



# Saint Paul the Apostle Orthodox Church

24 BURKE ROAD

FREEHOLD, NJ 07728

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

October 26, 2008

Father Robert E Lucas, Pastor;  
Father John Cmur; Deacon Kenneth E. Ellis and  
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

+++ On Sunday, November 2, our Jesus School Children are invited to come to church dressed as a Bible character or saint of the Church so Father can guess their identity. Prizes will be awarded to those who stump Father.

+++ This coming Saturday we have our monthly Pirohi Sale. Preparations and fillings will be made Thursday morning at 7:00 AM. Helping hands are needed both days. Please secure orders from friends to assure the success of the sale. Order Sheets are in the kitchen.

+++ Today is the feast of St. Demetrius the Great Martyr. The Divine Liturgy will be concluded with festal anointing.

+++ **The weekly Scripture Study decided to meet on Sundays following the Divine Liturgy while children attend their own classes. Everyone now has an opportunity to participate in adult religious education at which Scripture is discussed and explained along with other interests.**

+++ 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, \$~~1,000~~; Candles, \$~~500~~; Food Coupons, \$~~500~~; Pennies From Heaven, \$~~500~~; Web Site, \$~~500~~; Kitchen, \$~~500~~; Christian Fellowship, \$~~500~~, for a total of \$~~5,000~~. 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 38 adults and 14 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: Pani Lucas, Father Lucas, Paul Szmajda, Debra Szmajda, Mary Jaakobs, Maria Garcia, Kent & Robin Pasquino and Pani Buletza.

+++ 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 \$~~1,000~~ from this apostolate. Even your pennies can help and are a blessing to our parish.

+++ **Our religious education program takes place each Sunday following the Divine Liturgy. Please be certain your child is present for classes each week.**

+++ For the expansion of our much needed parochial facilities, our parish pledge support to date totals \$~~20,000~~. 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.

+++ Please check the Sign-Up-Sheet for the weekly Christian Fellowship for the coming weeks. Simple foods without need for preparation are the best. Marilyn Korba coordinates this vital apostolate. Please assist her in making it a success by bringing your donation early so that all are present at the worship of our God.

+++ 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 \$~~5,000~~ on this project to date!

+++ Please see Marilyn Korba to sign up for the Alaskan Cruise next August, 2009 as well as for starting the new Ten Week Club. We are in need of your support.

+++ The Thanksgiving Bake Sale will take place on Friday and Saturday, November 14 and 15 while that for the Nativity of our Lord will be held Thursday and Friday, December 12 and 13. Cookies will be available at the Nativity Bake Sale.

+++ This past week Father received for our Parish Library the donation of a DVD about the Moslem threat to our nation and the world from Fox News as a public service. Anyone interesting viewing it may see Father as soon as possible and it will be provided. It is an interesting, informative and provocative work and Father recommends it for viewing and study.

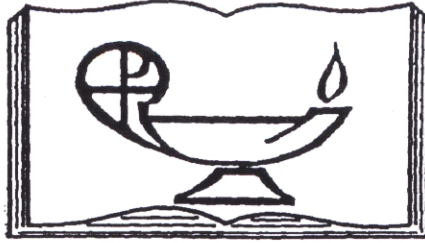
+++ Our parish lawyer is pursuing the feasibility of our obtaining the 4.67 acres of land in Millstone Township on route 537 and Mineral Springs Road. He will initially have consultations with the Planning Board Chairman to secure in writing the use of the property for our church and parish center.. We continue to solicit your prayers for the success of this pursuit.

+++ The Nativity Fast begins on Saturday, November 15. During this holy preparatory season for the coming feast of the Nativity of our Lord, Father will be preaching a series of homilies on *Men in Scripture*. Plan on being present with us in prayer and an eagerness to grow spiritually.

+++ Be certain to taken a catalogue and order sheet for candy for the coming feast of the Nativity of our Lord from the vestibule desk. Please return the order sheets as soon as possible.

+++ May all glory, adoration and worship be accorded our God in the Holy Trinity by all the faithful of our parish with one mind, one soul and one heart each day of the week!

LORD



TEACH  
US

## Scripture As Our Guide

*Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path* Psalms 119: 105.

*Within my heart I treasure your promise that I may not sin against you* Psalms 119: 11.

*The ordinances of the Lord are true, all of them just; they are more precious than gold, than a heap of the purest gold; sweeter also than syrup or honey from a comb* Psalms 19: 10, 11.

*By the Lord are the steps of man made firm, and he approves of this way. Though he fall, he does not lie prostrate, but the hand of the Lord sustains him* Psalms 37: 23.

*He refreshes my soul. He guides me in right paths for his name's sake* Psalms 23: 3.

*While from behind, a voice shall sound in your ears: "This is the way, walk in it," when you would turn to the right or to the left* Isaiah 30: 21.

*All Scripture is inspired of God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, correction, and training in holiness so that the man of God may be fully competent and equipped for every good work* 2 Timothy 3: 16, 17.

*Keep this book of the law on your lips. Recite it by day and by night, that you may observe carefully all that is written in it; then you will successfully attain your goal. I command you; be firm and steadfast! Do not fear nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go* Joshua 1: 8.

## SCRIPTURE

## TRIVIA

## QUIZ



1. What city did Philip work in?
2. Who in the Book of Revelation were bound at the great River Euphrates?
3. What color was the robe the Roman soldier put on Jesus?
4. Who was the first disciple to look into Jesus' tomb?
5. Where was it that almost the entire city turned out to hear Paul and Barnabas preach?
6. Who did Jesus say He would send to comfort and teach us after He was gone?
7. How many blind men called out to Jesus, "Son of David, have pity on us?"
8. Who took Jesus' body down from the Cross?
9. In Myra, the centurion found a ship of Alexandria sailing to where?
10. Was Paul sometimes a long-winded preacher?
11. What is a scroll?
12. Which prophet's wife committed adultery?



## ANSWERS TO TRIVIA QUIZ

1. Caesarea. (Philippians 4: 11)
2. Four demons. (Revelation 9: 14)
3. Purple. (Mark 15: 16, 17)
4. Peter. (Luke 24: 12)
5. Antioch. (Acts of the Apostles 13: 14, 44)
6. The Holy Spirit (John 14: 26)
7. Two. (Matthew 22: 30)
8. Joseph of Arimathea. (John 19: 38)
9. Italy. (Acts of the Apostles 27: 6)
10. Yes. (Acts of the Apostles 20: 7)
11. A long rolled-up sheet of paper.
12. The wife of Hosea. (Hosea 2:5)

## Think

Can you imagine a major league baseball player leading the league in making the most errors...in being struck out the most times...in hitting into the most double plays, and still being voted Most Valuable Player of the year?

It happened. In 1942 Joe Gordon did all those things yet still won the MVP award that season in the American League.

What's the lesson in all this? Joe Gordon's case shows that even though you or others have faults, have failings, sometimes do not measure up, you can overcome them, can be forgiven them and finally be reconciled with goodness and perfection and recognized for good accomplishments.

Overcome sin by repenting of it, by confessing it and making up your mind to be a faithful disciple of the Lord!

## Service

The famed Novelist, Leo Tolstoy insisted, "Life is a place of service. Joy can be real only if people look upon their life as an opportunity for service and have a definite object in life outside themselves and their personal happiness and fulfillment."

If we do not enjoy our relationship with Christ, we should either change our attitude or change our relationship. And since changing our relationship with

Christ is the less desirable alternative, in changing our attitude we should look for ways to serve others while living our faith commitment daily.

## Sacred Trust

Most of the sacred shrines in the Holy Land are in the hands of the Orthodox Church. Other denominations want to claim them and they spend millions of dollars each year towards this objective. For almost two thousand years, despite wars, occupations, and pillage, these shrines have been the sacred trust of our Church. When you make your offering for the support of our parish, remember we support the work of the Church in the land trodden by Christ when He was among us. Your gifts help support and preserve the sacred tradition of our blessed Church.

## Bringing Out The Best

History books are full of stories of gifted persons whose talents are overlooked by a procession of people until someone believed in them. Albert Einstein was four years old before he could speak and seven before he could read. Isaac Newton did poorly in grade school. A newspaper editor fired Walt Disney because he had "no good ideas." Werner von Braun failed ninth-grade algebra. Haydn gave up on making a musician of Beethoven who seemed a slow and plodding man with no apparent talent.

There is a lesson in such stories: Different people develop at different rates, and the best motivators are always on the lookout for hidden capacities. In our parish we are patient with the expression of all the hidden talent only our God knows about in our parishioners. We invite all to offer themselves for God's glory and honor and utilize the talents and the gifts which are uniquely theirs.

## Hold

Hold fast the time. Respect it! Guard it, watch over it, every hour, each minute, notably the seconds! Unregarded it slips away like a lizard, smooth, slippery, faithless. Hold every moment sacred. Recognize it may contain the time your soul is directed and sustained on the path to salvation. It may be the time when you have your greatest and most meaningful encounter with our God. Give each clarity and meaning, made holy by your prayer and God's grace. Apply to each the weight of your awareness, give each its true and due fulfillment so you can easily recognize the moment you came alive in Christ and earnestly began to live for Him.

## Seven Deadly Sins

*Truth*, if it becomes a weapon against persons.

*Beauty*, if it becomes vanity.

*Love*, if it becomes possessive.

*Loyalty*, if it becomes blind, careless trust.

*Tolerance*, if it becomes indifference.

*Self-confidence*, if it becomes arrogance.

*Faith*, if it becomes self-righteous.

## Moment

I held a moment in my hand,  
Brilliant as a star,  
Fragile as a flower,  
A tiny sliver of one hour.

I dropped it carelessly,  
Ah! I didn't know  
I held salvation's opportunity!

## Persistence

Many times achieving the salvation of our soul is going from failure to failure with great enthusiasm. Christ insists we have to work hard, overcome failures, and success does not come about without persistence. Until the very moment we leave this earth, our spiritual struggle will be one long continuing effort. Persistence is applying ourselves doggedly and relentlessly to the daily tasks at hand, knowing there are no shortcuts. Persistence does not require being bullheaded or overly aggressive. It does not require the type A personality, but is a gentler quality, almost equine in its steadiness.

We may lose sight of this because most literature describes the spiritual life in terms of victories, humbling defeats and war games. We think of our spiritual life as God winning and the devil losing. Such thinking belies the more pedestrian qualities that makes souls sinners and foremost among these is persistence:



never quitting, always trying, always working at the next obstacle to be overcome.

The salvation of our soul happens one persistent step at a time and is the sum of many steps, details, decisions, acts and ideas that inspire and lead us to victory in Christ.

## One Half

A little thought will show you how vastly your own happiness depends on the way other people bear themselves toward us. No wonder the Lord insists on the Golden Rule being observed. "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." Then, not only good order, but peace of mind and soul is assured. The looks and tones at the breakfast table, the conduct of fellow-workers or employers, the faithful or unreliable people we deal with, what people say to on the street, the letters received, the friends or foes we meet, these things make up very much of the pleasure or misery of our day. Turn the idea around and remember that just so much are you adding to the pleasure or the misery of other people's days. And this is only the half of the matter which you can control.

Whether any particular day shall bring to you more of happiness or of suffering is largely beyond your power to determine. Whether each day of your life shall give happiness or suffering rests with yourself.

## Priorities

Priorities are the key to managing our time and our lives. Many of us make To-Do Lists, but few people take enough time to weigh the activities on the list for relative importance.

Without that essential step of priority setting, a To-Do List is useless. We may even seem to be constantly busy, yet we fritter away our time on tasks that do not advance us toward our major goals and we do not accomplish anything of real value.

The most important effort on our To-Do List daily should be doing all we can to achieve the salvation of our soul. That is the most important task, above all others in our entire lives and everything else should be subordinated to it.

## Not

It is not the critic who counts, not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly, who errs and comes up short again and again because there is no effort without error and shortcomings, who knows the great devotion, who spends himself in a worthy cause, who at the best knows in the end the high achievement of triumph and who at worst, if he fails while daring

greatly, knows his place shall never be with those timid and cold souls who know neither victory nor defeat - Theodore Roosevelt.

## Anger

Anyone can be angry; that is easy. But to be angry with the right person, to the right degree, at the right time, for the right purpose and in the right way is not easy. As believers we can be angry with someone for the evil or sin they do, but must distinguish between the sin and the sinner. Our anger can be used to correct the problem or shortcoming, never to permit the sin to be increased or worsen.

## Perseverance

It is a rare person who doesn't get discouraged from time to time. Whether it happens to us or to an associate, we're trying to cheer up, the answer centers around one word: perseverance.

The value of courage, persistence, and perseverance has rarely been illustrated more convincingly than in the life story of this man. His age appears in the column on the right:

Failed in business	22
Ran for legislature – defeated	23
Again failed in business	24
Elected to legislature	25
Sweetheart died	26
Had a nervous breakdown	27
Defeated for Speaker	29

Defeated for Elector	31
Defeated for Congress	34
Elected to Congress	37
Defeated for Congress	39
Defeated for Senate	46
Defeated for Vice President	47
Defeated for Senate	49
Elected President of United States	51

That's the record of Abraham Lincoln

## Watch

Watch your thoughts; they become words.

Watch your words; they become actions.

Watch your actions; they become habits.

Watch your habits; they become character.

Watch your character; it becomes your destiny.

## "Luck"

He worked by day and toiled by night.

He gave up play and some delight.

Dry books he read new things to learn.

And forged ahead success to learn.

He plodded on with faith and pluck.

And when he won, others called it luck.

## **We Welcome non-Orthodox at our Divine Liturgy**

**We welcome fellow Christians to the celebration of the Eucharist as our brothers and sisters and good neighbors and friends. We pray that our common baptism and action of the Holy Spirit in this celebration of the Divine Liturgy will draw us closer to one another and begin to dispel the sad divisions which separate us. We pray that these will lessen and finally disappear, in keeping with Christ's prayer to the Eternal Father for us, "...that they may all be one..." John 17: 21.**

**Because we Orthodox believe that the celebration of the Eucharist is a sign of the reality of oneness of faith, life and worship, members of those churches with whom we are not yet fully united are ordinarily not admitted to Holy Communion. Eucharistic sharing requires unity of faith in Christ in Orthodoxy, His Body.**

**Ecumenical guidelines issued both by our Church and others requires us to respect the provisions of Church Law. While it is true Roman Catholics will permit, under certain circumstances Orthodox believers to receive Communion in their parish churches, they have not asked for, nor have they received permission and approving concurrence from Orthodox bishops in this regard. Roman bishops have unilaterally attempted to legislate for us, for communicants outside their own church but cannot do so since we are not their subjects. Orthodox believers receive Communion *ONLY* in an Orthodox Church.**

**Until there is common unity of faith, there can be no Eucharistic communion with the Roman Church, the Byzantine Church and particularly with any of the Protestant churches, most of whom do not even recognize the Eucharistic celebration in its true manifestation as a Sacramental Mystery, but simply as a fond remembrance or happy commemoration of the Mystical Supper.**

**All who do not and cannot receive Communion at the Divine Liturgy are encouraged to express in their hearts a prayerful desire for unity with the Lord Jesus Christ and one another. For non-Christians who from time to time may be attendant with us, we also welcome to this celebration those who do not share our faith in Jesus Christ. While we cannot admit them to Holy Communion, we ask them to offer their sincere prayers for the peace and the unity of the human family.**

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

**...the only genius some people have is the ability to destroy what others have built up?**

**...for some people, getting married is like sneezing; even when they feel it is coming, they cannot stop it?**

**...some people go through life getting results while others only go through and receive consequences?**

**...friendship is like sound health; its value is seldom known until it is lost?**

**...the epitaph on the tombstone of an atheist would read: "Here lies an atheist all dressed up with no place to go"?**

**...a handful of Christianity on Monday is worth more than a car load of seeming faithfulness on Sunday?**

**...there is no moral difference between legal and illegal stealing?**

**...your temper is a valuable possession; so do not lose it?**

**...no one will ever know what you mean by saying 'God is love' unless they first see it in you?**

**...no one can be caught in places he does not visit?**

**...many times the people who think they are ahead of the times are merely off-track?**

**...forbidding prayers in our public schools will not hurt our country as much as forgetting our prayers at home?**

**...the only ships that come in while we sit and wait are usually hardships?**

**...people may forget how fast you did a job, but they will remember how well you did it?**

**...quantity is what you can count; quality is what you can count on?**

**...the turtle makes progress only when he sticks his neck out?**

## ST. DEMETRIOS: A TRUE CHRISTIAN WARRIOR

**A** soldier in any army is fully aware that *“following orders”* is something that is expected of him at all times. It is the truly courageous warrior, however, who is able to stand firm and refuse to carry out commands that are inherently harmful, unlawful and immoral. Such a man was the Great Martyr Demetrios.

Demetrios was born in Thessalonica of devout Christian parents. His father was the military commander of the region and upon his death, Demetrios was appointed by the Emperor Maximian to fill this important position. During the reign of this brutal ruler, Christians lived in great fear of persecution. When Demetrios was ordered to arrest the Christians in Thessalonica and *“bring them to justice,”* he boldly refused, openly confessing his Christian beliefs before the Emperor. The enraged Maximian cast him into prison. While in prison, Demetrios was visited by his young pupil named Nestor, who was about to battle the giant gladiator Lyaeus in the arena. The Emperor was in the audience that fateful day. After receiving a blessing from Demetrios and the assurance that *“you will overcome, but will suffer for Christ,”* Nestor defeated his powerful foe. Upon hearing the cries of the crowd: *“Great is the God of Demetrios”* the Emperor ordered his execution. Soldiers rushed the cell where Demetrios was kept and ran him through with their spears. His body was secretly buried by the Christians of Thessalonica, and when the period of persecution ended, a church was erected over his relics. Healing, sweet-smelling myrrh has flowed from the body of St. Demetrios.