



Ss. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church
A parish of the Orthodox Church in America
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Choir Director: Mr. Yuriy Galkin

FEBRUARY 9, 2025 / SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN & THE PHARISEE (TONE 8)

RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION IN TONE EIGHT

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! / Thou didst accept the three day burial to free us from our sufferings! // O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

FESTAL TROPARION IN TONE ONE

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace! / From thee shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, / enlightening those who sat in darkness. / Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder, / thou didst accept in thine arms the Redeemer of our souls, // Who grants us the Resurrection!

- *Choir sings troparion of Apostles Peter & Paul*
- *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit;*

KONTAKION FROM THE TRIODION IN TONE FOUR

Let us flee from the pride of the Pharisee! / Let us learn humility from the Publican's tears! / Let us cry to our Savior! / “Have mercy on us, // O only merciful One!”

- *Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

FESTAL KONTAKION IN TONE ONE

By Thy Nativity Thou didst sanctify the Virgin's womb / and didst bless Simeon's hands, O Christ God. / Now Thou hast come and saved us through love. / Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, // O only Lover of Man!

PROKEIMENON IN TONE EIGHT

Pray and make your vows before the Lord, our God!
v. In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel.

Prokeimenon in Tone Three: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

THE EPISTLE

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to Timothy (3:10-15).

My son Timothy, you have carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, long-suffering, love, perseverance, persecutions, afflictions, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra – what persecutions I endured. And out of them all the Lord delivered me. Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived. But you must continue in the things which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom

you have learned them, and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus.

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

Brethren, now beyond all contradiction the lesser is blessed by the better. Here mortal men receive tithes, but there he receives them, of whom it is witnessed that he lives. Even Levi, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, so to speak, for he was still in the loins of his father when Melchizedek met him. Therefore, if perfection were through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need was there that another priest should rise according to the order of Melchizedek, and not be called according to the order of Aaron. For the priesthood being changed, of necessity there is also a change of the law. For He of whom these things are spoken belongs to another tribe, from which no man has officiated at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord arose from Judah, of which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood. And it is yet far more evident if, in the likeness of Melchizedek, there arises another priest who has come, not according to the law of a fleshly commandment, but according to the power of an endless life. For He testifies: "You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek."

ALLELUIA IN TONE EIGHT

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

v. Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior!

v. Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!

v. Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation!

THE GOSPEL

The Reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (18:10-14).

"Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank You that I am not like other men – extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even as this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give tithes of all that I possess.' And the tax collector, standing afar off, would not so much as raise his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

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

Now when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him to Jerusalem to present Him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male who 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." And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting 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 would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. So he came by the Spirit 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 You are letting Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word; for my eyes have seen Your salvation which You have prepared before the face of all peoples, a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of Your people Israel." And Joseph and His mother marveled at those things which were spoken of Him. Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this Child is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against (yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity; and this woman was a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day. And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem. So when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned

to Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.

FESTAL MEGALYNARION IN TONE THREE

- *Instead of “It is truly meet...,” the Choir sings:*

v. O Virgin Theotokos, hope of all Christians, protect, preserve, and save those who hope in thee!

In the shadow and letter of the Law, / let us the faithful discern a figure: / every male child that opens the womb is holy to God. / Therefore we magnify the firstborn Word of the Father Who has no beginning, // the Son firstborn of a Mother who had not known man.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the Name of the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

- *The festal troparion replaces the singing of “We have seen the true light ...”*

SAINTS COMMEMORATED TODAY

Commemorated on February 9th: *Leave-taking of the Presentation of Jesus Christ in the Temple (also known as the Purification of the All-holy Virgin Mary); Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee; Martyr Nicephorus of Antioch; Hieromartyrs Marcellus, Bishop of Sicily, Philagrius, Bishop of Cyprus, and Pancratius, Bishop of Taormina; Virgin-martyr Apollonia, Deaconess of Alexandria; St. Romanus of Cilicia; St. Nebridius, Bishop of Egara; St. Sabinus, Bishop of Canosa; St. Ansbert, Bishop of Rouen; St. Alto, Founder of Altomünster Abbey; St. Shio Mgvime of Georgia; Uncovering of the relics of Saint Innocent, Bishop of Irkutsk; St. Pancratius of the Kiev-Caves; Ss. Nicephorus and Gennadius of Vazheozersk.*

TODAY’S SPECIAL OFFERINGS

St. John’s Cross offered by Fr. W. Sophrony Royer in memory of Archpriest John Udics. **St. Nicholas’ Cross** offered by Fr. W. Sophrony Royer in memory of Archimandrite Athanasy Mastalski.

TODAY’S PARASTAS

The Parastas after Divine Liturgy is offered in memory of Stephen Cimboric by Margaret Cimboric and Family, and in memory of Ann Verona by Faith Verona.

UPCOMING SERVICES

5:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers

9:20 AM (Sunday) – Third Hour & Divine Liturgy

PARISH & LOCAL NEWS

(1) Today is the deadline of our parish’s collection of cans of soup and other non-perishable foods for donation to a local food pantry. Thank you to all donors for cooperating in this project!

(2) As a fundraising event, our parish is having a flea market on two consecutive Saturdays—March 22 and March 29, 2025. Rather than throwing out items in good condition for which you no longer have any use, consider donating them for the parish flea market. Please bring donated items to church—only those who are physically unable to come themselves will be given assistance bringing in donated items.

(3) The Parish Council is meeting in the church hall next Sunday after Divine Liturgy.

(4) February 22, 2025 is the first of the Memorial Saturdays of the year. If your list of the faithful departed needs updating, please inform Fr. Sophrony by then.

Remember to support the parish every time you shop!



ShopRite, Stop & Shop, and Acme gifts cards available for purchase in the church vestibule.