

The Promise

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

WESTFIELD ✦ NEW JERSEY



June 2022 ✦ Volume 46, Issue 3

holytrinity@htgocnj.org

908-233-8533

holytrinitywestfield.org

Why do people scream?



There is nothing more startling and unnerving than having someone suddenly and unexpectedly erupt sending a cascade of angry words your way.

That begs the question, why do people scream? People scream and shout because they lose composure. When this happens, all sense of self-control is thrown away and replaced with billowing anger and frustration.

A certain spiritual father posed the same question of why people scream. One young man from the group answered, "People scream because they lose their cool."

"But why shout at another person? Generally, the person is so close to you that you can speak normal and be

heard." Not being satisfied with the young man's answer, the wise man asked the question again.

Another answered, "We shout when we want others to hear us."

"But then it is not possible to speak to him in a low voice?"

Various answers were offered but none fully satisfied the spiritual father.

Then he wisely explained to those who had come to see him, "A person screams when angered because there is a separation of the hearts. People connect and are unified through the joining of hearts. But when the hearts have drifted away, to be heard, people must shout to cover the distance of that separation. As

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The Holy, Glorious, and All-famed Chief of the Apostles St. Peter and St. Paul

June 29



THE HOLY APOSTLE PETER

The divinely blessed Peter was the son of Jonah and the brother of Andrew, the First-called. He was of the tribe of Simeon, from the town of Bethsaida. He was a fisherman by trade, unlearned and poor, and was called Simon; later he was renamed Peter by the Lord, Who looked at him and said, "Thou art Simon the son of Jonas; thou shalt be called Cephas (which is by interpretation, a Stone or Peter)" – John 1:42.

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Dates in the Life of Our Church

June–July 2022

✠ JUNE

2	Holy Ascension
	8:30 AM Orthros
	9:30 AM Divine Liturgy
5	8:15 AM Orthros
	9:30 AM Divine Liturgy
II	Saturday of Souls
	9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
	2:00 PM Wedding
12	Holy Pentecost
	8:15 AM Orthros
	9:30 AM Divine Liturgy
13	Holy Trinity/Parish Nameday
	9:15 AM Orthros
	10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

	7:30 PM NNJYC
14	12:00 PM Trinity Circle
	7:30 PM Parish Council
18	10:00 AM Baptism
	2:00 PM Wedding
19	8:15 AM Orthros
	9:30 AM Divine Liturgy
	Father's Day
	3:00 PM Baptism
25	11:00 AM Baptism
26	8:15 AM Orthros
	9:30 AM Divine Liturgy
29	Sts. Peter and Paul
	8:30 AM Orthros
	9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

✠ JULY

3	8:15 AM Orthros
	9:30 AM Divine Liturgy
	Consecration Vespers - St. Nicholas National Shrine
4	Independence Day
	9:00 AM Consecration Divine Liturgy of St. Nicholas National Shrine at Ground Zero
10	8:15 AM Orthros
	9:30 AM Divine Liturgy
17	8:15 AM Orthros
	9:30 AM Divine Liturgy
24	8:15 AM Orthros
	9:30 AM Divine Liturgy
31	8:15 AM Orthros
	9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

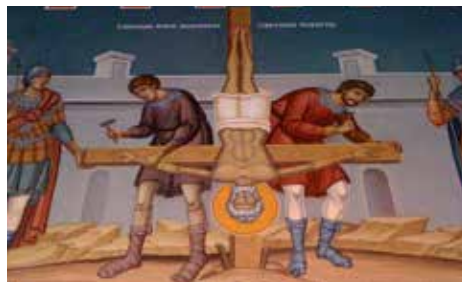
Saints Peter and Paul

← from page 1

Peter was the first of the disciples to clearly express faith in the Lord Jesus, saying: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God" -Matthew 16:16. His love for the Lord was great, and his faith in the Lord became stronger.

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 fear and the danger that surrounded him. It was only after a glance into the face of the Lord that Peter's soul was filled with shame and repentance. He wept bitterly for his denial and received complete forgiveness of this transgression.

After the Lord's Resurrection and descent of the Holy Spirit, Peter showed himself to be a fearless and powerful preacher of the Gospel. Following one of his sermons in Jerusalem, three-thousand souls were converted to the Faith. He preached the Gospel in Palestine, Asia Minor, Illyria and Italy. Peter worked many powerful miracles: he healed the sick and resurrected the dead, and the sick were healed even from his shadow. He had a great struggle with Simon the Magician, who proclaimed himself to be a god, but who was in reality a servant of Satan. Peter finally



shamed and defeated him. By order of Simon's friend, the evil Emperor Nero, Peter, the friend of the Lord, was condemned to death. Having consecrated Linus Bishop of Rome, and having counseled and comforted the flock of Christ, Peter proceeded joyfully to his death. Seeing the cross before him, he begged his executioners to crucify him upside down, for he considered himself unworthy to die as had his Lord. Thus, this great servant of the Great Lord ascended to the eternal habitations about the year 66 or 68 AD leaving two Catholic (General) Epistles to the Church of Christ.

THE HOLY APOSTLE PAUL

Paul the chosen vessel of Christ, the glory of the Church, the Apostle of the Nations and teacher of the entire world, was born in Tarsus and was of the tribe of Benjamin. At first, he was called

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Why do people scream?

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the separation increases, so too does the anger and the volume. On the contrary, what happens when you are in love? You have no need to shout. In such instance, you speak slowly and tenderly. Why? Because the hearts are attracted to each

other. And when the distance between them is minimal, they become remarkably close. When hearts are close and connected, then you don't even need to talk. You just whisper. And when hearts are united, then love springs forth. And where there is love, there is no need for speaking; it is enough just to look at each other. And when this happens, that two people love each other, then the two are brought so close to one another that

they are united, and their lives become intertwined."

In the end, the wise priest concluded, "When you talk, do not let your hearts separate but keep them together. For drifting hearts can drift so far apart that they may no longer be able to find their way back together." ❖



■ BY REV. FR.
PETER DELVIZIO

↳ from page 2

Saul. He studied under Gamaliel and was a Pharisee and a fierce persecutor of Christianity.

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 disciple of Christ back to Jerusalem in bonds. He miraculously encounters the Lord and was converted to the Christian Faith on the road to Damascus. He was baptized by the Apostle Ananias, named Paul and numbered in the service of the Great Apostles.

With fiery zeal Paul preached the Gospel everywhere, from the borders of Arabia to Spain, among the Jews and among the Gentiles, and received the title "the Apostle to the Gentiles."

Paul suffered much and as horrible as his sufferings were, so much greater was his superhuman patience. Throughout all the years of his preaching, Paul hung from day to day as on a weak thread between life and death. Having fulfilled all his days and nights with labor and suffering for Christ, having organized the Church in many places, and having attained such a degree of perfection, he was able to say: "It is now no longer I that live, but Christ lives in me." (Galatians 2:20).

Having completed the work of his ministry, he ended his life in martyrdom as did Peter in Rome. Paul was beheaded during the reign of Emperor Nero, at the same time, some say, when Peter was crucified.

Paul left behind fourteen epistles which are explained to us in 250 homilies by the divine Chrysostom. Paul's teachings 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.

SIMON PETER AND SIMON THE MAGICIAN



The enemies of Christianity frequently like to cite examples of great miracles performed by pagans and other non-believers in order to deceive the gullible, denigrate the Christian faith, and to exalt paganism, sorcery, soothsaying, satanism and every other charlatanism.

There is no doubt that Satan, through his servants, also attempts to perform miracles. No miracle performed by these pretenders advance philanthropy or God's love. True miracles showcase God's compas-

sion, mercy, and love for mankind. These fake marvels are done mostly out of pride, selfishness, vanity, and hatred for mankind.

A Christian should learn from the story of the apostles to differentiate divine miracles from satanic deceptions and fantasies. One needs only to recall the Apostle Peter and Simon the Magician. (see Acts 8) Let him compare the miracles of Peter with the so-called miracles of Simon. The apostle converted the stony hearts of men into noble hearts; he cured the sick; and he raised the dead. All of this he accomplished by prayer and faith in the Living God. Through divine miracles, God is glorified and praised.

Simon the Magician amazed people with diabolical illusions. The Apostle Peter was a friend of God, but Simon the Magician was a friend and protégé of the perverted Emperor Nero, who ended his life by suicide. Just as from a distance hot sand resembles water, so also the "miracles" of the pagans resemble the life-creating miracles of Christianity. ❖

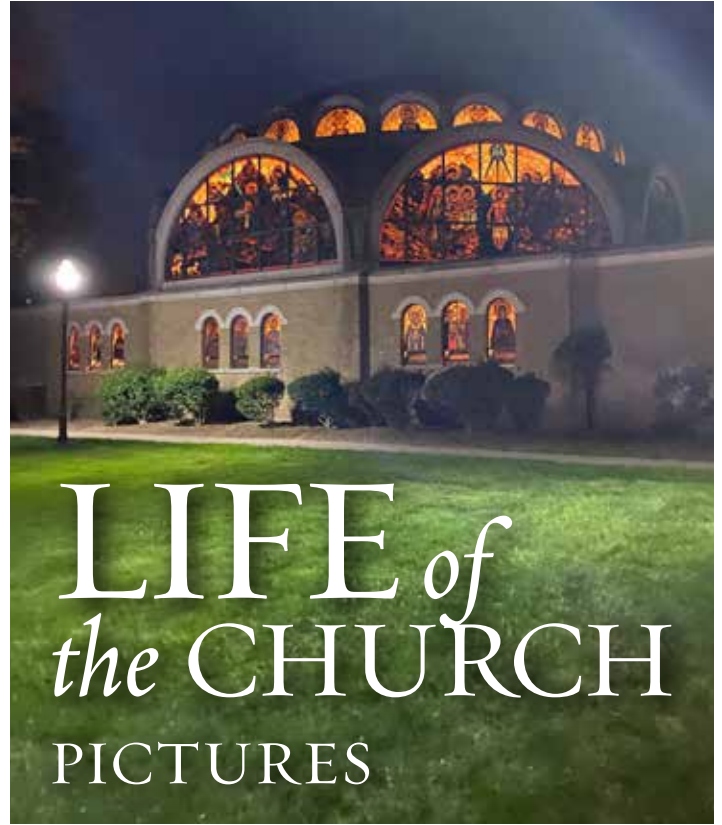


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Ukraine Relief Fund of the Archdiocese and IOCC

\$1,000

IOCC Souper Bowl of Caring

\$6,332

Greek Fire Relief

\$2,723

OCMC – Orthodox Christian Mission Center

\$1,160

OCMC Lenten Coin Boxes

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St. John Chrysostom, Metropolis of NJ

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Archdiocese Father's Day Pension Appeal

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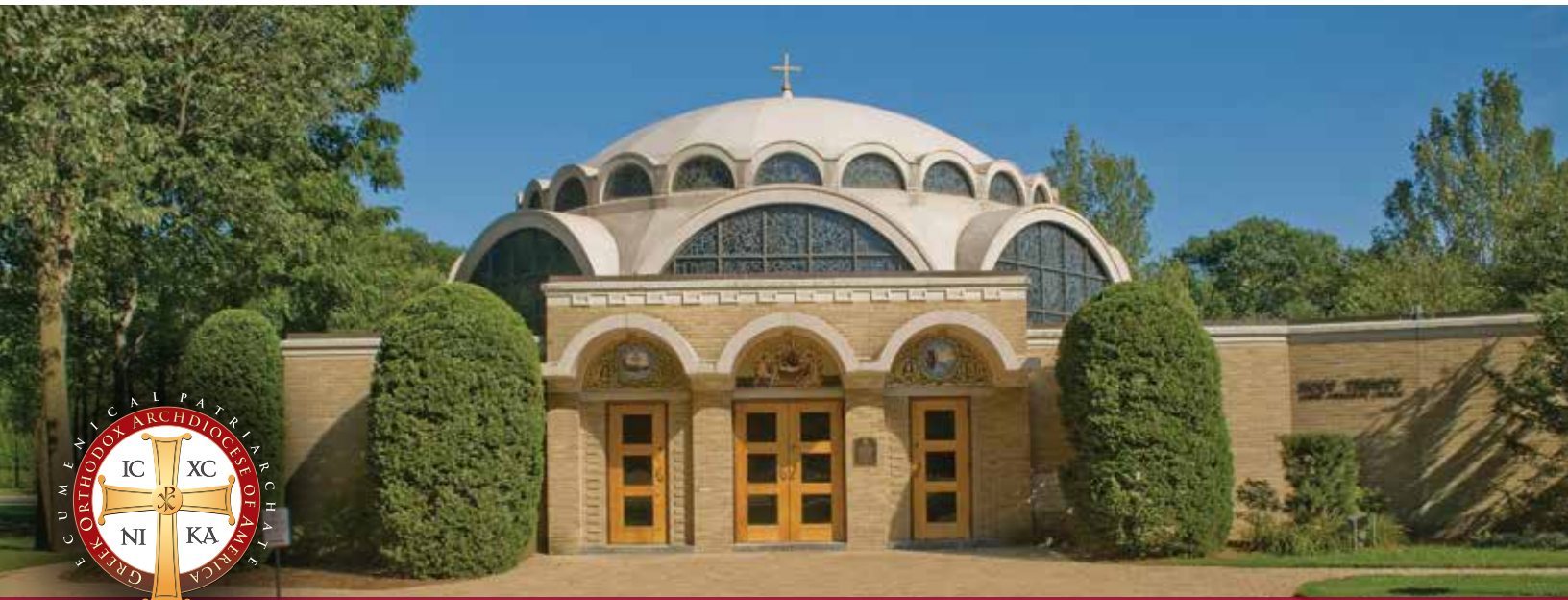
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<i>Divine Liturgy</i>	9:30 AM	9:30 AM

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