



GIVE TESTIMONY TO THE SPIRITUAL
TREASURES WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN

Saint Paul the Apostle Orthodox Church

24 BURKE ROAD

FREEHOLD, NJ 07728

Sunday of Orthodoxy

March 13, 2011

Father Robert E Lucas, Pastor; Subdeacon Daniel
J. Korba and Nikitas Tsokris, Cantors

Rectory 215-862-9227; Parish Center 732-780-3158

We Are A Stewardship Parish Of Time, Talent and Treasure

The mission of our parish faith community is to teach the Gospel message in the rich tradition of the Orthodox Church; to enable people to reflect the image of Jesus Christ in every day activities of life; to offer spiritual formation through changing times; and to celebrate community among Orthodox believers in our Freehold area.

We of St. Paul the Apostle Parish dedicate ourselves to maintaining the sanctity of worship and spiritual enlightenment in a family environment that reaches and involves all ages and unifies all people.

We believe in the spirit of ecumenism in which we share our faith by word and example and extend our spiritual insights to all people.

We accept the responsibility of Christian Stewardship that through generous giving we may all experience a faith communion with Christ as the Center of our lives.

We dedicate ourselves to insuring the well-being of all people so that we may truly experience the message of Christ's salutary gospel.

We are a beacon on a hill with the eyes of many upon us; that beacon is the inspired Light of Christ which must shine brightly in our lives.

It is not ourselves we preach but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' has shone in our hearts, that we in turn might make known the glory of God shining on the face of Christ. This treasure we possess in earthen vessels to make it clear that its surpassing power comes from God and not from us. We are afflicted in every way possible, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in us 2 Corinthians 4: 5 – 8.

GLAD TIDINGS

+++ The Scripture Study Class meets on Tuesdays at 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Please come and join us by investing time in learning our precious faith so we can better enjoy and live it! The public is invited to participate with us, so invite a friend or neighbor. In preparation for this week, please read the thirteenth to sixteenth chapters of the Book of Genesis.

+++ Please join us Monday evening at 7: 30 PM for the prayer service through the intercession of St. Nectarios for anointed healing.

+++ The second All Souls' Saturday will take place this Saturday with the Divine Liturgy celebrated at 9:00 AM followed by a Memorial service. Please join us in prayer after you have submitted to Father the names of your departed relatives. The customary offering is \$10.00.

+++ We acknowledge with deep gratitude the generous and kind offering this past week of two gifts to the parish in the amount of \$75.00 in blessed memory of our beloved departed parishioner, +Paul Pallas. We pray the merciful Lord provide a blessed repose for the soul of +Paul and grant him Eternal Memory as we thank thee the generosity of two gracious souls.

+++ Everyone is invited to participate in the blessed grace of this sacred season as we celebrate the Presanctified Liturgy Friday evening at 7: 30 PM. Father is preaching on those persons surrounding the Cross of the Lord.

+++ The sign-up sheet for both the Web Site and Bulletin sponsors is on the bulletin board in the kitchen. Please sign up as soon as possible. Do NOT make payment until your sign-up month has arrived. This will make it easier for Father to keep track of payments. Thanks in advance to all who support the parish in this way.

+++ We sincerely thank all who came, supported and participated in the Luncheon prior to the Great Fast along with Forgiveness Vespers. God bless you devoted souls with good health for Many & Blessed Years.

+++ We offer thanks to the Blessed Trinity for inspiring generosity in the souls of our faithful and the blessing of abundant grace in our midst with the offering received this past week: Tithe Offering, \$661.00; Candles, \$100.00; Diocesan Dues, \$50.00; Food Coupons, \$100.00; Kitchen, \$100.00; Self-Denial, \$100.00; +Paul Pallas Memorial Gifts, \$100.00, for a total of \$1,611.00. We express our profound gratitude to the parishioner communicants who offered their God-given treasure and labored for the sake of the Lord and the good of our parish. God bless and reward you good and faithful souls! The attendance was 41 adults and 13 children last Sunday.

+++ As faithful believers, we intercede and associate ourselves in prayer with the following who have prayed and offered seven day lights for their intentions: Father Lucas, Pani Lucas, Louis Pasquino, +Paul Szmaida, Debra Szmaida, George Idromenos, Kent Pasquino, Kyle Pasquino, Bob Gorbich, Anna Zacharyczuk and Pani Buletza.

+++ We make a **PENNIES FROM HEAVEN** Canister available for our faithful to bring in pennies for our altar and its appointments. We are already in receipt of \$100.00 from this apostolate. Even your pennies can help and are a blessing to our parish.

+++ For the expansion of our much needed parochial facilities, our parish pledge support to date totals \$106,915.00. As we thank the Lord for inspiring generosity in the hearts of our faithful, we also thank the donors for accepting the challenge of the Lord in building up His Body. We cordially invite and look forward to receiving additional and increased pledges from all our devoted parishioners.

A DAY TO CONTEMPLATE OUR FAITH

Across the land this day, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, an unusual event place in many churches. Faithful from the various jurisdictions gather to observe the victory of the Church over heresy and over those who opposed the presence of icons at worship.

The pious custom at many of these services is to have the faithful solemnly recite the Nicene Creed, compiled over sixteen hundred years ago, which contains the basic truths of the Christian religion. Then the faithful go on to proclaim: *"This is the Faith of the Apostles, This is the Faith of the Fathers . . ."* And so in our bulletin this day we have a unique rendering of the apostolic group, indicating that the Church of Christ is founded on the Faith of the Apostles, and that the Church has preserved this apostolic treasure untrampled through the centuries.

The Apostles were a select group. Christ Himself picked them and trained them, prepared them to carry on the work of His Church. When one of the group proved unfaithful and departed, the eleven met to select a successor and keep the group intact. To this day, we look upon the Episcopate, the body of our Bishops, as successors of the Apostles and witnesses of the true Faith.

As we appreciate our religious heritage of the past, let us rededicate ourselves on this day to live the Christian Faith in the future. This is the best way to observe Orthodoxy Sunday.

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.