

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF NEW YORK AND NEW JERSEY

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Department of
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

A Saint from Salzburg

Many people know Salzburg, Austria as the birthplace of Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, who was born there in 1756. But on March 27 we commemorate Saint Rupert of Salzburg, who lived there ten centuries earlier and did great work in spreading the Gospel and building up the Church.

Before his years in Salzburg, Rupert was bishop of the area around Frankfurt, Germany and was confessor to the Frankish king Childebert. Though he had himself been born into the proud Frankish nobility, Rupert believed humility and simplicity were the most important qualities for a Christian to cultivate. He used up his inherited money in caring for the poor, fasted strictly, and spent hours in prayer.

In his administrative duties as a bishop, Rupert became known for his willingness to hear all sides of a disagreement. He would then make decisions that were carefully and prayerfully thought out, and as fair as possible to everyone.

Like most priests, he especially loved to preach and teach about Jesus Christ and the Gospel. His sermons attracted listeners from far beyond the region he oversaw, and as a confessor he strengthened the faith of people who came to him. His reputation for giving wise advice, always based on the teachings of Christ, motivated political leaders from the vicinity and even from other countries to consult him.

But Rupert's prominence inspired jealousy and resentment in some. The problem was compounded by the fact that powerful pagan influences were still at work among the people. Rupert's ability to advance Christianity was feared by the most superstitious among them. The growing feeling against Rupert finally led to his being beaten with rods and exiled.

Intercessory Prayers

We pray for all our fellow parishioners, but we pray especially for those who are incapable of being with us in church. Among them are:

Michael, Mary and Max Bakaletz, Genevieve Bobenko, Pauline Bodnar, Nancy Filak, Mary Hadginske, Helen Kurnewitz, Margaret Lawler, Kathleen Lazorzcyk, Emil Mikulik, MaryAnn Rabakozi, Anatoly & Anna Rozanovich, Nadia Sojka, Eva Stashitsky, Ann Velebir.

The Duke of Bavaria had heard of Rupert's excellent work, and was appalled by the harshness with which his countrymen were treating the humble bishop, though he himself was still a worshipper of idols. He invited Rupert to come to Bavaria so that he and his people could be enlightened in the faith. Rupert accepted the invitation with joy and a bit of trepidation at the enormity of the task.

Once the Duke had received baptism and understood what a great, saving gift it was, he gave Rupert a ship and crew to sail down the Danube River. In the towns and villages along the way the bishop preached and taught, heard confessions, and baptized.

In time Rupert went to live in the ancient, now desolate city of Juvavia, and with financial backing from the Duke built an episcopal cathedral high in the remote mountains nearby. He added land and buildings, creating a center for spiritual learning from which trained priests went out to spread the faith. He built a women's monastery and encouraged women to take up the monastic life.

Rupert promoted the mining of the abundant salt in the area as a means of supporting his missionary work. Some depictions of the saint show him holding a large container. It's filled with salt, appropriate for Saint Rupert, who is largely responsible for the fact that the city once known as Juvavia is now Salzburg.

Schedule of Services

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SATURDAY, MARCH 29 - MEMORIAL SATURDAY
5:30pm - Great Vespers

SUNDAY, MARCH 30 - ST. JOHN OF THE LADDER (CLIMACUS)
9:00am - Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

Birthday Greetings

Happy birthday to **Chris Bzik**, who celebrates his birthday this Friday. May God grant you good health and happiness for Many Years! Mnohaja Lita!

Announcements

◆ **Confessions** can be heard after any Vespers or Akathist service and before the Liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts (beginning at 6:00 p.m.). They can also be heard before Divine Liturgy from 8:30 to 8:50am; however, if you plan to come then, please let Father know the day before. Parish Confessions is scheduled for **Saturday, April 5** from **1:30 to 3:00p.m.** Please arrive by 2:30 p.m.

◆ During Lent, Father will be visiting our **home-bound parishioners** who are on his list to receive the Sacraments. If you (or someone you know) have not been visited in the past and need to receive the Sacraments at home/residence, please call the Rectory to make arrangements.

◆ **Service books** for Great Lent are available for purchase. Please see Mary Ann Dolak at the coffee hour.

◆ **NJ Deanery Mission Vespers** tonight will be at Christ the Saviour Church in Paramus at 4:00pm.

◆ **Please note:** the **joint Pre-Sanctified Liturgy** at Ss. Peter & Paul Church in Passaic on **Apr. 2nd** is **CANCELLED** due to recent renovation issues.

◆ Next joint **Pre-Sanctified Liturgy** will be at the Holy Assumption Church in Clifton on **Apr. 9** at 6:30pm. His Grace Bishop Michael will be main celebrant and homilist; St. Tikhon's Choir will sing the responses.



March 23, 2014

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT Veneration of the Cross

- **9:00am** – Divine Liturgy of St. Basil
Epistle: Heb. 4:14-5:6
Gospel: Mk. 8:34-9:1
- **Fellowship** – everyone is invited for
Coffee Hour following the Divine Liturgy

Schedule of Services

MONDAY, MARCH 24

6:30pm - Great Compline with Litya

TUESDAY, MARCH 25 – ANNUNCIATION

9:00am - Divine Liturgy

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 26

6:30pm - Pre-Sanctified Liturgy

FRIDAY, MARCH 28

6:30pm - Akathist to the Holy Cross
with Trisagion Memorial Service

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