

Prayer List: To add new names to the list, or to keep 'old names' on the list, please contact Connie Bachiu by phoning 384-8774 or by email clbachiu@shaw.ca

Lydia Savelia Juliette Betty Debbie
Lisa[as she travels to Africa] Doug Larissa Andy and Anna
Catherine [as she travels to Uganda]Dianna Helen and Frank Rempel
Lynn and Hazel Herrem Deacon Taras and Gail Nestor Tasha & Cam
family of Raynald Lynn Ron Abraham Fr. Phillip and Barbara Steve
Kevin & family Bishop Irénée Archbishop Seraphim Roger Judy
Dianne Alexander

Newly departed: Raynald, Jack , Walter, Harry Janzen(friend of Lloyd and Connie Bachiu)

Wednesdays each week:

6 pm Service of Intercession for the Archdiocese of Canada

2012 Church Calendars have arrived: the calendars are at the church entrance. Please take one home for your use.

MUSIC REHEARSAL:
7 P.M. @ CHURCH THURSDAY JANUARY 19TH .



Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church

2202 Lorne Avenue Saskatoon, Sask.

PHONE: 665-3155 email: HROC@shaw.ca

Rector: Fr. Pau Ruiz-Gomar Phone: 652-2604

I am the Resurrection and the Life.
Whoever believes in me shall not die,
but shall have life everlasting. ~ John 11:25

Sunday January 15, 2012

Venerable Paul of Thebes

Venerable John Calabytes

Venerable Gabriel of Lesnovo

Tone 6 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

Tone 4 Troparion * *(for SS Paul and John)*

O God of our Fathers,
always act with kindness towards us;
take not Your mercy from us,
but guide our lives in peace

Tone 6 Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

Tone 2 Kontakion *(Venerable John "the Hut-Dweller")*

Longing for poverty in imitation of Christ,
you abandoned your parent's wealth, wise Father John;
grasping the Gospel in your hands, you followed Christ God,
unceusingly praying for us all.

Tone 3 Kontakion *(Venerable Paul of Thebes)*

Today we gather and praise you with hymns
as an unwaning ray of the spiritual Sun;
for you shine on those in the darkness of ignorance,
leading all ^mankind to the heights,
venerable Paul, adornment of Thebes and firm foundation of the fathers
and ascetics.

Youth Group Announcement: We will be going to the MaChnee farm today Sunday Jan. 15 to skate and do other outdoor activities.

Parish Treasurer David Grier asks that all donations and expense claims for 2011 be submitted TODAY: Sunday January 15, 2012

Annual General Meeting will follow Divine Liturgy on Sunday January 29, 2012.

Please, make an appointment to have your home blessed.

Contact Fr. Pau by email and propose one or two dates; or phone him at 652-2604; or speak to him before or after a service.

A "blessing" is not a magical act. Nor does it endow the object with a supernatural force. Instead, a blessing recognizes the earth as belonging to God, and earthly objects as means of communication with Him. As such, a blessing reclaims and restores earthly things, and allows us, as Oliver Clement, an Orthodox writer of the 20th century, said, "to see the extraordinary in the ordinary."

On the Feast of Epiphany, we acknowledge the importance of "blessings." The priest stands before a font of water and, in awe, proclaims three times: "Great art Thou, O God, and marvelous are Thy works, and there are no words to suffice to hymn Thy wonders." In blessing water—material liquid—we acknowledge it as the gift from God that supports all of life. "Holy Water" is not supernatural water, but rather water that is recognized as gift and sustenance from the hand of our Creator.

We use Holy Water, sanctified waters, to bless the things of everyday life. The priests' *Book of Needs* index includes blessings for homes, icons, crosses, fruit, flowers, beehives, vehicles, fire engines, ambulances, and so forth. Some of these blessings may seem strange and funny to us. But each blessing is a reminder that God provides for us and that He remains active in our lives.

Each blessing also reminds us of our proper relationship to the holy and to the everyday: in fact, how we are to become the human link between the divine and earthly. "Holy Water" cleanses the lenses of our eyes, so that we see and understand how we are to live spiritual lives within earthly bodies; how we are to utilize earthly objects in a spiritual manner; how to become godly humans.

Blessings, by word or by water, reaffirm our covenant with our God. Through blessings, we reaffirm His presence and activity in our lives; we reaffirm His desire to communicate Himself to us through His creation.

(from "Blessing Water, Homes, Fire Engines, and Beehives"
by Fr. Steven Belonick)