

VARIABLES – FEBRUARY 2, 2020

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

“If a man has a full intention to please God, then God teaches him His will either through thoughts, through some other person, or through Holy Scripture.” – 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 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.

Presentation (Meeting) of Our Lord Jesus Christ **Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom—Hymns & Scriptures**

Variable Hymns – see music in packet

Troparion for Meeting of Christ in the Temple, Tn. 1, Byzantine

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos full of grace: for from thee has shone forth the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, giving light to those in darkness. Be glad also, thou righteous Elder, for thou hast received in thine arms the Deliverer of our souls, who bestows upon us resurrection.

Troparion of the Resurrection, Tn. 8, Byzantine

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Kontakion of the Meeting of the Lord in the Temple, Tn. 1, Byzantine

O Christ God Thou has sanctified the virgin's womb by Thy birth, and as was meet, hast blessed the hands of Simeon. Thou hast also come to us to save us. Do Thou, when wars prevail, give peace to Thy people, and make mighty those whom Thou hast loved, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews (7:7-17).

Brethren, it is beyond dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior. Here tithes are received by mortal men; there, by one of whom it is testified that he lives. One might even say that Levi himself, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, for he was still in the loins of his ancestor when Melchizedek met him. Now if perfection had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need would there have been for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one named after the order of Aaron? For when there is a change in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change in the law as well. For the one of whom these things are spoken belonged to another tribe, from which no one has ever served at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, and in connection with that tribe Moses said nothing about priests. This becomes even more evident when another priest arises in the likeness of Melchizedek, who has become a priest, not according to a legal requirement concerning bodily descent but by the power of an indestructible life. For it is witnessed of him, “Thou art a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek.”

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (2:22-40).

In those days, the parents of Jesus brought Him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord”),

and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons.” Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. And inspired by the Spirit he came into the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the law, he took Him up in his arms and blessed God and said, “Lord, now lettest thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou has prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Thy people Israel.” And His father and His mother marveled at what was said about Him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, “Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts out of many hearts may be revealed.” And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher; she was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years from her virginity, and as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she gave thanks to God, and spoke of Him to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. And when they had performed everything according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon 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. Noah; Prs. George, Tom & Kh. Maria; Pr. Simeon; Dn. Marc, Dn. Richard & Sh. Barbara, Dn. Mark & Sh. Jeanne; Kh. Ellen; Sh. Camille-Anna; Stuart, Matthew & Amy, John, Fiona, Joshua, Amy, Hugh, Roger, Nathan, Jeremiah, Simon, Alexander, Katie, Kurt, Martha, Caitlin Charity, Gabriel Dane, Judith, Rebeca, Ryan & Beth, James & Cheryl & Dane, Jared, Ekaterina & Joshua, Sarah & Jason, Cherice & Fallyn & Jameson, Mark, Eli, Sarah & Stan, Caleb & Jamie & Ellena, Seth, Caris, Mike, John Paul, Laura & Carter & Family, Betty Jean, Brandon, Thomas, Braylin, Don & Marie, Peter & Georgie & Family, Braden, Kerrie, Carmen, Randall, James, Branden, Rosanna, Ruth, Diana, Calvin, Madeline, Willie.

For the reposed: Newly-departed Michel & Pr. Patrick; Met. PHILIP; Archps. Gordon & Jack; Prs. Basil, Terry & David; Hmks. Athanasios & John; Mnk. Simeon; Dns. Nathaniel, David, Joseph, Mark, Michael & John; Sbdn. Neil; Presb. Terry Elizabeth; Christopher, Tatiana, Gene, Louisa, John, Lena, Thomas, Mozelle, Lorenzo, Thomas, Marvin, Manny Albert, Arteline, Della, Walter, Lane, Arvilla, Cora, Jim, Nora, Pearl, Henry, Ella, Monroe.

For those who are pregnant and their unborn children: Jessica, Rachelle, Christina & Kristy.

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