

ICHC NTKA 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
Deacon Mark Bohush
Parish Web Page: www.cnyorthodoxchurch.org

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory to God for all things!



GOD BLESS AMERICA!



July 1, 2012	Fourth Sunday after Pentecost	Divine Liturgy	9:30 am
July 7	Saturday	Great Vespers	4:00 pm
July 8	Fifth Sunday after Pentecost	Divine Liturgy	9:30 am

Saints of the Day: Holy and Wonderworking Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian, martyrs at Rome. New Hieromartyr Priest Arcadius (1918). New Hieromartyr Deacon Alexis (1942). Martyr Potitus at Naples (2 c). Venerable Monk Peter the Patrician, of Constantinople (854). Saint Angelina, Despotina of Serbia (16 c). Venerable Nicodemus of Svyatogorsk (1809). Translation of the relics of Venerable John of Rila (946) from Turnovo to Rila (1470). Holy Julius and Aaron, Protomartyrs of Wales (ca. 304). Saint Servanus (Serf), Apostle of Western Fife of East Scotland, Bishop of Kinross (6 c). Saint Leontius, Bishop of Radauti in Moldavia (15 c). Venerable Gallus, Bishop of Clermont (551). 25 Martyrs in Nicomedia. Venerable Basil, Founder of the Monastery of the Deep Stream in Cappadocia (10 c). Martyr Constantine the Wonderworker and those with him, of Cyprus. Saint Leo the Hermit. Saint Cewydd of Anglesey, Wales. Saint Gwenyth, Virgin of Cornwall. Saint Eparchius the Recluse of Gaul (581).

Please remember in your prayers: Priest Sergius, Rose, Diane, 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, Archpriest Vincent, Albert, Kevin, Robert, Robert, Isaiah, Andrew, David, Warren, Archimandrites Alexander, Athanasys, Isidore, Nectarios, Pachomy.

God Grant Many Years! Prayers for the health of Diane Witiak at were offered at Liturgy and Moleben on June 29 at the request of mother Annamae Witiak, and today at the request of Father John Udics.

God Grant Many Years! Prayers for the health of Ted Botos, Tom, Elizabeth Gomes, Margaret Thompson and Erin Thompson at Liturgy and Moleben at the request of Father John Udics.

Memory Eternal. Prayers for the repose of Metro and Marion Demcko were offered at Liturgy and Litiya today at the request of son Ronald Demcko.

Memory Eternal. Prayers for the repose of newly-departed Professor Veselin Kesich, Priest Michael Sydek, aunt Katherine Kurap and grandmother Katherine Udics were offered at Liturgy and Litiya today at the request of Father John Udics.

Letter from His Grace, our Bishop MICHAEL

Parish Council Members
Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church
303 Main Road
Herkimer, New York, 13350

June 29, 2012

Beloved in the Lord: Christ is in our midst!

In consultation with the Chancellor and the Deans of the Diocese of New York and New Jersey, I am hereby assigning the newly-ordained Deacon Mark Bohush to serve as the Deacon of Saints Peter and Paul Church in Herkimer, New York, effective June 29, 2012.

In all his responsibilities, he is to work in close collaboration with the Rector, Archpriest John Udics, who is hereby appointed as his Mentor. (It is diocesan policy that a newly-ordained deacon be assigned a senior priest as his mentor).

The reason for this assignment is three-fold: 1) The Endicott parish, where Deacon Mark is from, is already blessed with several vocations; he will not be able to get as much first-hand personal experience serving and working as he will in Herkimer; 2) Father John Udics served as a deacon with distinction for many years; he is well qualified to serve as his mentor and teacher; 3) Deacon Mark will be able to assist Father John in various apostolates of the parish.

I ask that you welcome Deacon Mark in your midst and make use of his talents and dedication for the service of Christ, His Holy Church, and His People. Additionally, I request that you consider offering him a monthly stipend to defray the cost of his travel expenses.

In welcoming him as a deacon of our diocesan family, I pray for and wish Deacon Mark every success in his ministry in our Herkimer parish, and ask that you help facilitate that in every way.

With the bestowal of my archpastoral blessing and with paternal love, I remain

Devotedly yours in His service,

+ MICHAEL

Bishop of New York and the Diocese of New York and New Jersey

THE HOLY MARTYRS COSMAS AND DAMIAN were unmercenary physicians and miracle-workers. These two saints were brothers, were born in Rome and as children were baptized and brought up in the Christian spirit. They possessed abundant grace from God to heal men and livestock from every disease and suffering, usually by the laying on of hands. They sought no reward for their efforts. They only required of the infirm to believe in Christ the Lord. Inheriting a large estate, they charitably distributed it to the needy and to those in want. At that time, Emperor Galerius reigned in Rome. As a persecutor of Christianity, he summoned these two holy brothers before him shackled in chains. After a prolonged interrogation the emperor ordered them to deny Christ and to offer sacrifices to the idols. Cosmas and Damian not only did not heed the emperor but also counseled him to abandon the dead idols and to recognize the One True God. "Our God is not created but He is the Creator of all, but your gods are the imaginations of man and the work of the hands of artists. If you did not have artists to make your gods, you would have no one to worship." After working a miracle upon the emperor himself - for they miraculously cured him from a grave infirmity - the emperor proclaimed his faith in Christ and released the holy brothers in peace. Cosmas and Damian continued to glorify God and to heal the sick and were themselves, glorified by the people on all sides. Envious of their glory, a certain doctor who, at one time was their teacher, and with the pretext to gather healing herbs, led them into the mountain and stoned them to death. They suffered honorably for the Faith of Christ in the year 284 A.D. Their memory remains eternal in the Church on earth and their souls took up habitation in the Kingdom of the Lord to live eternally in glory and in joy.

VENERABLE PETER, THE PATRICIAN was a nobleman from Constantinople and a commander during the reign of Emperor Nicephorus. In a war with the Bulgarians, Emperor Nicephorus was slain and Peter, with fifty Greek commanders and princes, was captured and cast into prison. St. John the Theologian miraculously freed Peter from prison. Peter then despised all earthly glory, left his wife and son, and withdrew to Mount Olympia where, as a monk and as a disciple of Saint Joannicius the Great, lived a life of mortification for thirty-four years. Following the death of his wife and son, he settled in Constantinople where he spent eight more years in fasting and prayer and fell asleep in the Lord in the year 865 A.D. in the seventy-seventh year of his life.

THE HOLY MARTYR POTITUS was a thirteen-year-old child who was born in Sardinia. He endured much suffering for Christ both from his father and from the civil persecutors of Christianity. Potitus was beheaded during the reign of Emperor Antoninus (138-161 A.D.) but, before this, Potitus cured and baptized Agnes, the daughter of the emperor.

SAINT JULIUS, SAINT AARON & COMPANIONS, PROTOMARTYRS OF WALES. Date unknown. Julius and Aaron were Roman-Britons who are said to have been put to death at Caerleon-upon-Usk in Monmouthshire, perhaps in the middle of the 3rd century. Nothing else is recorded about them. The date c. 304, during the persecution of Diocletian, commonly given to these martyrs is only a conjecture (a very old one).

In the latest video installment of "**Lessons in Our Faith**" Bishop MICHAEL provides practical and concise teaching on the **Baptism of Infants**. His Grace discusses the theological and sacramental considerations of this subject with biblical references, patristic commentary, and reflections on the faith and life of the Church ... in less than 10 minutes! This is the 7th lesson available in the "Lessons in Our Faith" section of the diocesan website. Diocesan website: <http://nynjoca.org/>

FOR YOUR CALENDAR:

NEXT SATURDAY: Parish Picnic on our Parish grounds in beautiful East Herkimer, 11:30 am
August 12 Sunday Saint Ann's Sisterhood Meeting during coffee hour
August 25/26 Holy Myrrhbearers Monastery Anniversary
September 16 Perohi and Polka Fest, Herkimer VFW Hall, 4 – 8 pm
October 21 Harvest Dinner
October 14/15, 2016 Saints Peter and Paul Parish 100th Anniversary Celebration

Saint Andrew's Camp: There are still vacancies in each of the weeks of the camp. SEE **Camp Website with Registration on-line:** <http://standrewscamp.com> Thank you!

REFLECTION by Saint Nikolai of Zhicha

Through their prayers and alms for the deceased, Christians display the relationship between this world and the world to come. The Church in this world and the Church in the other world are one and the same - one body, one in being - as does the root of a tree beneath the earth comprise one organism with the trunk and the branches of the tree above the earth. It is clear from this how we who comprise the Church on earth can receive help from the saints and the righteous ones from the Heavenly Church as well as the deceased sinners in the other world can receive help from us on earth. Saint Athanasius says: "As it happens with wine inside a barrel which, when the vineyard blooms in the field, senses it and the wine itself blossoms together with it, so it is with the souls of sinners. They receive some relief from the Bloodless Sacrifice offered for them and from charity" performed for their repose. Saint Ephrem the Syrian cites that same example with wine and the vineyard and concludes: "And so, when there exists such mutual sensitivity even among plants, is not the prayer and sacrifice felt even more for the departed ones?"