

Prayer List

We offer our prayers for all of our shut-ins who are unable to attend church services. Also offer your prayers for those in need, especially - Helen Baburchak, Lydia Boras, Laura Chapin, Marilee Driggs, Paul Farbanish, Anthony Gallis, Justin Garcia, Kathy Gregory; Stella Holowatch, Daniel Karlgut, Alicia Laskowski, Linda Main; George Murphy, Alexander Newsom, Janeel Rahman, Sheila Ransom, Mohamed Rawoof, Joni Mitchell, Ann Sawchak, Rachelle Vitale, Bob Wartonik, Valentina Yelangy, Velma Fotorny & all of our parishioners who are ill. To add or remove names from the prayer list in the bulletin, please let Fr. Alexey or Fr. Timm know.

SS Peter & Paul's hosted a Parish Council Conference for the NYS Deanery on Saturday, June 17, 2023. Below is a summary of the topic presented, "Stewardship – Money and Salvation". More information and details forthcoming.

Presenter and Treasurer of the Diocese of NY and NJ Jan Van Duyn began the conference sharing the difficulties and discomfort that often is associated with talking about money, four main points as to why we give and scripture to support them.

- **Be Like God**
 - "For He makes His sun rise on the evil and good, and sends rain on the just and the unjust." 5:45
- **Obtain Fruits of the Spirit**
 - "... God loves a cheerful giver" 2 Corinthians 9:7
- **Love God with All We Have**
 - "Beware lest you say in your heart, 'My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth,'" Deuteronomy 9:17

Practice Being Merciful to Our Neighbor

- "The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'" Mark 12:31

A major theme throughout the day was the importance of our immortal soul as the only asset that we really have, and management of all resources needs to focus on the one and only enduring asset. "Learning to give in the right way, opens our hearts, strengthens our souls, and purifies our minds," (Van Duyn). Giving provides an opportunity to grow and be like God.

"God doesn't need your money," Archbishop Michael said as he made some concluding remarks. However, giving is one important means to growing closer to God. He shared with those attending a few reminders:

- Parishes were founded by poor people. The church was so important to them that it was their number one priority.
- As Abel gave his first gift to God, we should do the same. Our finances should be budgeted with our gift to the church first and then all other items calculated.
- God is the greatest giver. This means that more opportunities will always be available for us to give more.
- From a commencement speech given by Alan Alda as Dr. Hawkeye Pierce, "The most delicate organ in the human body is the purse string." From here, you will get nothing, but from the heart comes everything.

UPCOMING PARISH PICNIC – Dear Parishioners and Friends, our annual parish picnic is scheduled for Sunday July 30th, at GREENWOOD PARK, beginning at noon. Meats and drinks will be provided and everyone is invited to bring a dish or a desert to share. We are looking forward to seeing everyone to share great time, foods, games and fellowship!



to all our visitors and guests who participate in our celebration of the Divine Liturgy! While Holy Communion may only be received by prepared Orthodox Christians, our non-Orthodox guests are welcome to join us in venerating the Cross & receiving blessed bread at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. We invite all of our guests to join us for our Fellowship Hour & to visit our bookstore.

For bulletin inputs, contact Fr. Alexey, Fr. Timm or e-mail us at sspeterandpauloffice@gmail.com

Visit us at our website: sspeny.org