

# SS Peter & Paul Orthodox Church Newsletter

Volume 22 Issue 7

July 2022

## June Council Highlights

- ✘ May's Operating Income was \$18,023.16 and Operating Expenses were \$17,496.61, resulting in Net Operating Income of \$526.55 for the month.
- ✘ Rose Paving selected to fill in cracks and reseal parking lot. Work will be completed the week of July 25<sup>th</sup>.
- ✘ David Homyak elected as parish's lay delegate to All-American Council.
- ✘ Sunday School needs adult volunteers.



### SS Peter & Paul Orthodox Church

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## Rest of Saint Jacob Netsvetov, Enlightener of the Peoples of Alaska

Father Jacob (Netsvetov) of Alaska was born of pious parents in 1802 on Atka Island, Alaska. His father, Yegor Vasil'evich Netsvetov was a Russian from Tobolsk. His mother, Maria Alekseevna, was an Aleut from Atka island. Yegor and Maria had four children who survived infancy; Jacob was the first born, followed by Osip (Joseph), Elena, and Antony. Yegor and Maria were devoted to their children and, though of meager means, did all they could to provide them with the education which would help them in this life as well as in the life to come. Osip and Antony were eventually able to study at the Saint Petersburg Naval Academy in Russia, becoming a naval officer and a shipbuilder, respectively. Their sister, Elena, married a successful and respected clerk for the Russian-American Company. But Jacob yearned for a different kind of success, a success that the world might consider failure for "the righteous live forever, their reward is with the Lord" (Wis. Sol. 5:15). And so, when the family moved to Irkutsk in 1823, Jacob enrolled in the Irkutsk Theological Seminary and placed all his hope in Christ by seeking first the Kingdom of God (Mt. 6:33).

Jacob was tonsured as a Subdeacon on October 1, 1825. He married a Russian woman (perhaps also a Creole) named Anna Simeonovna, and in 1826 graduated from the Seminary with certificates in history and theology. On October 31, 1826, he was ordained to the Holy Diaconate and assigned to serve the altar of the Holy Trinity-Saint Peter Church in Irkutsk. Two years later, on March 4, 1828, Archbishop Michael, who had earlier ordained Father John Veniaminov (Saint Innocent), elevated the godly deacon Jacob to the Holy Priesthood. This, however, was no ordinary ordination. As if he were a new Patrick, hearing the mystical call of his distant flock, Father Jacob yearned to return to his native Alaska. And the all-good God, who "satisfies the longing soul and fills the hungry soul with goodness" (Ps.107:9) heard the prayer of his servant. Archbishop Michael provided Father Jacob with two antimensia: one for the new Church which would be dedicated to the glory of God in honor of Saint Nicholas the Wonderworker in Atka, and one to be used for missionary activity. On May 1, 1828 a molieben for travelers was served, and Fa-

ther Jacob, his father, Yegor, (now tonsured as reader for the Atka Church), and his matushka, Anna, set out for Alaska. Who can tell of the perils and trials associated with such a journey? Travel in those days was never easy, either overland or over the waves of the sea. Nevertheless, aided by prayer and confidence in God's providence, the Netsvetov family arrived safely in Atka over a year later, on June 15, 1829. The new assignment for the newly-ordained Father Jacob would also prove to be quite a challenge. The Atka "parish" comprised a territory stretching for nearly 2,000 miles and included Amchitka, Attu, Copper, Bering and Kurile Islands. But this did not deter the godly young priest, for when he was clothed in the garments of the Priesthood, he was found to be "clad with zeal as a cloak" (Is. 59:17), and so he threw himself wholly into his sacred ministry. His deep love for God and for his flock was evident in everything that he did. Both in Atka and in the distant villages and settlements which he visited, Father Jacob offered himself as a "living sacrifice" (Rom 12:1). Having "no worry about his life" (Mt. 6:25 ff), the holy one

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# Message from Our Rector

Dear Brothers and Sisters,  
Glory to Jesus Christ!

On the recent Feast of Holy Pentecost, we heard from the Acts of the Apostles and listened to its story of the beginning of the Church's public preaching ministry. Having received the Holy Spirit, Saint Peter preached the Church's first public sermon, preaching to those who had gathered from throughout the known world and proclaiming all that God had accomplished in and through His Son, Jesus. In Acts we also see that, with the beginning of the work of preaching the Gospel "to the ends of the universe," the Church began to form into communities as people by the thousands were called to follow the Way of Jesus Christ. (read Acts 2.)

After first describing the Apostles' post-Resurrection encounters with the Risen



Lord and the awesome events of Pentecost, the Book of Acts goes on to also describe the form of life lived by those first Christians. Saint Luke, the author of Acts, presents the Church of Jerusalem, gathered in response to the Apostles' preaching, as the paradigm and model of all Christian communities. Saint Luke tells us that, as brothers and sisters in Christ, the first believers "devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers" (Acts 2:42). Here we see that Saint Luke portrays a community united in prayer, fraternity, charity and concern for those in need.

In every age, the Church has been called to live that paradigm and through its life of prayer and charity to be the light, salt, and leaven of humanity and to be a foreshadowing of a world of authentic justice and peace. In this way, the Church is enabled

to live an authentic life based on its common prayer in the Liturgy, experiencing the Risen Lord's presence in prayer and in the Eucharist, in order then to bring that saving love to the world. As we continue our shared sojourn on earth, we pray that our parish community, like the early Church gathered around the Apostles, may increasingly become a place where we experience deep prayer, encounter the Lord in His Word and in the celebration of the Sacred Mysteries, and remain a safe haven of peaceful and loving fellowship with our brothers and sisters. May our "house" have doors that welcome the world to join in our journey so that we may all one day be part of the communion (and community) of the saints and the heavenly Jerusalem.

Praying that all of you will have a safe and enjoyable summer and that all your summer journeys will be blessed,

With love in the Lord,

**+Bishop Daniel**

## Meet Our Newly Illumined Parishioners—Part 3

*In an effort to get to know the 10 "newly illumined" members of SS Peter & Paul, I have asked each to write up a biography that they would like to share with their fellow parishioners. Due to space constraints within the newsletter, these folks will be introduced over the next few months. I am grateful to them, for allowing us to learn about them and their journey. Let me introduce you to Xanath (Xenia) and Anthony.*

Nick Bock

Xanath (Xenia) King spent her first nine years living on a dairy farm in Mesa, her mother worked in the office. Her mother also raised her and 3 older siblings. The dairy was the place where Xanath felt free and was



outside the influence of other people's norms of living, relationships, fashion, etc. This is, also, one of the first places she learned to care for another. Life was strange, but never apparent to her until she moved into the suburbs of Gilbert. Her life was forced into lots of square spaces and so followed all other aspects of life. Life began to feel cramped. She had enjoyed going to church, before leaving the dairy, she soon realized she did not enjoy the church or believe in Mormonism. By the time she graduated high school she had no faith and didn't want anything to do with Christianity.

Xanath found SS Peter and Paul because her friend in Latin class planned on

going to seminary and encouraged her to accompany him to different churches. She grudgingly looked at the options and picked SS Peter and Paul. The experience was significant as she felt the strength of the Holy Spirit. Unfortunately, she ignored this feeling for almost a year, ruminating on it occasionally. She was encouraged to read *The Orthodox Church* by Bishop Kallistos Ware. So, she must face her feelings and decided to convert. She spent the first six months exclusively going only to Vespers and then went on and off to Liturgy for some years during which she struggled with her faith and coming to accept and understand what it means to be a Christian. During this time, she graduated college and eventually married. She has finally entered into the body of Christ, thanks be to God!

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# Rest of Saint Jacob Netsvetov

*(Continued from page 1)*

endured manifold tortures of cold, wet, wind, illness, hunger and exhaustion, for to him life was Christ (Phil 1:21). Showing himself as a "rule of faith," his example brought his people to a deep commitment to their own salvation. Being fully bilingual and bicultural, Father Jacob was uniquely blessed by God to care for the souls of his fellow Alaskans.

When he arrived in Atka, the Church of Saint Nicholas had not yet been built. So, with his own hands Father Jacob constructed a large tent (Acts 18:3) in which he conducted the services. For Father Jacob the services of the Church were life: life for his people and life for himself. It was in the worship of God that he found both strength and joy. Later he would transport this tent with him on his missionary journeys, and like Moses in the wilderness, the grace of God was found wherever this tent was taken (Num 4:1 ff; 10:17 ff).

When his first six months had ended (end of 1829), Father Jacob recorded that he had baptized 16, chrismated 442, married 53 couples, and buried 8.

Once the church was constructed, Father Jacob turned his attention to the building of a school in which the children would learn to read and write both Russian and Unangan Aleut. The Russian American Company provided some of the support initially, with the students providing the remainder. This continued until 1841, when it was reorganized as a parish school and ties with the company ceased. Father Jacob proved to be a talented educator and translator whose students became distinguished Aleut leaders in the next generation.

Father Netsvetov led an active physical and intellectual life, hunting and gathering for his own subsistence needs, preparing specimens of fish and marine animals for the natural history museums of Moscow and Saint Petersburg, corresponding with Saint Innocent (Veniaminov) on matters of linguistics and translations. He labored over the creation of an adequate alphabet

for the Unangan-Aleut language, and the translation of the Holy Scriptures and other appropriate literature into that language. Saint Innocent praised the young pastor for his holiness of life, his teaching, and for continuing this work of translating which he, himself, had begun earlier among the native peoples. After fifteen years of service, Father Jacob was awarded the Nabadrennik, Kamilavka, and Gold Cross. Later, he would be made Archpriest and receive the Order of Saint Anna.

These ecclesiastical awards do not tell of the personal sufferings of this warrior for Christ. In March of 1836, his precious wife, Anna, died of cancer; his home burned to the ground in July of 1836; and his dear father, Yegor, died of an undetermined illness in 1837. Who can utter the depth of sorrow felt by this God-pleaser? Yet he lifted up his voice with that ancient sufferer and cried, "shall we indeed accept good from God and shall we not accept adversity? In all this he did not sin with his lips" (Job 2:10). In his journal Father Jacob attributed all to "the Will of Him whose Providence and Will are inscrutable and whose actions toward men are incomprehensible." He patiently endured hardships and sufferings like the Holy Apostle Paul. He saw in these misfortunes not a Victory by the hater of men's souls (i.e. the devil) but a call from God to even greater spiritual struggles. With this in mind, Father Jacob petitioned his ruling bishop to return to Irkutsk in order to enter the monastic life. A year later, word reached him that permission was granted contingent upon the arrival of a replacement. None ever came.

Instead, Bishop Innocent soon came to Atka and asked Father Jacob to accompany him on a voyage by ship to Kamchatka. Who can know the heavenly discourse enjoyed by these two lovers of Christ as they traveled over the waves? This, however, is clear, the holy archpastor was able to accomplish three things in Father Netsvetov. Firstly, he applied the healing salve of the Spirit with words of comfort;

secondly, he dissuaded Father Jacob from entering the monastery; and thirdly, he revealed to the godly priest the true plan of the Savior for his life, that he 'might preach (Christ) among the Gentiles" (Gal. 1: 16) deep in the Alaskan interior. Father Jacob continued to serve his far-flung flock of the Atka parish until December 30, 1844. A new zeal had taken hold of him, and it was then that Saint Innocent appointed him to head the new Kvikhpak Mission in order to bring the light of Christ to the people of the Yukon. Here, aided by two young Creole assistants, Innokentii Shayashnikov and Konstantin Lukin, together with his young nephew, Vasilii Netsvetov, Father Jacob "settled" in the wilderness of Alaska.

He learned new languages, embraced new peoples and cultures, devised another alphabet, built another church and Orthodox community, and for the next twenty years, until his health and eyesight failed, continued to be an evangelical beacon of the grace of God in southwestern Alaska.

Establishing his headquarters in the Yup'ik Eskimo village of Ikogmiute (today's 'Russian Mission') he traveled to native settlements hundreds of miles up and down Alaska's longest river (the Yukon) as well as the Kuskokwim River region. At the insistence of Indian leaders, he traveled as far as the middle of the Innoko River baptizing hundreds of Indians from various, and often formerly hostile, tribes. "Behold how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity" (Ps 133:1). He built the first Christian temple in this region, and dedicated it to the feast of the Elevation of the Holy Cross. Here Father Jacob, in spite of failing health, joyfully celebrated the Church's cycle of services, including all of the services prescribed for Holy Week and Pascha.

Finally, in 1863, the evil One, who "walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour" (I Pet 5:8), sought one last time to get the better of the righteous

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# Rest of Saint Jacob Netsvetov

(Continued from page 3)

one. So the devil, the father of lies, (John 8:44), inspired an assistant of Father Jacob to level spurious and slanderous charges against his master. This resulted in a summons to Sitka, issued by Bishop Peter. The godly pastor was quickly cleared of all charges, but due to his ever-worsening health, he remained in Sitka for his final year serving a Tlingit chapel. He died on July 26, 1864 at the age of 60 and was buried on the third day at the entry of the chapel. During his final missionary travels in the Kuskokwim/Yukon delta region, he had baptized 1,320 people—distinguishing himself as the evangelizer of the Yup'ik Eskimo and Athabascan Indian peoples.

This brief history has recounted the basic chronology of the saint's life and labors, but we must not neglect to relate his other deeds, that the light be not "hidden under a bushel" (Mt.5:15). In 1841, Father Jacob encountered a group of women from his flock in Amlia who had fallen victim to certain demonic influences and teachings. Blaming himself for the seduction and fall of his spiritual children by the evil one, he informed the leader among them that he was going to pay them a visit.

Upon arriving, he found one of the women paralyzed, semi-conscious and unable to speak. He ordered that she be removed to another house apart, and on the next day when this was accomplished, he lit the lampada before the icons of the beautiful corner, vested himself in his priestly epitrachilion (stole), sprinkled holy water throughout the room, and began the first prayers of exorcism. He then left.

During the night he was notified that the woman had begun to speak but incoherently. He came immediately to her and performed a second exorcism. This time, she sprang out of her bed and stood next to the saint, joined her prayer to his, and accompanied them with prostrations. When the prayers were finished, Father Jacob again sprinkled her with holy water and gave her the precious cross to kiss.

She regained full consciousness, a state of health and true reason—that is, even the false teachings of the evil spirits had no more part in her.

Once in November of 1845, Father Jacob was preaching in the village of Kalskag, where the local chief was also the head shaman. He spoke for all of the villagers and resisted the Word of God forcefully. But the saint, calm and full of the Holy Spirit, continued to sow the seeds of right belief and piety. After many hours, the chief fell silent and finally came to believe. The villagers, in solidarity with their leader, also joyously expressed their belief in the Triune God and sought Holy Baptism.

Father Jacob was a physician of bodies as well as souls. He often cared for the sick among his flock even to his own detriment.

During the winter of 1850-1851 the saint was himself ravaged with illness. Yet he cared for the sick and dispensed medicine to them every day. Father Jacob's preaching often brought together in the Holy Faith tribes who were traditional enemies. One example from his journal reads:

*"Beginning in the morning, upon my invitation, all the Kol'chane and Ingalit from the Yukon and the local ones gathered at my place and I preached the word of God, concluding at noon. Everyone listened to the preaching with attention and without discussion or dissent, and in the end they all expressed faith and their wish to accept Holy Baptism, both the Kol'chane and the Ingalit (formerly traditional enemies). I made a count by families and in groups, and then in the afternoon began the baptismal service. First I baptized 50 Kol'chane and Ingalit men, the latter from the Yukon and Innoko. It was already evening when I completed the service. March 21, 1853."*

So it was that this apostolic man, this new Job, conducted himself during his earthly course. There are many other deeds and wonders which he performed, many known and many more known only to God. Few missionaries in history have had to endure the hardships which Father Ja-

cob faced, yet he did so with patience and humility. His life of faith and piety are the legacy which he leaves to us, his spiritual children in America, and indeed to all Christians throughout the world.

Reprinted from the Orthodox Church in America web site, <https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2022/07/26/102091-repose-of-saint-jacob-netsvetov-enlightener-of-the-peoples-of-alaska>

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## MEET OUR NEWLY-ILLUMINED PARISHIONERS

### General Information

Name: Anthony Joe Alvarado  
Born on: September 17, 2004  
Born in: Phoenix, Arizona

### Personal Information

**Goals:** Learn more about Orthodox Theology and graduate High School.

**Hobbies:** Reading, watching movies and TV shows and playing video games.

### How I became Orthodox:

I could ramble on and on about how I became Orthodox and the such. To make a long story short; I realized the number of flaws in Protestantism and I was absolutely opposed to Catholicism (I learned about the Popes during the Renaissance period) so I was only left with Orthodoxy. After learning about Orthodoxy and hearing Orthodox apologetics, I was convinced, despite resistance initially. That's how I came to Orthodoxy.

### How I found SS Peter and Paul:

It was the closest Orthodox Church to my house and the only one my Mother, Adrianna, was willing to drive me to.

*\*\*I greeted Anthony and Adrianna upon their first visit to SS Peter and Paul. I was grateful to see them return week after week. A few weeks after their initial visit, during coffee hour, I sold 4 books to Anthony and Adrianna. His mother said they were all for Anthony. Anthony also volunteered for the cleaning of the church in preparation for Pascha.*

Nicholas Bock

# “We’re All Dying, Aren’t We?”

Fr. Lawrence Farley  
 “We’re all dying, aren’t we?” These words could have come from the lips of any thoughtful philosopher from the days of Marcus Aurelius on. In fact they came from the lips of Marilyn Monroe in the last complete film she ever made, “The Misfits”, finished in November 1961. There is a certain poignant irony to this, given that one of the film’s stars, Clark Gable, suffered a heart attack the day after the film wrapped and died about ten days later. Marilyn herself would die of accidental overdose within a year and a half.

In the film Marilyn played a recently divorced Roslyn, and she was dancing with a widower, Guido, played by Eli Wallach. Marilyn/Roslyn comments that he dances very well, and that it was a shame his wife never knew how well he could dance and also that it was a shame he never taught his wife to dance before she died. “To a certain extent,” she said to him, “maybe you were strangers.” When he began to take offence, she said, “Don’t be mad. I only meant that if you loved her, you could have taught her anything.” Hanging on his shoulder she whispered, “We’re all dying, aren’t we? And we’re not teaching each other what we really know.”

The sentiment is a timeless one, immortalized in ballads such as “Everything I Own” by Bread in 1972 and a generation later in “The Living Years” by Mike and the Mechanics. We go through life taking everything for granted, missing opportunities to express the love that needs to be expressed, not recognizing that everyone and everything around us is a gift, sent down to us from above by the Father of Lights. We rush through the days and months and years, absorbed by the mediocrity of the present

moment, our eyes focused on our smartphones, oblivious to the light that shines in every face and illuminates every moment. All too often it is only when it is too late that we awaken to the magnitude of what we have been given and the magnitude of what we have thrown away and lost forever.

*“All too often it is only when it is too late that we awaken to the magnitude of what we have been given and the magnitude of what we have thrown away and lost forever.”*

We should listen to Marilyn. If we really loved those around us and were sensible of the fleeting gift of time we would indeed teach each other, sharing the love we feel so that the love doubles, and sharing the pain we feel so that the pain is halved. One of the greatest of sins is ingratitude, not just to God, but to our family and friends. We so easily take each other for granted, and focus on the ephemeral, and never say the words which need badly to be said.

In Christ, though, there is forgiveness and healing and restoration. If we are in Christ, even our mistakes, stupidities, sins, and the hurt we inflict on others can be healed in the age to come. The Lord has promised to wipe away all the tears from our faces, including the tears we shed over lost opportunities, and in the Kingdom we may find time and place to speak the lost words again, to repent of our hardness of heart and our insensitivity to fleeting and fleeing opportunities, time and place to embrace and weep, and

to make up for our past earthbound folly.

But this mercy in the age to come does not obliterate or reduce the importance of our words or actions in this age. Paul was crystal clear: “Now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation.” We dare not presume on second chances, nor plan on an “eleventh hour repentance.” Too many people who plan on such repentance at the eleventh hour die at 10.30—or else find that they have hardened their hearts through long years of refusing God so that no such final repentance is possible. In our youth one of the many illusions we embrace is the illusion of our immortality, and we go through the years thinking we will never die. Even when age at length disabuses us of this happy illusion, we still easily imagine we always have years left. In fact death stalks us all, and could take us at any time. Lightning strike, car accident, plane crash, violent shooting, or doctor’s cruel prognosis—it is not for nothing that the Fathers bid us remember daily the hour of our death. Our prayerbooks give the same sobering counsel, for they contain a final bedtime prayer which says, “O Lord Jesus Christ, lover of mankind, is this bed to be my grave, or will you shine upon my wretched soul with the light of another day? Behold, the grave lies before me and death confronts me.”

Now indeed is the acceptable time, the day of salvation. Now is the time to repent, to forgive, to embrace, and to let others know how much they mean to us. Let us learn from the Fathers, and from our prayerbooks. Let us even learn from dear Marilyn, that candle in the wind. I mean, we’re all dying, aren’t we?

Reprinted from the Orthodox Church in America web site, <https://www.oca.org/reflections/fr.-lawrence-farley/were-all-dying-arent-we>

## Bits . . .

**CONGRATULATIONS, BLESSINGS, AND MANY YEARS** to Mara and Andy Contes on the birth of their daughter, Isabella Andrea, who was welcomed into this world on June 12th.

Mother and child are both healthy and doing well. Isabella is also welcomed by her brothers, Basil and Cassian, and sisters, Eleni, Marian and Marina.

Glory to God for the gift of new life.



**GYMNASTICS STAR** Dylan Arango competed at the NGA Nationals held in Orlando, Fla representing USA Flairs as he recently won the NGA State All-Around title and placed 2nd All-Around at the Re-



gional Championships. Dylan tied for 1st on High Bar. He also earned 2nd place All-Around, Pommel Horse and Rings.

As a result of his excellent performance and placement, Dylan earned a spot on the NGA Select National Team and qualified to attend a special camp in Tennessee this fall where he will receive a jacket denoting his National Team status.



### CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD

If you are interested in enrolling your 3-6 year old child as a new student in our CGS class for the upcoming school year, please contact Lesley Zaremba at 480.710.7133.



**SUNDAY SCHOOL** is looking for volunteers to help with our Sunday School program. We are in need of an assistant teacher in our CGS class as well as an assistant teacher in our middle school class. Please contact Stephanie Homyak, 602.432.7473, if you are interested.

## Around SS Peter & Paul

### JULY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- July 13 Jessie Garcia
- 14 Barbara Harp  
Azuriah Merriwether
- 16 John Yavornitzky
- 20 Wesley Holmes  
Matushka Mary Balmer  
Fr David & Matushka Mary Balmer  
Lydia Osolinsky & Michael Davis
- 22 Nadya Moriarty  
Jarrod Zaremba
- 23 Nicholas Enoch Sr.
- 24 Mekseb Mebrahtu
- 25 Deacon Rodion Pfeiffer
- 26 Frank Hurd
- 27 Phil O'Brien  
Tammy Lynn Horton  
Xanath (Xenia) King
- 29 David Homyak  
Christian Hurd
- 31 Sammy Valencia

### CONGRATULATIONS!

July 1<sup>st</sup> marks  
Bishop Daniel's  
16<sup>th</sup> anniversary at  
SS Peter and Paul!

Many years!  
Многая лета!

### PRAYER LIST

We offer prayers to all of our parishioners who are ill or unable to attend services:

+Metropolitan Herman  
Sandra Hoff  
Walter Booriakin  
Elena Kerr  
Jamie Arango  
Antonia Adams-Clement  
Rose Kurowski  
Tammy Horton  
*The suffering people of Ukraine*

May Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Physician of our souls and bodies, reach out his healing hand and bless these, His servants.

If you know anyone else in need of our prayers, please contact Bishop Daniel.

# ... and Pieces

**CONGRATULATIONS AND MANY YEARS!** to Deacon Rodion Pfeiffer as he celebrates the first anniversary of his ordination to the Holy Diaconate. May the Lord bless him and grant him, Matushka Elizabeth, and their family many blessings as they serve Christ's Holy Church!

**CONGRATULATIONS AND MANY YEARS** to Bill and Rosemarie Osolinsky, who celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary on June 12th! May God grant them many years!



**ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL PARISH OUTREACH** The 2022 school supply outreach was another great success for our generous parish community. We received donation pledges of \$2,500 which exceeded our expenses to supply 48 economically disadvantaged school children a backpack full of supplies for their grade level. The extra several dollars collected will be placed toward this December's Nativity gifts outreach. Thanks for all your support.

**FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION** This feast commemorates our Lord's transfiguration before his disciples on Mt. Tabor. In His Transfiguration He reveals His glory to the disciples. In Him they (and we) now see for themselves the glory of God present in the person of Christ. Vespers for the feast will be Friday evening, August 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00pm and then Saturday, August 6<sup>th</sup>, Divine Liturgy at 9:00am, followed by the blessing of fruit.



**MID-YEAR STATEMENT OF CONTRIBUTIONS** through June 30, 2022 will be sent out in mid-July. For those with an e-mail address on record, they will be sent by e-mail. Otherwise, they will be mailed.

**SUMMER STEWARDSHIP** Throughout the summer months, many of our parishioners will be taking vacations, seeking cooler climates, or visiting family and friends throughout the country and world. It is also during the summer, when church attendance decreases because of vacations, that our parish expenses rise, due to the greater use and higher cost of electricity in the heat of the summer. However, the life and work of your parish community continues even when you are traveling and away and enjoying your vacation. You are asked to kindly remember this and to maintain—and even increase—your stewardship during the summer months. May the Lord bless your travels and bring you safely home.

**BLESSING OF VEHICLES** It is our parish custom to bless vehicles on the Sunday nearest to the Feast of the Holy Prophet Elijah. This year, that commemoration falls on Sunday, July 24<sup>th</sup>. Cars and other vehicles will be blessed that day, following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy.



**FRY'S COMMUNITY REWARDS** If you have not already done so, please link your VIP card to SS PETER & PAUL E ORTHODOX CHURCH online at [www.frysfood.com](http://www.frysfood.com). Every time you shop for groceries, certain gift cards, and prescriptions at the pharmacy you automatically start earning. Your purchases will begin earning rewards within 7 to 10 business days of registering your VIP number. We currently have 14 households registered—up from 8 a year ago. For the period March 1—May 31, 2022, we earned \$41.32 (up from \$25.36 last year).

**WE WELCOME** all visitors to SS Peter & Paul. We hope your visit was enriching and enlightening. Please join us in the Cultural Center, behind the church, for our Fellowship Hour. It's a chance to meet some of our members, other visitors, and enjoy some coffee and fellowship. We invite you to visit our website at [www.sspeterpaulaz.org](http://www.sspeterpaulaz.org).

**GUESTS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!** You are always encouraged to bring guests to our services, whether Orthodox, Christians of the various denominations, non-Christians, as well as those who hold no particular belief. Indeed, bringing guests, especially those who are not part of any other Christian community, is a part of our ongoing outreach and evangelization. However, it is also encouraged to prepare them for their visit by letting them know what to expect. You can help them feel comfortable by explaining to them the Orthodox practice concerning the reception of Holy Communion. It's very simple: The reception of Holy Communion is reserved to those who are baptized and chrismated members of the Orthodox Church who have prepared themselves by fasting, prayer, participation in the divine services, and a timely Confession.

**A/C REMINDER** When running the Hall's A/C remember to keep all doors closed and returning thermostats to their original setting after use.

**BOOKSTORE** If the bookstore is unattended and you made a purchase, please write your purchase into the notebook (found in the drawer) and place your payment in the envelope. Thank you and Happy Summer Reading!

## YOUTH SERVING IN THE CHURCH



# July 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p><b>FOCA</b> Wishing everyone born in July a very Happy Birthday and may God grant you many years!</p>						<p>1 Wonderworkers Cosmas &amp; Damian</p> <p>2</p> <p>5:00pm Vespers</p>
<p>3 9:00am Divine Liturgy</p> <p><b>SS PETER &amp; PAUL FEAST DAY POT LUCK LUNCHEON FOCA Meeting</b></p>	4	<p>5 Ven. Athanasius of Mt. Athos Relics Ven. Sergius of Radonezh</p>	6	7	<p>8 Kazan, Sitka-Kazan Icons and other Ka- zan Icons</p>	<p>9</p> <p>5:00pm Vespers</p>
<p>10 Ven. Anthony of the Kiev Caves</p> <p>9:00am Divine Liturgy</p>	<p>11 Greatmartyr Euphemia</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6:00pm Council Mtg</p>	<p><b>MBAS</b> Will NOT meet in July. See you in August!</p>		<p>15 Great Prince Vladimir Equal-to-the-Apostles</p>	<p>16</p> <p>5:00pm Vespers</p>
<p>17 Fathers of the 1st Six Ecumenical Councils</p> <p>9:00am Divine Liturgy</p>	18	<p>19 Relics Ven. Seraphim of Sarov</p>	<p>20 Holy Prophet Elijah</p>	21	<p>22 Myrrhbearer and Equal-to-the-Apostles Mary Magdalene</p>	<p>23 Pochaev &amp; Joy of All Who Sorrow Icons</p> <p>5:00pm Vespers</p>
<p>24 Martyrs &amp; Passion bearers Boris &amp; Gleb Martyr Christina of Tyre</p> <p>9:00am Divine Liturgy</p> <p><b>BLESSING OF CARS</b></p>	<p>25 Dormition of Righteous Anna, Mother of the Theotokos</p> <p>9:00am Divine Liturgy</p>	<p>26 St. Jacob Netsvetov of Alaska</p>	<p>27 Greatmartyr &amp; Healer Panteleimon</p>	<p>28 Smolensk- Hodigitria Icon</p>	29	<p>30</p> <p>5:00pm Vespers</p>
<p>31 Forefeast Procession of the Lifegiving Cross</p> <p>9:00am Divine Liturgy</p>	<p>1 <b>Beginning of Dormition Fast</b> Procession of the Lifegiving Cross</p>	2	3	4	<p>5 Forefeast Transfiguration</p> <p>6:00pm Vespers</p>	<p>6 <b>TRANSFIGURATION</b> OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST 9:00am Divine Liturgy <i>Blessing of Fruit</i></p>  <p>5:00pm Vespers</p>
<p><b>We welcome all of our guests and visitors. Please join us in the Cultural Center for Fellowship Hour following Divine Liturgy each Sunday.</b></p>						