



Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church

25636 N. Mosiertown Rd Crossingville, PA 1641

Archpriest Fr. Daniel Mathewson – Rector

V. Rev. David Smoley – Retired

Lord's Day – 1-26-2020

Parish phone: 814-734-3801 Find us on the Web at:

www.orthodoxcrossingville.org

32nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 7. New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia. Ven. Xenophon, his wife, Mary, and their two sons, Arcadius and John, of Constantinople (5th-6th c.). Translation of the Relics of Ven. Theodore, Abbot of Studion (845). Ven. Xenophon of Robeika (1262). Martyrs Ananias—Presbyter, Peter, and seven soldiers, in Phoenicia (284-305). St. Simeon “the Ancient” of Mt. Sinai (ca. 390). St. Joseph, Bishop of Thessalonica, brother of St. Theodore of Studion (830). Rt. Blv. David (Dató) III, King of Iberia and Abkhazia (Georgia—1125).

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, Mat. Gail, Mat. Donna, Mat. Pirsilla, Charlotte, Autumn, the newly born Sergius, Isaac, Mary, Melissa, Judy, the newly born Cashal, Debbie, Thomas, Eliza, Pearl, William, Karen, John, Nickolas, Timothy, Amanda, Damian, Delani, Jeremiah, Christine, Rick, Samuel, Timothy M., Andrew, Kati, Simeon, Debbie, Christopher, Megan, Andrew, Margret-Ann, Lorelly, Thomas, Evan, Valentina. The Homebound Ann, Tanya, Richard, Ruth, William, Lillian (Bernice) Catechumen- Christian ... Travelers ... Military servers...Greg ...Newly Departed : Claudia Sukel, Theona Sekel, Helen Miller, Anna Anderson, Marilyn Filipos, ...Departed Orthodox –Mat. Anastasia, Jeff, Catherine, Marilyn, Rodney, Irene, John B., John S., Ann, Katherine, Vernon, Paul, James Nikolai, Andrew, Peter, Paul, Margaret, Michael Mary Ann, Timothy... Special requests... Paul, Gilbert, Phyllis, Anthony, Ian, Paul, James, Sean, Liam, Bill, Wesley, Kim, Jim, Margaret, Loren, Russell, Julia, Shelby, Janet, Mareen, Lynn, Margret, Helen, Dan, Jonathan, Donna, Anna, Lucas, Nicholas, Shawn, Samantha, Gabe.

Holy Hymns:

Tone 7 Troparion (Resurrection)

By Your Cross You destroyed death. To the thief You opened Paradise. For the Myrrhbearers You changed weeping into joy. And You commanded Your disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that You are risen,// granting the world great mercy.

Tone 4 Troparion (New Martyrs of Russia)

Today the Church of Russia joyfully forms a chorus, praising her new martyrs and confessors; hierarchs and priests, royal passion-bearers, right-believing princes and princesses, venerable men and women, and all Orthodox Christians. Having laid down their life for faith in Christ during the days of godless persecution, they preserved the truth by the shedding of blood.// By their protection, O long-suffering Lord, preserve our land in Orthodoxy till the end of the age.

Tone 7 Kontakion (Resurrection)

The dominion of death can no longer hold mankind captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry: “The Savior has come to those in faith;// enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!”

Tone 3 Kontakion (New Martyrs of Russia) (Today the Virgin)

Today the new martyrs of Rus’ stand in white robes before the Lamb of God, and with the angels they sing to God the hymn of victory: “Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and praise, and honor, and power, and strength be to our God// unto the ages of ages. Amen.”

Tone 7 Prokeimenon

The Lord shall give strength to His people. The Lord shall bless His people with peace. (Ps 28/29:11)
v: Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord! (Ps 28/29:1)

Tone 7 Prokeimenon (New Martyrs of Russia)

God is our refuge and strength, a help in afflictions that severely befall us. (Ps 45/46:1)

Tone 7

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Your Name, O Most High. (Ps 91/92:1)

v: To declare Your mercy in the morning, and Your truth by night. (Ps 91/92:2)

Tone 4

v: The righteous cried, and the Lord heard them and delivered them out of all their troubles. (Ps 33/34:1?)

Holy Scripture:

1 Timothy 1:15-17 (Epistle)

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

Matthew 15:21-28 (Gospel)

Then Jesus went out from there and departed to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed.” But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, “Send her away, for she cries out after us.” But He answered and said, “I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, “Lord, help me!” But He answered and said, “It is not good to take the children’s bread and throw it to the little dogs.” And she said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters’ table.” Then Jesus answered and said to her, “O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

Holy Services and Activities

Let us hold unwaveringly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, *not giving up meeting together*, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching. (St. Paul to the Hebrews 10:23-25)

See printed Calendar for schedule of services or our website www.orthodoxcrossingville.org look in the menu for “calendar”

Team Activities:

Missions Team-- is preparing for a trip to Alaska from JUNE 25th - JULY 4th 2020 (Its official!)- please add this to your prayers and donate toward their trip as you are able, just mark your donation in the offering as “Alaska Trip” as you give on Sunday. See Anna R. or Fr. Daniel if you would like to attend. Spots are filling up quickly.

The Team is continuing its call for donations for local mission work as well, and some far away including: **The Hope Project, Bethesda House, and Edinboro Food pantry.** Used clothing is available for our parish members in the back rooms of the hall for two more weeks. See Anna for more details.

Education Team is continuing the present schedule of Atrium 1 meeting at 9am on Sunday Mornings.
Atrium 2 -Ages 7-12 will begin on March 1st

Youth and Family Activities- There will be a number of events for youth and families through out the year, including: xLearning Prospora Making, xServed at St Herman's Shelter. For next month...**Bowling Feb. 2nd following Coffee Hour**, Lenten service event, Erie Sea Wolves game, Summer Camp out, etc.

Hospitality Team -The team is asking everyone to be active in cleaning up following coffee hour. Also, don't forget to sign up for coffee hour and be sure to help out cleaning up after.
On Feb Feb. 2nd a Halupki dinner will be offered at coffee hour, bring a friend!! A Lenten schedule will be out soon and meals following pre-sanctified will be scheduled.

Outreach Team The goal of the OT is to make people in our community familiar with the Orthodox Faith.

Events: xthe blessing of French Creek (**Tues. Jan 7th** 5 attended), Erie March for Life Jan 18th Perry Square 11:00am (snowed out), xthe Blessing of Lake Erie with other right-glorifying Christians in Erie **Jan. 25th 12 noon** - Lunch at VBrewery -Erie. Up Coming...Orthodox Bible Study - VBrewery Meadville Feb. 6th 7pm

Parish Council- Next Meeting Sunday, Feb. 9th. Council is seeking members of the parish to be on a planning team for the upcoming 100th year anniversary to be held in 2021. Council is also looking for 1 auditor. (Andrew Sawyer has volunteered as 1) If you are interested in being on any team of the parish please let parish council Pres. Nathan, or Fr. Daniel.

Choir - The Choir is encouraging youth and families to participate in the Matins service, the Wed. Evening prayer services and Sat. Great Vespers, with their voices and serving in the altar serving. ...We are changing over our services to more updated language. Having more understandable language and more opportunities to serve and pray will encourage our young people to participate more fully. Choir will have announced practices and meetings to work on books and practice new material.

Ladies Altar Society next gathering will be at 10am, Tues. Feb. 4th at the parish hall.

House Blessings -It is that time of year where we get our homes blessed. Here is the process: 1) Invite the priest to your house. 2) At your kitchen table have set up a candle, Icon, and a small bowl with names of living and reposed to pray for. 3) The house should be clean, and have all the lights on and TVs and tech off. 4) It is customary to give the priest a gift.

Calendars - Yearly Calendars are available. They were paid for by a local funeral home. Could you please make a donation for one of these beautiful calendars, all the donations will go toward the Missions Trip to Alaska.

New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia

On the Sunday closest to January 25, the Church commemorates the Synaxis of the Holy New Martyrs and

Confessors of Russia, remembering all those Orthodox Christians who suffered for Christ at the hands of the godless Soviets during the years of persecution. These include the royal Passion Bearers Tsar Nicholas II and his family, and the Grand Duchess Elizabeth. Countless thousands of martyrs, both clergy and laity also suffered, some of whose names are known, as well as millions of simple believers whose names have been lost to history.

It is estimated that the number of the New Martyrs of Russia, who were glorified by the Russian Orthodox Church at the Jubilee Council of 2000, far exceeds that of all the martyrs who died for Christ during the first three centuries of Christianity. The Russian Church lost millions of its sons and daughters, not only at the hands of external enemies, but also those of their own country. Among those who were murdered and tortured in the years of persecution were countless Orthodox: laity, monks, priests, and bishops, whose only "crime" was their unshakable faith in God. In the long history of the world, never have so many new heavenly intercessors been glorified by the Church in such a way (more than one thousand New Martyrs were numbered among the saints). Among those who suffered for their faith were some who labored in America before the Russian Revolution: St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia (April 7); St. Alexander Hotovitzky (Dec. 4); St. John Kochurov (Oct. 31).

Holy Fathers

Food is not evil, but gluttony is. Childbearing is not evil, but fornication is. Money is not evil, but avarice is. Glory is not evil, but vainglory is. Indeed, there is no evil in existing things, but only in their misuse.
(St. Maximus the Confessor, Chapters on Love, 3.4)

God hears and fulfills the prayer of a man who fulfills His commandments. "Hear God in His commandments," says St. John Chrysostom, "So that He might hear you in your prayers." A man who keeps the commandments of God is always wise, patient, and sincere in his prayers. Mystery of prayer consists in the keeping of God's commandments.
(St. Justin Popovich, Explanation of I John, 3:22)

Give your intentions in prayer to God, Who knows everyone, even before our birth. And do not ask that everything will be according to your will, because a man does not know what is profitable for him. But say to God: Let Thy will be done! For He does everything for our benefit.
(St. Gennadius of Constantinople, The Golden Chain, 47)

Everyone who asks something of God and does not receive it doubtless does not receive it for one of these reasons: either because they ask before the time, or they ask unworthily, or out of vainglory, or because if they received what they asked they would become proud or fall into negligence.
(St. John of the Ladder, Ladder, 26.60)

Whoever wants to approach prayer without a guide, and proudly thinks that he can learn from books, and won't go to an elder, is already halfway into delusion. But the Lord helps the humble, and if there is no experienced guide, and he goes to a confessor, whoever he may be, then the Lord will cover him because of his humility.
(St. Silouan the Athonite, Writings, II.1)

In times of affliction, unceasingly call out to the merciful God in prayer. The unceasing invocation of the name of God in prayer is a treatment for the soul which kills not only the passions, but even their very operation. As a doctor finds the necessary medicine, and it works in such a way that the sick person does not understand, in just the same way the name of God, when you call upon it, kills all the passions, although we don't know how this happens.
(St. Barsanuphius the Great, Instructions, 421)