



*I am the vine
you are the branches.*

John 15:5

Be Grapevine

A NEWSLETTER OF ST. LAWRENCE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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*Holy Wonderworking
Unmercenary Physicians
Cosmas and Damian
July 1 / July 14*

The Holy Glorious and All-Praised Leaders of the Apostles, Peter and Paul

Wednesday, July 11

6 p.m. Great Vespers with Litiya & Artoklasia

7 p.m. Festal Matins

Thursday, July 12

Divine Liturgy 8 a.m.

Today the Holy Church piously remembers the sufferings of the Holy Glorious and All-Praised Apostles Peter and Paul. . . .

Our Lord Jesus Christ, in the final days of His earthly life, in the days of His mission to the race of man, chose from among the disciples His twelve Apostles to preach the Word of God. Among them, the Apostle Peter for his fiery ardor was vouchsafed to occupy the first place (Mt 10:2) and to be as it were the representative person for all the Church. Therefore it is said to him, preferentially, after the confession: "I will give unto thee the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth, shall be bound in the heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth, shall be loosed in heaven" (Mt 16:19). Therefore it was not one man, but rather the One Universal Church, that received these "keys" and the right "to bind and loosen." And that it was actually the Church that received this right, and not exclusively a single person, turn your attention to another place of the Scriptures, where the same Lord says to all His Apostles, "Receive ye the Holy Spirit" and further after this, "Whosoever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them: and whose soever sins ye retain, are retained" (Jn 20:22-23); or: "whatsoever ye bind upon the earth, shall be bound in Heaven: and whatsoever ye shall loose on earth, shall be loosened in heaven" (Mt 18:18). Thus, it is the Church that binds, the Church that loosens; the Church, built upon the foundational cornerstone, Jesus Christ Himself (Eph 2:20), doth bind and loosen. Let both the binding and the loosening be feared: the loosening, in order not to fall under this again; the binding, in order not to remain forever in this condition. Therefore "Iniquities ensnare a man, and everyone is bound in the chains of his own sins," says Wisdom (Prov 5:22); and

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CALENDAR

- July 13-17 Men's Camping Trip
- July 19 7 p.m. Catechism
- July 22 11:30 a.m. Clergy Meeting

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- Sts. Peter & Paul cont. 2
- Person to Person 3
- Hear Ye, Hear Ye 4

FROM THE PARISH



ACADEMY CORNER

*Have a Fun
and
Safe Summer!*



Upcoming School Year

Applications are open for new students! Please contact the school for more information.

HOMILIES ONLINE!

An easy way to prepare for Sundays and feast days throughout the year is to listen to the previous year's homily at www.slocc.com/audio. Take a listen!

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except for the Holy Church, nowhere is it possible to receive the loosening.

After His Resurrection the Lord entrusted the Apostle Peter to shepherd His spiritual flock not because among the disciples only Peter was predestined to shepherd the flock of Christ, but Christ addresses Himself chiefly to Peter because Peter was first among the Apostles and as such the representative of the Church; besides which, having turned in this instance to Peter alone, as to the top Apostle, Christ by this confirms the unity of the Church. . . .

It is remarkable that Christ, having said to Peter: "Feed My sheep," did not say: "Feed thy sheep," but rather to feed, good servant, the sheep of the Lord. "Is Christ divided? was Paul crucified for you? or were ye baptized in the name of Paul?" (1 Cor 1:13). "Feed My sheep." Wherefore "wolfish robbers, wolfish oppressors, deceitful teachers and mercenaries, not being concerned about the flock" (Mt 7:15; Acts 20:29; 2 Pet 2:1; Jn 10:12), having plundered a strange flock and making of the spoils as though it be of their own particular gain, they think that they feed their flock. Such are not good pastors, as pastors of the Lord. "The good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep" (Jn 10:11), entrusted to Him by the chief Shepherd Himself (1 Pet 5:4). And the Apostle Peter, true to his calling, gave his soul for the very flock of Christ, and having sealed his apostleship by a martyr's death, is now glorified throughout all the world.



The Apostle Paul, formerly Saul, was changed from a robbing wolf into a meek lamb. Formerly he was an enemy of the Church, then is manifest as an Apostle. Formerly he stalked it, then preached it. Having received from the high priests the authority at large to throw all Christians in chains for execution, he was already on the way, he breathed out "threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord" (Acts 9:1), he thirsted for blood, but "He that dwells in the Heavens shall laugh him to scorn" (Ps 2:4). When he, "having persecuted and vexed" in such manner "the Church of God" (1 Cor 15:9; Acts 8:5), he came near Damascus, and the Lord from Heaven called to him: "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou Me?" and I am here, and I am there, I am everywhere: here is My head; there is My body. There becomes nothing of a surprise in this; we ourselves are members of the Body of Christ. . . . Saul, however, "trembling and frightened," cried out: "Who art Thou, Lord?" The Lord answered him, "I am Jesus Whom thou persecutest."

And Saul suddenly undergoes a change: "What wantest Thou me to do?"— he cries out. And suddenly for him there is the Voice: "Arise, and go to the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do" (Acts 9:6). . . . The Lord urgently commands Ananias: "Search for and fetch him, for this vessel is chosen by Me: for I shall show him what great things he must suffer for My name's sake" (Acts 9:11, 15–16). And actually the Lord did show the Apostle Paul what things he had to

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PERSON TO PERSON

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suffer for His Name. He instructed him the deeds; He did not stop at the chains, the fetters, the prisons and shipwrecks; He Himself felt for him in his sufferings, He Himself guided him towards this day. On a single day the memory of the sufferings of both these Apostles is celebrated, though they suffered on separate days, but by the spirit and the closeness of their suffering they constitute one. Peter went first, and Paul followed soon after him. Formerly called Saul, and then Paul, having transformed his pride into humility. His very name (Paulus), meaning “small, little, less,” demonstrates this. What is the Apostle Paul after this? Ask him, and he himself gives answer to this: “I am,” says he, “the least of the Apostles . . . but I have labored more abundantly than all of them: yet not I, but the grace of God, which was with me” (1 Cor 15:9–10).

And so, brethren, celebrating now the memory of the holy Apostles Peter and Paul, remembering their venerable sufferings, we esteem their true faith and holy life, we esteem the innocence of their sufferings and pure confession. Loving in them the sublime quality and imitating them by great exploits, “in which to be likened to them” (2 Thess 3:5–9), and we shall attain to that eternal bliss which is prepared for all the saints. The path of our life before was more grievous, thornier, harder, but “we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses” (Heb 12:1), having passed by along it, made now for us easier, and lighter, and more readily passable. First there passed along it “the author and finisher of our faith,” our Lord Jesus Christ Himself (Heb 12:2); His daring Apostles followed after Him; then the martyrs, children, women, virgins and a great multitude of witnesses. Who acted in them and helped them on this path? He Who said, “Without Me ye can do nothing” (Jn 15:5). ~ *From the Sermon of Saint Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, on the Feast*

FROM THE PARISH

New Old Anaphora

In a few weeks the choir will be singing an Anaphora that we used to sing years ago and haven't used in a long time. If anyone would like to listen and become familiar with it, here is a link to the sound file. It is also on the CD: Selections from the Divine Liturgy produced by Seraphim Six Productions which is available in the church bookstore.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ZIz9VDY0d0p_oubn00tXKu-BY-GOA7h5F/view?usp=sharing

NEEDS & OPPORTUNITIES

Menard Move Day

James, Monica and family are moving July 28, Saturday (big move day) & Sunday the 29, if ladies would like to come over for brunch and help with dusting and wiping.... “I'd love that help.” They will need help with lifting-bed frames, Tempur-Pedic (cement heavy) mattress, bed frames, a couch, 3 dressers and maybe 15 heavy boxes. They have to be out the 29th. If you can help please let them know, 234-7856 or monicap-menard@gmail.com.

Housing Needed

A family of three from St. Nicholas Church in Saratoga need to find a rental asap and are looking at our area. Please let Kyria at carolillouz@bsbproduction.com know of any possibilities.

TRADING POST

For sale

Good quality furniture, small accent tables, desk, rugs etc.

Please contact Noanie Miller by cell at 650-776-6502, if you are interested in viewing, just half a mile from the church.

Travel Trailer For Sale

The d'Arms' are selling their barely used 18 Foot 2010 Chalet Takana Travel Trailer w/fine awning: \$10,800 OBO. Fiberglass lightweight body. Has multiple beautiful wooden cabinets and storage. Rear corner shower, lav., med. cab., toilet, wardrobes, fixed booth dinette w/storage below. Queen bed w/storage below, refrigerator, dual burner range, dual basin sink, overhead cabinets throughout & much more. Please call Don at 408 332-0997 or Alyson at 408 410-7946

AWAKENINGS NEWS

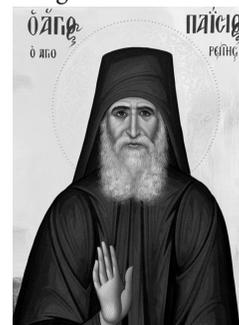
A couple of the new books of special interest—and great additions for your Summer reading. “Speaking To God” by our beloved Archbishop Demetrios of America. Written in 1960 and recently translated into English, this wonderful book on prayer speaks to the times in which we are living. A small, powerful, easy-to-read, and inspirational book that will bless you from the first page!

Also, “Everyday Wonders”, stories of God's providence, by V. Rev. Michael J. Oleksa. Once you start reading, you won't want to put it down!

TRICKS OF THE TRADE

Live simply and without thinking too much, like a child with his father. Faith without too much thinking works wonders. The logical mind hinders the Grace of God and miracles. Practice patience without judging with the logical mind.

— *Saint Paisios of Mt. Athos commemorated, July 12*



SHOP THE ABBOT'S!

New This Week

- ✦ Mancala game
- ✦ Salad Spinners
- ✦ Camp toilet, box
- ✦ "Dog Lover" mug
- ✦ Fancy wall masks
- ✦ Fans and heaters
- ✦ Tents, ground pads
- ✦ Graco baby monitor
- ✦ Rooster decor clock
- ✦ Roll-top desk, medium
- ✦ Lamps, lighting @ 50%
- ✦ Porcelain dolls, in boxes
- ✦ Bread pans, mini ceramic
- ✦ Bacon bowl forms, in box
- ✦ Frame w/nap-time sounds
- ✦ Floral couch/pillows - Nice!
- ✦ High table w/matching chairs
- ✦ Crystal baseball paperweight



SAINT LAWRENCE

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Return Service Requested

HEAR YE, HEAR YE!

SERVICE SCHEDULE

| | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Fri. July 13 (June 30) | <i>No Services</i> |
| Sat. July 14 (1) | 7 p.m. Great Vespers |
| Sun. July 15 (2) | 7:30 a.m. Matins 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy |
| Mon. July 16 (3) | <i>No Services</i> |
| Tues. July 17 (4) | 7 p.m. Vespers |
| Wed. July 18 (5) | 7 p.m. Vespers |
| Thur. July 19 (6) | <i>No Services</i> |

SCRIPTURE READINGS

For Sunday, July 15 (2)
Romans 15:1-7
Matthew 9:27-35

BIRTHDAYS

| | |
|------------------|---------|
| Thomas Adams | July 15 |
| Anna Macy | July 15 |
| Mary Price | July 15 |
| Katya Rekow | July 15 |
| Jacob Aufdermaur | July 18 |
| Alexandra Mendes | July 19 |

ANNIVERSARIES

Dn. James & Emily Somerville
Married 11 years, July 15

CLEANING TEAM

July 14 Susan M., Maria D., Tia G.,
Presv. Susan, Molly K.

CONTACT THE GRAPEVINE

E-mail: newsletter@slocc.com
Phone: (831) 335-0300 Fax: (831) 335-0353
Submissions by e-mail are preferable!

Deadline for announcements: Tuesday noon for Friday's issue

Please specify how long you want the announcement to run. Default is 2 weeks.