

VARIABLES – MARCH 3, 2024

SS. PETER & PAUL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN SABA, ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK AND METROPOLITAN OF ALL NORTH AMERICA
REVEREND FATHER CHRISTOPHER DILLON, PASTOR
REVEREND FATHER GEORGE WASHBURN

“...should we fall, we should not despair and so estrange ourselves from the Lord’s love. For if He so chooses, He can deal mercifully with our weakness. Only we should not cut ourselves off from Him or feel oppressed when constrained by His commandments, nor should we lose heart when we fall short of our goal...let us always be ready to make a new start. If you fall, rise up. If you fall again, rise up again. Only do not abandon your Physician.... Wait on Him, and He will be merciful, either reforming you, or sending you trials, or through some other provision of which you are ignorant.” ~ St. Peter of Damascus

Welcome to all our visitors worshipping with us this morning! Please sign our Guest Register as you enter the church and be our guest for coffee and refreshments this morning after the service is over. We look forward to meeting you and welcoming you personally to Ss. Peter and Paul.

Prodigal Son

TARASIOS THE CONFESSOR, ARCHBISHOP OF CONSTANTINOPLE; HIEROMARTYR MARKELLOS, BISHOP OF APAMEA IN SYRIA

Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom—Hymns & Scriptures

Variable Hymns – *see music in packet*

Troparion of the Resurrection, Tn. 6, Byzantine

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world. O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Troparion of Ss Peter & Paul, Tn. 4, Byzantine

O Foremost of the Apostles, and teachers of the world, intercede with the Master of all to grant peace to the world and to our souls the Great Mercy.

Clergy only – Kontakion for the Prodigal Son, Tn. 3, Byzantine

Foolishly I sprang away from Thy great fatherly glory and dispersed in wicked deeds the riches that Thou didst give me. With the Prodigal I therefore cry unto Thee now: I have sinned against Thee, O compassionate Father. But receive me in repentance; make me as one of Thy hired servants, O Lord.

Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians (6:12-20).

Brethren, all things are lawful for me, but not all things are expedient. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the authority of anything. Foods are for the belly, and the belly for foods; but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for fornication, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body; and God both raised up the Lord, and will also raise us up through His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take away the members of Christ, and make them members of a harlot? God forbid! Or, do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For, “The two,” He says, “shall become one flesh.” But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit. Flee fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body, but whoever commits fornication sins against his own body. Or, do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have received from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.

Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (15:11-32).

The Lord spoke this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants."' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

Receiving Holy Communion: Only Orthodox Christians prepared through prayer, fasting, and a recent sacramental confession should approach the chalice for the Eucharist. The Orthodox Church does not practice "open communion" and has no intercommunion with non-Orthodox churches.

After taking Communion: Please return to your place and continue standing until the announcements.

Today's Commemorations and Prayer Requests

Take this list of prayer requests home with you and keep these people in your prayers this week.

For the living: Dn. Anthony & Sh. Camille; Jan & Keith, Anne, Sophia, Kristen, Shirley, Diane, Allie, Felix & family, Wendy, Marianne & John, Timothy, Jeremiah, Alexander, Caitlin & David, Hector, Saoirse, Persephone, Michael & Sophia, Samuel, Verity, Christine, Alexandra, Atticus, Evelyn, Tony, Enrica, Mary Lou, Randy, Felicia, Betty, Andrew, Jim, Jon & Serenity, Ada, Grayson, Emmett, Sage, Rosanna, Beverly, Donnie, Gary, Victor, Faith, Avery, Amanda, Linda, Erik & Krista, James & Cheryl.

For the reposed: Met. Philip; Aps. Gordon, Jack; Prs. Tom, Stephen, Basil, David, Terry; Hmks. Ephraim, John, Athanasios; Mnk. Simeon; Dns. Mark, John, Mark, Nathaniel, David, Joseph, Michael, Daniel; Khs. Judy, Jedonne, Terry Elizabeth, Doris; Presb. Barbara; Boris, Glaphyra; Christopher, Tatiana, Marjorie, Mike, Susan; James, Richard, Leonard, Eleanor, Virgil, Beatrice, Rick, Hudson, Gene.

For those who are pregnant and their unborn children: Diala, Nicole.

For those serving in the Armed Forces: Brycen, Jonathan, David, Jacob, Gregory, Daniel, Don, Scott, Michelle, Noah.

