

# ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH

Orthodox Church of America

A Parish of the Diocese of New York and New Jersey

170 Lexington Avenue, Passaic, New Jersey, 07055

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October 27, 2019

## 19<sup>TH</sup> SANDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Martyr Nestor. Ven. Nestor of the Kiev Caves. Tone 2.

- 9:15 - Hours
- 9:30 - Divine Liturgy  
Epistle: 2 Cor, 11:31-12:9  
Gospel: Lk. 8:26-39

▪ **Coffee Hour** - everyone is invited for a fellowship following the service.

### Schedule of Services

#### Saturday, November 2

- 5:00pm - Great Vesper

#### Sunday, November 3

- 9:15 – Hours
- 9:30 – Divine Liturgy



## Heaven's Gate

A man and his dog were walking along a road. He was enjoying the lovely scenery when it suddenly occurred to him that he was dead. He remembered dying and that his faithful dog had been dead for many years. He wondered where the road was leading them. After a while, they came to a high, white stone wall along side of the road. It looked like fine marble. As he reached the wall, he saw a magnificent gate in the arch and the street that led to the gate was made from pure gold.

He and the dog walked toward the gate and as he got closer, he saw a man at a desk to one side. When he was close enough, he called out, "Excuse me, where are we?" "This is heaven, sir," the man answered. "Wow! Would you happen to have some water? We have traveled far," the man said. "Of course, sir. Come right in and I'll have some ice water brought right up."

The man gestured and the gate began to open. "Can my friend," pointing toward his dog, "come in too?" the traveler asked. "I'm sorry, sir, but we don't accept pets."

The man thought for a moment, remembering all the years the dog remained loyal to him. He then turned back toward the road and continued the way he had been going. After another long walk, he came to a plain dirt road which led through a farm gate that looked as if it had never been closed. There was no fence.

As he approached the gate, he saw a man Inside

planting some trees. "Excuse me!" he called to the gardener. "Do you have any water? We have traveled far." "Yes, sure, there's a faucet over there." The man pointed to a place that couldn't be seen from outside the gate. "Come on in and help yourself." "How about my friend here?" the traveler gestured to his dog. "There should be a bowl by the faucet; he is welcome to share." They went through the gate and sure enough, there was an old-fashioned faucet with a bowl beside it. The traveler filled the bowl and took a long drink himself; then he gave some to the dog. When they were full, he and the dog walked back toward the man who was planting the trees. "What do you call this place?" the traveler asked. "This is heaven," was the answer. "Well, that's confusing," the traveler said. "The man down the road said that was heaven, too." "Oh, you mean the place with the gold street and pearly gates? Nope. That's hell." "Doesn't it make you mad for them to use your name like that?" "No. We're just happy that they screen out the folks who'd never leave their best friends behind in exchange for material things."

### Intercessory Prayers

We pray for all our fellow parishioners, and we pray especially for those who are incapable of being with us in church. Please keep in your prayers our Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Genevieve Bobenko, Barbara Bogart, Michael Bzik, Mary Ann Dolak, Doroty Fabian, Barbara Kary, Margaret Kovalycsik, Kathleen Lazarczyk, Dennis Maixner, Marian Nagel, MaryAnn Rabakozi, Helen Rahnefeld, Anna Rozanovich, Maryann Stagen, Eva Stashisky.

### Birthday Greeting

Happy Birthday go out this week to **Dennis Maixner, Helena Czech, Lauren Silvestre and John Kary**. May God's blessing continue to be theirs for many years – Mnogaya Lyeta!

### Announcement

• Our **Church Choir's Luncheon** will be held on Sunday, November 3 at 12:30 P.M. at **Sevilla Restaurant**, 505 Main Avenue, Passaic. If you would like to join us, you may do so at a cost of only \$10 per person. Please let Maryann Stagen know today or as soon as possible, if you would like to attend. Looking forward to seeing you there.

• On November 10, following Divine Liturgy, our Church will be held **Thanksgiving Party** at our Church Hall. Everyone is welcome.

• The **Annual Diocesan Assembly** is scheduled to be convened on Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup> and Friday November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2019 at the Orthodox Church of the Holy Trinity, 369 Green Avenue, East Meadow, NY 11554

• **Daylight Savings time end next Sunday**. So before you go to bed on Saturday night, be sure to set your clocks **back one hour**. We'll see you Sunday morning, bright – eyed and bushy-tailed, refreshed from having one extra hour of sleep!

• **Welcome** to all our visitors and guests who participate in our celebration of the Divine Liturgy today. We are glad you are here. While Holy Communion may only be received by prepared Orthodox Christians, our non-Orthodox guests are welcome to join us in venerating the cross and receiving blessed bread at the conclusion of the Liturgy. We also hope you will join us for the meal and time of fellowship in our parish hall.