

SS Peter & Paul Orthodox Church Newsletter

Volume 22 Issue 5

May 2022

April Council Highlights

- ✘ March's Operating Income was \$15,653.98 and Operating Expenses were \$13,779.63 resulting in a positive balance of \$1,874.35 for month of March.
- ✘ Over 39K raised for Ukraine Relief Fund.
- ✘ Pascha card raised \$1,275.
- ✘ Discussion re: investing \$10K in a U.S. I Saving Bond.



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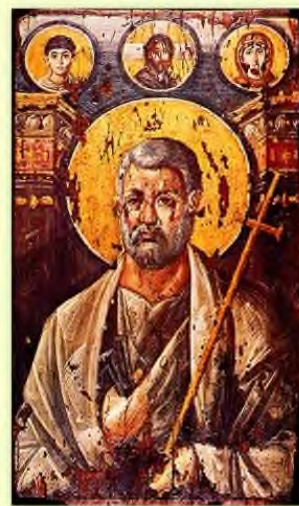
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The Power of Peter's Shadow

On Thomas Sunday we read the well-known story of the apostle Thomas' encounter with the risen Christ. Another passage reveals the extraordinary spiritual growth of the apostle Peter.

This passage, Acts 5:15, tells us that the Spirit-filled apostles were doing many signs and wonders among the people, in a part of the Temple in Jerusalem called Solomon's Portico. The leader in this exciting work was none other than Peter, once so fearful and craven that he denied knowing Christ. But now people "carried out the sick into the streets, and laid them on beds and pallets, so that as Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on some of them."

Some may question the idea that Peter's shadow could have an effect. But Luke makes two other references to such healing power. One is in his Gospel, where we read (8:43-44) about the woman who has had flow of blood for twelve years. She



comes up behind Jesus, obviously in fear and trembling, and touches the fringe of His garment. The flow of blood ceases at once. Far from rebuking her or criticizing what she has done, the Lord receives her humble declaration "in the presence of the people" that she has been healed of a terrible affliction by touching His clothing. He says, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace."

Luke also tells us, in Acts 19:11, that God "did extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul." The apostle was so revered and trusted as a healer that people took handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched his body to the sick, and "diseases left them and the evil spirits came out of them."

Some people still have difficulty in understanding this working of God's grace through human beings. Visitors to an Orthodox Liturgy may express discomfort at seeing some

worshippers venerate the hem of the priest's garment. But the examples in Luke and Acts give us a good basis to explain what is going on. The same explanation could apply to kissing the hand of a priest and asking for a blessing; the grace that comes is only in God, but it comes through the hand of His ordained servant.

Peter's new courage as he and the apostles worked among the people would soon be needed, as the passage from Acts reveals. The jealous Sadducees arrested and imprisoned him and the others. They were rescued and released by an angel, but their release didn't mean that they could go home and relax. The angel gave specific instructions: "Go and stand in the Temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life." The apostles were to return to the very place where opposition to their message was strongest and most concentrated, and were to continue delivering that message.

It was not an easy assignment, but they carried it out admirably, creating the foundation of the Church to which we can now belong. ✘

Message From Our Rector

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Christ is risen!

As in the early morning hours of Holy Pascha, I greet you with the joyful announcement of Christ's Resurrection, wishing you the continued joy of the Feast of Feasts. Memories of our parish observance of Holy Week and Pascha are still fresh in our minds as we walk with the Risen Lord during these 40 full days of celebration. Having completed our 40 days of fasting, we now rejoice in our 40 days of feasting.

I am grateful to each and every one of our parishioners who made our Great Lent, Holy Week, and Pascha to be spiritually uplifting and fulfilling... and so very beautiful and inspiring. So many people were involved in so very many aspects of those days that it would be difficult (and risky) to attempt to prepare a list of names of those who should be thanked. There were so many areas of dedicated involvement and service—cleaning, decorating, singing, praying, reading, directing, traveling to and from church, serving in the Altar, baking and cooking, dyeing eggs, ironing and changing covers and servers robes, setting up and taking down and setting up again... and so many additional things taking place “behind the scenes” in order for everything to be prepared as a fitting offering to the Lord. All of this time, energy, and resources were all for one purpose: to give glory to the Lord Jesus Christ in celebration of His victory over darkness, sin, and death itself. All was done to give glory to the Triune God.

Now that Great Lent and Holy Week have passed and we are fully into the Paschal Season and heading toward the

50th day celebration of Pentecost, the challenge before us is to preserve the brightness, joy, and excitement of the Feast of Feasts! We do not want to allow our paschal greeting, “Christ is risen!” to be a mere habit or something that is simply routine, even though we’ve all returned to our normal schedules, everyday duties, and maybe even the monotony of our daily lives. No, we want to make our daily lives, in and out of season, to be true reflections of the joy of Pascha Night itself. (We remember that Saint Seraphim of Sarov greeted the people who came to him with the paschal greeting, no matter the time of the year). All we do, whether during Pascha or throughout the rest of the year, is to be done for one and the same purpose: to proclaim Christ's victory over sin and death in the glory of His Resurrection—to proclaim the Good News that is the Gospel. And to give glory to God.

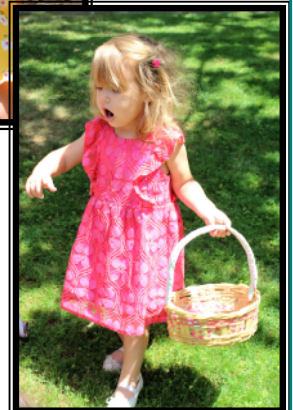
Let us, each and every one of us, do our part in keeping the joy of Pascha alive and vibrant in our parish, in our homes and families, with our friends and acquaintances, and in our daily lives—throughout the 40 days and throughout the entire year. I wish to express my gratitude to God for all of you, (priests, clergy, and faithful alike) for your participation in the life of our parish, and for your many personal kindnesses to me—and, most importantly, for how your lives and faith inspire me to walk ever more closely with Christ, our Crucified and Risen Savior.

Indeed He is risen!

With love in the Risen Lord,

+Bishop Daniel

EAFTER EGG HUNT



Images of Our Journey to Pascha

Lazarus Saturday



Palm Sunday



Bridegroom Matins



Holy Thursday



Holy Friday

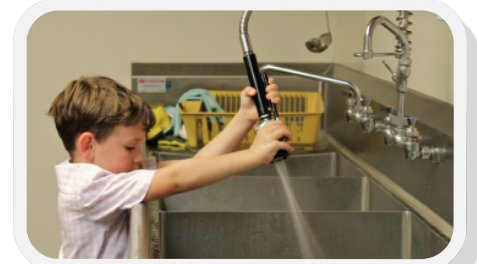


Images of Our Journey to Pascha

Holy Saturday



Pascha



Meet Our Newly Illumined Parishioners—Part I

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 2 members recently Chrismated on 15 April, Manuel (Solomon) and Jaysen.

Nicholas Bock

MANUEL FRANCISCO ULIBARRI JR. (SOLOMON)

A native Arizonan, I was born December 22, 1953 in McNary, Arizona. Born and raised in the White Mountains, I am the youngest of 24 children born to my parents Manuel and Virginia, both reposed.

I moved to Phoenix with my mother when I was 18 years old. We moved to Phoenix after my Dad was killed on his way home from his job at APS, where he worked as a welder.

After high school, I started working various jobs including construction, building swimming pools, remodeling, auto/golf cart mechanic, sales for a building materials warehouse and forklift operator. I also taught kids about outdoor survival skills and living off the land as a Royal Rangers instructor.

I became interested in Orthodoxy when Lynn-Marie started going to a Greek Orthodox church and was chrismated there in 2018. I came to SS Peter and Paul after leaving a ROCOR parish after about 6 months. I was looking for something

more; to be spiritually fulfilled. Last year I found that at SS Peter and Paul during the Kitchen Deep Clean. While there, I met

Nick Bock, Bishop Daniel and so many more friendly people. From the moment I walked in, I felt like I was home. I enjoy volunteering at the church, doing what I can, where I can. I enjoy helping with Sunday coffee hour

and seeing the smiles on people’s faces. I have a lot to learn in my journey, but I have my sponsor, Nick, the guidance of the deacons, and His Grace, Bishop DANIEL, who are always willing to answer my questions. SS Peter and Paul is now my church home. I know I have a church family now and I’m forever grateful and truly blessed.

JAYSEN DAVID EISENGREIN

I was chrismated into Orthodoxy on April 15, 2022, after working with Bishop DANIEL since 2020 to complete my journey to become an Orthodox Christian. Born on Staten Island, NY in the late 1950s, I was baptized in Immanuel Union Church, and then joined and was raised in St. John’s Lutheran Church and School on Staten Island. At St. John’s, I served as an altar boy, which led to my tenure as an acolyte and a member of the choir. Growing up,

I was involved in Cub, Boy, and Sea Scouts, and played the trumpet in the Sea Scout Band. I received a BS degree in Criminal Justice from Thomas Edison State University, a graduate certificate in

Business Leadership from Cornell, and an MBA from Northcentral University.

Upon retiring from federal service in 2009, I joined a non-profit firm focused on the integrity of government healthcare programs as a Senior Vice President. We provide analytic and investigative services to find fraud in the Medicare and Medicaid healthcare programs, thereby conserving the funds for those in need of health services.

Paula (nee Dzwonczyk) and I were married in SS Peter and Paul Russian Orthodox Church, South River, NJ, in 1990. Paula was born in Mayfield, Pennsylvania and was baptized at St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church. Growing up, Paula was a member of the church’s choir, Sunday School, and other church activities. Paula is a graduate of the University of Scranton, a language major fully conversant in Spanish and German (of course, a little Russian, too) and is a Fulbright Scholar. She recently suspended her retired status and returned to Social Security temporarily on a Presidentially-authorized special program to help Social Security reopen its offices, after being closed for two years due to the pandemic. Paula has been a communicant and is a member of the Church Council at Holy Archangels Mission Church in Annapolis, MD.

We purchased our home in Gold Canyon in 2004, and are now officially “snowbirds” who will return to the East Coast for summer months to visit family and friends, including our son, John, who is a data scientist residing in Lancaster, Pennsylvania. John is also an Orthodox Christian. Paula and I look forward to meeting and celebrating many Divine Liturgies with the parishioners and clergy of our blessed parish.



Project Mexico

You have seen the items that have been collected for the past 6 weeks. Cleaning supplies, canned food, bottled beverages, bags of sugar, flour, beans, rice, and dog food, health & beauty aids, etc. have populated tables in our gathering hall. All this for the worthwhile cause that is Project Mexico.



In total, more than 2400 pounds of goods will be donated to help fill their pantry for a time. A minimum of 20 boxes was required for pickup. We are donating 85 boxes. Many individuals and groups within SS Peter and Paul donated hundreds of dollars to the Pantry Partners Project to assist in purchasing supplies. Not only are supplies being donated but thanks to your contributions monthly and a very generous monetary

donation from Holy Cross, Project Mexico will receive assistance to purchase items that they are lacking.

Your generosity is truly a blessing and to help those in need is a gift. I could not be any more grateful to each and every one who took this project to heart and made it a ministry. A special thanks to Steve, Izolda and Timfei, David & Sue and Bill & Susan, who boxed up the last "half ton" of supplies in record time. Additionally, I would like to thank Bill, Peter and Manuel who assisted in loading the truck.



Thanks to all who contributed. I pray you'll forgive me if I didn't mention your name. Your response and almsgiving is truly amazing, THANK YOU, again!

Nicholas Bock

Dear Nick,

Christ is Risen!

Thank you so much for your recent Pantry Partners donation made through in support of the work of Project Mexico & St. Innocent Orphanage.

Your generous gift of hope ensures that we are able to provide a loving home and future for our very special boys, build safe, secure and weather-proof homes for the neediest families, and host our Orthodox youth as they bear the burdens of others and spread the light of Christ. You have helped us immensely!

On behalf of the staff, volunteers, and boys of Project Mexico & St. Innocent Orphanage, thank you for your generosity. We pray that God richly blesses you for reaching out to the least of His children.

In Christ,

Lena Anossov
Project Mexico and St. Innocent Orphanage
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Around SS Peter & Paul

MAY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

- May 1 Anna Hudson
- 3 Deacon John & Mastushka Julianna
- 6 Sandra and Robert Hoff
- 8 Marina Harrelson
- 12 Natalya Keck
- 16 David Bieber
- 17 Vi Wasilenko
- 18 Darya Dolenko
- 19 Timofei Kadyrov
- Hailee Behnen
- 23 Anastasia Melendrez
- 24 Amy Blischak
- 27 Marty Gala
- Elijah Ferbrache
- Katrina and Joseph Delsante
- 30 Carol Yavornitzky
- 31 Katie Enoch



CONGRATULATIONS

And Many Years to Sandra and Robert Hoff as they celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on May 6th!



PRAYER LIST

*"I was sick and you visited me."
Matt 25:36*

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

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

Bits and Pieces

THANK YOU to all who made our observance of Great Lent, Holy Week, and Pascha to be so spiritually rewarding, growth-giving, and joyous. May the Risen Lord grant His light and joy to all who work with such dedication to glorify the Most Holy Trinity through our worship and our community life.

THE MYRRHBEARERS ALTAR SOCIETY (MBAS) would like to thank everyone who helped with preparations for Palm Sunday and Pascha. Activities included baking rolls, preparing palms and pussy willows, and decorating the church and hall.

Please note that the MBAS will meet on Sunday, May 15th.

CONGRATULATIONS AND MANY YEARS!

to Deacon Rodion and Matushka Elizabeth Pfeiffer. Matushka gave birth to Robert Alexei Pfeiffer, a healthy 8.10 pound, 48 cm, baby boy on Friday, April 15th. We join them in giving thanks for this gift of new life. May the Lord bless them all!



CONGRATULATIONS, BLESSINGS, AND MANY YEARS to Jessie and Frank Hurd on the birth of their son, Theodore Michael, who was welcomed into this world on Friday, April 15th. Theodore is also welcomed by his brother, Christian.



CHURCH BOOKSTORE

Just because Great Lent is over doesn't mean we are done with spiritually beneficial reading! Take a gander at what the bookstore and our parish library has to offer.

FOCA Thank you to everyone who dyed and provided eggs for Pascha. We will be celebrating May birthdays on Sunday, May 15. Wishing you many years!

WELCOME all visitors to SS Peter and Paul. We hope your visit was enriching and enlightening. Please join us in the Cultural Center for our Fellowship Hour. It's a chance to meet some of our members, other visitors, enjoy some coffee and fellowship, and visit our bookstore.

BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES This summer the Parish will again be supplying school supplies for needy children in the neighborhood. We have committed to sponsor supplies for 48 of the most economically disadvantaged students at Whittier Elementary school around the corner on 16th street. The supplies have already been purchased and are being stored in the back hallway of the Community Center. The school's social worker will select the students. We will begin the drive for donations in mid-May and deliver the supplies just before the Fall term in late July. Please be generous, as you always are for these community outreaches.

CONGRATULATIONS AND MANY YEARS!

On Lazarus Saturday, our parish was especially blessed as we welcomed into the Church, through Baptism, Chrismation, and the Holy Eucharist, the Servants of God: Jose, Elizabeth, Amelia, Raphael, Joaquin, Xenia, and Anthony. On the prior evening, through Chrismation, we received Solomon, Jaysen, and Pavel who today also received the Holy Mysteries for the first time. We rejoice with them, their sponsors, families, and friends that the Lord has called them to live lives of discipleship as members of Christ's Holy Orthodox Church. Many years to all!

FOR THE UKRAINE RELIEF FUND, we have a year-to-date total of \$39K and change.

For the Pascha Card Fund, which is designated for Ukraine Orphanages, we have a Y-T-D at this time of \$1,275.00.

So for overall numbers, we broke the \$40K ceiling.

CHURCH DEEP CLEANING On Saturday, 9 April, in preparation for Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Pascha services a group of volunteers dedicated a few hours of time and labor to clean the church. The church is cleaned weekly but this was a deeper cleaning. A deep clean has not been done in the sanctuary for 2 years as our local government eased restrictions in May prior to Pascha and there was not enough time to perform this type of cleaning.

A great job by a small crew that was focused and driven. Thanks to Bill and Susan Weiss, Steve Doerksen, Sammy Valencia, Anthony Alvarado, Jose and Mckaley Arauz, "Teddi" Brent, Nick Enoch, and Irina Zinchenko. The work load included the following: Floors- to include vacuuming, scraping up the wax, sweeping & mopping. Thanks to all who helped clean the Narthex and Nave of the church.

Nicholas Bock

SUMMER IS ALMOST HERE! Despite what the calendar says, summer temperatures are here. As in your own homes, ***please do not prop open doors to the outside*** as this practice just vents the cool air out and the hot air in. Also, please close the doors to all interior rooms when leaving.

SUMMER CAMPS Registration for the Rocky Mountain Deanery 2022 Summer Camp (June 26th-July 2nd, 2022) in Colorado is now OPEN! Please contact our Camp Director, Fr. Benjamin Huggins (frbenjamin.huggins@gmail.com) for Registration Forms and cost. Registration due June 1st.

Registration for St. Eugene's 2022 Summer Camp (June 26th-July 2nd, 2022) in Dunlap, CA is now OPEN! Visit steugenecamp.org and click on register. Please contact our Camp Director, Fr. Andrew Smith (director@steugenecamp.org) if you have any questions.

May 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 ANTIPASCHA St. Thomas Sunday 9:00am Divine Liturgy CHURCH SCHOOL FOCA MEETING	WELCOME 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.					7 St. Alexis Toth Confessor of Orthodoxy in N America 5:00pm Vespers
8 Holy Myrrh-bearing Women Holy Apostle John the Theologian 9:00am Divine Liturgy 		10 Apostle Simeon the Zealot 6:00pm Council Mtg	11 SS Cyril & Methodius Apostles to the Slavs 9:00am Divine Liturgy	MBAS Meeting Sunday, May 15 Following Divine Liturgy		14 5:00pm Vespers
15 Paralytic 9:00am Divine Liturgy CHURCH SCHOOL MBAS MEETING			18 Midfeast of Pentecost 9:00am Divine Liturgy			21 Equals-to-the-Apostles Sts. Constantine and Helen 5:00pm Vespers
22 Samaritan Woman 9:00am Divine Liturgy CHURCH SCHOOL	BAPTISM Robert Alexei Pfeiffer will be baptized on Saturday, May 28 th at 10 am. A luncheon will be served in the hall afterwards.		25 3rd Finding of the Head of St. John the Baptist			28 10:00am Baptism Robert Alexei Pfeiffer <i>Luncheon to follow</i> 5:00pm Vespers
29 Blind Man 9:00am Divine Liturgy	30 MEMORIAL DAY 		1 6:00pm Vespers	2 ASCENSION OF OUR LORD 9:00am Divine Liturgy	3	4 5:00pm Vespers