



***SS. Peter and Paul Albanian Orthodox Church***  
9230 Old Bustleton Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19115  
Church Phone: 215-676-3311

***Pastor: Father Stephen Siniari***  
Rectory Phone: 1-609-385-3757



*Church Bulletin ~ October 2009*

## **Father Stephen's Message to the Faithful**

### **Our Relationship Would Have Broken Down**

**Three old men of whom one had a bad reputation came one day to Abba Achilles.**

**The first asked him, "Father, make me a fishing net."**

**"I will not make you one," Achilles replied.**

**Then the second one said, "Of your charity make one, so that we may have a souvenir of you in the monastery."**

**But Abba Achilles said, "I do not have time."**

**Then, the third one, who had a bad reputation said, "Make me a fishing net so that I may have something from your hands, Father."**

**Abba Achilles answered him at once. "For you, I will make one."**

**Then the two other old men asked him privately, "Why did you not want to do what we asked you, but promised to do what he asked?"**

**The old man gave them this answer, "I told you I would not make one and you were not disappointed, since you thought I had no time... ..But if I had not made one for him, he would have said, 'The old man has heard about my sin and that is why he does not want to make me anything...' ...And so our relationship would have broken down. But now I have cheered his soul so that he will not be overcome with grief."**

### **Special Announcements from Fr. Stephen**

**\*\*\* *Father Stephen* may be reached at 609-385-3757, Monday - Friday, 8 AM - 5 PM or by e-mail: [ssiniari@covenanthouse.org](mailto:ssiniari@covenanthouse.org)**

**Please remember that all confessions and consultations on Sunday mornings shall take place from 9 AM to 10 AM before the Divine Liturgy. Thank you.**

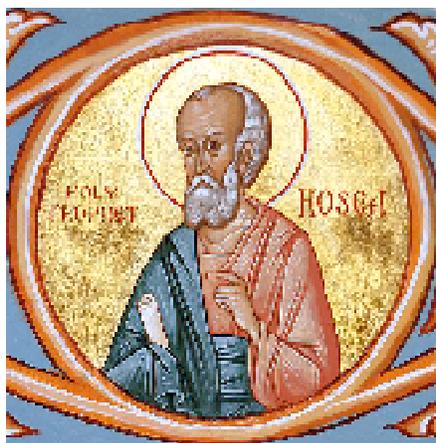
## Holy Days and Name Days in October

- ✦ **October 1** - Protection (Pokrov) of the Most-Holy Theotokos
- ✦ **October 6** - Holy Apostle Thomas; St Innocent, Metropolitan of Moscow
- ✦ **October 8** - Ven Pelagia, the Penitent; Ven Thais of Egypt
- ✦ **October 9** - Holy Apostle James, Son of Alphaeus; St Tikhon Patriarch of Moscow
- ✦ **October 10** - Martyrs Eulampius & Eulampia; Ven Ambrose of Optina
- ✦ **October 16** - Martyr Longinus the Centurian
- ✦ **October 17** - Prophet Hosea
- ✦ **October 18** - Holy Apostle & Evangelist Luke
- ✦ **October 19** - Prophet Joel
- ✦ **October 23** - Holy Apostle James, Brother of the Lord
- ✦ **October 24** - Blessed Elesbaan, King of Ethiopia
- ✦ **October 25** - St Tabitha
- ✦ **October 26** - Greatmartyr Myrrhghuser Demetrius; Great Earthquake at Constantinople
- ✦ **October 28** - Ven Job of Pochaev
- ✦ **October 29** - Martyr Anastasia of Rome
- ✦ **October 31** - Hieromartyr John Kochurov

### Prophet Hosea

(Commemorated October 17)

The Holy Prophet Hosea the first of the minor prophets, belonged to the tribe of Issachar. He lived during the ninth Century before Christ, in the kingdom of Israel. He was a contemporary of the holy Prophets Isaiah, Micah and Amos. During this time, many of his fellow Israelites had forgotten the true God, and worshipped idols. The holy Prophet Hosea attempted to turn them again to the faith of their Fathers by his wise counsels. Denouncing the iniquities of the people of Israel (i.e. the northern kingdom Israel), the prophet proclaimed to them great misfortunes from a foreign people and their removal into captivity by Assyria.



Almost a thousand years before the coming of the Savior, and through the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, the prophet foretold the end of sacrificial offerings and of the priesthood of Aaron (*Hos. 3:4-5*), and that the knowledge of the True God would spread through all the earth (*Hos. 2:20-23*). Hosea spoke also about Christ, how He would return from out of Egypt (*Hos. 11:1; compare Mt. 2:15*), that He would be resurrected on the third day (*Hos. 6 and especially Hos.6:2; compare with 1 Cor.15:4*), and that He would conquer death (*Hos.13-14. Compare 1 Cor.15:54-55*).

The prophesies of St Hosea are included in the book that bears his name. The prophetic service of St Hosea continued for more than sixty years. The God-inspired prophet died in deep old age, having devoted all his life to fulfilling the Will of God.

~ Reading & Icon Courtesy of OCA Webpage ~

### ✦✦✦ Events & Announcements ✦✦✦

#### Liturgical Schedule - October/November/December 2009

✦ ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM'S FEASTDAY & HIS GRACE BISHOP NIKON'S VISIT TO OUR SISTER PARISH - NOVEMBER 14 - 15 - *NO SERVICES AT SS PETER & PAUL*

✦ NATIVITY OF CHRIST - FRIDAY, DECEMBER 25TH - **Divine Liturgy 10 AM**

✠ EVE OF THE CIRCUMCISION OF OUR LORD & ST BASIL THE GREAT - THURSDAY,  
DECEMBER 31 - Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St Basil, 6 PM

### Schedule of Other Services

**BIBLE STUDY - EVERY WEDNESDAY - 7 PM - 8:30 PM in the Church Hall** - Bible Study led by **Fr. Dn. Gregory**. The title for the Bible Study is "*Seeking the Treasure of Christ Throughout Scripture*." The study will use the new Orthodox Study Bible of the Old and New Testament as a base. The first topic of discussion will be the meaning of the story of Adam and Eve and the discussions will proceed with a journey through the Hebrew Bible.

### Church News & Reminders

◇ **MEMBERSHIP DUES 2009** - **Please note: THE CHURCH FISCAL YEAR ENDED SEPTEMBER 30TH; if you have not yet paid your dues of \$125 per person, please do so ASAP.**

*Dues* can be paid at any time to James Schaeffer, our Treasurer. *Thank you!*

◇ **ICON PLEDGES** - Can be paid at any time to our treasurer, James Schaeffer. **Please note:** *when returning your Icons, please return them to the Church Store. You will be given a receipt for all Icons returned. ALL ICONS WERE TO BE RETURNED BY THE END OF SEPTEMBER. IF YOU HAVE NOT YET RETURNED YOUR ICONS, PLEASE DO SO ASAP. All Icon Pledges are due by the end of December. Please check with Jim if you are not sure how much you owe.*

◇ **SPECIAL SERVICES** - If you are planning to have a special service in the Church, please be considerate and notify either Father Stephen or the Church Committee one week in advance. When you are planning for a Baptism, Wedding, Funeral, or any other Prayer Service in the Church, please speak with Father Stephen in advance to determine if there is any way you can contribute to help the Church in helping others. Thank you. **Please note:** *if the services of the Church Choir are required, please notify the Choir Director, Christina Murianka, as soon as possible.*

**Memorials:** Any help in setting up and cleaning up from the families involved is truly appreciated and welcomed by the Ladies Society.

◇ **NO SMOKING/NO CELL PHONES** - Please remember that SS Peter & Paul has a no smoking policy in the building and that ringers on cell phones should be off during the Divine Liturgy.

◇ **CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING** - Monday, October 5, 7 PM. All Parishioners are welcome to attend.

### The Joy of Giving

◇ **CASSEROLES FOR THE HOMELESS** - Disposable razors and individual/small tubes of hand lotion are still needed. Please continue to help feed the hungry. Frozen casseroles are collected by Harry Halkedis. A \$10 donation for casseroles can be given at any time. *Thank you!*

◇ **PASTORAL FUND COLLECTION** - Collections for the Pastoral Fund will take place every 3rd Sunday of the month. Please donate generously. "Pastoral Fund" donation envelopes are found in the Church foyer, on the left side of the glass partition, should you wish to donate at another time.

◇ **CHURCH LIBRARY DONATIONS** - We are greatly in need of monetary donations for buying books to establish our Church Library to help all of us continue to learn about the Orthodox Faith. Any amount is truly appreciated and can be given to our Treasurer, James Schaeffer, at any time. *May God bless you for your generosity!*

◇ **COLLECTION FOR THE POOR** - A special collection for the poor will be held on the 1st Sunday of every month. Please plan to give generously every month to those whose lives are less fortunate than ours. Donations can also be placed in the **Poor Box** at any time.

◇ **ORTHODOX HERALD COLLECTION** - Collections for the *Orthodox Herald* will take place every 2nd Sunday of the month. Please donate generously.

◇ **DONATIONS OF WINE & OIL** - Altar wine and virgin olive oil for the altar lamps are always needed. The name of the altar wine is **Mavrodaphne of Patras** and it is available at most PA State Stores. Please help make sure that we always have a plentiful supply.

◇ **POP TAB COLLECTION PRGRAM FOR RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE** - **RJ** (and his parents, Debbie & Bob Krimetz) is collecting flip tabs from any aluminum cans to donate to the Philadelphia Ronald McDonald House. *Help by bringing your tabs! Thank you!*

◇ **PASTORAL FUND BOX/POOR BOX** - *Please note:* There are now 2 collection boxes in the back of the church, **the Poor Box AND a Pastoral Fund Box**. *Please donate generously!*

## **Ladies Society News**

◇ **OCTOBER 11 - MEETING**, following the Divine Liturgy

◇ **A REQUEST...** if you have borrowed any containers, trays, bowls, coffee carafes, etc. from the kitchen, **please return them as soon as possible**. These items are used for many of the functions held in the Church Hall and they are needed. *Thank you!*

## **Events at SS Peter and Paul**

◇ **ANNUAL PARISH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING - *Sunday, October 4***, immediately following the Divine Liturgy. **Please make every effort to stay for this important meeting.**

◇ **FOUNDERS DAY CELEBRATION - *Tentatively scheduled for October 24 - 25*** - A celebration of 30 years for the Consecration and Dedication of our current building and 90 years for the Dedication and choosing the name of SS Peter and Paul. *More information to follow shortly!*

## **Events of Interest: Retreats & Lectures**

*Please Note: All flyers are posted on the wall midway up the steps to the Church Hall. Links to all flyers can also be found online at:*

**<http://homepage.mac.com/aliciaj17/upcomingevents.html>**

◇ **ST TIKHON'S ORTHODOX THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY ANNUAL FALL LECTURE SERIES: "ISLAM AND CHRISTIANITY"** - **Sunday, October 11, 5 PM** - at *St Stephen's Orthodox Cathedral*, 8598 Verree Rd, Phila. Phone: 215-745-3232. Lecture is by **Fr Daniel Byantoro**, a leading apologist for Christianity in Indonesia. To view the pdf flyer:

**[http://homepage.mac.com/aliciaj17/.Public/Byantoro Lecture Fall 09.pdf](http://homepage.mac.com/aliciaj17/.Public/Byantoro%20Lecture%20Fall%2009.pdf)**

◇ **FALL RETREAT: "LESSONS FROM A TURN-AROUND CHURCH"** - **Saturday, October 17, 9 AM - 1:30 PM** - at *Church of the Annunciation*, 7921 Old York Rd, Elkins Park, PA. **Fr Luka A. Veronis** will be the speaker. The registration fee is \$20 (\$5 for students) **before 10/15** and \$25 (\$5 for students) at the door. Light refreshments in the morning and lunch are included. For more information or reservations, please contact **Jane Papacostas** at **215-635-8863** or email: **jjcempapa@aol.com**. Registration forms are available in our Church Hall, or download a pdf version of the flyer with the registration form:

**<http://homepage.mac.com/aliciaj17/RetreatFrVeronis.pdf>**

◇ **ORTHODOX EDUCATION RETREAT: "PRAYER: THE PATH TO A CHRISTIAN LIFE"** - **Saturday, October 17, 9 AM - 3 PM** - at *SS Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church*, 1406 Philadelphia Pike, Wilmington DE. The speakers are: **Rt Rev Archimandrite Athanasy** (*Church of Our Lady, Joy of All Who Sorrow, Phila*) and **Rt Rev Vincent Saverino** (*St Michael Orthodox Church, Phila*). The registration fee is \$12 in advance (**requested by 10/14**) or \$15 at the door. A continental breakfast, snacks and a hot lunch are included. For registration and additional details, please contact **Sonya** at **302-994-9419** or email: **phflyers@bluehen.udel.edu**. Registration forms are available as a tear-off on the flyer posted on the wall midway up the steps to our Church Hall. To view more details and a registration form in Word format:

**[http://homepage.mac.com/aliciaj17/.Public/UOL Retreat 2009.doc](http://homepage.mac.com/aliciaj17/.Public/UOL%20Retreat%202009.doc)**

◇ **XV ANNUAL EASTERN CHURCHES CONFERENCE: "THE DIVINE LITURGY AS HEAVEN ON EARTH"** - **Saturday, October 24, 9:30 AM - 3:30 PM** - at *St Michael's Orthodox Church*, 4th & Fairmount, Phila. The speaker is: **Rt Rev Jerome** (*Bishop of Manhattan, NY*). The registration fee is \$20 Adults, \$15 Senior Citizens, Free for Students. **If you can't afford this, come anyway, no one will be turned away!** Coffee hour and lunch are included. Registration forms are available in our Church Hall. For further information, call **610-989-0519** (*leave a message if no answer*) or email: **vsaverino@aol.com**. Last minute info: *St Michael's Church* at **215-627-6148**. To view the pdf flyer and a registration tear-off:

**[http://homepage.mac.com/aliciaj17/.Public/Conference XV flyer 09.pdf](http://homepage.mac.com/aliciaj17/.Public/Conference%20XV%20flyer%2009.pdf)**

## General Interest

◇ **ANCIENT FAITH RADIO** - 24 hour a day internet Orthodox radio station:

<http://ancientfaithradio.com>

◇ **ALBANIAN FORUM ON THE INTERNET ( FORUMI SHQIPTAR)** - Ne gjuhen shqipe: per te dhena informative mbi Kishen Orthodhokse, klikoni "Komuniteti Orthodhoks" ne uebsajten Forumi Shqiptar me poshte: [www.forumishqiptar.com/forumdisplay.php?f=186](http://www.forumishqiptar.com/forumdisplay.php?f=186)

◇ **IN THEIR OWN TONGUE** - The first in-depth documentary to chronicle the fascinating story of the Albanian Archdiocese in America, beginning with the conquest of the Albanian territory by the Ottomans through the early immigrants who were a part of the historical Divine Liturgy served for the first time in the Albanian language through settlement in the U. S. It ends with an exploration of the current day and a look beyond to the future of the Church.



Available for immediate purchase in our Church Store!

## Miscellaneous

◇ **SS PETER & PAUL CHURCH STORE** - Open Sundays at 9:30 AM (1/2 hour before Divine Liturgy)

*Items available:* Divine Liturgy Books, Icons; Crosses (Baptismal, lapel pins, Georgian style, orthodox); Prayerbooks (Georgian and English); Censors; Unique and different wearing apparel; CDs and cassettes; Religious Books

◇ **SS PETER & PAUL HAS A NEW WEBSITE - The new url is: [www.sspeterpaulalbanianorthodox.org](http://www.sspeterpaulalbanianorthodox.org).** We will be gradually phasing out the current website. If you have any news or announcements that you would like to see up on the new website, please e-mail David Biando at [davidbiando@verizon.net](mailto:davidbiando@verizon.net) or call him at 215-725-3797 and he will post it ASAP. Suggestions are always welcomed.

◇ **WEB PAGE/E-MAILS** - SS Peter & Paul Webpage: <http://homepage.mac.com/aliciaj17/sspeterpaulhome1.html>. New Bulletins available online by Saturday 8 PM. If you would like to be kept up-to-date by e-mail or to be removed from our "paper" mailing list, please send Alicia an e-mail at: [aliciaj17@mac.com](mailto:aliciaj17@mac.com)

◇ **ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEWS ABOUT PARISHIONERS** - If you have any items to include in next month's Bulletin, please see Alicia or call her at 215-742-0492 or e-mail: [aliciaj17@mac.com](mailto:aliciaj17@mac.com). *The deadline for the next Bulletin is Sunday, October 25.* Thank you! *Parishioners will be able to pick up the Bulletins at the Church on Sunday 11/1/09.* Bulletins will be mailed to any Parishioners unable to attend.

*Please remember to let Alicia know the names of our members who are ill or in need of prayer so that they can be included in our Bulletins.*

◇ **Thank You** to all members of the Parish who have helped out or volunteered in any way with their time and efforts, and a very special **thank you** to anyone whose name was inadvertently omitted from the Bulletin.

## Parishioner's Corner



◇ **A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY** is wished to the following parishioners and friends who are celebrating **October** Birthdays: Helen Arndt, Raisa Belous, Lucille John, Margie Kelly, Matushka Irene Rachko, Ted Muzekari, Jr., Jean Rifkin, Jim Schaeffer, Fr Stephen Siniari, Ann Stephano, James Vesho

May God grant them all many, many years!

◇ **A VOLUNTEER IS NEEDED TO DIRECT THE CASSEROLE PROGRAM** - Harry Halkedis is retiring in January 2010! *Thank you, Harry, for all your incredibly hard work.* We desperately need someone to take over this most worthwhile program.

◇ **VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO WORK IN THE CANDLE/BOOKSTORE ROOM** - Please speak with Joe Bacon or Harry Halkedis if you are interested.

◇ **GREGORY VRATO, SR.**, is at the **John Neumann Nursing Home**, Room 726, at the intersection of Haldeman & Tomlinson Road (make a right on Tomlinson and the parking lot is immediately on your right). Visitors are welcome anytime from noon to 8:00 PM.

*Please continue to keep Gregory in your prayers. May God grant him good health!*

## Let Us Keep Them in our Prayers

Please continue to pray for the full and speedy recovery of: **Gregory Vreto, Sr., Matthew Murianka, Joyce Dorsey, Andi Steffa, Mary Palmerick, John Palmerick, Thimi Daka, Al Rifkin, Sophie Bacon, James Vesho, Margot Craig, Eteri Okropiridze, Katherine Halkedis, Mary Ann Clark, Paulette Steffa, Alexandra Pana, Nicholas Desloges, Steven Yarrow**

**\*\* God knows the names and ages of all who need His love and mercy...**



## Troparion for Saints Peter and Paul

**O Leaders of the Apostles  
And Evangelizers of the World  
Intercede with Christ our God  
To grant Peace to the World  
And Salvation to our Souls**

