



# Saints Peter and Paul

## Orthodox Church

25636 N. Mosiertown Rd Crossingville, PA 1641  
Archpriest Fr. Daniel Mathewson – *Rector*

Barbra Hargett – *Choir Director*

**Lord's Day – 4-11-2021**

Parish phone: 814-734-3801 Find us on the Web at:  
[www.orthodoxcrossingville.org](http://www.orthodoxcrossingville.org)

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT — Tone 3.

#### St. John Climacus (of the Ladder)

Hieromartyr Antipas, Bishop of Pergamum, disciple of St. John the Theologian (92). Ven. Jacob (James), Abbot of Zheleznobórovsk (1442), and his fellow ascetic, James. St. Varsonúfii (Barsanuphius), Bishop of Tver' (1576). Martyrs Processus and Martinian of Rome (1st c.). Ven. Pharmuthius, Anchorite, of Egypt (4th c.). Ven. John, disciple of Ven. Gregory of Decapolis (9th c.). St. Callinicus of Cernica, Bishop of Rimnicului in Romania (1868). The Appearance of the “FOOTPRINT” Icon of the Mother of God at Pochayev.

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Pray with out ceasing...

#### PLEASE INCLUDE THESE OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN

**YOUR DAILY PRAYERS:** Those in need – Fr. Andrew, Fr. Isaac, Fr. David, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Joseph, Fr. Zachariah, Fr. Patrick, Prez. Alexandria, Mat. Gail, Mat. Donna, Mat. Pirsilla, Barbra, Karen, Mary B. Margaret, Bill S., Lexi, Kyra and Child, Charlotte, Caylin, John, Nickolas, Timothy, Amanda, Damian, Delani, Jeremiah, Christine, Rick, Samuel, Megan, Valentina

The Homebound Tanya, Mary G

Catechumen- Christian... Military servers...Greg

Special requests... Paul, Gilbert, Phyllis, Anthony, Ian, Paul, James, Sean, Liam, Bill, Wesley, Kim, Margaret, Loren, Julia, Shelby, Janet, Lynn, Margaret. Helen, Dan, Jonathan, Donna, Nicholas, Maya, Mia, Charles, Cleta...

Newly Departed : Richard, George, Ruth, Pearl, Jim(Grace's Dad), Ann, Lillian, Archbishop David, Metropolitan Maximos, Alice, Metro.

Theodosius, William, Claudia, Theona, Helen,...

Departed Orthodox –Mat. Anastasia, Jeff, Catherine, Marilyn, Rodney, Irene, Fr. Matthew Baker, John B., John S., Ann, Katherine, Vernon, Paul, James Nickolai, Andrew, Peter, Paul, Margaret, Michael Mary Ann, Timothy...

(IF you would like a name added to the list above give it to Fr. Daniel in writing.)

#### Holy Hymns:

#### Tone 3 Troparion (**Resurrection**)

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 to the world// great mercy.

#### Tone 1 Troparion (**St. John Climacus**)

O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body,  
thou wast a wonderworker, O our God-bearing Father John.  
Thou didst receive heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil, and  
prayer, healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to thee by  
faith. Glory to Him Who gave thee strength!  
Glory to Him Who granted thee a ^crown!//  
Glory to Him Who grants healing to all!

#### Tone 3 Kontakion (**Resurrection**)

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.

#### Tone 4 Kontakion (**St. John Climacus**)

The Lord truly set thee on the heights of abstinence,  
to be a guiding star, showing the way to the universe,//  
O our father and teacher John.

#### Tone 3 Prokeimenon (**Resurrection**)

Sing praises to our God, sing praises! / Sing praises to our King,  
sing praises! (Ps. 46:6)

V. Clap your hands, all peoples! Shout to God with loud  
songs of joy! (Ps. 46:1)

#### Tone 7 Prokeimenon (**St. John Climacus**)

Let the saints exult in glory; / let them sing for joy on their  
couches! (Ps. 149:5)

#### Tone 3

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. In Thee, O Lord, have I hoped; let me never be put to  
shame! (Ps. 30:1a)

V. Be a God of protection for me, a house of refuge in  
order to save me! (Ps. 30:2b)

Tone 4

V. They that are planted in the house of the Lord shall  
flourish in the courts of our God. (Ps. 91:12)

#### **Holy Scripture:**

##### Heb 6.13-20 (Epistle)

Brethren, when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, “Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you.” And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute. Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

##### Eph 5.9-19 (Epistle—St John)

Brethren, walk as children of light (for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light. Therefore He says: “Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light.” See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord.

##### Mark 9.17-31 (Gospel)

At that time, one of the crowd came to Jesus, bowing before him and saying, “Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not. He answered him and said, “O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me.” Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth. So He asked his father, “How long has this

been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us. Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it: "Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!" Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" So He said to them, "This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting." Then they departed from there and passed through Galilee, and He did not want anyone to know it. For He taught His disciples and said to them, "The Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will rise the third day."

#### **Matt 4.25-5.12 (Gospel—St John)**

At that time, great multitudes followed Him – from Galilee, and from Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan. And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying: Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

### **Holy Services This Week:**

Wed. April 14th - Presanctified Liturgy -- 6pm

Thurs. April 15<sup>th</sup> - Canon of St. Andrew - 6pm

Sat. April 17<sup>th</sup> - Akathist to the Theotokos - 3pm

--Great Vespers - **4PM (Note time)** Confession will be available every Saturday following the Service

### **Holy Actions:**

#### **Children's Education: TODAY**

#### **Catechesis of the Good Shepherd--**

--Atrium: (Jesse, Grace)

#### **Catechesis of the Good Gardener**

--Auricle: (Kyra, Olivia)

#### **Catechesis of the Good Carpenter**

--No Women's Bible Study

--Mom's Group - 2nd Friday - see calendar

--Men's Fellowship - Clean up Day - Sat. April 17<sup>th</sup> - 9am

### **Excerpts from The Ladder of Divine Assent**

Step 1 Renunciation of the world... All who have willingly left the things of the world, have certainly done so either for the sake of the future Kingdom, or because of the multitude of their sins, or for love of God. If they were not moved by any of these reasons their withdrawal from the world was unreasonable. But God who sets our contests waits to see what the end of our course will be.

Step 2 On detachment -- The man who really loves the Lord, who has made a real effort to find the coming Kingdom, who has really begun to be troubled by his sins, who is really mindful of eternal torment and judgment, who really lives in fear of his own departure, will not love, care or worry

.about money, or possessions, or parents, or worldly glory, or friends, or brothers, or anything at all on earth. But having shaken off all ties with earthly things and having stripped himself of all his cares, and having come to hate even his own flesh, and having stripped himself of everything, he will follow Christ without anxiety or hesitation, always looking heavenward and expecting help from there, according to the word of the holy man: My soul sticks close behind Thee,<sup>6</sup> and according to the ever-memorable author who said: I have not wearied of following Thee, nor have I desired the day (or rest) of man, O Lord.

Step 3 On exile or pilgrimage... Exile means that we leave forever everything in our own country that prevents us from reaching the goal of the religious life. Exile means modest manners, wisdom which remains unknown, prudence not recognized as such by most, a hidden life, an invisible intention, unseen meditation, desire for humiliation, longing for hardship, constant determination to love God, abundance of charity, renunciation of vainglory, depth of silence. 2 Exile appears to be essentially equivalent to detachment

Step 4 On blessed and ever-memorable obedience ...Our treatise now appropriately touches upon warriors<sup>1</sup> and athletes of Christ. As the flower precedes the fruit, so exiles either of body or will always precedes obedience. For with the help of these two virtues, the holy soul steadily ascends to heaven as upon golden wings. And perhaps it was about this that he who had received the Holy Spirit sang: Who will give me wings like a dove? And I will fly by activity, and be at rest by contemplation and humility.

Step 21 On unmanly and puerile cowardice....If you pursue virtue in a monastery or community, you are not likely to be attacked much by fear. But the man who spends his time in more solitary places should make every effort to avoid being overcome by that offspring of vainglory, that daughter of unbelief, cowardice. Cowardice is a childish disposition in an old, vainglorious soul. Cowardice is a falling away from faith that comes of expecting the unexpected. Fear is a rehearsing of danger beforehand; or again, fear is a trembling sensation of the heart, alarmed and troubled by unknown misfortunes. Fear is a loss of conviction. A proud soul is a slave of cowardice; it vainly trusts in itself, and is afraid of any sound or shadow of creatures. Those who mourn over their sins but are insensible to every other sorrow do not feel cowardice, but the cowardly often have mental breakdowns. And this is natural. For the Lord rightly forsakes the proud that the rest of us may learn not to be puffed up. Although all cowardly people are vainglorious, yet not all who are unafraid are humble, since even robbers and grave-plunderers may be without fear. Do not hesitate to go late at night to those places where you usually feel afraid. But if you yield only a little to such weakness, then this childish and ridiculous infirmity will grow old with you. As you go on your way, arm yourself with prayer. When you reach the place, stretch out your hands. Flog your enemies with the name of Jesus, for there is no stronger weapon in heaven or earth. When you get rid of the disease (of fear), praise Him who has delivered you. If you continue to be thankful, He will protect you forever. Just as it is impossible to satisfy the stomach in one bout, so also it is impossible to overcome fear instantly. It will yield more quickly in proportion as you mourn; but to the extent that our mourning fails, we continue to be cowards. He who has become the servant of the Lord will fear his Master alone, but he who does not yet fear Him is often afraid of his own shadow. In the presence of an invisible spirit the body becomes afraid; but in the presence of an angel the soul of the humble is filled with joy. Therefore, when we recognize the presence from the effect, let us quickly hasten to prayer, for our good guardian has come to pray with us. He who has conquered cowardice has clearly dedicated his life and soul to God.

Step 26 Here is an excellent

alphabet for all:

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| 1. (A) obedience  | 13. (M) hard work                      |
| 2. (B) fasting    | 14. (N) humiliation                    |
| 3. (C) sackcloth  | 15. (O) contrition                     |
| 4. (D) ashes      | 16. (P) forgetfulness of wrongs        |
| 5. (E) tears      | 17. (Q) brotherly love                 |
| 6. (F) confession | 18. (R) meekness                       |
| 7. (G) silence    | 19. (S) simple and unquestioning faith |
| 8. (H) humility   | 20. (T) freedom from worldly cares     |
| 9. (I) vigil      | (21. U) hateless hatred of parents     |
| 10. (J) courage   | 22. (V) detachment                     |
| 11. (K) cold      | 23. (X) innocent simplicity            |
| 12. (L) toil      | 24. (Z) voluntary abasement            |