

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Hebrews 4:14-5:6 (Epistle) Brethren: Since we have a great High Priest Who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but One Who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not exalt Himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by Him Who said to Him, "Thou art my Son, today I have begotten Thee"; as He says also in another place, "Thou art a priest for ever, after the order of Melchizedek."

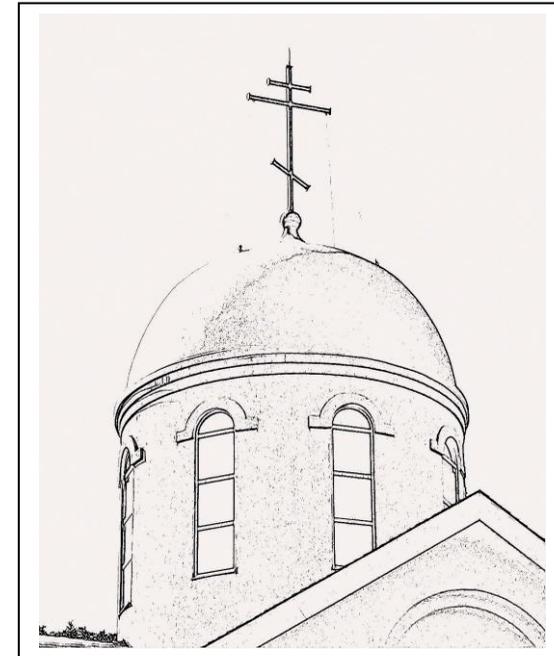
Mark 8:34-9:1 (Gospel) The Lord said: If any man would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life shall lose it; and whoever loses his life for My sake and the Gospel's shall save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of Me and of My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him shall the Son of Man also be ashamed, when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And He said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who shall not taste death before they see that the kingdom of God has come with power.

Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church in South River, NJ invites you to their annual Easter Bazaar and Tricky Tray, to be held on Saturday, March 24th, from 10:00AM - 3:00PM. The event will take place in the Church Hall located at [9 Jeffrie Ave., South River, NJ](#). The bazaar will feature ethnic Lenten foods, ethnic items for sale and a Tricky Tray. For more information, contact Deb or Pete at [\(732\) 735-6540](tel:732-735-6540).

What is an Akathist?

An Akathist is a hymn dedicated to a saint, holy event, or one of the persons of the Holy Trinity. The word akathist itself means "not sitting." The akathist par excellence is that written in the 6th century to the Theotokos. In its use as part of the Salutations to the Theotokos service (used in the Byzantine tradition during Great Lent).

WEEKLY



BULLETIN

Today is the beginning of our salvation, the revelation of the eternal mystery. The Son of God becomes the Son of the Virgin as Gabriel announces the coming of Grace. Together with him let us cry to the Theotokos: Rejoice O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you!

Troparion of the Annunciation to the Theotokos

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION

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Very Rev. Fr. Sergius Kuharsky, *Retired Attached Priest*

Fr. Deacon Alexander Smida, *Deacon*

Thomas Berger, *Senior Warden*

Reader Timothy Kozak, *Choir Director*

March 11, 2018
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT
Veneration of the Cross

Tone 7. St. Sophronius, Patriarch of Jerusalem (638-644). St. Euthymius, Bishop of Novgorod (1458). Hieromartyr Pionius of Smyrna and those with him: Asclepiades, Macedonia, Linus, and Sabina (250). Translation of the Relics of Martyr Epimachus of Pelusium. St. Sophronius, Bishop of Vracha (Bulgaria—1813). Ven. Sophronii, Recluse, of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—13th c.).

Today's Readings:

Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6

Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1

Upcoming Service Schedule:

Today – 4:00pm Deanery Mission Vespers @ Trenton

Wednesday – 7:00pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Friday – 7:00pm Akathist to the Cross

Saturday – 7:00pm Great Vespers

Sunday – 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Sunday – 4:00pm Deanery Mission Vespers @ Manville

Next Sunday's Readings:

Epistle: Ephesians 5:9-19 and Hebrews 6:13-20

Gospel: Matthew 4:25-5:12 and Mark 9:17-31



Veneration of the Cross

Annunciations

TODAY – Flyers are being handed out by the youth of the parish announcing an effort to assemble **Bags of Blessings** for those who are in need of basic necessities of life. The information on the flyers is self-explanatory, but if you have questions, please speak with **Larisa Paxton** during Coffee Hour.

TODAY – **Lenten Mission Vespers** will be served at **St. Vladimir Church in Trenton**. All are welcome to attend. Next Sunday's service will take place at Ss. Peter and Paul Church in Manville.

THIS WEDNESDAY – We celebrate the **Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts** at 7:00pm. If you plan to **receive the Eucharist** at this service, please prepare by **fasting to the best of your ability**. If possible, eat and drink nothing from midnight. At the very least, try to abstain from eating and drinking after lunchtime. As it is whenever we receive the Eucharist, we should contemplate that it is **the very Body and Blood of Christ** that we are receiving. Please prepare with this firmly in mind.

THIS WEDNESDAY – After the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, a **pot-luck agape meal** will be held in the parish hall. All are invited to attend and bring along a dish to share.

THIS WEEKEND – A group of our parish teens will be attending the Annual Diocesan Youth Retreat at St. Basil's Academy in Garrison, NY. Please pray for them as they travel and participate in this event.

THIS SATURDAY – A **Lenten Retreat** is being offered at **Holy Cross Church in Medford, NJ**. Drs. David and Mary Ford, professors at St. Tikhon's Seminary, will be presenting on the topic: "**When The Foundations Are Shaken**". You can register for the retreat at frjohn@holycrossmedford.org.

We continue the **Lenten discipline of fasting** from meat and dairy until the Great Feast of Holy Pascha. If you have questions about the Lenten discipline, please contact Father Gary during the week.

Coffee Hour Teams:

Today – TEAM B (Nilsen, Christos)

Next Sunday – TEAM C (Kozak, Diaz, Price)

Welcome to our visitors who have joined us today for worship and prayer. We invite you to stay with us after today's services for an Agape Coffee Hour in our Parish Hall. Please sign our guest book before you leave, tell your friends and family members about us, and bring back one or two of them on your next visit!

Special Prayers

We pray for **all** our parish family members, but we pray especially for those who are ill and afflicted. Among them are: **Tom Collins, Tom Kopec, Tara Escalona, Walter Romanofsky, Millie Podolak, Ann Marie Gahr, Dennis Gahr, Ron Madensky, Andy Popovchak, Dorothy Studier, Helen Ciurczak, Pauline Barnowsky, and Catherine Ratushnuk.**

MANY YEARS!

Birthdays this week

Monday – Robert Cornero

Tuesday – Elaine D'Alessandro

Friday – Laura MacMillan

Friday – Georgia Gahr

Saturday – Jillian Anderson

Saturday – Michael Ciurczak

OUTREACH

- **Food Pantry donations** are *always* accepted. Place non-perishable food items in blue bin in the narthex
- **Clothing donations** are accepted on the last Sunday of each month. Place donations next to the food pantry bin.