



# Saint Paul the Apostle Orthodox Church

24 BURKE ROAD

FREEHOLD, NJ 07728

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 4, 2010

Father Robert E Lucas, Pastor; Subdeacon Daniel  
J. Korba and Nikitas Tsokris, Cantors

Rectory 215-862-9227; Parish Center 732-780-3158

## We Are A Stewardship Parish Of Time, Talent and Treasure

The mission of our parish faith community is to teach the Gospel message in the rich tradition of the Orthodox Church; to enable people to reflect the image of Jesus Christ in every day activities of life; to offer spiritual formation through changing times; and to celebrate community among Orthodox believers in our Freehold area.

We of St. Paul the Apostle Parish dedicate ourselves to maintaining the sanctity of worship and spiritual enlightenment in a family environment that reaches and involves all ages and unifies all people.

We believe in the spirit of ecumenism in which we share our faith by word and example and extend our spiritual insights to all people.

We accept the responsibility of Christian Stewardship that through generous giving we may all experience a faith communion with Christ as the Center of our lives.

We dedicate ourselves to insuring the well-being of all people so that we may truly experience the message of Christ's salutary gospel.

We are a beacon on a hill with the eyes of many upon us; that beacon is the inspired Light of Christ which must shine brightly in our lives.

*It is not ourselves we preach but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' has shone in our hearts, that we in turn might make known the glory of God shining on the face of Christ. This treasure we possess in earthen vessels to make it clear that its surpassing power comes from God and not from us. We are afflicted in every way possible, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in us* 2 Corinthians 4: 5 – 8.

## GLAD TIDINGS

+++ Today we have festal anointing on the occasion of this past week's solemn feast of the Prime Apostles, Peter & Paul. The ordinary greeting is "Christ Is Among Us!" to which we respond, "He Is And Shall Be!"

+++ We remind our faithful that at the last Diocesan Council this past summer, the Diocesan Dues were raised, due to inflation and need, from the past \$50.00 per adult individual, eighteen years and older, to \$60.00 per year. Our envelope offering system still has the old amount on it, so please disregard that figure

and make your offering according to the new mandated amount. If this offering was made in the old amount, please correct it by submitting the additional amount with a notation on the envelope because the parish must send the entire amount to the diocesan chancery.

++ The sign-up sheet for both the Web Site and Bulletin sponsors is on the bulletin board in the kitchen. Please sign up as soon as possible. Do NOT make payment until your sign-up month has arrived. This will make it easier for Father to keep track of payments. Thanks in advance to all who support the parish in this way.

+++ We offer thanks to the Blessed Trinity for inspiring generosity in the souls of our faithful and the blessing of abundant grace in our midst with the offering received this past week-end: Tithe Offering, \$401.00; Candles, \$41.00; Food Coupons, \$200.00; Christian Fellowship, \$3.00; Special Gift, \$100.00; Bulletin, \$25.00; Kitchen, \$217.00; Holyday, \$65.00; Penn9iess From Heaven, \$1.00 for a total of \$1111.00. We express our profound gratitude to the parishioner communicants who offered their God-given treasure for the sake of the Lord and the good of our parish. God bless and reward you good and faithful souls! The attendance was 41 adults and 13 children last Sunday.

+++ As faithful believers, we intercede and associate ourselves in prayer with the following who have prayed and offered seven day lights for their intentions: Father Lucas, Pani Lucas, Louis Pasquino, +Paul Szmajda, Debra Szmajda, Maria Idromenos, Robert Gorbich, Kent Pasquino, Kyle Pasquino, and Pani Buleta.

+++ We make a PENNIES FROM HEAVEN Canister available for our faithful to bring in pennies for our altar and its appointments. We are already in receipt of \$1575.00 from this apostolate. Even your pennies can help and are a blessing to our parish.

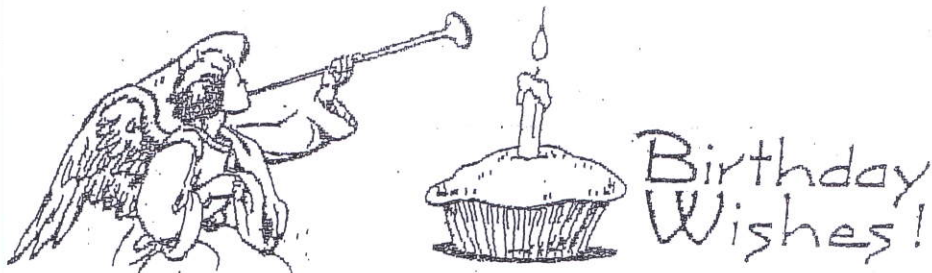
+++ For the expansion of our much needed parochial facilities, our parish pledge support to date totals \$704,715.00. As we thank the Lord for inspiring generosity in the hearts of our faithful, we also thank the donors for accepting the challenge of the Lord in building up His Body. We cordially invite and look forward to receiving additional and increased pledges from all our devoted parishioners.

+++ There is currently a Ukrainian Icon Exhibit from the Caves Monastery in Kiev at the museum of Biblical Art in New York City until September. The museum is opened from Wednesday to Sunday each week from noon onward. Admission is most reasonable with discounts for senior citizens. Nina Harrison has additional information. Please see her if you are interested so we might be able to get a group to attend and set a commonly agreeable date.

+++ Please continue to bring used clothing and other items described in the flyers distributed a few weeks ago. Encourage your friends and neighbors to assist as this will be an ongoing fund-raiser. These items are currently being stored in the rectory and when we receive an appreciable amount, they will be turned in. It will help our parish.

+++ Please be certain to see Helen Karpiak or a member of the Parish Council if you would like to help our parish by using Shop Rite Food Coupons available in \$20.00 denominations. We invite ALL to be caring and supportive and use Grocery Coupons for food shopping as we have gratefully realized \$3100.00 on this project to date!





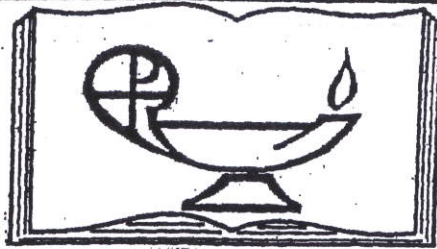
We are pleased to greet those of our faithful communicants who celebrate their birthday this month. Our Lord has offered these souls yet another year of blessed life. The most obvious way He blesses us and participates in our life is by sharing his divine life with us in the Eucharist at the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. Thus we gather together and offer thanks for yet another year of life blessed by his most gracious hands. Today, we prayerfully remember in the Divine Liturgy the following souls who celebrate their birthday during this month:

July 11 Helen Karpiak  
July 14 Louis Pasquino  
July 17 Eleni Pallas  
July 18 Eudoxia Fasouletou  
July 30 Katherine G. Simon

With a prayerful heart and grateful soul, our parish faith community asks the Lord to continue to bless these birthday celebrants with good spiritual and physical health for the coming year. We invite all to add their personal intercessory prayers so that with one voice and one heart we may also participate in the grace and joy of their celebration. As we wish them a happy and blessed celebration of their birthday, our ardent prayer resounds that the Lord our God will continue to bless them for

**Many and Blessed Years!**

LORD



TEACH  
US

## Faith Necessary

*Do not be afraid, for the Lord will go before you and will be with you; he will not fail nor forsake you* Deuteronomy 31: 8.

*Yes, be bold and strong. Banish fear and doubt! For remember, the Lord your God is with you wherever you go* Joshua 1: 9.

*But you good men of Judah, keep up the good work and do not get discouraged, for you will be rewarded* 2 Chronicles 15: 7.

*For the eyes of the Lord search back and forth across the whole earth, looking for people whose hearts are perfect toward him, so that he can show his great power helping them* 2 Chronicles 16: 9.

*Believe in the Lord your God and you shall have success! Believe his prophets and everything will be all right* 2 Chronicles 20: 20.

*Be strong, be brave and do not be afraid of the king of Assyria or his mighty army, for there is someone with us who is far greater than he is! He has great army, but they are all mere men, while we have the Lord our God to fight our battles for us* 2 Chronicles 32: 7.

*Do not be afraid; remember the Lord who is great and glorious* Nehemiah 4: 14.

*And it is even more false to say that he doesn't see what is going on. He does bring about justice at last, if you will only wait* Job 35: 14.



# **WISDOM! BE ATTENTIVE**

*Let us the faithful praise the Word eternal with the Father and the Spirit. Let us adore Him Who was born from the Virgin for our salvation. For He willed to ascend the cross as a man, and to suffer death, and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection Troparion, Resurrection Tone Five.*

*O Saviour, You descended into the Abyss. Being the Almighty, You destroyed its power. Being the Creator, You raised the dead and dulled the sting of death. Adam was delivered from the curse and we all cry out to You: "O Lord, Lover of mankind, save us!" Kontakion, Resurrection Tone Five.*

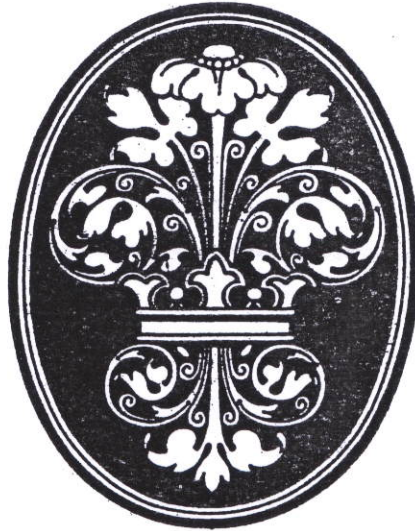
*You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us always from this generation Prokimenon, Resurrection Tone Five.*

*The Lord, Who bestows Resurrection upon the race of men was led like a lamb to the slaughter. The powers of the Abyss trembled; its gates opened. Christ the King of glory entered it. He said to those in chains: "Come out!" To those in darkness, He said, "Let light surround you!" Vesper Hymn, Tone Five.*

*We offer You this evening worship, O Light Who never fadel In the fullness of time You filled the world with light, Your flesh being a mirror of Your splendor. You descended into the Abyss, dispelling its darkness. You revealed the light of Your Resurrection to the world. O Lord, Giver of light, glory be to You! Vesper Hymn, Tone Five.*

*O Virgin most pure, you are a temple, palace, the throne of the King. Through you, Christ the Lord has appeared. He is the Sun of Justice and the Saviour. He willed to enlighten those in darkness, those fashioned in His image by His hand. We beseech you, worthy of our praise, You are His mother. Intercede for the salvation of our souls Vesper Hymn, Tone Five.*

*A symbol of the pure Virgin and bride is revealed in the Red Sea: There, Moses divided the waters; here Gabriel is the minister of a wonder. There, Israel crossed the deep as on dry land; here the Virgin gives birth and remains a Virgin. There, the sea remained uncrossable after Israel passed; here, the immaculate one remains a Virgin after the birth of Immanuel. O immortal and eternal God, have mercy on us! Vesper Hymn, Tone Five.*



## Concerning Physicians

### Ecclesiastes

Honor a physician with the honor due to him for the uses you may have of him, for the Lord has created him. For only from the Most High comes healing and He shall receive honor even from the king...The Lord has created medicines out of the earth and He that is wise will not abhor or ignore them. Was not water made sweet with wood that its virtues might be made known? And He has given men skill that He might be honored in his marvelous works when physicians put it to use. In this way He heals man and takes away their pain.

My son, in your sickness be not negligent; but pray to the Lord and He will see your faith and trust and make you whole. Leave sin behind and order your hands aright and cleanse your heart from all wickedness...Then give place to the physician, for the Lord created him; let him not go away from you, for you have need of him and his learned skill. There is a time when in their hands there is good success. For they also



shall pray to the Lord that He would prosper that which they impart for ease and remedy to prolong life and make it happy.

### Prayer For Physicians

Lord, Almighty God, Healer of all our diseases, who knows how greatly the sick have need of a physician: Bless all whom you call to be sharers in your ministry of healing with health alike of body and soul, that they first hand may learn their art in dependence on You and exercise it always under your sanction and for your glory, for you are blessed together with your uncreated Son and all-holy and adorable Spirit, now and ever, and forever. Amen.

### Prayer For Nurses

Lord, Jesus Christ, who have said, Inasmuch as you do it to one of these the least of my brethren, you also do it for me, Look upon those whom you have called to care for the sick and suffering; give them patience and tenderness, wisdom and sympathy and the particular guidance of the Holy Spirit so that they may faithfully serve those who you send them.

For your servants who have been educated as nurses in healing we ask your paternal protection and favor. Uphold them with your strength and grace as they carry comfort and relief to the afflicted and anxious. Enrich their skill with sympathy and faith that they may quicken the will to recover and themselves live more fully in accord with your blessed will. Protect and bless them in all their difficulties and dangers. As they are mindful of others, be mindful of them. As they freely give of their best, so may they receive at your hands abundant compensations; that in this life the consolation of grateful thoughts may uphold them and in the life to come, may your enduring love welcome them into everlasting joy, because you, Eternal Father are blessed together with your uncreated Son and our all holy an adorable Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

### A Physician's Prayer

Almighty God, Creator of the world in whose hands lie all the issues of life and death, who is pleased from time to time to reveal to our knowledge the remedies of sickness and human infirmity; I know that from you alone proceeds the cure of every



disease, the relief of every ailment of body and soul. Not I, but you are the Great Physician of soul and body; not I, but you are the Restorer of health to the sick, the Strengtheners of their feeble limbs, the Comforter and Support in pain and weariness. Yet as much as it pleased you to share your healing with mere men to discover and turn to account the means which you laid up for these purposes in the storehouse of your creation, endow me, I humbly pray, with skill and ability fitly to apply them seeking not my own profit, nor worldly reputation, but your glory and the advancement of the great work which you called me to undertake in your name.

Give me, O Lord God, I beseech you, the spirit of wisdom to discern disease, of patience to watch and observe, of courage and firmness to execute, of tenderness and truthfulness to warn of danger, of cheerfulness to encourage and comfort, of charity and forbearance to deal with the fretful and impatient. Guard me from evil and impure thoughts and fancies, from vanity and self-conceit, from desire of gain, from envy and jealousy. O Lord, Jesus Christ, who bears the sicknesses and sorrows of all, who goes about doing good and healing all manner of disease on earth, be with me in my work, be my pattern and guide so that keeping ever before my eyes your holy example I may be enabled to follow it with all my power, both of body and soul and to seek the welfare of all, both rich and poor, to whom I am called in service. Grant this, O Lord for the infinite sake of your mercy, for you are glorified and blessed above all the earth, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

#### For Those Who Serve The Sick

Most merciful and eternal Father, who commits to our love and care our fellow man in necessity, Graciously be with and prosper all those who, after the example of the Good Samaritan and St. Luke the angelic physician and St. Pontelemon, the unmercenary healer, seek to minister to the sick and ailing. Permit their service ministry to be abundantly blessed in bringing ease to the suffering, comfort to the sorrowing, and peace to the dying so that themselves inspired with the consecration of selfless service, they know inasmuch as they offer themselves in service to the least of those among us, they serve also the God in whose image all men are created. May your all-holy Name be glorified with that of your eternal Son and Holy Spirit now and ever and forever. Amen.

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# Sharing The Pain

*...weep with them that weep* Romans 12: 15.

From the painful suffering of righteous Job, and the way his friends tried to console him, we can learn a basic principle about comforting those who are going through deep trials. It is this: a comforter's ability to help is not so much his talent for using words, but rather his capacity to be sympathetic, even empathetic. That is the type of understanding Job longed for when his friends began trying to correct him for what they thought was punishment, even being ignored by God.

The need for the kind of sympathetic understanding that truly ministers to people is something that recalls for us how fearfully and wonderfully made we are in the image of God. Most people, even physician and, sometimes priests, feel inadequate in the face of real suffering. They fight back lumps in their throats, march resolutely to the hospital for visits, mumble a few cheerful and encouraging words perhaps, even share literature on what to say to the grieving and pained.

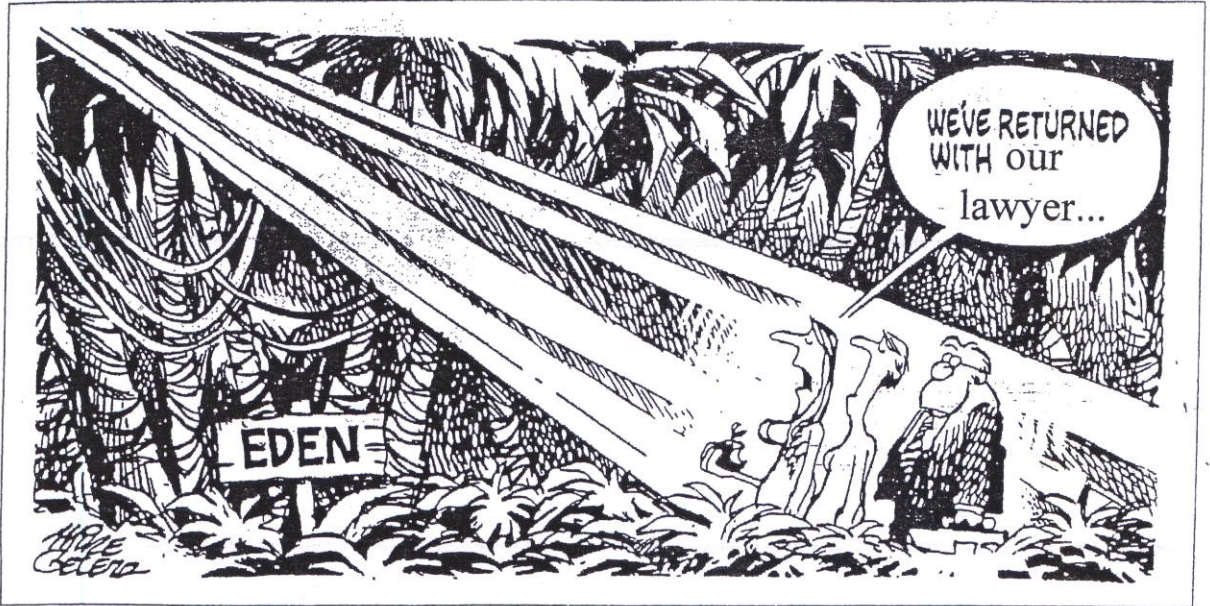
But when asked the question of patients and their families, "Who helped you in your suffering?" a strange and imprecise answer follows. The person described rarely has a smooth answer or a winsome, effervescent personality. It is someone quiet, and understanding who listens more than he talks, who does not judge or even offer much sage advice. "A sense of presence." "Someone there when I needed him." "A hand to hold, an understanding, even bewildered hug." "A shared lump in the throat."

Sometimes, in trying so hard to say the right thing, we forget that the language of feeling speaks louder than words. The apostle Paul told us to "weep with them that weep." Yes, healing others in distress must begin by sharing the pain!

We should always ask the Lord to keep us kind and merciful, with Christ always in the forefront of our mind. We can learn to feel another's difficulty and mercy to all people show. After all is not sympathy two hearts tugging at one load? Enter eagerly, if unwarily, into the dimension of the other's difficulty.



## How It Would Pan Out Today



# **Did You Know That ...**

**...death for the believer is not tragedy but triumph?**

**...when you shoot arrows of envy at others, you wound yourself?**

**...God does not comfort us to make us comfortable but to make us comforters?**

**...faith without good works is presumptuous and faith with good works is precious?**

**...to be sure God accompanies you, be sure to go with God?**

**...the will of God never leads you where the grace of God cannot keep you?**

**...if we could merit our own salvation, Christ would never have died to provide it?**

**...a heavy heart is made lighter when the weight of ingratitude is removed?**

**...if you examine many of your troubles you will find your own name stamped on them as the manufacturer?**

**...when you pore over God's Word, his cleansing power will pour through you?**

**...procrastination has never landed one soul in heaven, but has doomed many to hell?**

**...the God who inspired the writing of Scripture inspires you as well?**

**...salvation is moving from living death to deathless life?**

**...that man is truly wise who gains his wisdom from the experience of others?**

**...as God's choice creation, man should be his most ardent servant?**

**...tears are the material out of which heaven weaves its brightest rainbow?**

**...God knows the sorrow of a grave because He buried his son?**

**...Christ inspires the Christ-possessed heart?**

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# VESPER VERSES ACCORDING TO THE EIGHT TONES

## TONE 5

1. By your precious cross, O Christ,  
You have put the devil to shame  
By your resurrection, You destroyed the sting  
of sin;  
You saved us from the gates of death.  
We praise You, the only-begotten Son.
  2. The Lord who bestows resurrection upon the  
race of men was led like a lamb to the  
slaughter.  
The powers of the Abyss trembled; its gates  
opened.  
Christ the King of glory entered it.  
He said to those in chains : " Come out! "  
To those in darkness, he said : " Let light  
surround you! "
  3. Truly, it is a great wonder :  
Because of his love for man, the Creator  
suffers.  
Now He is risen again—immortal.  
Come, all you nations and peoples,  
Let us bow to Him in worship.  
Because of his love, He saved us from error,  
And we have learned to praise  
One God in three Divine Persons.
  4. We offer You this evening worship, O Light  
who never fade!
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In the fulness of time, You filled the world with  
light,  
Your flesh being a mirror of your splendor.  
You descended into the Abyss, dispelling its  
darkness.  
You revealed the light of your resurrection to  
the world.  
O Lord, giver of light, glory be to You!

5. Let us praise Christ, the Author of our salvation :

By his resurrection from the dead,  
He has saved the world from error.  
The angelic host rejoices; the deceit of the  
demons vanishes;  
Adam fallen is raised again.

6. The guards were told to deny the resurrection :

Bribed with money they were told to say :  
“ While we slept, his body was taken away. ”  
When has a naked and embalmed body ever  
been stolen,  
Leaving the burial cloth in the tomb?  
Do not be deceived—learn from the prophets  
and understand  
That Christ is truly the Savior of the world  
and the almighty Lord.

7. O Lord and Savior,  
You despoiled the Abyss and conquered Death.  
You enlightened the world by your cross :  
Have mercy on us!

8. Glory be to the Father ✙, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and  
forever. Amen.

A symbol of the pure Virgin and bride  
Is revealed in the Red Sea :



There, Moses divided the waters;  
Here, Gabriel is the minister of a wonder.  
There, Israel crossed the deep as on dry  
land;  
Here, the Virgin gives birth and remains a  
virgin.  
There, the sea remained uncrossable after  
Israel passed;  
Here, the Immaculate One remains a virgin  
after the birth of Immanuel.  
O Immortal and eternal God,  
You appeared as man :  
Have mercy on us!

*At the Apostichon*

1. O Christ our Savior,  
Not leaving heaven, you became man.  
You suffered and died for us because of your  
love.  
We extol you in song!  
You crushed the gates of the Abyss;  
You arose on the third day  
Granting salvation to our souls.
2. O Christ, Giver of life,  
From your side pierced by the lance  
There flowed pardon, salvation, and life for all.  
Accepting death, you gave us eternal life :  
Your burial has made us free.  
Being God, you raised us with you in glory.  
We cry out to you :  
“ O Lord, Lover of mankind, glory be to  
you! ”
3. O Christ, Lover of mankind,  
Your death and descent into the Abyss are  
marvels.

You conquered death by raising with you in  
glory

Those bound for ages by the chains of death.  
Grant to us who praise your resurrection

The forgiveness of our sins; make us worthy  
of paradise :

You alone love mankind.

4. O Lord, You suffered for us;  
On the third day you rose from the dead.  
Heal our bodily passions;  
Raise us from our sin, and save us :  
You alone love mankind.
5. Glory be to the Father ✝, and to the Son,  
and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and  
forever. Amen.

O Virgin most pure,  
You are a temple, palace, the throne of the  
King.

Through you, Christ the Lord has appeared.  
He is the Sun of Justice and the Savior.  
He willed to enlighten those in darkness,  
Those fashioned in his image by his hand.  
We beseech you, worthy of our praise,  
You are his mother.

Intercede for the salvation of our souls.



## THE ROBE OF THE THEOTOKOS

**I**n the Orthodox Church, relics of saints are treated with great reverence and devotion. They are embedded in our holy altars and placed in the antimension entrusted to parishes by a diocesan bishop. Churches and monasteries privileged to have such sacred treasures in their possession will often provide opportunities for worshippers to view and venerate them.

The tradition behind one of the most unique of all relics - the robe of the Mother of God - is an ancient and fascinating one. During the reign of the Byzantine Emperor Leo the Great (457-474) two brothers - Galbuis and Candidus - were blessed by the emperor to visit Palestine and make a pilgrimage to the holy places there. While staying in the home of an elderly woman in Nazareth, they unexpectedly made an amazing discovery: the woman's family had in their possession for generations a garment that had belonged to the Theotokos - bequeathed to a pious young maiden centuries before by the Virgin Mary herself! The brothers were told that a countless number of believers had been healed through their contact with this precious article of clothing.

Convincing the woman that the robe should be housed in a more prominent site, Galbuis and Candidus took it back to Constantinople, where it was placed in a new reliquary in the Blachernae Church. In ensuing years, the veil and belt of the Theotokos also were acquired by the Church of Constantinople and were taken to the Blachernae church as well.

Through the years, Constantinople is said to have been spared from great tribulation through the power of this precious relic. The Feast of the Protection of the Mother of God (October 1/14) is based on a miraculous appearance of the Theotokos in the Blachernae church on the eve of a great battle, where she was seen extending her garment over the faithful in a "protecting" manner.

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