

VARIABLES – DECEMBER 29, 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

“When you see poor homes, or live in such, bring to your memory the cave and the manger in which your Lord was born as man.” – St. Theophan the Recluse

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.

After-feast of & Sunday After the Nativity of Christ

COMMEMORATION OF JOSEPH THE BETROTHED, DAVID THE PROPHET & KING, & JAMES THE BROTHER OF GOD

Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom—Hymns & Scriptures

Variable Hymns – *see music in packet*

Troparion for the Nativity of Christ, Tn. 4, Serbian

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, has shown to the world the light of wisdom, for by it those who worshipped the stars were taught by a star to adore Thee the Sun of Righteousness, and to know Thee, the Orient from on High, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Troparion of the Resurrection, Tn. 3, Carpatho-Russian

Let the heaven rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm! He has trampled down death by death! He has become the firstborn of the dead! He has delivered us from the depths of Hades, and has granted the world great mercy.

Troparion for Ss Joseph & David, Tn. 2, Bulgarian

O Joseph proclaim the wonders to David the ancestor of Christ God. Thou hast seen a Virgin great with child; thou hast given glory with the shepherds; thou hast worshipped with the Magi; and thou hast been instructed through an angel. Entreat Christ God to save our souls.

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 for the Nativity of Our Lord, Tn. 3, Byzantine

Today the virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One, and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One, angels give glory with shepherds and the wise men journey with the star. Since for our sake is born as a new child, He who is from eternity God.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians (1:11-19).

Brethren, I would have you know that the Gospel which was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through a revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the Church of God violently and tried to destroy it; and I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people; so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers. But when He Who had set me apart before I was born, and had called me through His grace, was pleased to reveal His Son to me, in order that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not confer with flesh and blood nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were Apostles before me, but I went away into Arabia; and again I returned to Damascus. Then after three years I went

up to Jerusalem to visit Cephas, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other Apostles except James the Lord's brother.

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew (2:13-23).

When the wise men had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Rise, take the Child and His mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the Child, to destroy Him." And he rose and took the Child and His mother by night, and departed to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, "Out of Egypt have I called My Son." Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, was in a furious rage, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region, who were two years old or under, according to the time which he had ascertained from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah? "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they were no more." But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Rise, take the Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel for those who sought the Child's life are dead." And he rose and took the Child and His mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus reigned over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. And he went and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

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; Prs. George, Tom & Kh. Maria; Prs. Patrick & Simeon; Dn. Marc, 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, Ryan & Beth, James & Cheryl & Dane, Jared, Ekaterina & Joshua, Sarah & Jason, Cherice & Fallyn & Jameson, Mark, Eli, Sarah & Stan, Caleb & Jamie & Ellena, Seth, Caris, Mike, Cate & family, Jan, Jesse, Kelly & Clara, Betty Jean, Brandon, Braylin, Don & Marie, Peter & Georgie & Family, Braden, Kerrie, Carmen, James, Branden, Rosanna, Ruth, Diana, Celestine & Diana.

For the reposed: Newly-departed Archimandrite Ephraim & Rick; Met. PHILIP; Archps. Gordon & Jack; Prs. Basil, Terry & David; Hmks. Athanasios & John; Mnk. Simeon; Dns. Nathaniel, David, Joseph, Mark, Michael & John; Presb. Terry Elizabeth; Christopher, Tatiana, 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.