

29th Sunday After Pentecost

December 25th - December 31st, 2023

December 25, 2023 Monday

9:10am Hours

9:30am Nativity Festal Liturgy St. Basil

**Followed by Festal Meal,
Gift Exchange, and Carols**

December 26, 2023 Tuesday

6pm Fr. Ambrose and Family
Out of Town

December 27, 2023 Wednesday

6pm Fr. Ambrose and Family Out of Town

December 28, 2023 Thursday

6pm Fr. Ambrose and Family Out of Town
9pm Panera Pick Up

December 29, 2023 Friday

6pm Fr. Ambrose and Family Out of Town
10am Outreach Street Food Ministry

December 30, 2023 Saturday

5pm Great Vespers
5:45pm Choir Rehearsal

December 31, 2023 Sunday

8:15am Ridesharing
8:45am Holy Confessions
9am Choir Rehearsal
9:10am 3rd & 6th Hour
9:30am Divine Liturgy
11:15am Agape Meal



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29th Sunday After Pentecost. Tone 4

The Weekly

Nativity Homily by St. Gregory



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.

Fr. Ambrose Wish List: sitting chairs for the library downstairs. Please see Georgia or Clare Flaherty for details.

Church school exams will be on Sunday, January 14th after the new year, followed by a sledding party.

Thankyou to all who contributed so generously to this year's Holiday Cookie Walk and Pierogie Sale. May God grant you all many years!

Thank you to all of the children, youth, and adults who made the Nativity play one to remember.

Important Upcoming Services and Events



Christmas Eve Dinner

This evening at 4pm we will have a potluck parish lenten dinner followed by Christmas Eve Vigil.



Feast of the Nativity

Monday, December 25th at 9:30pm we will celebrate the Nativity of our Lord followed by a Festal Lunch, a gift exchange, and carols.



St. Andrew's Camp Counselors Retreat

Dec. 30th to January 1st @ St. Andrew's Camp. See flyer in back of church for more details.



The Feast of Theophany and the Blessing of the Lake

On January 6th, we will celebrate the joyous feast of Theophany. Look for details coming of when we will bless Lake Oneida.



Winter Sledding Party

On January 14th after Church School we will have a winter sledding party at Burnett Park.

2023 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 2023 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

Nativity Homily by St. Gregory the Theologian

The very Son of God,
older than the ages,
the invisible,
the incomprehensible,
the incorporeal,
the beginning of beginning,
the light of light,
the fountain of life and immortality,
the image of the archetype,
the immovable seal,
the perfect likeness,
the definition and word of the Father:

He it is who comes to his own image and takes our nature for the good of our nature, and unites himself to an intelligent soul for the good of my soul, to purify like by like.

He takes to himself all that is human, except for sin.

He was conceived by the Virgin Mary, who had been first prepared in soul and body by the Spirit; his coming to birth had to be treated with honour, virginity had to receive new honour.

He comes forth as God, in the human nature he has taken, one being, made of two contrary elements, flesh and spirit. Spirit gave divinity, flesh received it.

He who makes rich is made poor; he takes on the poverty of my flesh, that I may gain the riches of his divinity.

He who is full is made empty; he is emptied for a brief space of his glory, that I may share in his fullness.

What is this wealth of goodness? What is this mystery that surrounds me?

I received the likeness of God, but failed to keep it. He takes on my flesh, to bring salvation to the image, immortality to the flesh. He enters into a second union with us, a union far more wonderful than the first.

Holiness had to be brought to man by the humanity assumed by one who was God, so that God might overcome the tyrant by force and so deliver us and lead us back to himself through the mediation of his Son. The Son arranged this for the honor of the Father, to whom the Son is clearly obedient in all things.

The Good Shepherd, who lays down his life for the sheep, came in search of the straying sheep to the mountains and hills on which you used to offer sacrifice. When he found it, he took it on the shoulders that bore the wood of the cross, and led it back to the life of heaven.

Christ, the light of all lights, follows John, the lamp that goes before him. The Word of God follows the voice in the wilderness; the bridegroom follows the bridegroom's friend, who prepares a worthy people for the Lord by cleansing them by water in preparation for the Spirit.

We need God to take our flesh and die, that we might live.

We have died with him, that we may be purified.

We have risen again with him, because we have died with him.

We have been glorified with him, because we have risen again with him.



WE INVITE YOU TO

CHRISTMAS EVE DINNER & CAROLS



SUNDAY | DECEMBER 24TH | 4 PM

LENTEN POTLUCK DINNER.
CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL WILL START AT AROUND 5:15PM