



NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church

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TO ALL OUR VISITORS

We welcome you to our parish—no matter where you come from, or where you are going; no matter what you believe or what you doubt; no matter what you feel, or do not feel. We hope you find your time here with us to be a true blessing from God—who knows you by name; who knows your heart; who knows your mind; and who wants to be in a spiritual relationship with you. We challenge ourselves and the world to love like Christ our Savior, as we pray joyfully, serve compassionately, and grow spiritually. If you are seriously considering a new place of worship or a relocation to our area, we would love to have you as a part of our family. Get in touch with Father John with any questions you may have. Thank you for being with us, we look forward to seeing you again.

SHHHHHHH! Please silence all cell phones when entering the church. And it would be most respectful if you did not use them during the Divine Liturgy, sermon and announcements. Our focus should be on our Lord.

GENERAL CONFESSION SERVICE is held every first Sunday of the month, and as always begins at 9:25am. Please be on time (by 9:20am) and participate in this beautiful service. Confessions can also be heard before or after Saturday Vespers, and also every Sunday before the Divine Liturgy. The censing of the church begins promptly at 9:55am on Sundays.

SAINTS PETER & PAUL YOUTH FUNDRAISER: Our youth are sponsoring an “Adopt an Envelope Fundraiser Challenge.” ***How it works:*** take an envelope off the board in the church vestibule, place the \$\$ amount on the envelope inside (cash or check made out to Sts. Peter & Paul Church), and place your sealed envelope in the offering basket or candle donation box. All the envelopes have been decorated with love by our parish children to help raise money for our much needed church building repairs. Thank you and God bless you for supporting our children’s efforts.

BRACELETS/NECKLACES/BOOK MARKERS are on sale in our Fellowship Hall. They are beautifully designed and made by our own Aubriella Rodriguez. All proceeds go to our church.

HAVE YOU MOVED? Please let Father John know your new contact information.

WE HAVE ALREADY RECEIVED \$150 donated towards a small electric hot water tank to be put under the sink in our church vestibule lavatory (no more ice water when washing your hands!). Those interested in donating to complete this project, please see Father John. Estimated total cost is around \$350.

COFFEE HOUR UPDATE

If you would like to bring some food items to share at our coffee hour on Sundays, please sign up in the Fellowship Hall. During the Nativity Fast, **all items must be strict fast** — no meat or dairy products in your food items.

ORTHODOXY 101 STUDY

Every 2nd SUNDAY of the month during coffee hour in our Fellowship Hall

Grab your coffee/water, a bagel and dessert, and sit with us as we refresh our minds on our beautiful, Orthodox faith. We have designated the 2nd Sunday each month as “BAGELS AND DESSERTS ONLY SUNDAY” so there will not be any major cleanup which we typically have after our fellowship luncheon meals.

CONGRATULATIONS to John Truett, who was tonsured a READER of the Orthodox Church this past weekend by Archbishop Michael; congratulations also to Vic and Karen Gadzik, along with Aubriella Rodriguez, who were recipients of the OCA Gramota Award for outstanding service to our parish; also Father John was honored by Archbishop Michael, with receiving the Palitsa Award for his many years of service to the Orthodox church.

NEW ENGLAND PATRIOTS vs. the BUFFALO BILLS PARTY – SUNDAY, December 31st, 1pm

Starts right after Divine Liturgy in our Fellowship Hall. Adults: \$10; Children 12 & under FREE. Pizza and wings will be provided. Bring a side dish, dessert or munchie if you can. *We ask you to sign up in the Fellowship Hall so we can have a count of the number attending.* Join us once again for fellowship as a church family. (You do not have to like football to attend!)

BRING A FRIEND along with you to church. Encourage all of your relatives to attend services faithfully. It is our Christian duty to help others find Christ. The Apostle Andrew brought his brother Peter to God, so let us follow his example.

BRICK PRAYER GARDEN – If anyone would still like to purchase bricks in honor of/in memory of a family member or friend, please do so as soon as possible. Order forms are available in the church vestibule or the fellowship hall. Any questions, please contact Father John. The already donated and engraved bricks have been placed in our “Brick Prayer Garden” on the side of our church outside. Please go out and look at this beautiful job nearly completed. Let's add more bricks to this beautiful and thoughtful remembrance. SPECIAL THANKS to *Nadia Ryan* for organizing and leading this fundraiser campaign.

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE who accomplished putting in the Brick Prayer Garden, the tarring and flashing of the smaller roof of our Fellowship Hall, and much needed work in the church including enabling our Eternal Lamp to be used again: Walter Yanicki, Dave Hummel, David DeVantier, Antonio Jean, John Truett, John Tipton, Tim Harper, Vic and Karen Gadzik and Matushka Nancy. It was around 38-40 degrees that day and they braved the cold to help out.

BURIAL PLOTS AVAILABLE TO BUY

Saints Peter and Paul Church owns burial plots in Riverdale Cemetery, Lewiston, New York. Cost is \$400 per plot. If interested in buying any, please contact Father John.

IF YOU HAVE ASKED to include a friend or relative on our Prayer List, which is taken during the Divine Liturgy, and they are now better, please inform Father John to take them off this list.

SATURDAY VESPERS are held at 6:00pm. This Vespers service helps us prepare for the upcoming Sunday Divine Liturgy. Confessions are heard before and afterwards.

A SINCERE THANK YOU to all those who helped out in any way with the visitation of Archbishop Michael to our parish... those who made strict fast dishes for Saturday evening after Vespers and for after the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, those who purchased and donated food items, those who set up and cleaned up afterwards, those who attended church on both days, those who went way beyond the call of duty in organizing the meals, doing extra work around the church complex during the weekend and for a number of weeks prior to the beautiful event. God bless you for your dedication to your Church!

SING TO THE LORD —Are you interested in singing in the church choir? Please see Father John during coffee hour or contact him by cell phone for more information. Our Church Fathers tell us that when you sing, you pray twice.

A NOTE FROM FATHER JOHN: “Thank you to all my parishioners who tendered me with cards, a birthday cake, and gifts on my recent birthday. I sincerely appreciate your love and dedication to our church.” — *Father John*

NATIVITY FAST started November 15 and continues through December 24. Every Wednesday during the fasting period, we will have a **SMALL COMPLINE SERVICE** starting at 6:00pm. Please join us in worship to prepare our souls for the coming of the Birth of the Infant Messiah. Everyone seems to want to make Christmas less “commercial” and less about presents — what a great way to teach your family this by attending these holy services.

WHAT IS A SMALL COMPLINE SERVICE? A Small Compline is served on most nights of the year, either after the evening supper, or right before bedtime. The service is composed of three Psalms (50, 69, 142), the Small Doxology, the Nicene Creed, the Canon followed by “It is Truly Meet,” the Trisagion, the Troparions and Kontakions of the day, Lord have mercy (40 times), the Prayer of the Hours, the Supplicatory Prayer of Paul the Monk, and the Prayer to Jesus Christ of Antiochus the Monk, and also the Prayer of Saint Joannicius. Then the mutual forgiveness and final blessing by the Priest. After this, there is a Litany and the veneration of Icons and Relics. See you then!

OUR ANNUAL HOLY NIGHT SUPPER will take place on Sunday evening, December 24th. Nativity of our Lord Complines will start at 5:00pm with the Holy Night Supper afterwards in our Fellowship Hall. If you can, please bring a dish to share making sure the food item is STRICT FAST—no meat, no dairy products permitted. Those bringing food items please sign up on our coffee hour sheets.

THE LATEST ISSUE of JACOB’S WELL our diocesan magazine, is still available on the table behind the last pew in our church. Very informative, spiritual articles are in this magazine. Please pick one up.

2024 CHURCH WALL CALENDARS are now on sale in our church vestibule. The cost is \$10 per calendar. These beautiful Orthodox calendars inform us of the many feasts and saints days.

PLEASE REMEMBER that even though you weren't in church for some Sundays, the expenses of the church still continue. May our Lord bless those who have not forgotten the church in their weekly or monthly offerings.

UPCOMING EVENTS at Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Saturday	Nov. 25	6pm: <i>VESPERS</i>
Sunday	Nov. 26	9:30am: <i>READING of 3rd/6th HOURS</i> 10am: <i>DIVINE LITURGY</i>
Wednesday	Nov. 29	6pm: <i>SMALL COMPLINE SERVICE</i>
Saturday	Dec. 2	6pm: <i>VESPERS</i>
Sunday	Dec. 3	9:25am: <i>GENERAL CONFESSION SERVICE/READING of 3rd/6th HOURS</i> 10am: <i>DIVINE LITURGY</i> with visitation of St. Nicholas Parish Council Meeting in Fellowship Hall
Tuesday	Dec. 5	6pm: <i>VESPERAL DIVINE LITURGY</i> for Feast of St. Nicholas
Wednesday	Dec. 6	6pm: <i>SMALL COMPLINE SERVICE</i>
Saturday	Dec. 9	6pm: <i>VESPERS</i>
Sunday	Dec. 10	9:30am: <i>READING of 3rd/6th HOURS</i> 10am: <i>DIVINE LITURGY</i>
Wednesday	Dec. 13	6pm: <i>SMALL COMPLINE SERVICE</i>
Saturday	Dec. 16	6pm: <i>VESPERS</i>
Sunday	Dec. 17	9:30am: <i>READING of 3rd/6th HOURS</i> 10am: <i>DIVINE LITURGY</i>
Wednesday	Dec. 20	6pm: <i>SMALL COMPLINE SERVICE</i>
Saturday	Dec. 23	6pm: <i>VESPERS</i>
Sunday	Dec. 24	9:30am: <i>READING of 3rd/6th HOURS</i> 10am: <i>DIVINE LITURGY</i> NO COFFEE HOUR 5pm: <i>NATIVITY COMPLINES</i> with Holy Night Supper afterwards
Monday	Dec. 25	10am: <i>NATIVITY of our LORD DIVINE LITURGY</i>
Saturday	Dec. 30	6pm: <i>VESPERS</i>
Sunday	Dec. 31	9:30am: <i>READING of 3rd/6th HOURS</i> 10am: <i>DIVINE LITURGY</i> 1pm: Patriots/Bills Game Party in Fellowship Hall