

38th Sunday After Pentecost

February 26th - March 3rd, 2024

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38th Sunday After Pentecost. Tone 5

March 5, 2024 Tuesday
6pm. Vespers

March 6, 2024 Wednesday
9am. Divine Liturgy
6pm. TownHall Meeting
8pm. OCF @ SU

March 7, 2024 Thursday
9pm. Food Recovery
9pm. Panera Pick Up

March 8, 2024 Friday
9:30am Schools Pick Up Dinners
10am. Outreach Street Food Ministry
6pm. Vespers
6:30pm. Young Adult Game Night

March 9, 2024 Saturday
9am. Memorial Saturday Liturgy
3:30pm. Foundations
5pm. Great Vespers
5:45pm. Choir Rehearsal

March 10, 2024 Sunday Last Judgement
8:15am. Ridesharing
8:45am. Holy Confessions
9am. Choir Rehearsal
9:10am. 3rd & 6th Hour
9:30am. Divine Liturgy
11:15am. Agape Meal
11:45am. Annual Meeting
11:30am. Church School



The Weekly

On the Prodigal Son



Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church

401 Hamilton Street
Syracuse, NY 13204

Fr. Ambrose Inlow's Cell: (315) 418-5738
Rectory: (315) 468-0442
sspeterandpaulsyracuse.com

Announcements



Welcome all visitors!

Please join us after the service for Coffee Hour. Please introduce yourself to Fr. Ambrose and others as we would love to meet you! We are delighted to have you here with us.

Please fill out your information at <https://www.sspeterandpaulsyracuse.com/new> as we would love to keep you connected with our events.

If you are not Orthodox Christian, please do not approach the chalice during the distribution of Holy Communion. Please, however, come up and kiss the cross at the end of the service and introduce yourself to Fr. Ambrose.

An agape meal rotation schedule is being put together. If you would like to join the rotation please see Jessica Gressel. Any help with the Coffee Hour / Agape Meals is welcomed!

At Coffee Hour please donate what you can in the donations box. \$2 per meal is suggested. We are in need of plates, cups, coffee, utensils, etc... Please donate!

To make a confession simply come early to any Divine Liturgy, stay after at any vespers service, or make an appointment.

Communion is for Orthodox Christians who have prepared by prayer, fasting from midnight on, reconciliation, and a recent confession. For the reception of communion it's also good to arrive on time to Divine Liturgy and not later than the reading of the Holy Gospel.

If you or someone is admitted into the hospital or needs emergency pastoral assistance, then please call Fr. Ambrose at 315-418-5738. Make sure to put Fr. Ambrose as one of your hospital contacts to ensure that he is easily able to come and visit.

Annual Meeting is Scheduled for Sunday, March 10th after Divine Liturgy.

Important Upcoming Services and Events



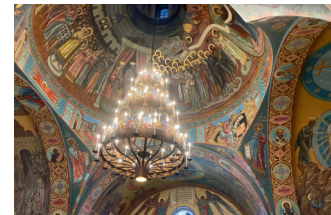
Pierogi Making Party

Pierogi production will begin again this Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday from 1PM to 4 PM and 5 PM until 8 PM.



TownHall Meeting

On March 6th at 6pm we will have our next TownHall Meeting. We will discuss the potential Hall, interview a potential architect, look at a security plan, beautification projects, bylaws, and pierogi sale, plus more...



Parish Annual Meeting

Sunday, March 10th after Divine Liturgy. Come and hear the latest regarding upcoming projects.



St. Patrick's Day Pierogi Sale

Saturday, March 16th from 1pm-4pm. Here at the church. We would love the help!



Forgiveness Vespers

Sunday, March 17th after Divine Liturgy we will celebrate the great service of Forgiveness Vespers.



The Great Canon of St. Andrew

Starting Clean Week, March 18th - 22nd.

2024 Stewardship

Ss. Peter and Paul parish is supported entirely through the generosity of its members, friends, and benefactors.

If you are active in your support of Ss. Peter and Paul, thank you! If you are new to Ss. Peter and Paul and/or regularly attend, please consider making a regular offering (weekly or monthly) in support of our parish and its projects.

By contributing to the General Fund in 2024 you are supporting the mission and activities in the parish, which include divine services, outreach, evangelism, church school, parish social activities, community efforts, and many more. There are so many things that are happening at Ss. Peter and Paul and contributing to the General Fund helps to advance this mission.

The best way to give is by check (or cash) placed in an envelope in the offering baskets.. We also have an online giving system (Breeze) as a way to offer your tithes and offerings.

The Impactful Ministries of Ss. Peter and Paul

- Free Family Dinner for the entire community. 4th Monday of every month.
- Food Recovery Ministry: during the school semester a team of us recover up to 500 lbs of cooked food every week.
- Elementary School Outreach - we then take the recovered food and give it to families at local elementary schools.
- Church School Ministry - every Sunday, after Liturgy, during the school year, we have Church School lessons for grades pre-k through 12th.
- Hospitality Team Ministry
- Choral Ministry
- Senior Moment Lunches
- Altar Server Ministry
- Synaxis Meetings during Fasting Periods..
- Foundation Classes
- Ladies Nights
- Men's Fellowship Dinners and Outings
- Family Potluck Events
- Educational Field Trips for Children
- plus much more....

Please support the present and future ministry of Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church!

What's My Weekly Tithe?

| Weekly Income | 10% | 5% | 4% | 2% |
|---------------|-------|-------|------|------|
| \$200 | \$20 | \$10 | \$8 | \$4 |
| \$500 | \$50 | \$25 | \$20 | \$10 |
| \$750 | \$75 | \$37 | \$30 | \$15 |
| \$1,000 | \$100 | \$50 | \$40 | \$20 |
| \$1,500 | \$150 | \$75 | \$60 | \$30 |
| \$2,000 | \$200 | \$100 | \$80 | \$40 |

On the Prodigal Son by St. Paisios the Athonite

God is very near us, but also very high. In order for someone to have God bend to descend and remain with them, they must be humbled and repent. Then, the greatly-compassionate God, beholding their humility, lifts them up to the Heavens and loves them greatly. There is joy in heaven over the repentance of a sinner, says the Gospel.

God granted people a mind to contemplate their faults, to repent and to seek forgiveness. The unrepentant person is a hardened thing. They are very senseless, because they do not wish to repent, in order to eliminate the small hell that they are experiencing now, which leads to something worse, the eternal. Thus, they are barren of heavenly joys on earth, which continue in Paradise, near God, where there are much greater joys, eternal ones.

As long as a person is far from God, they are outside of themselves. See how the Gospel says that the Prodigal Son "came to himself," saying: "I will go to my Father." In other words, when he came to his senses, when he repented, he said: "I will return to my Father." As long as he was living in sin, he was outside of himself, he was not in his right mind, because sin is irrational.

- Elder, Abba Alonios says: "If a man wishes, he can reach a divine measure from morning until the evening." What does he mean?

The spiritual life does not require time. In one second, one can be found in Paradise from hell, if they repent. People are responsible. They can become an angel, they can become a devil. My, my, my, what power repentance has! It attracts divine Grace.

A humble thought that a person brings to mind can save them. A prideful thought can come to their mind, and if they do not repent, death will find them, they are gone, they are lost. Of course, the humble thought must be followed with internal sighs, with internal contrition. Because the thought is a thought, but there is also the heart. The hymnographer says: "With all my soul and mind and heart...". I think, however, that the Abba is thinking here of a more permanent state. It requires some time, in order for one to reach a good state.

If I err, then I repent, and I am forgiven that instant. If I have a struggling spirit, slowly I will achieve a more stable situation, but until then, I can be swayed.

- Elder, can an older person help themselves spiritually?

Yes, barely, for when someone gets old, they are granted the strength to repent, because all illusions flee. Formerly, because they had bodily strength and nothing was difficult for them, they did not understand their weaknesses and they thought that they were in a good state. Now that they have difficulties and grumble, they are helped to understand that they are not well, that they are limping, that they must repent. If they spiritually utilize the few remaining years of their life, and if they use their experience that shows that most of the years of their life have passed him by, [they will learn that] Christ will not leave them, He will have mercy on them.

Source: From the book Saint Paisios the Athonite: Spiritual Struggle (vol. 3).
Translated by John Sanidopoulos.

TOWNHALL MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MAR. 6TH @ 6PM

DOWN IN THE PARLOR AND ON ZOOM

HEAR THE LATEST PARISH NEWS
VOICE YOUR IMPROVEMENT SUGGESTIONS
HELP US WITH PROJECTS

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION - AS FAR AS WE CAN GET

BEAUTIFYING OUR WORSHIP

NURTURING THE PARISH FAMILY

- NEXT PIEROGI SALE
- SAFETY PLAN
- BEAUTIFICATION PLAN
- NEW BYLAWS

NOURISHING THE COMMUNITY FAMILY

IMPROVING EDUCATION

AFFECTING ALL THE ABOVE

- POTENTIAL HALL/ CULTURAL CENTER 3D DESIGN PRESENTATION AND FINANCIALS.

YOUNG ADULT/OCF GAME NIGHT

FOR ANYONE AGES 18 - 30

**FRIDAY,
MARCH 8TH**

STARTS AT 6PM

HERE AT THE RECTORY
401 HAMILTON ST
SYRACUSE

BRING SOME SNACKS AND GAMES

SEE YOU THERE!

