

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
FIFTH SUNDAY OF MATTHEW



*Icon of Saints Peter and Paul -- June 29th*

*June 27, 2010*  
**Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**

*Tone 4*

**SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 28 – JULY 4**

**MONDAY, JUNE 28**

**6:00 PM GREAT VESPERS WITH LYTIA (FULFILLS OBLIGATION FOR PETER & PAUL)**

**TUESDAY, JUNE 29 – SS. PETER AND PAUL, PRIME APOSTLES (HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION)**

**9:30 AM DIVINE LITURGY**

FOR ALL PARISHIONERS

**SUNDAY, JULY 4 – 6<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – INDEPENDENCE DAY**

**9:30 AM DIVINE LITURGY**

FOR ALL PARISHIONERS



*Remember in your prayers*



Please remember in your prayers those members of our parish, our family and friends who are ailing, are in hospitals, nursing homes and those who are not able to join actively in their community.

Remember especially the

following: Katherine Andrus, Sr. Marie Arendes, Walter & Isabella Bachynsky, Susie Boyko, Sonya Cronin, Helen Davis, Lorene Lagrone, Maria Laszok, Maria Leskiw, Lesya Loznycky, Sonia Shashkewych, Sophia Skop and Ariadna Wall. Please let Fr. James know if there is anyone else who should be remembered.

*Remember Those In The Armed Forces*

Let us especially remember in our prayers those family members and friends who are actively serving their countries in the Armed Forces: Luke and Slavamira Haywas, Elizabeth Heltsley, Oksanna Hirniak,



Andrew Hryniw, Zenon and Susan Keske, Michael Lopes, Vasyl Lylak, Thomas Orr, Paul Richelmi and Brian Tuthill. Please give any names of those you would like remembered in the *Liturgies to Fr. James.*

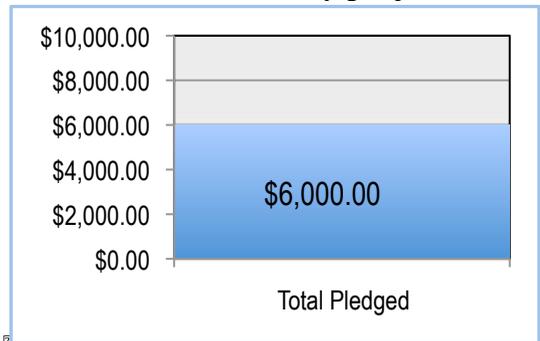
**50th Anniversary**

The 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration will take place on the weekend of November 20 – 21. Bishop Richard has confirmed his attendance so planning is underway. Do you have any photos from the life of our parish? I ask you to loan them to the church in order to scan them and to make a slide-show that will chronicle the past 50 years. Please see Fr. James.

<b>Contributions for June 20, 2010</b>	
Sunday Collection	\$595.00



**50<sup>th</sup> anniversary project**





The divinely-blessed Peter was from Bethsaida of Galilee. He was the son of Jonas and the brother of Andrew the First-called. He was a fisherman by trade, unlearned and poor, and was called Simon; later he was renamed Peter by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself, Who looked at him and said, "Thou art Simon the son of Jonas; thou shalt be called Cephas (which is by interpretation, Peter)" (John 1:42). On being raised by the Lord to the dignity of an Apostle and becoming inseparable from Him as His zealous disciple, he followed Him from the beginning of His preaching of salvation up until the very Passion, when, in the court of Caiaphas the high priest, he denied Him thrice because of his fear of the Jews and of the danger at hand. But again, after many bitter tears, he received complete forgiveness of his transgression. After the Resurrection of Christ and the descent of the Holy Spirit, he preached in Judea, Antioch, and certain parts of Asia, and finally came to Rome, where he was crucified upside down by Nero, and thus he ascended to the eternal habitations about the year 66 or 68, leaving two Catholic (General) Epistles to the Church of Christ.

Paul, the chosen vessel of Christ, the glory of the Church, the Apostle of the Nations and teacher of the whole world, was a Jew by race, of the tribe of Benjamin, having Tarsus as his homeland. He was a Roman citizen, fluent in the Greek language, an expert in knowledge of the Law, a Pharisee, born of a Pharisee, and a disciple of Gamaliel, a Pharisee and notable teacher of the Law in Jerusalem. For this cause, from the beginning, Paul was a most fervent zealot for the traditions of the Jews and a great persecutor of the Church of Christ; at that time, his name was Saul (Acts 22:3-4). In his great passion of rage and fury against the disciples of the Lord, he went to Damascus bearing letters of introduction from the high priest. His intention was to bring the disciples of Christ back to Jerusalem in bonds. As he was approaching Damascus, about midday there suddenly shone upon him a light from Heaven. Falling on the earth, he heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou Me?" And he asked, "Who art Thou, Lord?" And the Lord said, "I am Jesus Whom thou persecutest; it is hard for thee to kick against the goads." And that heavenly voice and brilliance made him tremble,

and he was blinded for a time. He was led by the hand into the city, and on account of a divine revelation to the Apostle Ananias (see Oct. 1), he was baptized by him, and both his bodily and spiritual eyes were opened to the knowledge of the Sun of Righteousness. And straightway - O wondrous transformation! - beyond all expectation, he spoke with boldness in the synagogues, proclaiming that "Christ is the Son of God" (Acts 9:1-21). As for his zeal in preaching the Gospel after these things had come to pass, as for his unabating labors and afflictions of diverse kinds, the wounds, the prisons, the bonds, the beatings, the stonings, the shipwrecks, the journeys, the perils on land, on sea, in cities, in wildernesses, the continual vigils, the daily fasting, the hunger, the thirst, the nakedness, and all those other things that he endured for the Name of Christ, and which he underwent before nations and kings and the Israelites, and above all, his care for all the churches, his fiery longing for the salvation of all, whereby he became all things to all men, that he might save them all if possible, and because of which, with his heart aflame, he continuously traveled throughout all parts, visiting them all, and like a bird of heaven flying from Asia and Europe, the West and East, neither staying nor abiding in any one place - all these things are related incident by incident in the Book of the Acts, and as he himself tells them in his Epistles. His Epistles, being fourteen in number, are explained in 250 homilies by the divine Chrysostom and make manifest the loftiness of his thoughts, the abundance of the revelations made to him, the wisdom given to him from God, wherewith he brings together in a wondrous manner the Old with the New Testaments, and expounds the mysteries thereof which had been concealed under types; he confirms the doctrines of the Faith, expounds the ethical teaching of the Gospel, and demonstrates with exactness the duties incumbent upon every rank, age, and order of man. In all these things his teaching proved to be a spiritual trumpet, and his speech was seen to be more radiant than the sun, and by these means he clearly sounded forth the word of truth and illumined the ends of the world. Having completed the work of his ministry, he likewise ended his life in martyrdom when he was beheaded in Rome during the reign of Nero, at the same time, some say, when Peter was crucified.

**СВЯТКУЄМО 50-РОКІВ!**

**Celebrating 50 Years!**

**Українська Католицька Церква Святого Йоана Хрестителя  
St. John the Baptizer Ukrainian Catholic Church**

4400 Palm Avenue  
La Mesa, CA 91941  
Parish Office: (619) 697-5085

**Website:** [stjohnthebaptizer.org](http://stjohnthebaptizer.org)

**Pastor:** Fr. James Bankston

**Парох:** о. Яків Бенкстон

[frjames@mac.com](mailto:frjames@mac.com)

Fr. James' cell phone: (619) 905-5278

*Leaders and Models*

Saints Peter and Paul did not go out and study missions and evangelism. They did not focus on tactics, other than being very careful to be all things to all people, to preach in a way their audience could receive their words. For the Apostles, and the early Church, their focus was not on the “mechanism” of mission. We can certainly learn a lot about evangelism from Sts. Peter and Paul, but first we have to be influenced by their person. Saint Paul wrote to the Church at Corinth (1 Cor. 11:1) – “Be imitators of me, as I am of Christ.” Saints Peter and Paul are the leaders of the Apostles first and foremost because they teach us how to live in Christ. They lead us to Christ by their focus, by their priorities.

From the very beginning of their lives in Christ, Peter and Paul maintained absolute focus on Christ. God and the work of God took priority over everything else in their lives. Saint Peter leaves everything, even his wife and family are left behind (not abandoned), in order to be an Apostle of Christ – the will of Christ reigned supreme in his life. Saint Paul had to change perspective on virtually everything in his life in order to follow Jesus. He had to go from a persecutor of Christians, to an evangelist for Christ, and eventually a leader of the Church and a martyr (for the faith he hated before his vision of Christ on the road to Damascus).

Saints Peter and Paul stand as magnificent examples for us, leading us to Christ by their unflinching focus on God, and how that played out in their lives. With Sts. Peter and Paul, the change begins within us, and even that begins with a reshaping of our priorities each and every day.