



**Ss. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church**  
*A parish of the Orthodox Church in America*  
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Rector: V. Rev. W. Sophrony Royer

Choir Director: Mr. Yuriy Galkin

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## **DECEMBER 26, 2021 / SUNDAY AFTER NATIVITY OF CHRIST (TONE 2)**

### RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION IN TONE TWO

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal, / Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead. / And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, / all the powers of heaven cried out: // “O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!”

### FESTAL TROPARION IN TONE FOUR

Thy Nativity, O Christ our God, / has shone 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 RIGHTEOUS ONES IN TONE TWO

Proclaim the wonder, O Joseph, / to David, the ancestor of God; / thou hast seen a Virgin great with child; / and thou didst give glory with the shepherds; / thou didst worship with the Magi, / and didst receive the news from the Angel. // Pray to Christ God to save our souls!

- *Sing the troparion of Ss. Peter and Paul*
- *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:*

### KONTAKION OF THE RIGHTEOUS ONES IN TONE THREE

Today godly David is filled with joy; / Joseph and James offer praise. / The glorious crown of their kinship with Christ fills them with great joy. / They sing praises to the One ineffably born on earth, // and they cry out: “O Compassionate One, save those who honor Thee!”

- *Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

### FESTAL TROPARION IN TONE THREE

Today the Virgin gives birth to the Transcendent One, / and the earth offers a cave to the Unapproachable One! / Angels with shepherds glorify Him! / The wise men journey with the star, // since for our sake the eternal God was born as a little Child!

### PROKEIMENON IN TONE TWO

The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation.

*v. The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death.*

**Prokeimenon in Tone Four:** God is wonderful in His saints, the God of Israel.

## THE EPISTLE

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

Brethren, but I make known to you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached by me is not according to man. For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but it came through the revelation of Jesus Christ. For you have heard of my former conduct in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God beyond measure and tried to destroy it. And I advanced in Judaism beyond many of my contemporaries in my own nation, being more exceedingly zealous for the traditions of my fathers. But when it pleased God, who separated me from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, to reveal His Son in me, that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately confer with flesh and blood, nor did I go up to Jerusalem to those who were apostles before me; but I went to Arabia, and returned again to Damascus. Then after three years I went up to Jerusalem to see Peter, and remained with him fifteen days. But I saw none of the other apostles except James, the Lord's brother.

## ALLELUIA IN TONE TWO

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*v. May the Lord hear thee in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect thee!*

*v. Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call!*

*v. Remember, O Lord, David and all his meekness!*

## THE GOSPEL

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

Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, flee to Egypt, and stay there until I bring you word; for Herod will seek the young Child to destroy Him." When he arose, he took the young Child and His mother by night and departed for Egypt, and was there until the death of Herod, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the Lord through the prophet, saying, "Out of Egypt I called My Son." Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by Jeremiah the prophet, saying: "A voice was heard in Ramah, lamentation, weeping, and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children, refusing to be comforted, because they are no more." Now when Herod was dead, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, saying, "Arise, take the young Child and His mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the young Child's life are dead." Then he arose, took the young Child and His mother, and came into the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea instead of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And being warned by God in a dream, he turned aside into the region of Galilee. And he came and dwelt in a city called Nazareth, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by the prophets, "He shall be called a Nazarene."

## FESTAL MEGALYNARION

*Verse: Magnify, O my soul, the all-immaculate Virgin Theotokos, more honorable and more glorious than the heavenly hosts.*

I behold a strange, most glorious mystery: / heaven—the cave; the cherubic throne—the Virgin; / the manger—the place where Christ lay: / the uncontainable God, Whom we magnify in song.

## COMMUNION HYMNS

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous; praise befits the just! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

- *After Communion: the Festal Troparion replaces "We have seen the true light ..."*

## TODAY'S SAINTS

Saints commemorated on December 26th: Holy Righteous David the King, Joseph the Betrothed, and James “the Brother of the Lord”; St. Dionysius, Pope of Rome; Hieromartyr Euthymius, Bishop of Sardis; St. Constantine of Synnada; St. Evaristus of Studion; Martyr Marinus the Senator; St. Nicodemus the Sanctified; Synaxis of the All-holy Virgin Mary; Bethlehem Icon of the Virgin Mary.

## UPCOMING SERVICES

9:30 AM (Monday) – Divine Liturgy (*Protomartyr Stephen*)  
9:30 AM (Saturday) – Divine Liturgy (*Circumcision of Christ/St. Basil*)  
5:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers  
9:20 AM (Sunday) – Third Hour & Divine Liturgy

## BLESSING OF HOMES

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 epidemic (especially with the new wave of the omicron variant spreading), annual house blessings are not recommended this year. However, if you want your house blessed this year regardless, Fr. Sophrony will come. Call the Rectory at 201-436-3244 to make an appointment.

## **Христос Рождается! Christ is Born!**

"What good is it that Christ was born [two-thousand] years ago if he is not born now in your heart?"

- *Meister Eckhart (1260-1328)*