

St Peter and Paul Orthodox Church

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Rev Fr James Worthington, Acting Rector

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January 3rd, 2010

Sunday Before the Theophany. Forefeast of the Theophany. Holy Prophet Malachi (400 B.C.). Martyr Gordius at Cæsarea in Cappadocia (4th c.). Ven. Genevieve of Paris (5th c.).

EPISTLE: 2 Timothy 4.5-8

Fight the good fight, finish the race, and keep the faith.

GOSPEL: Mark 1.1-8

I baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.

INSTALLATION OF PARISH COUNCIL MEMBERS

MANY YEARS TO THE NEWLY ILLUMINED: On Saturday, January 2nd, the Newly-Illumined Child of God Nina Hula was baptized into Christ's Holy Church. There was a beautiful service that was attended by many friends and relatives of the Hula family, as well as by several from the Parish. Remember Nina, her parents and her Godparents in your prayers, that we may build her up to be a faithful and devout member of the Holy Orthodox Church.

HOUSE BLESSINGS: Look in your monthly bulletin for information about House Blessings. I would like to spend a good amount of time with every family, and share the joy of the Theophany of the Lord with everyone, while getting to know each of you a little better.

RAFFLE: The Lottery raffle is underway. Keep an eye on your numbers – and of course, a very special thanks to all who support the Church through this fundraiser.

OFFERING ENVELOPES: The Offering Envelopes for 2010 are now available in the Candle Room. Please consider the Church a priority in your life for the coming year.

PICTURES: If you have any pictures of any events in the life of the Parish, please send them on to Fr James' Contact Info: Home: 315-866-3272 Cell: 315-706-6185 Email: adelphotheos@gmail.com

James for inclusion on the website. There were many cameras at the Yolka, and it would be good to share the shots that were taken of that wonderful performance.

ANNUAL MEETING: In addition to the meeting we had in November when we elected Parish Council Officers, we will have the full annual meeting with reports of all the organizations on January 31st, 2010 after the Divine Liturgy. We hope to have reports and the proposed budget available in the next week or so that all have a chance to read them before the meeting.

CHURCH SCHOOL: As with regular public school, Sunday School is very important to our youngsters. Therefore, it is just as important to have your children here at 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 events missing from this list, please see Father James or call the Rectory at any time. Birthdays: Stephanie Roback and Elaine Lyszczarz. Anniversaries: None. Namesdays: Rdr John Hawranick.

PANIKHIDA: Please continue to remember in your holy prayers all of the departed of our parish, especially the newly-departed Pauline and the newly departed Archbishop Job. 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 Anna Ostasz (2002), Steven Yaworski (2003), Tekla Anthony (1970), Despo Jeffries (1978). May their memory be eternal!



Orthodox Etiquette and Practices

Leaving church before dismissal deprives us of a blessing. Worship has a beginning "Blessed is the Kingdom..." and an end "Let us depart in peace..." Please spend the additional minutes with the congregation to complete your prayer in an appropriate fashion. – Fr John Taviarides

Wait until fellowship hour to say "Hi" to friends and family members. It is not appropriate to greet people and have conversations during the services. Talk to God while in church through your prayers, hymns and thanksgiving. He is waiting to hear from you.

Baptism is a covenant, an agreement between God and man. God promises to be our Father and we promise to be His children. Baptizing infants, before they are aware of what will take place, is an expression of God's great love for us. It shows us that God loves us and accepts us before we can even know Him or love Him. It shows us that we are wanted and loved by God from the moment of our birth. – Fr Demetrios Calogredes

The Jesus Prayer can be used at all times, all places: "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner."

Schedule of Upcoming Events

Confessions are heard before Liturgy, and before and after Vespers.

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| Tuesday, January 5: | 5 PM Holy Supper 6 PM Vigil for Theophany and the Great Blessing of the Water |
| Wednesday, January 6: | 9:30 Divine Liturgy 6 PM Great Vespers for St John the Forerunner |
| Thursday, January 7: | 9:30 Divine Liturgy for St John the Forerunner |
| Saturday, January 9: | 4 PM Great Vespers |
| Sunday, January 10: | 9 AM Church School; 9:30 Liturgy |
| Wednesday, January 13: | 6 PM Daily Vespers, 7 PM Middle School Group |

Is Given in Loving Memory of

Julie and Joe Firlet

By

Mitch and Janie Chlus

May their memory be eternal!