

SS. PETER & PAUL

Lorain, OH | www.OrthodoxLorain.org | (440) 277-6266

Rev. Joseph McCartney, Rector

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Gospel Reading ~ Matthew 9:27-35
Epistle Reading ~ Romans 15:1-7
Martyr Trophimus and 14 Others in Lycia

Gospel Meditation

The first Sunday readings after Pentecost showed us the Commandments of God according to which all the saints of the universal Church and our Russian Church lived. These commandments were like steps into the Kingdom of Heaven. And the Kingdom of Heaven the Merciful God has prepared for all. This means that these steps are leading there; these commandments of God are a must for every one of us. So with such a purpose the Holy Church presented them to us.

But now for the last several weeks the Holy Church has begun to show us not what we should cultivate in ourselves, but things which we should avoid, against which we should fight. These readings told about the power of evil, about being possessed by it, about passions, sins, slavery to sin, bodily paralysis which is the result of sin; and this pointed out to us our spiritual paralysis, which is always the result of sin.

In the same way, today's Gospel tells us: "When Jesus departed thence, two blind men followed Him.... As they went out, behold, they brought to him a dumb man possessed with a devil" (Mt. 9:27,32). And Christ healed all of them. Yes, there is physical blindness, but there is also spiritual blindness. This is our unbelief, our stoniness of heart. Such a state may be temporary, as a storm cloud rushes in and goes away, with God's help. This is a terrible feeling of being forsaken by God, a horrible loneliness. And there is another condition: this is when we can talk about anything, but not about spiritual things, Godly things. Or when before us a brother is suffering, is living through some terrible grief, and we don't have even one word of comfort. Or again, a state of mind when we cannot even pray. Are these not states of spiritual dumbness? And Christ alone can heal us, heal our blind and dumb soul. But let us be attentive, because He will ask us too: "Believe ye that I am able to do this?" (Mt. 10:28). Then let our answer to Him be: "Yes, Lord! We believe."

- Archbishop Andrei Rymarenko, 1893-1978

Newly Departed

Please remember in your prayers the newly departed handmaiden of God, **Darlene (Daria) Petrykowski**, who reposed in the Lord on July 21. Darlene is the sister of Don and Dia Dobos, and was a member of Holy Trinity Church in Parma, for some fifty years, but she grew up in Lorain where she attended SS. Peter and Paul Church. She has been a visible and active presence in various Orthodox Churches in Cleveland for many years, also serving on OCA National and Diocesan departments, commissions and councils.. May the Kingdom of Heaven be hers, and may her memory be eternal!

This Week at a Glance

Sat, July 29th

6:00 pm - Great Vespers

Sun, July 30th

9:00 am - The Hours

9:30 am - Divine Liturgy

Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who attended and participated in our Parish Picnic & Pig Roast. Special thanks to Mike & Joanne Chemorov, Sam & Kathy Jacob, Sammy Jacob, Holley Jacob, Keith Jesenski and Mike Jabosek who helped prepare the pig and all of the planning. Last but certainly not least, thank you to We Three Strings for playing and entertaining for us!

Email Update

Due to security changes to my frjoseph@me.com email account, I will no longer be able to check this account on my phone. **Please change my contact email to: frjosephmccartney@gmail.com.**

Bulletin

If you have anything you would like Fr Joseph to put in the bulletin, please let him know by Friday, so that it can be placed into the bulletin on Sunday.

Breakfast

Next Sunday during Coffee Hour we will be having a delicious breakfast as a fundraiser. The cost is \$7.00 for adults and free for children. We hope to see you there! Come hungry!

Food Festival Fundraiser

Donations to food festival envelope drive:

Sunday, July 2 \$60.00

Sunday, July 9 \$50.00

Sunday, July 16 \$125.00

Total to date \$1545.00

We are almost to our goal. Thank you for your support!

Thank You

Thank you to Alex Morris and his brother, John who have completed many odd jobs around the church such as: installing our basement projector, replacing the light over the side door, hanging the banners on the wall and more. May God reward them for sharing their time, talents and treasure with us.

Saturday Vespers Time Change

You may have heard that Fr Joseph has been working to become a certified chaplain, so that he can reduce the cost of health insurance for the parish. Fr Joseph recently started working at Mt Alverna Village in Parma, and his schedule will be Tuesday - Saturday 8am-4pm. Because of this, Saturday Vespers will have to be pushed back to begin at 6pm. **The Vespers time change will begin next Saturday July 29th.**

Basic Information on the Divine Liturgy (Celebrants)

The celebrant at the Divine Liturgy is the Bishop. When not present he is represented by the priest. On special occasions, bishops and priests officiate together. Deacons, sub deacons, acolytes and readers usually assist them. A deacon may not officiate the Liturgy alone, though when it is necessary the deacon can lead the community in worship. These services are called the Typica (Obednitza) and is a brief service that may be conducted when a Bishop or Priest is not present. Elements of the Divine Liturgy are incorporated into this service, and with special permission the deacon may distribute pre-consecrated Holy Communion to the faithful.



Mother of God, "Joy of All Who Sorrow"

The Icon of the Mother of God "Joy of All Who Sorrow" (With Coins) was glorified in the year 1888 in Petersburg, when during the time of a terrible thunderstorm lightning struck in a chapel. All was burned or singed, except for this icon of the Queen of Heaven. It was knocked to the floor, and the poor box broke open at the same time. Somehow, twelve small coins (half-kopeck pieces), became attached to the icon. A church was built in 1898 on the site of the chapel.

