

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

“O Theotokos, thou art a mystical paradise, which being untilled hath blossomed forth Christ, by Whom the life-bringing Tree of the Cross was planted in the earth. In worshipping Him now through its elevation, thee do we magnify. Today the death that came to man through eating of the tree is abolished through the Cross. For the curse of our first mother Eve that fell on all mankind is destroyed by the Fruit of the pure Mother of God, whom all the powers of Heaven magnify.”

Ninth Ode of the Holy Cross Canon

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 Before the Elevation of the Holy Cross & Feast of the Nativity of the Theotokos

Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom—Hymns & Scriptures

Variable Hymns – see music in packet

Troparion of the Nativity of the Theotokos, Tn. 4, Byzantine

Thy nativity, O Theotokos, has brought joy to all the inhabited earth; for from thee did shine forth the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God. He has loosed us from the curse and given the blessing. He has destroyed death and granted us eternal life.

Troparion of the Resurrection, Tn. 3, Byzantine

Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad, for the Lord hath done a mighty act with his own arm. He hath trampled down death by death and become the First-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depths of hades, granting the world the great mercy.

Kontakion of the Nativity of the Theotokos, Tn. 4, Byzantine

By thy holy nativity, O pure one, Joachim and Anna were delivered from the reproach of barrenness; and Adam and Eve were delivered from the corruption of death; thy people do celebrate it, having been saved from the stain of iniquity, crying unto thee: The barren doth give birth to the Theotokos, who nourisheth our life

The Reading from the First Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians (6:11-18).

Brethren, see with what large letters I am writing to you with my own hand. It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that would compel you to be circumcised and only in order that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. For even those who receive circumcision do not themselves keep the Law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may glory in your flesh. But far be it from me to glory except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. For neither circumcision counts for anything, nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Peace and mercy be upon all, who walk by this rule, upon the Israel of God. Henceforth let no man trouble me; for I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit, brethren. Amen.

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (3:13-17).

The Lord said, "No one has ascended into heaven but He who descended from heaven, the Son of man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God sent His Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through Him."

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: Archp. Thomas & Presb. Carla; Prs. George, Tom & Presb. Maria, Patrick, Simeon, Ed & Presb. Judy, Dn. Mark & Sh. Jeanne; Sh. Camille-Anna; Stuart, Matthew & Amy, John, Fiona, Joshua & Amy, Roger, Nathan & Jessica, Hugh, Simon, Alexander, Katie, Martha, Caitlin Charity, Kurt, Carole & Heather, Judith, Gabriel Dane, Laura, James & Cheryl & Dane, Jared, Ryan & Beth, Ekaterina & Joshua, Sarah & Jason, Cherice, Fallyn, Jameson, Joshua, Sarah & Stan, Caleb & Jamie & Ellena, Seth, Caris, Karl, Molly, Catherine & Ryan & Wyatt, Bob, Betty Jean, Don & Marie, Peter & Georgie & Family, Braden, James, Branden, Ryan Anne, Rosanna, Mathewson Family, Herti, Marcel, Janelle, Monica, Paloma, Darlene, Matt & Amy, Rob & Minja.

For the reposed: Met. PHILIP; Archps. Gordon & Jack; Prs. Basil, Terry & David; Hmks. Athanasios & John; Mnk. Simeon; Dns. Nathaniel, David, Joseph, Mark, Michael & John; Presb. Terry Elizabeth; Ellen, Christopher, Tatiana, Solomon, Sarah, Emily, James, Gene, Isabel, John, Edrian, Helen, James.

For those who are pregnant and their unborn children: Kelly, Jill.

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