

VARIABLES – DECEMBER 15, 2019

# SS. PETER & PAUL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN JOSEPH, ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK AND METROPOLITAN OF ALL NORTH AMERICA

REVEREND FATHER NATHAN THOMPSON, PASTOR

REVEREND FATHER GEORGE WASHBURN, REVEREND FATHER THOMAS LINDSAY

*“We do not suffer because there is too much godliness in the world, but because there is too much evil. We must overcome the evil around us with godliness, speaking the truth in love.”*

*His Eminence, Metropolitan JOSEPH*

**Welcome to all our visitors worshipping with us this morning!** Please sign our Guest Register as you enter the church and be our guest in the Fellowship Hall 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.

## Sunday of the Forefathers of Christ & Hieromartyr Eleutherios, bishop of Illyria

MARTYR ANTHIA, MOTHER OF ELEUTHERIOS; VENERABLE PAUL OF LATRA; STEPHEN, BISHOP-CONFESSOR OF SUROZH; VENERABLE TRYPHON OF PECHENGA

### Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom—Hymns & Scriptures

**Variable Hymns** – *see music in packet*

Troparion of the Resurrection, Tn. 1, Russo-Greek

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Thy Most Pure Body; Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The pow'rs of heaven cried to Thee O Giver of Life: Glory to Thy resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy Kingdom! Glory to Thy saving providence, O Lover of mankind.

Troparion of the Resurrection, Tn. 1, Byzantine

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world; for which cause the heavenly pow'rs cried aloud unto Thee, O Giver of Life: Glory to Thy resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy kingdom! Glory to Thy providence, O Thou who alone art the Lover of mankind.

Troparion of the Sunday of the Forefathers of Christ, Tn. 2, Russian

Through faith Thou didst justify the Forefathers, betrothing through them the Church of the gentiles. These saints exult in glory, for from their seed came forth a glorious fruit: She who bore Thee without seed. So by their prayers, O Christ God, have mercy on us!

Troparion for St. Eleftherios, Tn. 5, Byzantine

Being comely adorned in thy sacred priestly robes and newly drenched with the streams of thy pure and sanctified blood, thou didst soar aloft to stand before thy Master, Christ; hence never cease to intercede for those honoring with faith thy mighty and blessed contest, thou overthrower of Satan, O wise and blessed Eleftherios.

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

O first enthroned of the Apostles, teachers of the universe, entreat the Master of all to grant peace to the world and great mercy to our souls.

### Kontakion Preparatory to Nativity, Tn. 3, Byzantine

The virgin comes today to the cave to give birth, ineffably to bring forth the Word eternal. Therefore, rejoice, O earth at the message, with the angels and shepherds give glory to Him, Who shall appear by His own will as a young child, He who is from eternity God.

### **The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy (1:8-18).**

Timothy, my son, do not be ashamed then of testifying to our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel in the power of God, Who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not in virtue of our works but in virtue of his own purpose and the grace which he gave us in Christ Jesus ages ago, and now has manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, Who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, and therefore I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know Whom I have believed, and I am sure that He is able to guard until that Day what has been entrusted to me. Follow the pattern of the sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus; guard the truth that has been entrusted to you by the Holy Spirit Who dwells within us. You are aware that all who are in Asia turned away from me, and among them Phygelos and Hermogenes. May the Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphoros, for he often refreshed me; he was not ashamed of my chains, but when he arrived in Rome he searched for me eagerly and found me. May the Lord grant him to find mercy from the Lord on that Day and you well know all the service he rendered at Ephesus.

### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (14:16-24).**

The Lord spoke this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But, one by one, they all began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.' For many are called, but few are chosen.

***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. Some names are not Orthodox Christians and thus are not remembered in the Great Entrance but are remembered in the other litanies during the services throughout the week.*

***For the living:*** Newly illumined Veronica, Benjamin, Patrick, Helen, & Felicity; Pr. George & Kh. Suzanne; Pr. Tom & Kh. Maria; Prs. Patrick & Simeon; Dn. Marc, Dn. Mark & Sh. Jeanne, Dn. Richard & Sh. Barbara; Sh. Camille-Anna; Stuart, Matthew & Amy, John, Fiona, Joshua, Amy, Hugh, Roger, Nathan, Jeremiah, Simon, Alexander, Katie, Kurt, Martha, Caitlin Charity, Gabriel Dane, Judith, Ryan & Beth, James & Cheryl & Dane, Jared, Ekaterina & Joshua, Sarah & Jason,

Cherice & Fallyn & Jameson, Mark, Eli, Sarah & Stan, Caleb & Jamie & Ellena, Seth, Caris, Mike, Hope & Max & Mercy, Joshua & Jill & Ethan, Cate & family, Jan, Christina, Kelly & Clara, Betty Jean, Brandon, Braylin, Don & Marie, Peter & Georgie & Family, Braden, Kerrie, Carmen, James, Branden, Rosanna, Ruth, Diana, Steve, Jack & Monica.

***For the reposed:*** Newly departed Rick, infant Gabriel, & Carole Nektaria; Met. PHILIP; Archps. Gordon & Jack; Prs. Basil, Terry & David; Hmks. Athanasios & John; Mnk. Simeon; Dns. Nathaniel, David, Joseph, Mark, Michael & John; Presb. Terry Elizabeth; James, Edrian, Isabel, Michael, Randle, Helen, Daniel, Glenn, Erma Jean, Virgil, Ruth, Eleanor, Richard, Ray.

***For those who are pregnant and their unborn children:*** Laura, Jessica, Rachelle.

***For those serving in the Armed Forces:*** Shane Jeremiah, David, Jacob, Gregory, Daniel, Preston, Saba, Aaron, Don, Nick, James, Scott, Michelle.