

# THE ENLIGHTENER

Saints Peter and Paul  
Orthodox Christian Church  
401 Hamilton St., Syracuse, NY

I wanted to thank God for everyone that made August a special month. The church has been full with wonderful people glorifying God. I thank the choir director, the choir, the florists, the altar servers, and those praying with us. I also thank all those who helped with our special Family Dinner and concert evening which was well received by all. May God be with you and bless you all richly! -  
*With love in Christ, Fr. Ambrose*





# Acquiring The Mind of Christ : Liturgy as Life



Saturday,  
September 17th  
at 9am

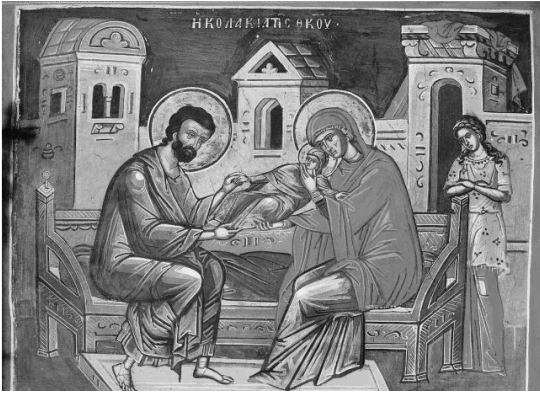
@ Ss. Peter and Paul's. 401 Hamilton  
St., Syracuse. Free to Attend.

**Donations at the event are welcome!**

With Fr. Sergius. Abbot of St. Tikhon's Monastery.

Divine Liturgy begins at 9am. First session begins at 11am.

Lunch provided. Second session after lunch. Vespers at 5pm.



**FESTAL VIGIL AND  
LITURGY FOR THE NATIVITY  
OF THE THEOTOKOS. Sept.  
7th and 8th.**



**Akathist for the Raising of  
Children and LADIES  
LUNCH; Tuesday, Sept. 6th  
at noon.**

Bring something for the potluck lunch. Also a time for discussion.



**AGAPE PICNIC on the Lawn  
& Start to Church School  
Sunday, Sept. 11 after  
Divine Liturgy. Around  
11:15am.**

Bring fasting friendly food, sides, desserts, drinks, plates, condiments, play equipment, friends, family...

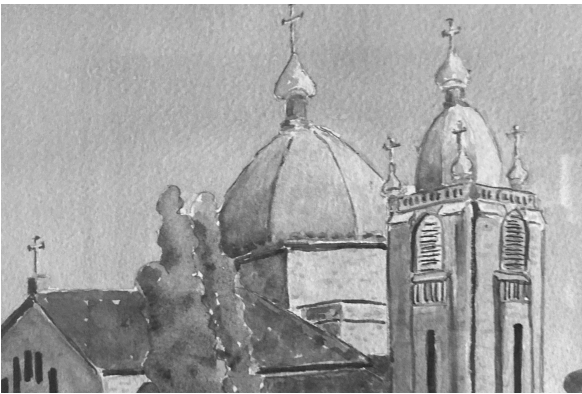


**FESTAL VIGIL AND LITURGY  
FOR THE LIFE GIVING  
CROSS; Tuesday and  
Wednesday, Sept. 13th-14th**



**RETREAT WITH FR. SERGIUS**  
**Saturday, Sept. 17th at 9am**  
**to 5pm**

All are invited! Spread the word.



**BRAINSTORMING MEETING**  
**ABOUT THE CHURCH HALL**  
**Thursday, Sept. 22nd at 6pm.**

In-person meeting down in the parlor.



**BAPTISMS OF THE PINE AND**  
**ROZYCKO FAMILIES**

**Sunday, Sept. 25th at 8:15am.**  
Come early to Divine Liturgy!



**FAMILY DINNER** for anyone  
in the parish and in the  
community *with special*  
*musical guests.*

**Monday, Sept. 26th**  
2pm kitchen volunteers welcome.  
5pm-6:30pm is dinner.



## St. Silouan the Athonite on Love

**M**y soul thirsts for the living God. Time and again my soul seeks fulness of delight in the Lord. O mercy of God that passeth all understanding: the Lord formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the soul of man was made kin to God.

The Lord so loved His creature that He gave man the Holy Spirit, and man knew his Creator and loved his Lord.

The Holy Spirit is love and sweetness to the soul, the mind and the body; but when the soul loses grace, or grace is diminished, once again the soul will seek the Holy Spirit in tears, and yearn for God and cry:

My soul yearns for the Lord, and I seek Him in tears.

How could I not seek Thee, O Lord? For Thou Thyself didst seek me out beforehand, and gavest me to delight in Thy Holy Spirit; and now my soul yearns for Thee. My heart fell to loving Thee, and I pray Thee: give me to the end to abide in Thy love. For the sake of Thy love empower me to endure all sickness and affliction.

My soul is seized with fear and trembling when I would write of the love of God.

My soul is poor and without strength to describe the Lord's love.

My spirit fails, but love constrains me to write.

The Lord ascended into heaven and awaits our coming; but to be with the Lord we must be like Him, or like little children—lowly and meek—and we must serve Him. Then, according to the words of the Lord, 'Where I am, there shall also my servant be', we too shall be with Him in the kingdom of heaven. But now my soul is overspread with melancholy, and I am unable to lift an undistracted mind to God, and I have no tears wherewith to bewail my evil deeds: my soul is withered away and spent with the night of this life.

O who shall sing me the song that I have loved since the days of my youth -the song of the Lord's Ascension into heaven, of His love for us, of the vigil He keeps for our coming? To this song would I hearken with tears, for my soul is weary on earth.

What has befallen me? How came I to lose joy, and shall I attain to joy again?  
Weep with me, all ye wild beasts and birds. Weep with me, forest and desert. Weep with me, every creature created of God, and comfort me in my grief and sorrow.

O man, what a feeble creature thou art.

When grace dwells within us the spirit glows and reaches day and night towards the Lord, for grace constrains the soul to love God; and now that she has come to love Him she cannot tear herself away from Him: never can she have enough of the tenderness of the Holy Spirit.

And there is no end to the love of God.

I know a man whom the Lord in His mercy visited with His grace. And had the Lord asked him, 'Wouldst thou have Me give thee more?', from the weakness of the flesh his soul would have made answer: 'Thou seest, Lord, that I cannot bear more but would die.' For man has little strength and may not carry the fulness of grace.

Thus it was that on Mount Tabor the Disciples fell on their face before the glory of the Lord.

With what shall I requite my Lord?

At all times I beseech the Lord who is merciful to grant that I may love my enemies; and by the grace of God I have experienced what the love of God is, and what it is to love my neighbour; and day and night I pray the Lord for love, and the Lord gives me tears to weep for the whole world. But if I find fault with any man or look on him with an unkind eye my tears dry up and my soul sinks into despondency. Yet do I begin again to entreat forgiveness of the Lord, and the Lord in His mercy forgives me, a sinner.

Brethren, before the face of my God I write Humble your hearts, and while yet on this earth look upon the mercy of the Lord.

No man of himself can know what is God's love, unless he be taught of the Holy Spirit; but God's love is known in our Church through the Holy Spirit, and so we speak of this love.

The sinful soul which does not know the Lord fears death, thinking that the Lord will not forgive her her sins. But this is because the soul does not know the Lord and how greatly He loves us. But if people knew this, then no man would despair in his heart, for the Lord not only forgives but rejoices exceedingly at the return of a sinner. Though you be at death's door believe firmly that the moment you ask you will receive forgiveness.

The Lord is not like us. He is passing meek, and merciful, and good; and when the soul knows Him she marvels greatly and exclaims: 'O what a Lord is ours!'

The Holy Spirit gave our Church to know how great is God's mercy....

*From: St. Silouan, Wisdom From Mount Athos - The Writings of Staretz Silouan 1866-1938, Sofronii( Archimandrite), trans. Rosemary Edmonds, (St. Vladimir's Seminary Press, Crestwood, NY 1974) pp. 24-36.*



September 2022's

# TREASURE HUNT OF SAINTS

**THE FIRST TWO PEOPLE to point out to Fr. Ambrose where this Saint's icon is located in the Church will receive a \$25 gift card to the Bookstore.**

There are 2 winners: one under 18 years of age, and another over 18. Happy Hunting!

## **Clue for those under 18**

This a large icon of the mother of St. John the Forerunner joyfully embracing her cousin. Who is she and who is her cousin?

## **Clue for those over 18**

This saint is one of the most well known saints of all of Russia. He was born in the 14th century. He worked many miracles including raising one from the dead and founded a Russian monastery which is still around today and is considered the center of the Orthodox life in Russia.

Use these two websites as an aid:

<https://www.sspeterandpaulsyracuse.com/the-saints-in-our-church>

For adults, use the "Reading from the Lives of the Saints in Our Church" as an aid found here:

<https://www.sspeterandpaulsyracuse.com/all-education/#Saints>

# September 2022

Note - Please see The Weekly for the most accurate times and services. All times in The Weekly, if they are different from below, will be the most accurate.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
						5pm Great Vespers Followed by Confessions Choir Rehearsal
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
8:45am Confessions <b>9am Choir Rehearsal</b> 9:10am Hours 9:30am Sunday Divine Liturgy Coffee Hour		12pm: Akathist for the Raising of Children and Ladies Potluck Lunch	<b>5:30PM: VIGIL FOR THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS</b>	<b>9AM DIVINE LITURGY FOR THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF THE THEOTOKOS</b>  Clergy Conference in Poughkeepsie, NY	Clergy Conference in Poughkeepsie, NY	5pm Great Vespers Followed by Confessions Choir Rehearsal
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
8:45am Confessions <b>9am Choir Rehearsal</b> 9:10am Hours 9:30am Sunday Divine Liturgy  <b>AGAPE PICNIC ON THE LAWN. STARTING AROUND 11:15AM &amp; START OF CHURCH SCHOOL</b>		<b>5:30PM: VIGIL FOR THE FEAST OF THE LIFE GIVING CROSS</b>	<b>9AM DIVINE LITURGY FOR THE FEAST OF THE LIFE GIVING CROSS</b>			<b>9AM DIVINE LITURGY &amp; RETREAT WITH FR. SERGIUS, ABBOT OF ST. TIKHON'S MONASTERY</b>  5pm Great Vespers Followed by Confessions
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
8:45am Confessions <b>9am Choir Rehearsal</b> 9:10am Hours 9:30am Sunday Divine Liturgy Coffee Hour  <b>Church School</b>  Parish Council Meeting		6pm Vespers	8:15am Confessions 9am Divine Liturgy	<b>6PM BRAINSTORMING MEETING ABOUT A HALL</b> In-person meeting down in the parlor.	Singing Technique Workshop @ St. Tikhon's Monastery - through the 25th >>	<b>3:30pm Foundations of our Orthodox Faith Class</b>  5pm Great Vespers Followed by Confessions Choir Rehearsal
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
8:15am Baptisms 9:30am Sunday Divine Liturgy Coffee Hour <b>Church School</b>	3:30pm Volunteers  5pm - 6:30pm <b>FAMILY DINNER.</b> With Special Musical Guests.	6pm Vespers	8:15am Confessions 9am Divine Liturgy		6pm Vespers for Holy Protection	9am Divine Liturgy for Holy Protection  3:30pm Foundations of our Orthodox Faith Class  5pm Great Vespers Followed by Confessions Choir Rehearsal