

A Place that ties together
the 2 Testaments of the Bible

Saint Paul the Apostle Orthodox Church

24 BURKE ROAD

FREEHOLD, NJ 07728

Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast

April 5, 2009

Father Robert E Lucas, Pastor;
Father John Cmur; Deacon Kenneth E. Ellis and
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

+++ We thank our good parishioners who labored so fervently at yesterday's Pirohi Sale. God continue to bless you with good health for Many & Blessed Years!

+++ Today at 9: 15 AM we celebrate a Memorial Service for the repose of the soul of +Harry Ellis, beloved father of our parish deacon. We pray the merciful Lord continues to comfort the Ellis Family in their loss as He creates a blessed repose for the soul of +Harry and Eternal Memory!

+++ This Saturday we celebrate the memory of the restoration of Lazarus to life by our Lord. The Divine Liturgy will be celebrated at 9:00 AM. Please join us in prayer and praise.

+++ Friday evening we will celebrate the Divine Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts at 7: 30 PM. Please be certain you are among the praying souls joining us in prayer during this sacred season. Confessions are heard prior to the services and afterwards if necessary.

+ 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.

+++ The weekly Scripture Study meets on Sundays following the Divine Liturgy while children attend their own classes. Everyone now has an opportunity to participate in adult religious education at which Scripture is discussed and explained along with other interests.

+++ Next Sunday is the solemn feast of our Lord's Entry into Jerusalem, popularly known as Palm Sunday. Palms and pussy willows will be blessed and distributed. Be certain you are with us for this celebration. A special offering following the gospel reading will take place for this glorious event. Please be generous as the needs of our parish are great.

+++ We invite all our faithful to light seven day candles for the coming Passion Week and the final three days of celebration: Great and Holy Friday, Great and Holy Saturday as well as the Radiant Feast of the Resurrection.

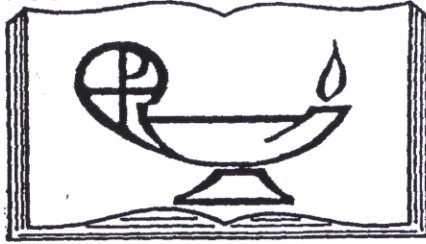
+++ We offer thanks to the Blessed Trinity for inspiring generosity in the souls of our faithful and the blessing of abundant grace in our midst with the offering received this past week-end: Tithe Offering, ~~XXXXXX~~; Candles, ~~XXXXXX~~; Food Coupons, ~~XXXXXX~~; Christian Fellowship, ~~XXXXXX~~; Self-Denial, ~~XXXXXX~~; Kitchen, ~~XXXXXX~~; Pennies From Heaven; ~~XXXXXX~~; Holyday, \$~~XXXXXX~~; Parish Dues, \$~~XXXXXX~~; Resurrection of our Lord, \$~~XXXXXX~~; Candy Sales, \$~~XXXXXX~~; Flowers, \$~~XXXXXX~~, for a total of ~~XXXXXX~~. We express our profound gratitude to the parishioner communicants who offered their God-given treasure for the sake of the Lord and the good of our parish. God bless and reward you good and faithful souls! The attendance was 39 adults and 15 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: Marilyn Korba, Blessed Memory of +Georgia Pashos, Father Lucas, Pani Lucas, Kent Pasquino, Pani Buletza, Robert Gorbich and +Paul Szmajda.

+++ 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 ~~XXXXXX~~ 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 ~~XXXXXX~~. 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.

LORD



TEACH
US

Man To God

Then the king shall say to those at my right, Come blessed of my Father, into the kingdom prepared for you from the beginning of time, For I was hungry and you fed me, I was thirsty and you gave me water, I was a stranger and you invited me into your home, naked and you clothed me, sick and in prison and you visited me. Then the righteous ones will reply, Sir, when did we ever see you hungry and feed you? Or thirsty and give you anything to drink? Or a stranger and help you? Or naked and clothe you? When did we ever see your sick or in prison and visited you? The king will tell them, When you did it to these my brothers who you were doing it to me. Then I will turn to those on my left and say, Away with you, you cursed ones, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his demons. For I was hungry and you wouldn't feed me; thirsty and you wouldn't give me anything to drink, a stranger and you refused me hospitality, naked and you wouldn't clothe me, sick and in prison and you didn't visit me. Then they will reply, Lord, when did we ever see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and not help you? And I will answer, When you refused to help the least of these my brothers, you were refusing help to me. And they shall go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into everlasting life Matthew 25: 34 – 46.

Jesus replied, my nourishment comes from doing the will of God who sent me and from finishing his work John 4: 34.

But Peter and John replied, you decide whether God wants us to obey you instead of him! We cannot stop telling about the wonderful things we saw Jesus do and heard him say Acts of the Apostles 4: 19.

Stay always within the boundaries where God's love can teach and bless you Jude 1: 21.

Looking For Trouble

Let us also go that we may die with him John 11: 16.

One dark rainy night a salesman had a flat tire on a lonely rural road. But to his dismay he had no lug wrench. Seeing a nearby farmhouse, he set out on foot. Surely the farmer would have a lug wrench, he thought. But would the farmer even come to the door at this ungodly hour? And if he did, he would probably be furious at being bothered by a total stranger! He might say, "What's the big idea getting me out of bed in the middle of the night?" This thought made the salesman angry. Why that farmer is a selfish old clod to refuse to help me in such desperate circumstances. Finally the man reached the house. Frustrated and totally drenched, he banged on the door. "Who's there?" a voice called out from a window overhead. "You know good and well who it is," yelled the salesman, his face red with anger. "It's me! And you can keep your old lug wrench! I wouldn't ask to borrow it if it was the last one in the county!"

Thomas was a little like that unglued salesman. When Jesus decided to go to Bethany to raise Lazarus, Thomas said, "Let us go along with him we may die with him" John 11: 16. The Jews had earlier sought to stone Jesus, and there was the danger, no doubt. But Thomas, assuming the worst, overreacted. He completely forgot that his Master was in the center of the eternal Father's will, the place of ultimate security. Well, Thomas survived the Bethany visit without injury and we hope he was wiser for the experience. But he was slow to learn.

If you have a temperament that always sees the dark side of things, take a lesson from Thomas and stay close to Jesus. Looking at him will keep you from looking for trouble.

Why are you weary and troubled, O soul? Is there no light at the end of the tunnel to see? But if you look at the Saviour, you will discover a life that is more abundant and free! If we would examine many of our troubles we would see our own name stamped on them as the source, even the manufacturer!

*The Prayer
of
St. Ephraim the Syrian*

*O Lord and Master of my life!
Take from me the spirit
of laziness, despair, lust for power
and vain talking.*

*But give to me, Your servant,
the spirit of purity,
humility, patience
and love.*

*Yes, Lord and King,
grant me to see my own sins
and not judge my brother.*

*For blessed are You,
forever and ever.*

Amen.

What Is This?



The Holy Shroud

A dramatic part of the Great and Holy Friday liturgical services is the procession at the very conclusion of Vesper services with what is called *The Holy Shroud*. It is reminiscent to believers of the wrappings and coverings with which Jewish bodies were respectfully laid to rest. In the case of our Lord, at the moment of the miraculous Resurrection, apparently, there was such an astounding physical development that in his restoration to life the image of his sacred body was literally printed on the burial clothes, not to be discovered until centuries later when stolen from the Church of the Holy Wisdom in Constantinople by western Crusaders and subsequently brought to the West, modern photos showed the image plainly present on the burial fabric.

From the earliest days of the inner liturgical life of the Church, reverence has been shown the Holy Shroud as it is carried in procession by the priestly celebrant in each parish reminding the faithful of the procession led by Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimathea from the cross atop Mount Golgotha to the burial cave several hundred feet away.

Imprinted in iconographic style generally is the dead Christ, lying in the tomb, amid burial raiment. Embroidered around the edges of the icon depiction is the troparion for Great and Holy Friday, "The noble Joseph took down your most pure body from the cross, wrapped it in a clean shroud and anointed it with fragrant spices and laid it in burial in a new tomb." This hymn is repeatedly chanted as the procession winds its way outside the and around the parish church, to return once again to the church and be entombed in the prepared florally decorated tomb before the Iconscreen. The faithful are then invited to come forward, many times on their knees, with profound bowing and prostrations to venerate the Lord depicted on the Shroud.

Before the beginning of Great and Holy Friday Vespers, the Shroud is placed on the holy altar table before the tabernacle where it awaits the time of procession and subsequent veneration. Pious faithful visit parish churches late on Great and Holy Friday as well as during the day on Great and Holy Saturday venerating the shroud in various parishes besides their own, as a part of spiritual pilgrimage in memory and honor of this remarkable event in salvation history.

The Shroud remains in the tomb all day Holy and Great Saturday and until the services of Resurrection Matins is celebrated Saturday evening. Then it is taken by the priestly celebrant, and after profuse incensing is laid upon the altar table as Resurrection hymnology is introduced.

Made of velvet fabric, elaborately embroidered and decorated with fringe and tassels upon which is prominently shown the icon of artist's canvas, the Holy Shroud is a inspiring vehicle of the richly endowed liturgical services of Great and Holy Friday.

Wisdom Of
The



Byzantine
Fathers

Who is more a priest of the Most High God than our Lord Jesus Christ, who, when He offered sacrifice to God the Father, offered the very same that Melchisedech had offered – bread and wine – which is in fact his Body and Blood! St. Cyprian of Carthage.

As though saying, 'If you are the children of God you should hate sinners.' If therefore, you can accuse me, whom you hate, of sin, it is plain that you just hate me. But if none among you can accuse me of sin, it is also evident that it is because of the truth you hate me. Because of what truth? Wholly because He said that He was the Son of God, which is most true Theophylactus.

Consider not the nature, but the sin; sinners are from God, yet not of God. In their nature they are from God, in their evil, they are not of God. The nature that God made good sinned by yielding assent to the persuasion of the devil, man's nature became corrupted. This was said to those who were not alone corrupted by sin, for this was common to all, but to those of whom it was known beforehand, that they would also refuse to believe in that faith by which they would be freed of the bond of their sins St. Augustine of Hippo.

Most Holy Crown Of Thorns

**Thrice-holy thorns, encircling with your fire
the pain-racked brow and agonizing head
of sin's redeeming Victim, anguish bled,
you are my sole desire.**

**O blessed chaplet of mysterious woes,
you perfume bitter-sweet, a prayer unending
of praise to our God ascending,
your beauty ever grows.**

**O sanctifying circlet, tightly compressed,
your boring band, you sharp death-dealing vise,
you prodigy of mental sacrifice,
with you I am caressed.**

**O once-opprobrious and shameful crown
resplendent with blood-red glory, now
enshrined with priceless ruby-brilliants, you,
come weigh me sweetly down.**

**Thrice-holy thorns, encircling with your fire
the pain-wracked brow and agonizing head
of sin's redeeming Victim, anguish-bleed
you are my sole desire.**

WISDOM! BE ATTENTIVE

In you, O Mother Mary, the faithful divine likeness shone forth, for by taking up the cross, you followed Christ. You gave us an example to be not concerned with the flesh, but to be diligent over the eternal things of the spirit. Therefore, O Venerable Mary, you now rejoice with the angels
Troparion, St. Mary of Egypt.

Once filled with all kinds of vices, today, through repentance, she appears as the bride of Christ. Leading an angelic life, she crushes the devil with the help of the cross. Therefore, O venerable Mary, you now rejoice with the angels
Kontakion, St. Mary of Egypt.

O Christ God, You confirmed the resurrection of all before the time of Your passion by raising Lazarus from the dead; therefore we, as the children of Israel, carry the symbols of victory and cry out to You, the Conqueror of death: "Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord"
Troparion, Lazarus Saturday.

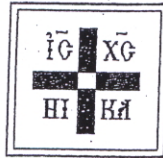
Christ, the Joy of all, the Truth, the Light, the Life, and the Resurrection of the world appeared to those on earth. Because of His goodness, He became also the image of Resurrection, granting divine forgiveness to all
Kontakion, Lazarus Saturday.

The Lord is my Light and my Salvation; Whom shall I fear?
Prokimenon, Lazarus Saturday.

Let us gloriously honor the pure Mother of God. She bore the divine Fire and was not consumed. With ceaseless praise, let us extol her
Hymn instead of "It is truly proper...", Lazarus Saturday.

Out of the mouths of babes and infants, You have fashioned praise. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Communion hymn, Lazarus Saturday.

All you who have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ. Alleluia!
Hymn Instead of "Holy God", Lazarus Saturday.



MATURING IN CHRIST

HOW TO HANDLE STRESS

Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

John 14:27

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.

Philippians 4:6–8

Fear not, for I am with you;

Be not dismayed, for I am your God:

I will strengthen you,

Yes, I will help you,

I will uphold you with My righteous right hand.

Isaiah 41:10

He makes me to lie down in green pastures;

He leads me beside the still waters.

He restores my soul;

He leads me in the paths of righteousness

For His name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,

I will fear no evil;

For You are with me;

Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.

Psalm 23:2-4

Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour.

Resist him, steadfast in the faith, knowing that the same sufferings are experienced by your brotherhood in the world.

But may the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you.

To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever.
Amen.

1 Peter 5:7-11

He will not be afraid of evil tidings;

His heart is steadfast, trusting in the LORD.

His heart is established;

He will not be afraid,

Until he sees his desire upon his enemies.

Psalm 112:7-8

God is our refuge and strength,

A very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear,

Even though the earth be removed,

And though the mountains be carried into the midst of
the sea;

Though its waters roar and be troubled,

Though the mountains shake with its swelling. Selah

Psalm 46:1-3

Whenever I am afraid,

I will trust in You.

In God (I will praise His word),

In God I have put my trust;

I will not fear.

What can flesh do to me?

You number my wanderings;

Put my tears into Your bottle;

Are they not in Your book?

When I cry out to You,

Then my enemies will turn back;

This I know, because God is for me.

Psalm 56:3-4, 8-9

Surely He shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler

And from the perilous pestilence.

He shall cover you with His feathers,

And under His wings you shall take refuge;

His truth shall be your shield and buckler.

You shall not be afraid of the terror by night,

Nor of the arrow that flies by day,

Nor of the pestilence that walks in darkness,

Nor of the destruction that lays waste at noonday.

A thousand may fall at your side,

And ten thousand at your right hand;

But it shall not come near you.

Psalm 91:3-7

Hungry and thirsty,
Their soul fainted in them.
Then they cried out to the LORD in their trouble,
And He delivered them out of their distresses.
And He led them forth by the right way,
That they might go to a city for a dwelling place.

Psalm 107:5-7

The LORD shall preserve you from all evil;
He shall preserve your soul.
The LORD shall preserve your going out and your coming in
From this time forth, and even forevermore.

Psalm 121:7-8

But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they
awoke Him and said to Him, "Teacher, do you not care that
we are perishing?"

Then He arose and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea,
"Peace, be still!" And the wind ceased and there was a great
calm.

But He said to them, "Why are you so fearful? How is it
that you have no faith?"

Mark 4:38-40

Be angry, and do not sin: do not let the sun go down on
your wrath,
nor give place to the devil.

Ephesians 4:26-27

But You, O LORD, are a shield for me,
My glory and the One who lifts up my head.
I cried to the LORD with my voice,
And He heard me from His holy hill. Selah

I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people
Who have set themselves against me all around.

Psalm 3:3-4, 6

Therefore do not worry, saying, "What shall we eat?" or
"What shall we drink?" or "What shall we wear?"

For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things.

But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.

Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.

Matthew 6:31-34

You will keep him in perfect peace,
Whose mind is stayed on You,
Because he trusts in You.
Trust in the LORD forever,
For in YAH, the LORD, is everlasting strength.

Isaiah 26:3-4

For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind . . .

who has saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works, but according to His own purpose and grace which was given to us in Christ Jesus before time began.

2 Timothy 1:7, 9

Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:28

Important Meeting Today

Everyone is invited to participate with us after the Divine Liturgy
in a discussion concerning the offer made by the
Monmouth County Park Commission

+++ Please check the Sign-Up-Sheet for the weekly Christian Fellowship for the coming weeks. Simple foods without need for preparation are the best. Marilyn Korba coordinates this vital apostolate. Please assist her in making it a success by bringing your donation early so that all are present at the worship of our God.

+++ Please be certain to see **Helen Karpiak** or a member of the Parish Council if you would like to help our parish by using **Shop Rite Food Coupons** available in \$20.00 denominations. We invite **ALL** to be caring and supportive and use Grocery Coupons for food shopping as we have gratefully realized \$4600.00 on this project to date!

+++ Candy will be delivered on Tuesday of this week and Father will have it available right after its receipt. We thank all who ordered and helped the parish. One of our parishioners had problems at their work site so no orders were received from that source. Orders submitted amounted to \$829.00 and Father is still not aware how they will handle it in our unique situation.

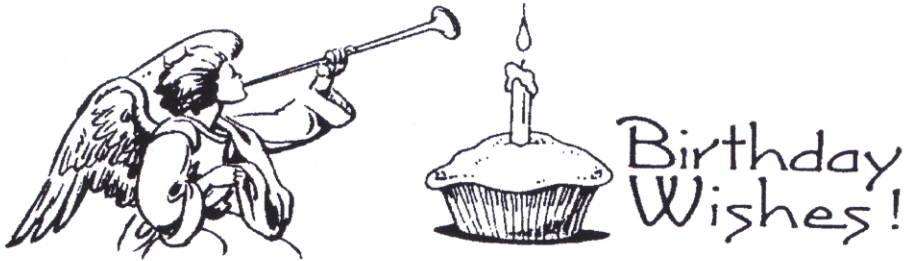
+++ The candles for the Altar Table, Table of Oblation and Sacramental Table are available for sponsorship. Please see Father if you would like to offer them for the coming feast of the Resurrection for \$125.00.

+++ The Flower Offering for the coming feast of the Resurrection is taken TODAY following the gospel. Please plan on being generous that our church is beautified for Palm Sunday, Passion Week and the Feast of Feasts!

+++ As soon a possible, please see Marilyn Korba to sign up for the Alaskan Cruise next August, 2009. We are in need of your support.

+++ **The heart-felt concern of the Church of Jesus Christ during this sacred season is that we ALL repent, confess our sins and receive the forgiveness of the Lord prior to celebrating the glorious Resurrection. Please do not wait until the last minute. Confessions are heard prior to or even after any of the liturgical celebrations we observe. The precept of the Church is that in order to maintain unity with Christ and allegiance to the Body of Christ, the grace of this sacramental Mystery is to be received at this holy time.**

+++ May all glory, adoration and worship be accorded our God in the Holy Trinity by all the faithful of our parish with one mind, one soul and one heart each day of the week!

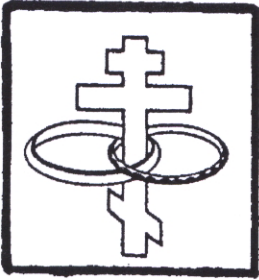


We are pleased to greet those of our faithful communicants who celebrate their birthday this month. Our Lord has offered these souls yet another year of blessed life. The most obvious way He blesses us and participates in our life is by sharing His divine life with us in the Eucharist at the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. Thus we can gather together and offer thanks to Him for yet another year of life blessed by His most gracious hands. Today, we prayerfully remember in the Divine Liturgy the following souls who celebrate their birthday during the month of March.

April 2 Mary Jaakobs
April 9 Maria Garcia
April 16 Sophia Idromenos
April 19 Kyra A. Choti

With a prayerful heart and grateful soul, our parish faith community asks the Lord to continue to bless these birthday celebrants with good spiritual and physical health for the coming year. We invite all to add their intercessory prayers so that with one voice and one heart we may also participate in the grace and joy of their celebration. As we wish them a happy and blessed celebration of their birthday, our ardent prayer is that the Lord will continue to bless them for

Many and Blessed Years!



WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

The Byzantine Fathers of the Church were wont to emphasize how ancient and how venerable marriage is in the sight of our God because it was established yet in paradise before the fall of Adam and Eve and brought to blessed perfection by Christ in Cana of Galilee. Its grace survived the sin of our first parents and it remains a sign of the presence of the Holy Trinity in our midst. It is a living symbol of the deep and abiding love between Christ and His Bride, our blessed Church. It is characterized in the liturgical life of the Church as a happy martyrdom. And it is precisely for this reason the sacramental Mystery of Marriage is such a joyous event. On the third Sunday of this month, we honor those of our good parishioners who observe their marriage anniversaries this month of April. They are specially remembered in the celebration of the Divine Liturgy and subsequently receive an individual and personal blessing of the Lord at its conclusion. Celebrating this month are:

April 26 Stephen & Mary Demyan

We gratefully give thanks to the Blessed Trinity for having guided and strengthened the marriages of these believers, and their cooperation with sacramental grace to remain faithful to one another over the years. Like all who are faithful to Christ, they recognize the presence and necessity of the Holy Spirit not only in the marriage, but in subsequent family life as well. As we praise our God for their witness in our midst, let us also join them with our prayers and thanksgiving before the throne of the Lord. May they continue to praise His Holy Name by their love and devotion to one another for

Many and Blessed Years!

THE UPPER ROOM

Jerusalem is filled with buildings and sites that are considered to be sacred places by Christians, Jews and Moslems alike. In fact, there are several such locations that are looked upon with reverence by more than one of the major faiths that are found in the Holy City. One such place is simply known as "The Upper Room."

At the time of our Lord, Jerusalem had more than its share of visitors - especially during the celebration of major religious feasts like the Passover. Undoubtedly there were "banquet halls" throughout the town where visitors could gather for meals and other festivities. When our Lord came to Jerusalem for the final time, He sent two of His followers to "Go into the city, and a man will meet you carrying a pitcher of water; follow him. Wherever he goes in, say to the master of the house: The Teacher says, "Where is the guest room in which I may eat the Passover with My disciples?" Then he will show you a large upper room, furnished and prepared; there make ready for us." (Mark 14:13-15) It was in this chamber - a large area with a high ceiling, large windows and an elevated dining area, framed with marble columns, that the Mystical Supper took place. It was also here that Christ made His first post-Resurrection appearance to His Apostles, and where the Holy Spirit descended upon them in the form of tongues of fire on Pentecost.

Ironically, the second-story Upper Room is located directly above King David's Tomb. While scholars dispute whether the famous King of Israel is actually buried here, the site has been a place of veneration for the Jews for centuries. How fitting that this ancient building connects the Old Testament with the New Testament, for our Lord Himself proclaimed that He did not come to ". . . destroy the Law and the Prophets. I did not come to destroy, but to fulfill." (Matt 5:17)

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