

# ***SUNDAY BULLETIN***

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***5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST***

***HOLY, GLORIOUS, AND ALL-PRAISED APOSTLES PETER AND PAUL***

***(July 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020)***



***BLESSED FEAST!***

***GOD BLESS YOU AND YOUR BELOVED!!!***

**Liturgical Readings:**

**THE PROKEIMENON IN TONE IV:**

O Lord, how manifold are Your works; in wisdom have You made them all.

*(Ps 103/104:24)*

*v: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord my God, You are very great! (Ps 103/104:1)*

**THE PROKEIMENON IN TONE 8 (APOSTLES)**

Their proclamation has gone out into all the earth, and their words to the ends of the universe! *(Ps 18/19:4)*

### **ROMANS 10:1-10**

Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, but it is not enlightened. For, being ignorant of the righteousness that comes from God, and seeking to establish their own, they did not submit to God's righteousness. For Christ is the end of the law, that every one who has faith may be justified. Moses writes that the man who practices the righteousness which is based on the law shall live by it. But the righteousness based on faith says, Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?" (that is, to bring Christ down) or "Who will descend into the abyss?" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart (that is, the word of faith which we preach); because, if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For man believes with his heart and so is justified, and he confesses with his lips and so is saved.

### **CORINTHIANS 11:21-33; 12:1-9**

Brethren, whatever anyone dares to boast of -- I am speaking as a fool -- I also dare to boast of that. Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they descendants of Abraham? So am I. Are they servants of Christ? I am a better one -- I am talking like a madman -- with far greater labors, far more imprisonments, with countless beatings, and often near death. Five times I have received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. Three times I have been beaten with rods; once I was stoned. Three times I have been shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been adrift at sea; on frequent journeys, in danger from rivers, danger from robbers, danger from my own people, danger from Gentiles, danger in the city, danger in the wilderness, danger at sea, danger from false brethren; in toil and hardship, through many a sleepless night, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. And, apart from other things, there is the daily pressure upon me of my anxiety for all the churches. Who is weak, and I am not weak? Who is made to fall, and I am not indignant? If I must boast, I will boast of the things that show my weakness. The God and Father of the Lord Jesus, he who is blessed for ever, knows that I do not lie. At Damascus, the governor under King Aretas guarded the city of Damascus in order to seize me, but I was let down in a basket through a window in the wall, and escaped his hands. I must boast; there is nothing to be gained by it, but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven -- whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. And I know that this man was caught up into Paradise -- whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows -- and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter. On behalf of this man I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. Though if I wish to boast, I shall not be a fool, for I shall be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think more of me than he sees in me or hears from me. And to keep me from being too elated by the abundance of revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan, to harass me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I besought the Lord about this, that it should leave me; but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." I will all the more gladly boast of my weaknesses, that the power of Christ may rest upon me

### **MATTHEW 8:28-34; 9:1**

At that time, when Jesus came to the country of the Gergesenes, two demoniacs met him, coming out of the tombs, so fierce that no one would pass that way. And behold, they cried out, "What have you to do with us, O Son of God? Have you come here to torment us before the time?" Now a herd of many swine was feeding at some distance from them. And the demons begged him, "If you cast us out, send us away into the herd of swine." And he said to them, "Go." So they came out and went into the swine; and behold, the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the sea, and perished in the waters. The herdsmen fled, and going into the city they told everything, and what

had happened to the demoniacs. And behold, all the city came out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their neighborhood. And getting into a boat he crossed over and came to his own city.

#### **MATTHEW 16:13-19**

At that time, when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do men say that the Son of man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter replied, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar Jona! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

#### **RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION - TONE IV:**

When the women Disciples of the Lord learned from the Angel the joyous message of the Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the Apostles: "Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy!"

#### **TROPARION TO THE SAINTS - TONE IV:**

First-enthroned of the Apostles, and teachers of the universe: entreat the Master of all to grant peace to the world, and to our souls great mercy!

#### **RESURRECTIONAL KONTAKION - TONE IV:**

My Savior and Redeemer as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains. He has shattered the gates of hell, and as Master, He has risen on the third day.

#### **Glory...KONTAKION TO THE SAINTS - TONE II:**

O Lord, You have taken up to eternal rest and to the enjoyment of Your blessings the two divinely inspired preachers, the leaders of the Apostles, for You have accepted their labors and deaths as a sweet-smelling sacrifice, for You alone know what lies in the hearts of men.

#### **Now and ever... HYMN TO THE MOTHER OF GOD - TONE SIX:**

Steadfast Protectress of Christians and constant advocate before the Creator, do not despise the cry of us sinners; but in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith. Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, for you always protect those who honor you!

#### **Homily by Fr Rodney Torbic**

Today God's Holy Church celebrates the Fifth Sunday after Pentecost. St. Matthew's Gospel reading during the Divine Liturgy reveals that Jesus Christ has the power to open paths blocked by the devil. (Mt 8:28-9:1)

Too often believers have their paths to growth and progress inhibited by the devil. Fears may arise in the believer that prevent forward movement. Prayers to the Lord Jesus Christ will open the road to growth.

The Gospel for today describes clearly that Jesus opened the road that was blocked by the devils. Jesus was recognized by the devils as the Son of God. Jesus exercised power to clear the roadway of fear.

When our lives reach a standstill and we are afraid to move forward because of devils standing before us, let us turn to the Lord Jesus. The Son of God will clear the path He desires us to follow. (Ps.118/119:133 KJV)

Today God's Holy Church also celebrates the Feast of St. Peter and St. Paul. Conscientious believers have been preparing for the Feast by honoring and benefitting from the fast that occurs each year as a way of preparation.

St. Peter and St. Paul are held in very high regard in God's Holy Church. They have been giants in the Church's creation and on-going existence. Believers of every centuries have benefitted from these two Apostles.

Apostle Peter confessed Christ as the Son of God. (Mt.16:16) Peter's confession is recorded in St. Matthew's Gospel read during the Divine Liturgy today. (Mt.8:29) The same description of Christ was given in the Sunday reading for today.

The Holy Gospel presents Christ's words and life. Serious believers attentive to the Gospel are nourished. Jesus said: "Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me." (John 5:39)

Jesus told Peter He would build the Church and the gates of hell would not prevail against it. (Mt.16:18) The Holy Apostle Paul spoke strongly about His belief in Christ, the Cross and the Resurrection.

Holy Apostle Paul preached Jesus Christ crucified, the power and wisdom of God. (I Cor.1:22-24) The Holy Apostle Paul made it very clear that the crucified Christ rose from the dead and nothing shall separate us from His love. (Rom.8:34-39)

We live in a world with great uncertainty. Fears arise because of dramatic societal changes and upheavals. Daily news about the coronavirus affects personal lives and the economy in negative ways.

The only certainty for believers is to seek refuge, guidance and direction in God's Holy Church. The Lord Jesus Christ made it clear that the gates of hell would not prevail against the Church.

Depending on a believer's personal situation, difficulties can be very extreme. The Lord Jesus Christ can cut through the fears and uncertainties. The Lord Jesus Christ can clear the mind and bring peace to the heart, mind and soul.

We are blessed as believers to have God's Holy Church. We are blessed to have the Divine services of the Church and the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul to give direction for our lives.

The Holy Apostles St. Peter and St. Paul and the faithful Apostles with them have contributed to the growth of God's Holy Church. The Apostles witnessed and sacrificed beyond measure and have made lasting differences in the world.

Today let us rejoice with the angels, with our loved ones departed this life and with the saints in celebrating this feast. Let us thank the Crucified and Risen Lord for the Church, for His love, mercy and goodness.

Through the prayers of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul and all the Apostles, may the Lord Jesus Christ have mercy on us and save us.

#### **DONATIONS RECEIVED ON JULY 5<sup>TH</sup>**

***Thank you for your continuing financial support! Please, remember that without our fund raisers and fish fries that we cannot hold at this time, your contributions are more important than ever.***

Offering \$2189.00; Candles \$53.00; Donations \$200

Donation to the Building Fund in memory of Mark Stokrp for \$50 from Harry Wong

Donations to the Bell Tower Fund

**BELL TOWER FUND - \$18,319.60**

\$75 from Olga Bulich in memory of Helen & Charles Bulich, Mary & Louis Daley, Brothers Alexis & Daniel, Sisters Marie & Dorothy, Husband Charles

Milk Container \$96.00 and \$81.00

#### **Large Candle Donations**

In memory of Joseph Kondash Jr(Brother) from Rick Kondash

In memory of Damjena & Lazo Gjurich from Dianne Tomak & Family

In memory of Bosa & Lazo Gjurich from Dianne Tomak & Family

In memory of Charles Bulich, Christina Bulich, Mary Dadey, & Louis Daley from Olga Bulich

In memory of parents Nikola Davich, Sara Davich & brother Nickola from Carol McAllister & Family

**WE ARE ACCEPTING DONATIONS FOR THE LARGE CANDLES (\$25)**  
**THANK YOU!**

**Thank You so much to all of those who helped with the Goodwill Fundraiser!!**



**UPCOMING EVENTS**

***MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY at 7:45 PM – Evening Prayer through the Conference call (339) 207-6529***

***TODAY (July 12<sup>th</sup>)***

7:00 PM - “Orthodoxy Live” on FB Page Diocese of Eastern America of the SOC

***TUESDAY (July 14<sup>th</sup>) – Holy Martyrs and Wonderworkers Unmercenaries Cosmas and Damian***

9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

***SATURDAY (July 18<sup>th</sup>)***

6:00 PM – Great Vespers

***SUNDAY (July 19<sup>th</sup>) – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – Venerable Sisoes the Great***

9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

**Liturgical Readings:** Epistle (Rom. 12, 6-14); Gospel (Matthew 9, 1-8)

**Dear ones,**

Please, keep in your hearted prayers our beloved brothers and sisters in Christ

- who suffer of cancer: Jenifer, Linda, Sandy (Simko)
- who pray the God for the restoration of health: Irine (Martinovich), Grace (Vuckovich), Ranka (Banda), Edward (Gartell), George (Momcilovic), Nektarios