

St Peter and Paul Orthodox Church

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November 15th, 2009

Holy Martyrs and Confessors Gurias, Samonas, and Habibus, of Edessa (299-306). Martyrs Elpidius, Marcellus, and Eustochius, who suffered under Julian the Apostate (4th c.). Martyr Demetrius of Thrace (c. 307). Ven. Paisius Velichkovsky (1794).

EPISTLE: Ephesians 2.4-10 By grace you are saved through faith; it is the gift of God, not of works.

GOSPEL: Luke 10.25-37 The Parable of the Good Samaritan

JR R CLUB BOWLING TOURNAMENT AND CONVENTION: The Jr R Club bowling tournament is rescheduled for November 21st, the day of the Nativity Bazaar.

COFFEE HOUR PRESENTATION: We will be visited on November 22nd by Priestmonk Pedro, who spent last summer travelling South America and learning about the Orthodox Church there. Please come and meet him, and listen to his SHORT presentation during Coffee Hour.

BAZAAR PREPARATION: ONE MORE WEEK OF PREPARATION! After the hard work of our cooks, Barb Daley and the gang are working hard to prepare for the Bazaar which will be held on Saturday, November 21st, after the Divine Liturgy. All hands are welcome and encouraged every night this week, with final preparations being made on Friday night.

NEWSLETTER: Father James is now accepting articles for December's newsletter. If you would like to write about any events, or good Christian thoughts, submit them to Fr sometime in the coming week. There were already two good submissions. Keep them coming!

CHURCH SCHOOL: The Sunday School students have picked up a pen pal in missionary Christina Semon. They are learning a bit about what a missionary is, in addition to their regular lessons. So

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please have your children arrive before 9:00 so that the preparations of all of the dedicated teachers can be put to good use. Please check your Newsletter and the website for the rest of our exciting Church School offerings.

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES: If there are any Birthdays, Anniversaries or Namesdays missing from this list, please see Father James or call the Rectory at any time. Birthdays: John Ciko, Stephania Litwen, Margaret Keblish, Tom Todd and Mariam Josyula. Anniversaries: None. Namesdays: Matthew Pawlusik.

PANIKHIDA: Please continue to remember in your holy prayers all of the departed of our parish, especially the newly-departed Mary. We will also be serving the memorial service for all of our brothers and sisters who have fallen asleep in the hope of the Resurrection, among them Sara Klisch (2001), Cazmir Dzula (1990), Pelagia Senko (1980) and Michael Hardish (1975). We especially remember Katherine Chanas, Sara and Jerry Klisch, Alexandria and Egnestia Jovorosky, Walter Jovorosky Jr, and Max Spytko, and all the faithful departed. May their memory be eternal!



Orthodox Etiquette and Practices

We fast before the Great Feast of the Nativity in order to prepare ourselves for the celebration of Our Lord's birth. As in the case of Great Lent, the Nativity Fast is one of preparation, during which we focus on the coming of the Savior by fasting, prayer, and almsgiving.

By fasting, we "shift our focus" from ourselves to others, spending less time worrying about what to eat, how much to eat, and so on in order to use our time in increased prayer and caring for the poor. We learn through fasting that we can gain control over things which we sometimes allow to control us.

During the Nativity Fast, we are called upon to refrain from meat, dairy, fish, wine, and olive oil. At the same time, we are challenged, within this framework, to fast to the best of our ability, and to do so consistently. If we must modify the extent to which we fast within this framework, it is of course possible, but in every instance our fasting should be consistent and regular, for Christ does not see fasting as an option, but as a "must." In Matthew Christ says, "WHEN you fast, do not be like the hypocrites," not "IF you fast" or "IF YOU CHOOSE to fast."

Finally, it seems quite odd that in our society – a society in which people gladly and freely spend money on diets, most of which recommend that one refrain from meat and dairy – fasting is not more widely embraced. How odd that a Jenny Craig consultant or diet guru or physician will tell us to refrain from eating meat or cheese or butter and we will gladly embrace that advice, while when the Church offers the same advice [at "no cost"] we tend to balk, as if we were being asked to do the impossible.

– OCA .org

Schedule of Upcoming Events

Confessions are heard before Liturgy, and before and after Vespers, or any time in the week.

Sunday, November 15: 9:00 AM Church School; 9:30 Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, November 18: 7:00 PM High School Group

Thursday, November 19: 7:00 PM Parish Council Meeting

Friday, November 20: 6:00 PM Great Vespers with Litya

Saturday, November 21: **8:30 AM** Divine Liturgy for the Entrance of the Theotokos

11:00 AM Nativity Bazaar

4:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, November 22: 9:00 AM Church School; 9:30 Divine Liturgy

Wednesday, November 25: 6:00 PM Daily Vespers

This Week's Bulletin is Given In Memory of

George and Anna Bittner

By

Anna Herko