



SAINTS PETER AND PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of New York and New Jersey
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Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, Have Mercy on Me a Sinner

April 3, 2011	Sunday of Saint John of "The Ladder"	Divine Liturgy	9:30 am
April 6	Wednesday Saint Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow - Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts		6:00 pm
April 7	Thursday Great Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete		6:00 pm
April 8	Friday Akathistos Hymn to the Mother of God		6:00 pm
April 9	Saturday Praises of the Mother of God Divine Liturgy		9:30 am
	Saturday Great Vespers		4:00 pm
April 10	Sunday of Saint Mary of Egypt	Divine Liturgy	9:30 am

Saints of the Day: Venerable Nicetas the Confessor, Abbot of Medikion (824). Virgin-martyr Theodosia of Tyre (308). Venerable Illyricus of Mount Myrsinon in Peloponnesus. Martyrs Elpidephorus, Dius, Bithonius, and Galycus (3 c). New Martyr Paul the Russian at Constantinople (1683). Venerable Nectarius, Abbot of Bezhetsk (1492). Martyr Ulphianus of Tyre (306). Venerable Joseph the Hymnographer, of Sicily (883). Martyrs Cassius, Philip, Eutychius of Thessalonica (304). Martyrs Evagrius, Benignus, Christus, Arestus, Kinnudius, Rufus, Patricius, Zosima at Tomis (310). Saint Fara (Burgondofara) of Eboriac or Faremoutiers (7 c)

God Grant Many Years! Prayers for the health of Peter Witiak, godson Noah Takahashi and Matushka Mary Geeza were offered today at Liturgy and Moleben at the request of Father John Udics.

Memory Eternal. Prayers for the repose of the souls of Yaroslav and Nadezhda Geeza were offered March 27 at Liturgy and Parastas at the request of Father Daniel Geeza.

Memory Eternal. Prayers for the repose of the soul of Ann Garbera were offered today at Liturgy and Parastas at the request of Dan Garbera.

Memory Eternal. Prayers for the repose of the souls of Victims of Chernobyl - Чорнобиль (25 years ago), Metropolitan THEODOSIUS (Nagashima), Mitered Archpriest Vasili Takeoka, Archpriest Samuel Sulich, Lisa Welle and Claire Saverino were offered today at Liturgy and Parastas at the request of Father John Udics.

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

A word from Saint John of "The Ladder", "The Ladder of Divine Ascent," 18. The insensitive man is a foolish philosopher, an exegete condemned by his own words, a scholar who contradicts himself, a blind man teaching sight to others. He talks about healing a wound and does not stop making it worse. He complains about what has happened and does not stop eating what is harmful. He prays against it but carries on as before, doing it and being angry with himself. And the wretched man is in no way shamed by his own words. "I'm doing wrong," he cries, and zealously continues to do so. His lips pray against it and his body struggles for it. He talks profoundly about death and acts as if he will never die. He groans over the separation of soul and body, and yet lives in a state of waking slumber as if he were eternal. He has plenty to say about self control and fights for a gourmet life. He reads about the judgment and begins to smile, about vainglory and is vainglorious while he is reading. He recites what he has learnt about keeping vigil, and at once drops off to sleep. Prayer he extols, and runs from it as if from a plague. Blessings he showers on obedience, and is the first to disobey. Detachment he praises, and he shamelessly fights over a rag. When he is angry he gets bitter, and then his bitterness makes him angry, so that having suffered one defeat he fails to notice that he has suffered another. He gorges himself, is sorry, and little later is at it again. He blesses silence and cannot stop talking about it. He teaches meekness and frequently gets angry while he is teaching it. Having come to his senses, he sighs and shaking his head embraces his passion once more. He denounces laughter, and while lecturing on mourning he is all smiles. In front of others, he criticizes himself for being vainglorious, and in making the admission he is looking for glory. He looks people in the eye with passion and talks about chastity. Out in the world he is full of praise for the solitary life and cannot see how much he is disgracing himself. He glorifies almsgivers and despises the poor. In everything he shows himself up for what he is, and does not come to his senses, though I would not say he was incapable of doing so.

HOMILY About the great desire of God "Who wills all men to be saved" (1Timothy 2:4).

God wants that all men be saved, that is why He descended into Hades to save those who lived on earth before His coming. For, had He not descended into Hades, an enormous number of righteous souls would have perished forever. And yet, had He not descended into Hades, the main habitat of evil against God and the human race, Hades would have remained undestroyed. Therefore, the two reasons which motivated Christ, the Giver-of-Life, to descend into Hades in the Spirit are: First, to destroy the nest of the powers of Hades and, Second, to bring from Hades to Heaven, the souls of ancestors, prophets and righteous men and women, who have fulfilled the Old Dispensation (The Old Law of God) and, by that, pleased God. Before Satan was totally jubilant at gazing upon Christ humiliated and lifeless on the Cross, Christ appeared alive and almighty in the

midst of Hades, the primary abode of Satan. What unexpected and dreadful news for Satan! For three years Satan wove snares against Christ on earth and in three days, behold, Christ destroyed Satan's kingdom and carried away the most precious booty in the form of a swarm of righteous souls.

O Lord, You want that all men be saved. We pray to You, save even us. For there is no salvation nor Savior outside of You. In You do we hope, You alone do we worship, You, the Father and the Holy Spirit, now and always. Amen. To You be glory and thanks always. Amen.

SAINT NICETAS THE CONFESSOR was born in Bithynia in the city of Caesarea. His father, Filaret, after the death of his spouse, was tonsured a monk while Nicetas remained with his paternal grandmother. After reaching maturity and completing all of his studies, Nicetas entered the Monastery of Medikion, where the Abbot Nicephorus tonsured him a monk. After seven years of hardship and mortification, Patriarch Tarasius ordained him a hieromonk. Following the deaths of Abbot Nicephorus and Athanasius, the faithful companion of Nicetas, the monastic brotherhood elected him as abbot, against his will. Saint Nicetas was a holy example and model of life and asceticism to his brethren for many years. When Leo V, the Armenian, was crowned emperor, after the pious Irene and the right-believing Emperors Nicephorus and Michael, the Iconoclastic struggle was again enflamed. The emperor deposed Patriarch Nicephorus and later banished him into exile and, in his place, elevated the heretic Theodotus Cassiteras, a man of impure life. Nicetas was also imprisoned and tortured but he remained steadfast in his Orthodoxy. He was led from prison to prison and suffered hunger, thirst, chills, oppressive heat and ridicule. He did not permit himself to waver. What particularly annoyed him was the laughter and scorn of a certain Nicholas. One night, Nicholas' deceased father appeared to him in a dream and rebuked Nicholas saying: "Withdraw from Nicetas, the servant of God." From that moment on Nicholas repented and did not annoy the saint anymore and turned others away from annoying him also. When Leo V, the Armenian, met with a wicked death, the empire was taken over by the Orthodox Emperor Michael, the Stammerer, who liberated all the Orthodox sufferers. Nicetas then withdrew to an isolated place near Constantinople, where in prayer and thanksgiving to God for all, spent the remaining days of his earthly life. During his lifetime he worked many miracles through prayer. When he died his body was translated to his monastery. At the time of the funeral procession, many who were ill and who reached out and touched his body were healed. His relics were placed next to the grave of Nicephorus his spiritual father and Athanasius, his companion. This great hierarch died in the year 824 A.D.

REMINDERS FOR YOUR CALENDARS:

- Saint Ann's Sisterhood would appreciate **your donation of cookies** for the Bake-Sale/ Bazaar. Please bake your favorite recipe of smaller sized cookies. Please bring them to Church Thursday, April 14 by 7 pm or early Friday morning April 15. Why not bake now and freeze them, then bake again late in the month, and maybe a third bake in early April!
- **TODAY:** Church Schoolers meet Father John after Liturgy.
- April 4: Monday: Perohi pinching at 9:00 am
- April 9: Saturday Church cleaning for Pascha beginning after Liturgy
- **April 10: Sunday:** PARISH COUNCIL MEETING.
- April 13-15: Wednesday thru Friday: Bread baking, Group 'B' – times to be announced
- April 14: Thursday: Deliver Cookies to Church
- April 15: Friday: Deliver Cookies to Church by 9 am. Assemble Cookie trays, 9:30 am
- April 16: Saturday: Sisterhood Spring Bake-sale/Bazaar, noon
- **April 17: Palm Sunday:** Pascha Preparation Workers meet with Father John after Liturgy
- April 30: Diocese of NYNJ: Parish Council Conference – Saint Basil's Church, Watervliet. 10 am – 3 pm
- May 7: Diocese of NYNJ: Parish Council Conference – Saint John the Baptists Church, Rochester. 10 am
- May 14: Saturday: HOLY MYRRHBEARERS MONASTERY 34th Patronal Pilgrimage: 10:00 am
- May 14: Diocese of NYNJ: Parish Council Conference – Saints Peter and Paul Church, Endicott. 10 am
- May 14: Saturday: Set up for Paschal dinner, 9:00 am
- **May 15: Sunday:** Archpastoral Visitation of Bishop MICHAEL. Paschal Dinner
- **June 12: Pentecost:** Potluck Lunch after Liturgy, and before going to the Cemetery
- **June 19:** Graduate Sunday

A clear conscience is usually the sign of a bad memory.

Thai Peanut Sauce (no cooking!) - Prep and Ready Time: 15 Min - Yield 16 servings

Ingredients

1 1/2 cups creamy peanut butter (organic)	1 tablespoon fish sauce
1/2 cup coconut milk	1 tablespoon hot sauce
3 tablespoons water	1 tablespoon minced fresh ginger root
3 tablespoons fresh lime juice	3 cloves garlic, minced
3 tablespoons soy sauce	1/4 cup chopped fresh cilantro

Directions: whisk everything together in a bowl – except mix in the cilantro just before serving. I didn't have lime – I used lemon. I didn't have fish sauce – left it out. Didn't have fresh ginger or garlic, so I used powdered. Didn't have cilantro either. It turned out fine! WOW! An amazing sauce hot or cold for noodles, vegetables like potatoes, and on meats, fish, you name it. Keep refrigerated.