

SAINT

TABITHA
OF JOPPA





St. Peter & St. Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church

220 Mansfield Blvd. (mailing: PO Box 835), Carnegie, PA 15106

Rev. Fr. John Charest

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www.orthodoxcarnegie.org

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SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 2021

SUNDAY, NOV. 7TH

DIVINE LITURGY 9:30 AM TONE 3

20TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

ST. TABITHA

GAL 1: 11 -19; LK 16: 19- 31

SATURDAY, NOV. 13TH

VESPERS 6:00 PM

SUNDAY, NOV. 14TH

DIVINE LITURGY 9:30 AM TONE 4

21ST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

HOLY UNMERCENARIES COSMAS & DAMIAN

GAL 2: 16-20 ; LK 8: 26 -39

LITANY FOR: SOPHIE STEC,

DANIEL & ANNA ZINSKI,

JACOB KURYLIAK

ALL SERVICE LIVE STREAMED AT:

<https://orthodoxcarnegie.org/livestream>

TODAY'S BULLETIN IS SPONSORED BY:

**The Sts. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church Bulletin is published weekly by
The Senior Chapter of the Ukrainian Orthodox League**

Editor: Michael Kapeluck

Bulletin Submissions are due by 8:00 am Thursday morning. Written submissions can be:

-hand delivered to the editor

-placed in the Bulletin envelope in the church vestibule.

-mailed to: 300 East Main Street, Carnegie, PA 15106

-e-mailed to: kapeluck@verizon.net

We welcome you today

We would like to remind our visitors of the following;:

- ❖ All people are encouraged to participate in the sacred services of our Church. We hope that you will be able to worship as well as have fellowship with us. Should you wish any information about the Orthodox Faith or this parish in particular, please see the rector or any member of the church. We are able to place you on our mailing list.
- ❖ Only Orthodox Christians may receive the Eucharist (Holy Communion) in the Orthodox Church. In like manner, Orthodox Christians may not receive the sacraments in a non-Orthodox Church. While we hope that one day all Christians will find unity and be able to approach the chalice of our Lord together, we observe the teachings of the Church that the Eucharist is a gift of unity and not a means of unity.

We remind our faithful and visitors of the following guidelines concerning the Holy Sacraments in the Orthodox Church.

- ❖ Orthodox Christians are urged to receive Holy Communion frequently.
- ❖ Communicants should be at peace with others before approaching the chalice (Mt 5:23-24)
- ❖ Realize the importance of making a thorough examination of sins and transgressions against God, ourselves and others and having prayed for forgiveness before coming to Holy Communion.
- ❖ Frequent communicants should come to Holy Confession at least four times a year (during the four fasting periods of the year) and additionally when an examination of conscience reveals the necessity to do so in order to heal any sinful behavior.
- ❖ Communicants should fast from all foods and liquids from the evening before receiving Holy Communion.
- ❖ Communicants should read prayers in preparation for receiving Holy Communion.
- ❖ All Orthodox Christians must receive the sacraments at least once a year.
- ❖ Those who are late for Divine Liturgy (after the reading of the Epistle and Gospel) should not approach the chalice.
- ❖ Those who are ill or who have special physical needs are exempt from the above guidelines.
- ❖ Infants and children (up to the age of seven) who are Orthodox Christians may receive Holy Communion and are exempt from the above guidelines.

Thank you for gathering to worship with us today. Together we have glorified the One God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. May we be brought closer to one another and closer to God by following the eternal teachings of our Lord.

Нагадуємо нашнім гостям., що:

ми заохочуємо всіх до участі у Священній Літургії в нашій Церкві; ми сподіваємося, що Ви зможете не лише молитися тут, але й стати членом нашої громади. Якщо Ви хочете отримати якусь додаткову інформацію про Православну віру, чи, зокрема, про нашу парафію, звертайтеся, будь ласка, до отця настоятеля чи до будь-кого із членів нашої парафії. Ми можемо внести вашу адресу до парафіяльного списку розсилки;

лише православні християни можуть отримати Євхаристію (Святе Причастя) у православної церкви і, відповідно, православні християни не можуть отримувати святого причастя у неправославної церкві Плекаючи надію на те, що у майбутньому всі християни досягнуть єдності і зможуть разом пити із чаші нашого Господа, ми дотримуємося вчення церкви про те, що Євхаристія - це дар єдності, а не засіб до єдності.

НАГАДУЄМО НАШИМ ВІРНИМ І ГОСТЯМ ПРО ПРАВИЛА, ЩО СТОСУЮТЬСЯ СВЯТОГО ПРИЧАСТЯ У ПРАВОСЛАВНІЙ ЦЕРКВІ:

ми спонукаємо православних християн часто ходити до Святого Причастя;

ті, хто причащаються, повинні бути у мирі з іншими перш, нас підійти до євхаристичної чаші (Св.Матвій 5:23-24);

перед тим, як прийти на Святе Причастя, дуже важливо ретельно осмислити гріхи і порушення, які було вчинено проти Бога, нас самих та інших і помолитися за їх відпущення;

тим, хто часто причащається, слід приходити на святу сповідь принаймні чотири рази на рік (під час кожного із чотирьох щорічних постів);

ті, хто причащається, повинні з вечора перед прийняттям Святого Причастя, припинити вживання всякої їжі і напоїв;

ті, хто причащається, повинні шляхом молитов підготувати себе до прийняття причастя;

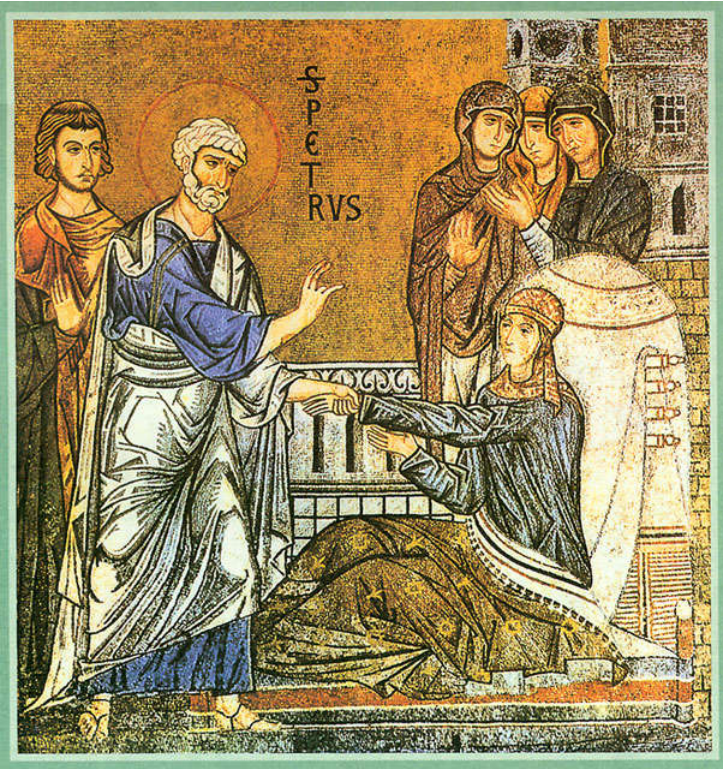
всі православні християни повинні, принаймні, раз на рік отримати Святе Причастя;

ті, хто спізнився на Божественну Літургію (пришов після того, як було прочитано Апостол і Євангеліє) не можуть підходити до чаші; **хворі**, і **ті**, хто має обмежені фізичні м'якшости, звільняються від вище викладених вимог;

немовлята та діти до семи років, які належать до Православної християнської віри, можуть отримувати Святе Причастя і звільняються від вище викладених вимог;

Дякуємо за те, що Ви прийшли помолитися з нами сьогодні у церкві Ісуса Христа. Разом з вами ми віддали славу Єдиному Господу, Отцеві, і Синові, і Духові Святому. Нехай дотримування вічного вчення нашого Господа наблизить нас один до одного Богу

ST TABITHA THE WIDOW



TROPARION TO THE RESURRECTION TONG 3
Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm! He has trampled down death by death! He has become the first born of the dead! He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted the world great mercy!

TROPARION TO ST TABITHA - TONG 1

With the flow of the many-streamed river of almsgiving
You watered the dry earth of the needy.
Showering alms on the widows and the poor,
You shone with the light of your works
And were radiant with grace, O Tabitha.
Glory to Christ who loves you!
Glory to Christ who has blessed you!
Glory to Christ whom you followed as a true disciple and a spotless lamb!

KONTAKION TO ST TABITHA- TONG 2

You served the Savior in holiness
By your God-fearing deeds,
And were a model of love as his disciple.
O Tabitha, we praise your memory!

KONTAKION TO THE RESURRECTION TONG 3

On this day Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One, leading us from the gates of death. On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices; with the prophets and patriarchs they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power.

Prokiemon

Sing to our God, sing to our King, to our King sing.

Verse: O clap your hands together, all ye people; O sing unto God with the voice of melody.

Lesson from the Epistle of Saint Paul to the Galatians

(c. 1, v. 11-19)

Brethren, I want you to know that the Gospel, which I have preached, is not of human origin. For I have not received it from a man, nor was I instructed in it by any human teacher. It came to me through a revelation from Jesus Christ.

You have heard of my former way of life in Judaism. For I have persecuted the Church of God violently and I tried to destroy it. I was proficient in Judaism beyond many of my own age and race. I was a fierce champion of the traditions, handed down by my forefathers.

But God had set me apart before my birth, and called me to his service through his grace. He graciously revealed his Son to me and ordered me to preach his Gospel to the Gentiles. My first action, then, was not to confer with any human being. I did not go up to Jerusalem to see those, who had been Apostles before me. On the contrary, I went into Arabia, and I returned again to Damascus.

Three years later, I went up to Jerusalem to visit Peter and stayed fifteen days with him. But I saw none of the other Apostles except James, the brother of the Lord.

До галатів 1:11-19

Браття і сестри, я хочу, щоб ви знали, що Добра Звістка, яку я вам проповідував — не від людей. Бо я прийняв її не від людини, і не людина мене навчила її, але Ісус Христос явив її мені.

Ви чули про моє попереднє життя в релігії юдеїв. Ви знаєте, що я жорстоко переслідував церкву Божу, та намагався зруйнувати її. У своєму служінні юдейській релігії я випереджав багатьох своїх однолітків, бо був надзвичайно відданий ученню своїх прабатьків.

Та Бог, Який вибрав мене ще до мого народження, покликав мене милістю Своєю служити Йому. Коли Всевишній явив мені Сина Свого, щоб я проповідував Добру Звістку про Нього поміж поганями, я не радився ні з ким з людей. Не ходив я і до Єрусалиму, до апостолів, які вже були обрані до мене. Натомість я подався до Аравії, а потім повернувся в Дамаск.

Після трьох років я пішов до Єрусалиму, щоб познайомитися з Петром. Провів я з ним п'ятнадцять днів. І нікого з інших апостолів я не бачив, окрім Якова, брата Господнього.

Alleluia

v. In You, O Lord, have I placed my hope; let me not be put to shame.

v. Be a God of protection for me, a house of refuge in order to save me.

Gospel According to St. Luke 16:19-31

There was a certain rich man who was clothed in purple and fine linen and fared sumptuously every day. But there was a certain beggar named Lazarus, full of sores, who was laid at his gate, desiring to be fed with the crumbs which fell from the rich man's table. Moreover the dogs came and licked his sores. So it was that the beggar died, and was carried by the angels to Abraham's bosom. The rich man also died and was buried. And being in torments in Hades, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom.

"Then he cried and said, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus that he may dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am tormented in this flame.' But Abraham said, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, and likewise Lazarus evil things; but now he is comforted and you are tormented. And besides all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed, so that those who want to pass from here to you cannot, nor can those from there pass to us.'

"Then he said, 'I beg you therefore, father, that you would send him to my father's house, for I have five brothers, that he may testify to them, lest they also come to this place of torment.' Abraham said to him, 'They have Moses and the prophets; let them hear them.' And he said, 'No, father Abraham; but if one goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' But he said to him, 'If they do not hear Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded though one rise from the dead.' "

Луки 16:19-31

Далі Ісус розповів таку притчу: «Був собі багатий чоловік, який жив у розкоші, та завжди одягався у найвишуканіші шати. А біля його воріт лежав бідний чоловік на ймення Лазар. На тілі його були виразки. Він мріяв наїстися тими залишками, що перепадуть зі столу багатія. Тільки собаки підходили й зализували його рани.

А згодом бідняк помер, і Ангели забрали його й віднесли до Авраама. Помер також і багач, і був похований. І в країні мертвих, страждаючи від мук, багатій поглянув угору й побачив удалині Авраама, а поруч із ним Лазаря. І вигукнув багач: „Отче Аврааме, змилуйся наді мною, пошли Лазаря, щоб він змочив у воді кінчик пальця й охолодив мій язик, бо я так страждаю в цім вогні!”

Та Авраам відповів йому: „Сину мій, пригадай: протягом усього свого життя на землі ти мав усі блага, в той час, як Лазареві на долю випали всі страждання. Та тепер він утішений, а ти терпиш муки.

Але опрiч усе це, глибока прiрва пролягла мiж нами i вами. Хоч як би хто прагнув перейти звiдси до вас,—не змиг би, так само й з вашого боку нiхто не в змозi цю прiрву здолати”.

Той каже: „Тоді я прошу тебе, отче, пошли Лазаря до дому мого батька, бо там у мене п'ятеро братів. Хай він застереже їх, щоб і вони були не потрапили до цього місця страждань”.

Та Авраам відповів: „У них є Мойсей та пророки. Хай твої брати їх слухають”. Багатій заперечив: „Ні, отче, це якби до них прийшов хтось із померлих, тоді б вони покаялися”. Але Авраам сказав: „Якщо вони не слухаються Мойсея та пророків, то навіть коли встане хтось із померлих, їх усе одно не переконає”».

Prayer List

Heavenly Father, Who sent Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to be the Physician of our souls and bodies, Who came to heal sickness and infirmity, Who healed the paralytic, and brought back to life the daughter of Jairus, Who healed the woman who had been sick for twelve years by the her mere touch of the hem of your robe, visit and heal also your beloved servants:

Fr. George Bazylevsky	Jane Allred	Teresa Stacy	Laila Bechtle
Fr. Anthony Ugolnik	Ronda Bickel	Steve Sawchuk	Willie Caldwell
Steve Sivulich	Pearl Homyrda	Maria Warholak	Shaun McAdams
Ann Sekelik	Pamela Graham	Rebecca White	Rosemary Berry
Joann Klein	Shelley Cameron	Jocelyn Barner	Deborah Schricker
Michael Klein	James White	Theresa Zatezalo	Jack Schricker
Dan Rosga	Dylan G	Olga Cherniavska	Jeff Mills
Peter Zinski	Nick Worobny	Michele Roberts	Daniel Sheerin
Dolores Wachnowsky	Sally Sally	Michael Corba	Jackie
Cindy B.	PM Lilian Hnatko		

by the power and grace of Your Christ. Grant them the patience that comes from believing that You are always at work in our lives to bring good out of evil. Grant them strength of body, mind and soul. Raise them up from the bed of pain. Grant them full recovery. May they experience the same surge of healing power flow through their bodies ,as did the sick woman who touched your robe. For we, too, are touching your robe today, dear Lord, through this our prayer. We approach you with the same faith she did. Grant them the gift of health. For You alone are the source of healing and to You we offer glory, praise and thanksgiving in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Amen

Mnohaya Lita - Many Blessed Years

Name Days

Nov10 Great Martyr Paraskeva

Pearl Homyrda

Nov. 11 St Ermelinda of Meldaert

Lynda West

Anniversaries

Birthdays

Nov7 Fr. Robert Popichak

Nov. 13 Anne Sally

Feast Days of:

Nov. 8 Great Martyr Demetrius

Nov. 9 Martyr Nestor

Nov. 10 Great Martyr Paraskeva

Pray for our friends and relatives serving in the armed forces.

Patrick Kluyber, Catherine Sheerin, Gregory Markiw,
Ethan Rock, Michael Hrishenko

Pray for our Catechumens

Andie Yorita, Eren & Adrienne Saltik

Pray for the newly departed servants of God

,Kathryn Ostaffy



- **SECRET ADVENT PRAYER PAL:** The Sr. UOL Chapter is bringing back the Advent Prayer Pals Program. We are very familiar with our Lenten Prayer Pal Program. Two years ago we started the Advent Prayer Pal Program too. Because of Covid, we were unable to do it last year, so we are very excited to bring it back! As a reminder, this is a way to remember the needs of others by offering prayers for them during the Advent Season; not only to concentrate on our attempts at making our own lives better, but to also remember someone else through the act of prayer. To join the group, please see Sue Leis during Coffee Hour today through November 14th and ask to have your name included on the list. We are doing a random pick of names through an electronic selection process so all names have to be in by **November 14th**. Do not tell your prayer pal that you are praying for them, this is to be done privately. On Christmas, January 7th, you are to greet your Prayer Pal with an ornament or some small token and the traditional greeting of "Christ Is Born" letting them know that you were their secret Prayer Pal. Please make sure that you identify yourself to your Advent Prayer Pal on Christmas. How much does this cost? Only a little bit of time; a small effort; and a nominal cost for the small ornament that you hand your Prayer Pal on Christmas. Easy??? Definitely!!! Rewarding??? Extremely!!! It doesn't get much better than this. In this troubled world that we live in, who doesn't need a little extra prayer in their life? Remember, the best gift is the gift of constant prayer~and we could all use more of it!

Stewardship

THANK YOU FOR THESE RECENT DONATIONS:

1

You're invited to join the
Holy Cross Ladies Philoptochos for

AN AFTERNOON WITH GERONTISSA

Enjoy a special opportunity for
conversation with Gerontissa Theophano,
fellowship, Mediterranean Lenten treats &
Christmas shopping all to support
the Nativity of Theotokos Monastery

Saturday, December 11
Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Community
Center
123 Gilkeson Road
11 AM - 2 PM
\$40/person
Register at:
<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/an-afternoon-with-gerontissa-tickets-196512332677>

Praying our Way Together
Sponsored by UOL Education Commission



Looking for something to heighten your spiritual journey to prepare for the Nativity.

Planning a group prayer for Advent.

If you would like to journey with us, please email your name, phone number, parish name, and parish address to Oleh Bilynsky at nsufler@aol.com and more information will be sent to you.

Please sign up by November 20, 2021

10/29/2021

Choir Director / Cantor Needed

**St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
Homestead, PA 15120**



For many years our church and choir have been fortunate to have one person fulfill both roles. Although this is preferred, it is not required.

Affiliation with the Orthodox Church is preferred, but required only for the cantor role.

To obtain additional information and / or to submit a resume, please email Thomas Pingor, Parish Council President of St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, at tpingor@verizon.net.



St. Peter & St. Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church
220 Mansfield Blvd | Carnegie PA 15106
orthodoxcarnegie@gmail.com
www.orthodoxcarnegie.org

*Happy
Thanksgiving*

Thanksgiving Dinner 2021

It is time again for our annual Thanksgiving Dinner at Saint Peter and Saint Paul in Carnegie. This year we will be having both inside dining and take outs and deliveries for the local community. Every year our Thanksgiving dinner keeps growing in the numbers of people that we serve on that day.

With your past support both in financial or product donations and just as important your time we have turned this into a community out reach project that tells the greater Carnegie area that we are here and we play an important role in serving the community.

We are asking again this year for financial, product and time donations. If you can help us this year please contact Howard West, John Stasko, Michael Kapeluck or Father John.

Also Father John will be serving Divine Liturgy at 9:00 so please attend via in person or live streamed.

Volunteers are needed for the following:

Tuesday: We will be cooking the Ham & Turkeys and baking pies.

Wednesday: We will be cutting up the Ham & Turkey, peeling potatoes, making stuffing and sweet potatoes and baking pies. We also would like to have the pies cut and boxed for the delivery orders. We also need to setup the hall for Thursday.

Thursday: Helping heat everything up, staffing the serving line or being part of the to go orders and pickup packing group.

If you can volunteer any of these days, please see Howard West, John Stasko or Father John.

Christmas Dinners:

Also we would like to do Christmas Dinner again this year for the community, we are trying to see how many people can help with this before we can move forward. If you can help please let Howard West, John Stasko or Father John.

Redd up! Cumpneys Cummin!

Redd up! Cumpneys Cummin! OR in regular non-Pittsburgh talk clean-up we have company coming! We do and it is **YOU!** Come and be part of a "Family Reunion," a UOL Family reunion of your Ukrainian Orthodox Family! The convention theme "In the Beginning" allows everyone to start again and renew old friendships or start new friendships! Mark your calendar to attend the 75th UOL Anniversary Convention hosted by Sts. Peter & Paul Sr. UOL Chapter in Carnegie, PA, July 27 – 31, 2022!

We have the hotel booked and it is going to be awesome! A fantastic rate of **\$99.00** a night! *Yes, you read that right!* The convention committee secured a rate of **\$99.00** a night at the Hilton DoubleTree Hotel in Greentree, PA. The hotel is just a few minutes from downtown Carnegie **OR** Downtown Pittsburgh. To get to Carnegie you do not have to get on the highway, a bonus! You get breakfast with your stay, free parking, and shuttle service to airport if needed. The hotel has an indoor and outdoor pool, exercise room and onsite food service areas!



The ***Grand Banquet & Ball*** celebrating the ***UOL's 75 years*** is of course being held on Saturday Night, 7.30.2022. The theme for the night will be of the 1940's design with all the elegance. The evening will be busy and fun but come ready to dance to the sounds of "ZIRKA" from Canada! Visit our website and watch videos to hear and see the band to help you get excited for the evening! Tell your friends and neighbors to plan for a once in a lifetime Zabava at

this convention! Remember the days of the many tables in the ballroom for conventions? Wonder how many we can fill again this coming July?



On the UOL Website there is a section under membership that has a few statements from UOL members on the UOL's purpose and the conventions importance. One member says, *"As a family reunion, the Convention rekindles the flames that have been flickering or even close to extinguishing within each of us. Everyone comes back warmed by the joys of the Convention, armed with memories of touching moments, inspirational liturgies and prayer services, incredibly funny experiences (karaoke can certainly bring a crowd to tears from laughter) and heartfelt one-on-one talks with each other. I believe that these moments are in fact far more important than the business decisions and the huge accomplishments of the UOL. The community, the sense of belonging to the family of Ukrainian Orthodox Christians is our purpose."*

Visit our convention website at <https://orthodoxcarnegie.org/75thuolconvention> to view additional information about the **75th UOL Convention** on the hotel and events but also Pittsburgh and Carnegie! You can see what you can do before and after the convention to make your trip a truly rewarding visit or vacation! Information about our various fundraising events for the convention ahead of time that you can participate in (you do not have to be a local either) in also can also be found! Watch our social media and website for some exciting videos, pictures from the history pages and of course news about the upcoming convention!

Oh! And do not forget, *Yinz need to start practicing your words!* See you soon at the convention!

Time to start learning your Pittsburgh words! Will you be ready?

- Abaht = about
- Buggy = shopping cart
- Caach = couch
- Dower = Dollar
- Expecially = especially
- Flahr = flower
- Greazy = greasy
- Haus = house
- I'nernt = ignorant
- Kranz = crayons

CONVENTION HOTEL



\$99.00 A NIGHT!!



Located in Greentree, easy 10 minutes from Carnegie!

Follow the 75th VOL Convention at these locations.



WEBSITE



FACEBOOK



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75th VOL Convention | St. Peter & St. Paul
(orthodoxcarnegie.org)

SATURDAY NIGHT BANQUET & BALL

7.30.2022



Banquet celebrating the VOL's 75th Anniversary!



Donez the night away to sounds of "Zirka" from Conndal

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In the beginning...

75th VOL Convention, July 2022
St. Peter & St. Paul (Orthodox Carnegie, PA)

75th Annual VOL Convention
July 27-31, 2022



ASCETICISM, SUFFERING & THE JUSTICE OF GOD

FR. ANDREW STEPHEN DAMICK

We live in a world with a lot of injustice. People harm one another directly, through violence and evil words. Those who have great possessions or power oppress the poor and the powerless. And so often we see that it is not put right. This is unjust.

So today we are going to discuss the justice of God. God's justice is about putting things right. We see this theme in both the Old and New Testaments, that God judges the rich and powerful for the way they treat the poor and powerless, that He judges those who do violence to others.

When God judges, it is not like judges in our time, whose purpose is to interpret and apply the law in a court, often handing out punishments such as fines or imprisonment. It is also not like the "street justice" we see between violent people and nations, which is mainly about revenge.

God's justice is to put things right. So if someone is being oppressed, He releases him from that oppression and exalts him. If someone is an oppressor, He takes that one down as many notches as is needed to end that oppression. And so on. This justice will be fully realized in the Kingdom of God in the life to come, though God is also acting now to bring justice.

God's justice is very much in play when we see someone baptized into the Church. When the priest has baptized and chrismated the new Christian and is washing off the chrism, he says to that person, "Thou art justified." In other words, that person has been put right in relationship with God—and it has been done by God by forgiving his sins and putting Christ on him.

After that, the Christian life is about staying in that justified way of being, about living righteously—that is, living justly. Faithfulness to justice, to righteousness, is what it means to be Christian and what is required to stay within the kingdom of God, both in this life and into the age to come. This faithfulness is both maintained and increased by repentance, which is nothing other than turning away from the unjust life, the unrighteous life, and living the just life, the righteous life. In the Scriptures, justice and righteousness and the same thing.

So with this frame in mind, let's look at both the Gospel and epistle readings for today. We'll look at the Gospel first, which is a reading from the sixteenth chapter of St. Luke's Gospel. It is the well-known parable of the rich man and Lazarus.

In this parable, we see that the rich man was clothed in purple and fine linen—that is, the very best, most expensive clothes—and he "feasted sumptuously every day." He lacked nothing and had nothing but the best. And at his gate is a poor man named Lazarus, who is hungry and sick.

Both die. The poor man is taken by the angels to Abraham's bosom—that is, to a place where the saints dwelt together to await the resurrection—and the rich man dies and is in torment in Hades.

We know almost nothing about their lives other than that one was rich and one was poor, and both lived accordingly. It doesn't say that the rich man abused Lazarus, just that Lazarus wanted to eat the crumbs from the man's table. We don't know if he got that or not.

When the rich man calls out to Abraham for help in his torment, Abraham says to him that in all his lifetime the rich man received good things, while Lazarus got bad things. And now, their positions are reversed—Lazarus lives in comfort, but the rich man is in anguish. From this we can see that at death, God has given justice. The man who had nothing is brought up and exalted to where he belonged, while the man who gave himself everything in this life is brought low and now exists in the next life the way Lazarus did in this life.

So what is our takeaway here? It is precisely what we call asceticism. Asceticism is to deny oneself good things in order to repent. We do this through fasting and chastity, of course, but we also do it through almsgiving—that is, through giving away what we have to others for their benefit, expecting nothing in return.

The emphasis on the asceticism of almsgiving is everywhere in the Scripture and in the writings of the Fathers and in the divine services. When we grasp tightly to what we have in this life, giving ourselves every possible comfort, then we are on the road of the rich man, who in this life got his reward, but in the next life was put down because he would not give away what he had. The only way one can wear all the best clothes and eat the best food every single day is by withholding possessions from others. It does not matter if they “deserve” it or not. If we withhold it, then we are saying to God, “I want my comforts in this life and not the next.” By holding onto it, we are preventing ourselves from being comforted in the next life.

So what about Lazarus? We do not know whether he took any asceticism on himself voluntarily or not. It simply does not say. But we do know that he suffered, and it seems likely that his suffering was involuntary. And that links us therefore to the reading from St. Paul's Second Epistle to the Corinthians, from the eleventh and twelfth chapters.

St. Paul says here, after describing a heavenly vision of Paradise that he experienced (which he, in his humility, says happened to “a man [he knows] in Christ”), tells how “a thorn in the flesh, an angel of Satan” was sent to torment him. He asked God three times to take it away—so we know that St. Paul did not ask for this—but God said no. So this demon that afflicted St. Paul in some way was there by God's permission. St. Paul was suffering involuntarily, and even worse, it was suffering from a demon, an evil spirit.

Why would God allow this, and what does it have to do with establishing justice? St. Paul links this demonic attack with his visionary experience of Paradise, and he says that the demon was sent “to keep [him] from being exalted above measure through the abundance of revelations.” Someone who has real spiritual visions will certainly experience the temptation to pride. And St. Paul's personality was big and bold, so you can imagine what pride would look like in someone like that. So when God lets this demon attack him, it is to serve divine justice. That is, it is to prevent St. Paul from becoming unjust, unrighteous.

Even more, in refusing to take the demon away, God says to St. Paul, “My grace is sufficient for thee, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.” That is, St. Paul becomes even more a vessel chosen to bear God's grace by enduring this affliction. He is made even more righteous by it, and he emphasizes that he even will “boast in [his] infirmities,” meaning that he is not complaining about the suffering but embraces it with patience and gratitude to God.

So how do these two readings apply to us? It is straightforward. If we are permitted wealth and comfort by God, especially if it is such that we are very comfortable all the time, then we need to give some of that away, to put ourselves right so that we do not have to be involuntarily put right when we die, like the rich man experienced. We cannot be grasping and stingy and also inherit the Kingdom of God. Generosity is how the Kingdom of God works.

Further, if we experience involuntary suffering, then we do not complain but instead perceive that God has permitted it to us for our justification—that is, to put us right. It might be to put us right in this life in justice for sin, but it might also be to prevent us from becoming unjust and unrighteous, which then also makes possible our further perfection as it did with St. Paul. We can then be grateful not for the suffering as such, but rather grateful that God has given to us this opportunity for righteousness. <https://blogs.ancientfaith.com/asd/2021/11/01/asceticism-suffering-and-the-justice-of-god/>

Calendar of Events

Nov. 7 Annual Parish Banquet
Nov. 25 32nd Annual Thanksgiving Open House
Dec. 18 18th Annual Cookie Walk
July 27-31 75th UOL Convention

COFFEE HOUR

Nov. 14 Victor & Natalie Onufrey, Oksana Aleksandrov, Olesya Zelenyak
Nov. 21 Sue Leis, Juliana Leis, Pat Dorning
Nov. 28 Steve & Alexis Sawchuk, Steven Swchuk
Dec. 5 Deacon Evan, Pani Matka Alice
Dec. 12 Cindy Haluszczak, Rachel Losego
Dec. 19 Sunday School/ St. Nicholas
Dec. 26 John, Shirley & Olet Stasko

Parish Weekly Schedule

Monday

Kyiv Ukrainian Dance Ensemble & School

Rehearsals begin every Monday at 6:00 pm. Classes for all ages.

For more info call Director Natalie Kapeluck or just stop down any Monday

Thursday Morning

Senior Coffee Hour

You're invited to our FREE coffee and donuts, and sometime pancakes, French toast or waffles every Thursday from 10:00 AM to 11:30 . . .or whenever it's over. At th parish hall. YOU ARE NOT PERMITTED TO BRING ANYTHING!!! However, bring a Friend!!!

3rd Sunday of the Month

St John & Martin's Closet

Clothing for men, women and children. Bedding & towels

Trade something old for something new, leave a donation. or just take what you need.

Donations of clean, gently used or new clothing/bedding accepted when the closet door is open.

Call 276-9718 to schedule a donation.

Parish Website/Social Media

To Submit items for publication on website & social media

>email any information to be included on the Website, Facebook or Instagram to Parish Technology.

If you have any fliers or jpgs please include them, but not necessary.

E-mail Technology at technology@orthodoxcarnegie.org

Please indicate the time frame you would like items posted to website and/or social media.

Find & follow us on:



BULLETIN SPONSOR DATES

Nov. 7 _____
Nov. 14 _____
Nov. 21 _____
Nov. 28 _____

Dec. 5 _____
Dec. 12 _____
Dec. 19 _____
Dec. 26 _____

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