

SS Peter & Paul Orthodox Church Newsletter

Volume 11, Issue 2

February 2011

January Council Highlights

- ✘ December's Operating Income was \$22,463.94 and Operating Expenses were \$12,690.02, resulting in a positive balance of \$9,773.92 for the month of December, and net income of \$6,744.35 for 2010.
- ✘ Preparations for Annual Meeting discussed and preliminary 2011 Budget approved for presentation to membership.
- ✘ Agreed to close Smith-Barney Brokerage Account (due to excessive fees) and transfer funds into Ally Demand Note Account.
- ✘ Additional \$50,000 needed to move forward with parking lot.



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Time and Patience

On February 3rd the Church members two people whose lives are extraordinary examples of patience. In the calendar they are called the "righteous God-bearer Simeon" and "Anna the Prophetess." The previous day is the Feast of the Meeting of the Lord in the Temple, an event in which Simeon and Anna had central roles. Jesus Christ, a new baby, was brought by his parents into the Temple in Jerusalem. They presented Him to the Lord according to the Old Testament Law, given to Moses in God's words: "Consecrate to me all the firstborn; whatever is the first of open the womb among the Israelites, of human beings and animals, is mine" (Exodus 13:2). Simeon and Anna were overjoyed. For the aged Simeon, seeing Christ the Savior was the fulfillment of God's long-awaited promise of the "consolation" of Israel. He knew very well the words of the prophets concerning this, for example: "Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned..." (Isaiah 40:1) He knew that Isaiah had described a voice crying, "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God" (40:3). Now



it had all been fulfilled in the preaching of John the Baptizer and the coming of Jesus Christ, and Simeon was ready to die in peace. Anna, a prophetess, had fasted and prayed for decades in the Temple. On this day of the Savior's coming, she recognized Him. She was prepared, though by this time she was well over eighty, to spread the good news to everyone. One of the readings for February 3rd is about that quality of faithful patience that Simeon and Anna demonstrate so well. The Letter of James counsels, "Be patient therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient" (5:7-8a). The words remind us that things happen in God's time, not ours. The farmer is patient with the land until God sends the rain. For Simeon and Anna, the time of

waiting was very long, so their patience had to be very great. Whatever situations face us—the ones that require patience—may also stretch on. We must "strengthen our hearts" as Simeon and Anna did. So we can't just idly wait around for something to happen. We have to be ready for God to act at any moment, and not "grumble against one another" when our patience gets tested for a longer time than we might have expected and wished. Even a lengthy period of time in human reckoning is only an instant in God's sight. So no matter how far away it seems to us, James writes, "the coming of the Lord is near" (5: 8b).

Troparion - Tone 1



Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace!
 From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God.
 Enlightening those who sat in darkness!
 Rejoice, and be glad, O righteous elder;
 You accepted in your arms the Redeemer of our souls,
 Who grants us the Resurrection.

This weekly bulletin insert complements the curriculum published by the Department of Christian Education of the Orthodox Church in America. This and many other Christian Education resources are available at <http://dce.oca.org>.

Message From Our Rector

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Every year, on the second day of February, the Church celebrates the Great Feast of The Meeting of the Lord. We read the account of this event in the early life of the Lord in the Second Chapter of the Gospel of Saint Luke (Luke 2:22-29). As we read in the Gospel, our celebration recalls the event that took place in Jerusalem on the 40th day after the birth of Jesus: His presentation in the temple. This is one of the occasions when the liturgical season reflects historical time: February 2 is, in fact, 40 days after December 25, the Solemn Feast of the Nativity of the Lord.

In the Orthodox Church we most commonly refer to this feast as the "Meeting" of the Lord, for through our feast we recall that the Lord God, the "Word made Flesh," has now come to "meet" His people and reveals Himself in the Temple in Jerusalem, the place of God's presence among His people. The Lord Himself comes as one of His own to make, if you will, his "debut" before the eyes of those He has come to save.



In the Gospel passage relating this event, we note that it was not the rich, powerful, or influential who recognized the presence of the newborn Messiah; rather, it was the humble, simple, "just and righteous" Simeon and the humble widow and prophetess Anna who recognized the Infant carried in His mother's arms as the long-awaited Messiah. Their simple faith, trust, and hopeful perseverance were rewarded as they beheld the Messiah for whom they had prepared. (Simeon is even referred to as the "God-bearer," for he carried God in his very own arms!)

The words spoken by the aged Simeon reveal the mission of the Child brought to the temple by Mary and Joseph, His foster-father. Simeon proclaimed: "Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against... that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed" (Luke 2:34-35). To Mary, the Holy Theotokos, Simeon said: "yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also" (Luke 2:35). The hymns that were sung by the angels in the fields of Bethlehem only forty days ago have

now been silenced. The Cross of Golgotha is already foretold; and this "glimpse" of the Cross is foreseen in the temple, the place where sacrifices are offered in expiation for the sins of the people. The event we are commemorating today is thus a bridge as it were, linking the two most important seasons of the Church's year: The Lord's Nativity which we celebrated forty days ago and the season of Lent that leads us to Golgotha and, from Golgotha, to the Empty Tomb.

This observation is not without meaning. It means that the Feast of the Meeting of the Lord creates a sort of transition which both separates and joins the initial phase of His life on earth, His birth, and beginning and then the culmination of His earthly life and mission, which is His death and resurrection. As we celebrate the Meeting of the Lord, we definitively leave the Nativity behind us and begin to move towards the Great Fast, which begins in a few short weeks.

With love in the Lord,

Father David

Pilgrim Icon of the Theotokos Continues Its Journey

Our parish pilgrim icon of the Most Holy Theotokos, a copy of the icon of the Mother of God "of Chernigov," began its pilgrimage on January 17, 2010. The icon began its visit of parishioner's homes at the home of Father David Brum. The next stop on its pilgrimage was the home of Father Alexis. Throughout 2010, the icon of the Most Holy Theotokos continued on its pilgrimage and brought its blessings to the homes of parish families, including to Delsante Family, the Moriaritys, Ted and Bessie Demos, John Hecht, Jr., the Homyak family, the Golowatschs, the Booriakins, and the Gala family (just to name a few). There are no obligations, no "must-do's" involved with welcoming the Pilgrim Icon into your home. Simply pick up the icon after the Divine Liturgy on the Sunday for which you



While Lazar Baranovich was Archbishop of Chernigov and Zosima was Abbot of the Ilinsk Monastery, tears poured forth from this icon from the 16th to 24th of April, 1662.

have signed up and return it before the beginning of the Divine Liturgy the following Sunday. The sign-up sheet is available at the bookstore counter. Sign up soon.

It would be nice to prepare a special place of honor within your home to receive the icon. A prominent place would be appropriate—maybe in the living room or den or wherever you spend most of your time—so that your thoughts can often turn to the Icon and to prayer during the course of the day and your normal daily routine.

If you'd like, you can decorate this shrine with flowers and candles (watch out for any little ones and never leave lit candles unattended!).

A printed Prayer to the Most Holy Theotokos for Our Parish will be available with the icon. You are asked to pray this prayer with those with whom you live each day the icon is in your home. The prayer can be said as part of your daily prayers, before or after a meal, or at any other time that you think is appropriate.

The icon's visit to your home is a time of special prayer. Invite other parishioners for lunch or dinner; have them say the prayer with you. Make one day during this special day into a day of retreat or special prayer. There are no "have to do's," except to make the visit a special time of blessing for you and our parish.

Please provide Father David with a list of names to be remembered at the *Proskomedia* on the day the icon is to travel to your home. If some unforeseen obstacle arises and you need to re-schedule the visit of the icon, simply inform Father David.

This icon will continue to visit our parishioner's homes as a special blessing and reminder to pray for the members of our parish community and our parish needs.✠

SS Peter & Paul Holds Annual Parish Meeting

SS Peter and Paul held its Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 30, 2011. After verifying that a quorum was present, Father David welcomed everyone. He started the meeting with "O Heavenly King," to guide us in our business.

Father David started the meeting with some brief remarks and announcements, having addressed the prayer life of the church during his sermon. He commented that "we grow ever more into a praying people."

This annual meeting which was just getting underway was more about business of the church.

Members of Eritrean community have welcomed a priest to worship with them with their own traditions. Father David met with him recently. He is a priest monk and will be living at the residence they purchased. Father David was asked to invite everyone to greet their Bishop with them as he brings their altar to them on Saturday, February 12, 2011 starting at 8:00 am. The property is located at the northwest corner of Camelback and 21st Avenue, behind the furniture store.

By now, everyone who is in the Church Directory has received a copy of the directory. We are already in need of updating it, which will be done through page inserts.

An effort was made at the beginning of the school year by those of college age to meet once a month for class and socially. Father David met with them and has put the ball in their court to set up the meetings.

Later in the meeting we will be discussing the status of the parking lot project.

Father David expressed his hope that we complete this project by the end of the year.

Minutes of the Semi-Annual Meeting were on the table for people to review. No corrections being needed, Michael Wagner made a motion to accept the minutes; Michelle Golowatsch seconded. Motion carried.

Transitioning to committee reports, Father David noted that a lot goes on in the parish that people don't see. Much of the work goes on behind the scenes—just like during the Divine Liturgy: taking care of candles/candle stand, choir, cloths for altar and altar servers, etc. The committee reports that are presented will help us acknowledge all that activity.



The Annual Meeting opens with the singing of "O Heavenly King."

Marty Gala, MBAS president, presented the report for the Myrrhbearers Altar Society. There are 25 active members. Among the activities they sponsored this year are: Cheesefare brunch, decorating the cross, Pascha and Christmas Bakes, bake sales, Holy Supper, outreach to home-



Father David opens the meeting with his report.

bound members, and the purchase of new vestments. On behalf of the MBAS, Marty thanked everyone for their support, noting "our success depends on the support of the parish."

Stephanie Homyak, Sunday school director, reported that we

now have two classes: a pre-K to 1st grade class and 2nd grade and up. Thanks were extended to Sunday School teachers Marty Gala and Lisa Formica, as well as the parents

who volunteer their time to help in the classes, especially Nick Enoch and Terasa Smith. Stephanie noted that we have had continuing challenges with attendance this year. With the Eritreans forming their own church, the number of students is down. In November, Stephanie, Marty, and Terasa attended a workshop for youth workers sponsored by Assumption Greek Orthodox Church.

Orthodox churches from around the valley participated, and attendance has been the number one challenge for everyone. Meanwhile, the students continue to be active in church school and sponsor the collection for St. Mary's Food Bank. Plans are in the works to

convert the middle room back into a classroom and pre-teen/teen hangout room. Father David expressed how grateful we are for the work being done for our children in Sunday School.

Father David will begin Adult Education classes on Wednesday, February 9, for four weeks prior to the Great Lenten fast. In the past few years, participation has ranged from 12 to 20 people, typically in the high teens. Father David reminded everyone that education doesn't stop when we leave Sunday school; our relationship with the



Members listen carefully as Andy Evans speaks about financial concerns.

Lord is an ongoing and developing relationship.

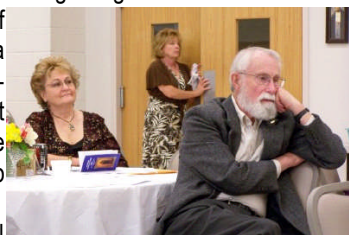
Harold Homyak presented the custodial/maintenance report. Last year, we replaced all water faucets in the kitchen; they were at the end of their life. The church building is 42 years old and the cultural center 10 years old, so maintenance costs will continue to increase. Thanks to Joe Gala and Greg Smith for putting in new plants in front of church. Thanks to Wayne Harris for assisting with the painting of the domes. A cleaning crew comes in to clean the church hall every Monday. Dan cleans the church every week. Harold thanked everyone who pitches in to maintain the church facilities.

Pat Starkey, FOCA president, presented the

Fellowship of Orthodox Christians chapter report. The mission of the FOCA is to proclaim our Orthodox faith. There are 26 members in our local chapter. In 2010, the FOCA made almost 500 dozen piroghi, held a 50/50 raffle, hosted a chicken dinner, helped St. Herman's seminary, and, with the support of the parish, presented a \$500 Christmas gift to

Bozeman family at St. Tikhon's Seminary.

The auditors' report was prepared by Katrina Delsante and Mike Wagner. Katrina presented the report, noting that they use 4 criteria to audit the financial records: accurate and free from error; timeliness; consistent methods



Everyone listens carefully to Father David's opening remarks.



Katrina Delsante delivers the auditors' report.

Continued on page 4

SS Peter & Paul Holds Annual Parish Meeting

(Continued from page 3)

used from month to month; and records that are transparent and easy to use. They deemed the records were in order. They compared the monthly financial report to what is in the church records. In August and December they found two checks without invoices. However, Katrina stated that, as members of the church, they knew that these were for work being done. Father David added



Andy Evans and Lisa Formica listen as the financial report is presented.

that one of the missing invoices is sitting in the glove compartment of his car. David Homyak presented the Financial Report. We will continue to use recycled envelopes for coming year. He asked those who wanted envelopes to stop by the church office and pick up a box of envelopes. He strongly encouraged everyone to use envelopes—otherwise, we have to make up an envelope for each donation to provide an audit trail for the IRS. Dave noted that individual contribution statements have been given out to be used for tax purposes.

The Operating Income for 2010 was \$142,174.24 compared to \$122,566.35 for 2009. Restricted income (money restricted to purpose of donation) was \$38,534.25. Only \$13,910 was donated for the parking lot project. The Total



Every follows along as the proposed 2011 is discussed.

Income for church was \$191,563.59. Operating Expenses were \$135,425.89 for 2010. Restricted Expenses were \$39,648.11, and Total Expenses amounted to \$185,923.98. We had a positive balance of \$5,639.61, with the Operating Fund showing a positive balance of \$6,744.35. A motion was made to accept the Treasurer's Report; seconded and carried.

David presented the Proposed 2011 Budget totaling \$141,600, which was distributed with the financial report. He compared last year's budgeted vs. 2010 actuals to the current year's budget. After a brief discussion, Marty Gala made a motion to accept the proposed budget; seconded by Katrina Delsante. Motion carried. The parking lot project report prepared by Nick Enoch was included in the January 2011 newsletter. Harold Homyak reviewed the highlights

of the report. Father David commented that the timing for the completion of project is dependent on availability of funds. We currently have almost \$54,000 for construction of the new parking lot. Having looked through courtesy bids, we will need an estimated \$50,000 more to finish this project. We need to have the additional funds before we can proceed to build the parking lot. Father stated that the council asked him to bring this number to the parish. We have almost 80 supporting members in the

parish. We need to spread out this number amongst the supporters of this parish. Father David asked people to take a look at this number, sit down at home, and do the math. "When we began this project, we stated up front that we were not going to borrow any money—externally or internally. Everything we do here is blessed by God for the proclamation of the Gospel. The parking lot is part of the hospitality to welcome guests and for our own convenience. We are generous people, and I know your generosity will extend to the completion of this parking lot."

The next item on the agenda was the selection of a delegate for the All American Council and the DOW Assembly. Motions were made nominating Walter Booriakin as delegate for the All American Council, and then as our delegate to the DOW Assembly. Both motions carried. Both the AAC and DOW Assembly will be held in Bellevue, WA.

Father David then moved to the Election of Officers, noting that no one else has come forward to serve in these offices. Joe Gala made a motion to confirm our current officers in office and dispense with the requirements in our bylaws; seconded by Ted Demos. Motion carried.

On the Board of Trustees, there are 3 trustee and 1 auditor positions to fill. For the new positions, Mike Wagner is nominated for the 5 year trustee, Dave Sourk as 2 year trustee, and Michelle Golowatsch as an auditor. Father David noted that no one else had checked with him about eligibility for a trustee position. Bar-

bara Peterson made a motion to accept the slate as presented; seconded by Tania Booriakin. Motion carried.

The members of the 2011 Church Council are:

President : Andrew Evans
Vice President: John Blischak
Treasurer: David Homyak
Financial Secretary: Walter Booriakin
Recording Secretary: Harold Homyak
Trustees: Michael Wagner
 Nick Enoch
 Joe Gala
 Stephanie Homyak
 David Sourk
 Elizabeth Michel

Auditors: Katrina Delsante
 Michelle Golowatsch

Father David received an e-mail from Katie Boozeman. She is very grateful for the gift she received from the FOCA and parish. The gift card removed the stress and strain of providing gifts for their children at Christmas. Father noted that we were able to bring light and joy to them.

The parishioners currently on the shut-in list are the Kovals, the Vinays—now in a group home; and Peg Linderman. Father will visit them in the near future. Please let Father David know if you know of any other people who need a visit or call from him.

The audit for DOW will take place here in Phoenix on March 12. November 26th marks the 60th anniversary of the founding of SS Peter and Paul. Father David noted that he was actually here for the 50th anniversary celebration. He is hoping we could do something in-house that won't require much work. We likely will not celebrate until after the new year due to the Nativity fast and AAC. After Theophany may be a good time.

Father again thanked everyone for all they do and for their generosity, coming together to give glory to God. He reminded everyone that the traveling icon will continue to visit parish homes this year and into the future.

The meeting closed with "It is Truly Meet", *Memory Eternal* for the memory of former members who have fallen asleep in the Lord, and *Many Years*.✠

The above is an unofficial account of the meeting. Copies of the meeting minutes will be distributed by Harold Homyak, Recording Secretary at the Semi-Annual Meeting.

A Prayer for Lighting A Candle

Very Rev. Vladimir Berzonsky

“Set our hearts on fire with love for You, O Christ our God, so that in its flame we may love You with all our heart, with all our mind, with all our soul and with all our strength, and our neighbors as ourselves, so that by keeping Your commandments we may glorify You, the giver of all good gifts.” Here is a prayer to fix in your memory and reflect upon each time you light a candle and say a prayer to our Lord Jesus Christ. You are setting a flame before Him which represents the warmth of affection for God. Is it really burning love, or just some gesture your parents taught you to perform upon entering the church? Or may it be that some resentment in your heart for an unanswered prayer keeps you from complete adoration. It can be that you walk about under an invisible cloud of depression or doubt, or guilt over some sin that you cannot eradicate from your soul.

By the light cast from the candle onto the icon you see in His eyes the gaze into your soul's depths. Do you want to acknowledge what you know is there and which is known to Him as well? Can the Lord recognize His image mirrored from your heart? Or is there a dark spot you prefer to hide from Him, like Adam conceal-

ing himself in the bushes of Eden, as though he could keep the Lord from seeing his shameful act?

Do you truly love the Lord with all your heart, and all your mind, or is there something or even somebody more important to you than He? When you pay attention to the prayers you recite, you realize they are challenges put to yourself. They give us pause to meditate on the gap between the person we are and the one we are intended to be.

When asked by people of other faiths if we “still” light candles, we reply, “Of course we do.” We “still” keep the traditions of our honored ancestors in the true faith not because we are antiquarians, but because these customs have never lost their potency as catalysts uniting us with God. Centuries before Princess Diane’s funeral hymn by Elton John, when he sung about a candle in the wind, Orthodox Christians have known the meaning of standing firm in a hurricane of unbelief holding onto the flame of faith in a world bent on blowing out the light of Christ and celebrating the darkness. Each Pascha night all believers light thin tapers that join the other candles in a glow of light uniting us on earth with the saints, the angels, and the Lord

Himself. We all feel their precious presence in our hearts. We know the emotion of filling the blackness of the Church with the illumination from hundreds of candles, to go in search of the living Lord outside in the night’s darkness where an unfriendly world works its will on our feeble attempts to protect the light. We cherish the mutual concern which goes on sharing the flame with one another taking light from light.

Finally we realize that it's not candles but our souls which God fashioned to hold the spiritual fire of love for Him and for all that He created. Look closely at a true icon and notice that the origin of light comes not from an external source, but from within. Moses returning from Mount Sinai glowed with the same intensity which the three apostles witnessed on the Transfiguration mountain. The candle you place before the Lord is a metaphor of the fire and light within your soul. Your whole life's purpose is to intensify its warmth and illumination.

Reprinted from the “Thoughts in Christ”, February 2, 2003, Bulletin 14, Vol. XL, Orthodox Church in America web site, <http://www.oca.org/CHRIST-thoughts-article.asp?SID=6&ID=118>

Orthodox Christian Laity: Episcopal Assembly



ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN LAITY



Come learn about the work of the Episcopal Assembly which is working to develop a blueprint for Orthodox unity in the United States

DATE: Saturday February 19, 2011
TIME: 9:00 A.M. (Starting with Prayers offered for our Bishops)
PLACE: Saints Peter & Paul Orthodox Church Cultural Center
 1614 E. Monte Vista
 Phoenix, AZ 85006

His Eminence, Archbishop Nathaniel, of Detroit and the Romanian Orthodox Episcopate of America (OCA) will lead the discussion and question and answer session.

Coffee and Light Refreshments will be served.

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To Suffer for Doing Right

On February 8 we celebrate the memory of the Greatmartyr Theodore Stratelates, whose title is often translated as "commander" or "general."

Theodore was one of those multi-gifted people who attract both admiration and jealousy. He was a brave soldier, and at the same time he was an articulate Christian who convinced many to join him in the faith. Several icons of Theodore depict an unusually handsome face with strong features.

The pagan emperor Licinius was well aware of his military commander's qualities, and those qualities worried him. He didn't want an enemy—Christianity—to have such a powerful advocate. So he called Theodore to the imperial court, and invited him to offer sacrifice to the pagan gods. Theodore came, and asked to take some of the pagan idols home, saying he would return with them the next day to offer sacrifice. What he actually did was to melt down the precious metal they were made of, and then distribute the valuable chunks to the poor.

Theodore would pay dearly for his dedication to Christ. He was tortured and crucified, and when



those things miraculously failed to kill him, he was beheaded.

We remember Theodore as the patron saint of soldiers. But he also fulfilled a Biblical exhortation which we read on this day: "Always be prepared to make a defense to anyone who calls you to account for the hope that is in you" (1 Peter 3: 15b). Theodore gave himself up to the emperor's men, and was heard to say, "Glory to God" as he died.

What does it mean in our lives, in our day, to "be prepared to make a defense of our faith? For one thing, Christians should be ready to challenge public assertions that go against the words of Jesus Christ. One example is a recent book by Deepak Chopra, a well-known advocate of alternative medicine. In 2010 he produced a book called "Muhammad: A Story of the Last Prophet."

For Christians there is only one "last prophet" and that is John, the Baptist and Forerunner. Jesus says, "The law and the prophets were until John" (Matthew 11:13). These words tell us that the Old Testament law and prophecies

have been fulfilled in Christ, to whom John was Forerunner. John's own words about Christ, found in John the Evangelist's writings (John 1:26-34), are also fulfilled. Christ has completed all the prophecies, and the time of prophets is done.

Some people say it's fine for everyone to believe as they wish; we can call John the last of the prophets and others can say the last is Muhammad. But calling Muhammad the last means that Islam's claims are true, and those of Christianity are false. This would be a denial of the One who ended all prophecy by fulfilling it, the One who, as Peter further writes, "has gone

Protagonist - Tone 4

Truly enlisted with the King of Heaven, you became an outstanding general for Him, passion-bearer Theodore;

you armed yourself wisely with the weapons of faith and conquered hordes of demons, revealing yourself as a victorious athlete.

Therefore, in faith we always call you blessed.

into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers subject to Him" (1 Peter 3: 22).

This weekly bulletin insert complements the curriculum published by the Department of Christian Education of the Orthodox Church in America. This and many other Christian

Around SS Peter & Paul

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES

Mark and Sanna Littrell
February 5

Katrina Delsante
February 9

Joe Delsante
February 11

Anatoly Bezkorovainy
February 11

Jim Sevanick
February 12

Jane Evans
February 14

Sterling Sourk
February 20

Heather Brunson
February 24

*Mnogaya Leta!
Many Years!*



MEMORY ETERNAL

Bernice (Peg) Linderman fell asleep in the Lord at her home on Tuesday, February 1, 2011. May the Lord grant her rest with the Saints and Memory Eternal!

Vzchnaya pamgat!
Memory Eternal!

PRAYER LIST

*"I was sick and you visited me."
Matt 25:36*

We offer prayers to all of our parishioners who are ill or unable to attend services:

Lydia Osolinsky and daughter Marina
Pauline & Dan Vinay
Marie Yevin
Rose and Bill Koval
Beatrice Washington

If you know of anyone else in need of our prayers, please contact Father David.

Bits and Pieces

PARKING LOT PROJECT

As Father David announced at our annual parish meeting, we are in need of approximately \$50,000.00 more before we can complete the parking lot project. While this is not a "hard" number, it is considered to be a well-educated and well-informed figure. Envelopes are now available for your use—for your contribution or for your pledge. Please take an envelope home and consider what you can contribute for this project. As discussed at the annual meeting, we are almost ready to begin and only need the necessary financial resources before we can finally complete this long-awaited and much-needed addition to our parish property. As always, your generosity to the Lord and to His Church is deeply appreciated.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Thank you to all who participated in our annual parish meeting. Your participation in this meeting and the input received are deeply appreciated. The newly-elected officers and trustees for the year 2011 are: Andy Evans, president; John Blischak, vice president; Harold Homyak, secretary; David Homyak, treasurer; Walter Booriakin, financial secretary; Katrina Delsante and Michelle Golowatsch, auditors; and Mike Wagner, Joe Gala, Stephanie Homyak, Elizabeth Michel, David Sourk, and Nick Enoch, trustees.

ERITREAN COMMUNITY

The Eritrean Community of Phoenix has invited all the members of our parish community to join them for the blessing of their new church building and place of worship. The blessing will be conducted by His Grace Markarios, the Eritrean Orthodox Bishop of North America. It will take place on Saturday, February 12, at 8:00 a.m. The property is located on the northwest corner of 21st Avenue and Camelback Road (behind the furniture store). Please plan on joining our Eritrean brothers and sisters on this joyful occasion.

FAREWELL

On Sunday, January 9, 2011, SS Peter and Paul said farewell to the Smith Family: Greg, Tessa, Trinity, and Noah. The Smiths will be moving to Colorado, and will be providing Father David with their contact information once they are settled in.



BOOKSTORE

When someone asks you about your faith, what do you say? If someone says, "Oh, so you are Jewish!" OR "Oh, so you are Roman Catholic!" how do you respond? The bookstore carries several books that can better prepare you to reply to these questions and statements. For a mere \$4, you can purchase a wonderful booklet entitled Orthodoxy and Roman Catholicism: What are the differences? And, to further your education and obtain a history lesson along the way, purchasing a copy of the classic The Orthodox Church for \$16 is a marvelous idea. If you speak to many Protestants then Sola Scriptura, \$4, is an essential read. And finally, for your own edification, Feast of Faith, \$14, is one of the finest books in print.

Live your faith!
Love your faith!
Share your faith!

You can't do any of these three things if you don't know your faith.

Katrina Delsante

COFFEE HOUR

Have you considered hosting a Coffee Hour? Tania Booriakin will be coordinating Coffee Hour this year. If you are interested in hosting Coffee Hour, please contact Tania and sign up for your desired date. Not sure what to do? Never fear, a list of tasks is posted in the kitchen. Unable to host Coffee Hour? Why not consider making a cash donation to cover supplies donating staples for coffee hour, or help clean tables and wash dishes! If everyone pitches in, we can all share the work.

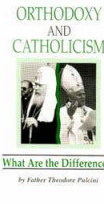
WELCOME

We welcome all visitors to SS Peter & Paul. We hope your visit was enriching and enlightening. Please join us in the Cultural Center, behind the church, for our Fellowship Hour. It's a chance to meet some of our members, other visitors, and enjoy some coffee and fellowship. It's also a great time to take a look at our bookstore. Katrina can help you find whatever you

need!

STEWARDSHIP/PLEDGES/BUDGET

You should have received your 2010 Statement of Contributions. If you haven't already done so, it's time to start thinking about your pledge for 2011. As discussed in the Annual Meeting, utility expenses have been increasing and as the church facilities age, maintenance costs are escalating. Consequently, more income will be required from pledges and other sources. Please be generous when filling out your 2011 Pledge Form. You can pick up your pledge forms in the Church vestibule or office. Please complete and return as soon as possible.



MYRRH BEARERS ALTAR SOCIETY

The Myrrhbearers annual luncheon will be held on Sunday, February 13th at the Verona Chop-house Restaurant at the Lone Butte Casino in Chandler. We will be organizing a car-pool and will leave the church at 12:00 p.m. Thanks to John and Carol Yavornitzky for donating flowers for the month of January.

Rita Mudrenko and Jane Evans will be selling raffle tickets for the Valentines Raffle, which will be held Sunday, February 13. Tickets can be purchased for \$1.00 each, or 6 for \$5.00.

Election of new officers will take place at our monthly meeting, which will be held February 6th instead of the 13th. Please join us!

Thanks to all MBAS members and parishioners for their help and support in 2010. Without your support, we would not have been able to accomplish everything we did.

Marty Gala

CHURCH HUMOR

The Sunday School teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Jason interrupted, 'M y



Church school students say goodbye to Trinity, as she heads for Colorado.

February 2011

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>We welcome all of our guests and visitors. Please join us in the Cultural Center for Fellowship Hour following Divine Liturgy each Sunday.</p>		<p>1 Forefeast of the Meeting</p> <p>6:00pm Vespers</p>	<p>2 Meeting of the Lord</p> <p>9:00am Divine Liturgy <i>Blessing of Candles</i></p>	3	4	<p>5 Icons Search of the Lost Rescue of the Drowning</p> <p>5:00pm Vespers</p>
<p>6 Zachaeus Sunday</p> <p>8:30am Hours 9:00am Divine Liturgy Church School MBAS Meeting/ Election of Officers</p>	7	<p>8</p> <p>6:00pm Council Mtg</p>	<p>9 Leavetaking of the Meeting</p> <p>7:00 Adult Education</p>	<p>10 Areovindus Icon</p> <p>11</p> <p>MBAS Luncheon Sunday, February 13, 2011 at 12:00pm Veorna Chophouse Restaurant</p>		<p>12 Iveron Icon</p> <p>5:00pm Vespers</p>
<p>13 Publican and Pharisee</p> <p>8:30am Hours 9:00am Divine Liturgy</p> <p>Church School Valentines Raffle MBAS Luncheon</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7:00 Adult Education</p>	<p>17 Tikhvin Icon at Mt. Athos</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>5:00pm Vespers</p>
<p>FAST—FREE WEEK</p>						
<p>20 Prodigal Son</p> <p>8:30am Hours 9:00am Divine Liturgy Church School</p>	<p>21 Kozel'shchanskaya Icon</p> <p></p> <p>Cheesefare Sunday Luncheon Sunday, March 6, 2011</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:00 Adult Education</p>	<p>24 1st & 2nd Finding Honorable Head of St. John the Baptist</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 Memorial Saturday</p> <p>5:00pm Vespers</p>
<p>27 Sunday of Last Judgement St. Raphael, Bishop of Brooklyn</p> <p>8:30am Hours 9:00am Divine Liturgy Church School</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:00 Adult Education</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 Departed Righteous Monastics</p> <p>5:00pm Vespers</p>
<p>MEAT FAST</p>						