINTS PETER AND PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America
305 Main Road, Herkimer, New York, 13350 • 315-866-3272
Archpriest John Udics, Rector • e-mail: john.udics@gmail.com
Parish Web Page: www.cnyorthodoxchurch.org

Most-Holy Mother of God, Save Us!

August 12, 2012	Tenth Sunday after Pentecost	Divine Liturgy	9:30 am
August 15	Wednesday Dormition (Falling Asleep) of the Mother of God	Divine Liturgy	9:30 am
August 18	Saturday	Great Vespers	4:00 pm
August 19	Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost	Divine Liturgy	9:30 am

Saints of the Day: Martyr Eusignius of Antioch (362). New Martyrs Eudocia (Shikova) and Novices Daria (Timolina), Daria (Siushinskaya), and Maria of Diveyevo (1919). New Hieromartyr Simon (Shleev) Bishop of Ufa (1921). New Hieromartyr Deacon John (1938). Venerable Job the Gorge-dweller on the Mezen River (Solovki) (1628). Hieromartyrs Fabian (250) and Antherus (Antheros) (257), Popes of Rome. Martyr Pontius at Cimella in France (257). Martyrs Cantidius, Cantidian and Sibelius (Sobel), of Egypt. Righteous Nonna (374), Mother of Saint Gregory the Theologian. Saint Oswald, King and Martyr (642). Venerable John (Jacob) of Neamp, the Chozebite (1960). New Martyr Chrestos of Preveza (1668). Uncovering of the relics (1967) of Saint Arsenius the New of Paros (1877). Saint Jambert Archbishop of Canterbury (790). Saint Just of Penzance. Saint Merewenna, Virgin. Martyr Abbot Porcarius of Lerins (d. 732).

Please remember in your prayers: Stephania, Priest Sergius, Zara, Nolan, Emelie, Connie, Michael, Maria, Michael, Mother Raphaela, John, Hilda, James, Nancy, Archpriest Jason, Susan, Daniel, Aaron, Mark, Jennifer, Nina, Nadine, Michael, Anna, Gregory, Marianna, Mykola, Helen, Isaiah, Archpriest Vincent, Albert, Kevin, Robert, Robert, Andrew, David, Warren, Archimandrites Alexander, Athanasy, Isidore, Nectarios, Pachomy.

God Grant Many Years! Prayers for the health of newly-baptized Jonathan Ritz, his parents, godparents and his family were offered at Liturgy and Moleben today at the request of Father John Udics.

God Grant Many Years! Prayers for the health of Stephania Litwen were offered at Liturgy and Moleben today at the request of Father John Udics.

God Grant Many Years! Prayers for the health of Jon Schuhlein, Anna Mae Witiak, Angela Baran. Priest Leonid Schmidt, Norma Stehnach, Bruce Morgenthaler, Gregory and Laura Polk, Warren Ewart and Father David Clooney were offered for their birthdays at Liturgy and Moleben at the request of Father John Udics.

Memory Eternal. Prayers for the repose of His Eminence, Archbishop JAN of Prešov, Slovakia were offered at Liturgy and Litiya today at the request of Father John Udics.

Memory Eternal. Prayers for the repose of Stephen Byrda, Michael Kuzenech and Steve Bius were offered at Liturgy and Litiya today at the request of "Memory Eternal Requiem Service Fund."

Memory Eternal. Prayers for the repose of aunt Katherine Kurap, cousin Barbara Ann Udics, cousin Archpriest Basil Stroyen and Mary McCartney were offered at Liturgy and Litiya today at the request of Father John Udics.

THE HOLY MARTYRS ANICETAS AND PHOTIUS. Emperor Diocletian once visited the city of Nicomedia with the evil intention to completely exterminate the Christians. But when he began his merciless torture of Christians, Saint Anicetas, one of the high ranking officials of the city, boldly confessed before the emperor his faith in Christ the Lord, God incarnate in the flesh for our salvation. Along with this, Anicetas also denounced the idols as deaf and dumb stones and the worship of which is unworthy of a rational man. The emperor ordered his tongue to be severed but Anicetas, by the power of God, continued to speak. They then released a lion against him but the lion cuddled around him. At that moment the temple of Hercules collapsed. Photius, a kinsman of Anicetas, seeing the miracles and endurance of Anicetas, kissed him, declared himself a Christian and cried out to the emperor: " O idolator, be ashamed, your gods are nothingness!" The emperor then ordered that Anicetas immediately be beheaded. However, the executioner, raising his hand against holy Photius, struck himself with the sword and died. After prolonged tortures, both Anicetas and Photius were cast into prison where they languished for three years. Then they were brought out, a fire was lighted in an enormous furnace and they cast them into the fire. Many other Christians, men, women and children, willingly followed them into the fire. From the fire was heard the prayer of the Christians who were praising God for the death of martyrdom. They all suffered about the year 305 A.D. "Saint Anicetas and Saint Photius are invoked in the prayers in the Sacrament of Anointing with Oil [Holy Unction] and in the Blessing of Water."

Saint Maximus says: "If one has all the gifts of the Spirit, but not love, it profits him nothing, as the divine Apostle says. How great a zeal should we show to acquire it!"

SAINT PORCARIUS AND COMPANIONS, MARTYRS, died c. 732. Abbot Porcarius governed Lerins Abbey on an island off the coast of Provence, France, now known as Saint-Honorat, at a time when the monastery included over 500 monks. About 732, Porcarius was warned by an angel that they were threatened

by the descent of barbarians from the sea. Immediately the abbot heeded the warning and sent off to safety all the young students at the abbey and 36 of the younger religious. When the ship left fully loaded, he set about preparing the rest of the community for death. The community was attacked by the Saracens, probably Moors from Spain or North Africa, and were massacred, except four who were taken into slavery. Their feast is kept in the diocese of Frejus, France.

THE PRIEST-MARTYR ALEXANDER, BISHOP OF COMANA As a simple charcoal-burner, Alexander lived in the town of Comana near Neo-Caesarea. When the bishop of Comana died, Saint Gregory the miracle-worker and Bishop of Neo-Caesarea (November 17) was then called to preside at a council to elect a new bishop. Both clergy and laymen alike were present at the council. However, the electors were unable to agree on one person. At the time of evaluating a candidate, they all primarily paid attention to the points of his externals: external dignity and behavior. Saint Gregory then said that they need not look so much at the external characteristics as much as at the spirit and spiritual capabilities. Then some jesters mocking cried out: then we should elect Alexander the charcoal-burner as our bishop! General laughter then ensued. Saint Gregory asked: "Who is this Alexander?" And, thinking that his name was not mentioned at this council without God's Providence, Gregory ordered that Alexander be brought before the council. As a charcoal-burner, he was completely soiled and in rags. His appearance again evoked laughter in the council. Gregory then took Alexander aside and made him take an oath to speak the truth concerning himself. Alexander said that he was a Greek philosopher and that he enjoyed great honor and position but that he rejected all, humbled himself and made himself to be a "fool for the sake of Christ" from the time when he had read and understood Holy Scripture. Gregory ordered Alexander bathed and clothed in new attire and, with him, entered the council and before all began to examine Alexander in Holy Scripture. All were amazed at Alexander's wisdom and words of grace and could hardly recognize in this wise man, the former quiet charcoal-burner. Alexander was unanimously elected bishop. By his sanctity, wisdom and goodness, he gained the love of his flock. Alexander died a martyr's death for Christ during the reign of Diocletian.

WHY ARE WE COMMANDED BY GOD TO ATTEND LITURGY? All too often people ask why we should come to the Liturgy when we can pray in secret in our home and this is effective prayer to God. The Divine Services of the Orthodox Christian Church are a path for us to enter into the Eternal Divine Cycle of Prayer among the three persons of the Holy Trinity. For God this is a natural and uncreated action. Mankind, God's creation, enters into this cycle through the Grace of the Holy Spirit. The normal activity of our lives is to be a part of this cycle of Prayer in short, we live in a way that is positive and godly. When we sin, we cut ourselves off from this natural cycle of Prayer. We enter this Divine Cycle of Prayer through participation in Divine Service. This Divine cycle of Prayer is talked of in the Gospel of Saint John (the Prologue and the 17th Chapter) quite clearly so we may understand our relationship to God and the fact that we must be in constant prayer or communion with Him. When we gather together in Church, we end up being spiritually more than the sum of the parts of our individual presence because of God's presence and because we **are** the Church. God taught this and was an example of this in His own ministry because He and His Disciples often are shown in Scripture as worshiping in the Temple. Our Divine Liturgy and the other Services of the Holy Church were given Christian meaning by Jesus Christ and therefore God has given us a mandate to worship as He taught us. At the end of the second chapter of Acts, we see an outline of the Divine Liturgy and the command to follow the Apostles' and Our Lord's example where they went to the Temple daily. We most certainly want to obey God's command. **We most certainly love God so much that we want to be with Him in worship! Let's all be regular in attending Church.**

The **2012 Annual Diocesan Youth Day** will take place **on August 16th at Six Flags Great Adventure, Jackson NJ**. Complete information regarding the schedule and registration is available on the diocesan website in the "Upcoming Events" section. **Register Now!** Father Jason Vansuch (Chairman, Department of Youth Ministry) reports there are currently 65 participants registered. Given the location of the event, rectors and parishes in the New York City and New Jersey Deaneries are especially reminded to encourage their youth to participate. **Details, information, and registration:** nynjoca.org/files/2012/Youth%20Day/FINAL-2012-Youth-Day-Packet.pdf Visit the diocesan website for current information, frequent news updates, and announcements: nynjoca.org

FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

August 12	Sunday	Saint Ann's Sisterhood Meeting during coffee hour
August 18	Saturday	Diocesan Church School Teachers Conference, Endicott, NY
August 25	Saturday	Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery: 9AM Divine Liturgy in Binghamton and Banquet
August 26	Sunday	Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery: 10 AM Divine Liturgy at the Monastery in Otego
September 16	Sunday	Perohi and Polka Fest, Herkimer VFW Hall, 4 – 8 pm
October 21	Sunday	Harvest Dinner
October 14/15, 2016		Saints Peter and Paul Parish 100th Anniversary Celebration