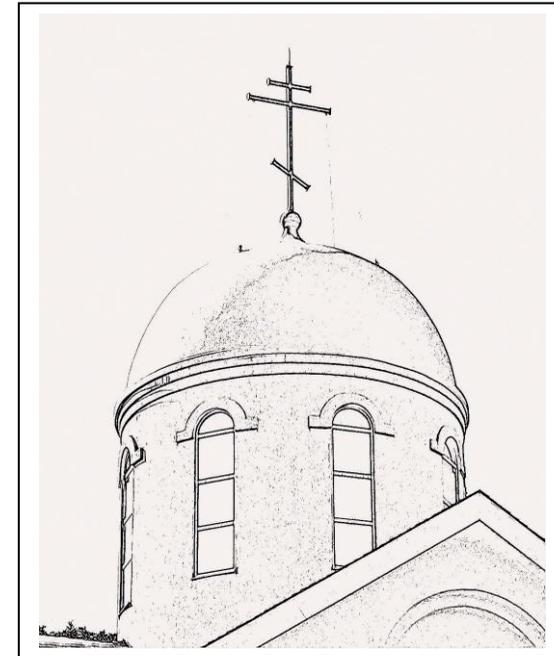


## TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

**Matthew 8:5-13 (Gospel)** At that time, as Jesus entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to Him, beseeching Him and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, in terrible distress." And He said to him, "I will come and heal him." But the centurion answered Him, "Lord, I am not worthy to have Thee come under my roof; but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard him, He marveled, and said to those who followed Him, "Truly, I say to you, not even in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and sit at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth." And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; be it done for you as you have believed." And the servant was healed at that very moment.

**Luke 1:5-25,57-68,76,80 (Gospel – Forerunner)** In the days of Herod, king of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, of the division of Abijah; and he had a wife of the daughters of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. And they were both righteous before God, walking in all the commandments and ordinances of the Lord blameless. But they had no child, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were advanced in years. Now while he was serving as priest before God when his division was on duty, according to the custom of the priesthood, it fell to him by lot to enter the temple of the Lord and burn incense. And the whole multitude of the people were praying outside at the hour of incense. And there appeared to him an angel of the Lord standing on the right side of the altar of incense. And Zechariah was troubled when he saw him, and fear fell upon him. But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer is heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth; for he will be great before the Lord, and he shall drink no wine nor strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb. And he will turn many of the sons of Israel to the Lord their God, and he will go before him in the spirit and power of Elijah, to turn the hearts of the fathers to the children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the just, to make ready for the Lord a people prepared." And Zechariah said to the angel, "How shall I know this? For I am an old man, and my wife is advanced in years." And the angel answered him, "I am Gabriel, who stand in the presence of God; and I was sent to speak to you, and to bring you this good news. And behold, you will be silent and unable to speak until the day that these things come to pass, because you did not believe my words, which will be fulfilled in their time." And the people were waiting for Zechariah, and they wondered at his delay in the temple. And when he came out, he could not speak to them, and they perceived that he had seen a vision in the temple; and he made signs to them and remained dumb. And when his time of service was ended, he went to his home. After these days his wife Elizabeth conceived, and for five months she hid herself, saying, "Thus the Lord has done to me in the days when he looked on me, to take away my reproach among men." Now the time came for Elizabeth to be delivered, and she gave birth to a son. And her neighbors and kinsfolk heard that the Lord had shown great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. And on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child; and they would have named him Zechariah after his father, but his mother said, "Not so; he shall be called John." And they said to her, "None of your kindred is called by this name." And they made signs to his father, inquiring what he would have him called. And he asked for a writing tablet, and wrote, "His name is John." And they all marveled. And immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue loosed, and he spoke, blessing God. And fear came on all their neighbors. And all these things were talked about through all the hill country of Judea; and all who heard them laid them up in their hearts, saying, "What then will this child be?" For the hand of the Lord was with him. And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit, and prophesied, saying, "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has visited and redeemed his people. And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, And the child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness till the day of his manifestation to Israel.

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. Gary Joseph Breton, *Rector*

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

Fr. Deacon Alexander Smida, *Deacon*

Tara Paxton, *Senior Warden*

Reader Timothy Kozak, *Choir Director*

June 24, 2018

## FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### Nativity of the Holy Glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist, John

*Tone 3. Ven. Anthony, Abbot of Dymysk (Novgorod—1224). Righteous Youths John and Jacob (James) of Meniugi (Novgorod—1566-69). Seven Martyred Brothers: Orentius, Pharnacius, Eros, Firmus, Firminus, Cyriacus, and Longinus, in Georgia (4th c.).*

#### Today's Readings:

*Epistle:* Romans 6:18-23 and Romans 13:11-14:4

*Gospel:* Matthew 8:5-13 and Luke 1:1-25, 57-68, 76, 80

#### Upcoming Service Schedule:

**Today – 9:00am** Divine Liturgy

**Thursday – 7:00pm** Great Vespers & Litya

**Friday – 9:30am** Divine Liturgy

**Saturday – 7:00pm** Great Vespers

**Sunday – 9:00am** Divine Liturgy

#### Next Sunday's Readings:

*Epistle:* Romans 10:1-10

*Gospel:* Matthew 8:28-9:1



*Nativity of  
St. John the Baptist*

#### Coffee Hour Teams:

*Today – TEAM A (Pasick, Stavrou Families)*

*Next Sunday – TEAM B (Nilsen, Christos)*

Keep up on OCA news by visiting [www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org), diocesan news by visiting [www.nynjoca.org](http://www.nynjoca.org), and parish news by visiting [www.occa-brick.org](http://www.occa-brick.org).

**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, Walter Romanofsky, Liz Petrides, Ann Marie Gahr, Dennis Gahr, Ron Madensky, Andy Popovchak, Dorothy Studier, Helen Ciurczak, Pauline Barnowsky, and Catherine Ratushuk.**

## Annunciations

**TODAY** - We continue our **summer service schedule** and begin Sunday Divine Liturgy at 9:00am.

**THIS FRIDAY** is the **Feast of Ss. Peter and Paul**. We will begin to celebrate this feast on **Thursday evening** with **Great Vespers & Litya** beginning at 7:00pm. On Friday, **Divine Liturgy** will be served at 9:30am. The Feast marks the **end of the Apostles' Fast**.

**THIS SATURDAY** – This year's diocesan **Parish Council Conference** will take place at **Christ the Saviour Church in Paramus** beginning at 10:00am. The facilitator will be **Father Thomas Soroka**, the Rector of St. Nicholas Church in McKees Rocks, PA, and a featured podcaster on Ancient Faith Radio. All are invited whether or not one serves on a Parish Council. Please **speak with Father Gary** to obtain more information and/or to express your interest in attending.

**THIS SATURDAY** – The Men's Club of Ss. Peter and Paul Church in South River will be holding their annual **Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser** from 5:00PM - 8:00PM in the Church Hall at 9 Jeffrie Ave. (Vespers will be held at 4:00PM) Tickets are \$12.00 each, (\$7.00 for children 14 and under) and can be reserved by contacting Phil at (908) 331-1297. Proceeds aid the Church in various projects.

**Sunday, July 1** – A **farewell celebration for the Kozak family** to take place on this day beginning at **3:00pm** at the parish hall. A **catered BBQ menu will be featured**. A donation of **\$30 per person** (complimentary for children 15 and under) is being requested. If you plan to attend, please sign up on the **sign-up sheets** located either in the church narthex or the parish hall. **Place the donation in the Sunday collection basket** and **note "Kozak Farewell"** on the check or envelope

The Parish Council is **forming a committee** to plan for this year's **Ethnic Fair and Gift Auction**. The event will take place on **September 30, 2018**. If you would like to serve on the committee, please contact Tara Paxton of Father Gary as soon as possible.

### **MANY YEARS!**

#### *Birthdays*

*Thursday* – Mariana Vajda

*Friday* – Matthew Petrides

*Friday* – Chloe Petrides

“Truly I tell you, among those born of women there has not risen anyone greater than John the Baptist; yet whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

*Matthew 11:11*

*The Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors program is an essential vehicle for funding the activities and programs of our diocese. Please consider participating in the program. Brochures are located by the bulletin board in the parish hall or at the diocesan website at [www.nynjoca.org](http://www.nynjoca.org).*