

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

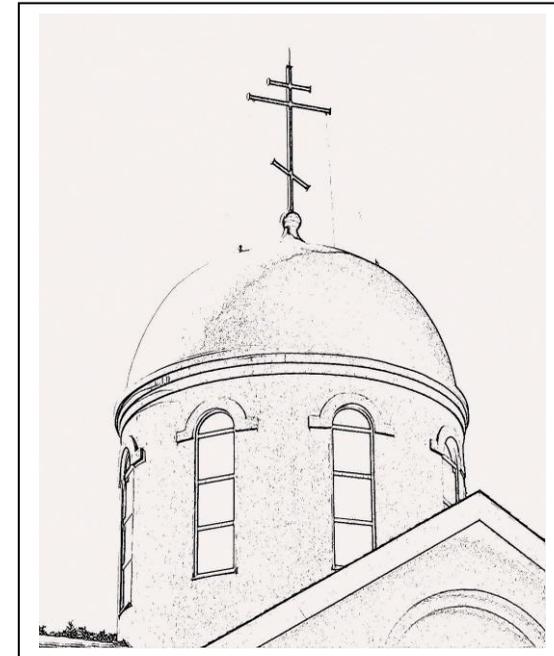
2 Corinthians 6:1-10 (Epistle) Brethren: Working together with him, then, we entreat you not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At the acceptable time I have listened to you, and helped you on the day of salvation." Behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the day of salvation. We put no obstacle in any one's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, tumults, labors, watching, hunger; by purity, knowledge, forbearance, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

Matthew 25:14-30 (Gospel) For it will be as when a man going on a journey called his servants and entrusted to them his property; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them; and he made five talents more. So also, he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a little, I will set you over much; enter into the joy of your master.' He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not winnow; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed, and gather where I have not winnowed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to every one who has will more be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness; there men will weep and gnash their teeth.'

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.

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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Fr. Deacon Alexander Smida, *Deacon*

Tara Paxton, *Senior Warden*

Reader Timothy Kozak, *Choir Director*

September 16, 2018

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Afterfeast of the Elevation of the Cross

Tone 7. Sunday after Elevation. Greatmartyr Euphemia the All-praised (304). Repose of St. Kiprián, Metropolitan of Moscow and All Russia (1406). St. Sebastiana, disciple of St. Paul the Apostle, martyred at Heraclea (1st c.). Martyr Melitina of Marcianopolis (2nd c.). Martyrs Victor and Sosthenes at Chalcedon (ca. 304). Ven. Dorotheus, Hermit, of Egypt (4th c.). Martyr Ludmila, grandmother of St. Wenceslaus (Viachesláv), Prince of the Czechs (927). New Martyrs Isaac and Joseph of Georgia (808).

Today's Readings:

Epistle: Galatians 2:16-20 and 2 Corinthians 6:1-10

Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1 and Matthew 25:14-30

Upcoming Service Schedule:

Today – 9:00am Divine Liturgy

Saturday – 7:00pm Great Vespers

Sunday – 9:00am Divine Liturgy

Next Sunday's Readings:

Epistle: Galatians 4:22-31 and 2 Corinthians 6:16-7:1

Gospel: Luke 1:5-25 and Luke 5:1-11



Elevation of the Most-precious Cross

Coffee Hour Teams:

Today – TEAM C (Morris, Diaz, Price)

Next Sunday – TEAM D (Paxton, May, Alpaugh)

Keep up on OCA news by visiting www.oca.org, diocesan news by visiting www.nynjoca.org, and parish news by visiting www.occa-brick.org.

Special Prayers

We pray for **all** our parish family members, but we pray especially for those who are ill and afflicted. Among them are: **Betty James, Olga Kornafel, 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 Ratushnuk.** Also, keep in your prayers our Diocesan Chancellor, **the Mitred Archpriest Joseph Lickwar.**

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!

Annunciations

TODAY – We continue the schedule of beginning the Divine Liturgy at 9:00am. In a change from our parish's usual practice, **we will continue this schedule going forward** for the foreseeable future. Please make note of this change.

TODAY – **Church School will take place at 11:00am.** This is a **change** from the past practice of holding Church School before the Divine Liturgy.

TODAY – An organizational meeting of the Ethnic Fair and Gift Auction volunteers will take place towards the end of Coffee Hour in the parish hall. All are invited to attend, especially those who will be helping out in the preparation for and the execution of the event.

Sunday, September 30 is the date for this year's **Annual Ethnic Fair and Gift Auction.** It is now only two weeks away! Please invite friends and family to the event which takes place from **12noon to 6:00pm.** **Flyers for the event** are available for distribution. Please spread the word and plan to attend!

We are accepting **donations for the Gift Auction** to be held in conjunction with the Annual Ethnic Fair. Please speak with Olga Pasick or Cathy Berger if you would like to make a donation. We are also **accepting food and cash donations for the food portion of the event.** A **sign-up sheet** is located in the narthex. Please help out however you are able. At the event, we will need **servicing and clean-up help.**

Many thanks to those who helped out with the parish booth at the **Festival of the Sea** in Point Pleasant Beach yesterday. We had quite a few visitors stop by the booth. May God bless those who were present to share the story of our Faith and our parish when opportunities arose.

Congratulations to those who attended the **Choir Workshop** held yesterday at Holy Trinity Church in Rahway. Valuable information was imparted to them by Prof. David Drillcock. May they use this information to give glory to God as they worship in song.

The **Ss. Peter and Paul Men's Club in South River** will host its annual Fish Fry on Friday, October, 5th, from 5:00-7:00PM in the Church Hall (at 9 Jeffrie Avenue). For tickets and information, contact Jay (732-216-8121) or Pete (732-735-6540).

Please pray for those who have willingly chosen to not worship and pray with us this morning. We pray that those sitting in darkness will see a great light – the light of the Crucified but Risen Christ!

MANY YEARS!

Birthdays

Tuesday – Matthew Hascha

Friday – Christina Pasick

Wedding Anniversaries

Saturday – Natalie & Stephen May (#33)

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.