



Ss. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church

A parish of the Orthodox Church in America

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MARCH 12, 2023 / 2ND SUNDAY OF LENT (TONE 6)

RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION IN TONE SIX

The Angelic Powers were at Thy tomb; / the guards became as dead men. / Mary stood by Thy grave, / seeking Thy most pure body. / Thou didst capture hell not being tempted by it. / Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. / O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead, // glory to Thee.

TROPARION OF ST. GREGORY PALAMAS IN TONE EIGHT

O light of Orthodoxy, teacher of the Church, its confirmation, / O ideal of monks and invincible champion of theologians, / O wonderworking Gregory, glory of Thessalonica and preacher of grace, // always intercede before the Lord that our souls may be saved!

- *Choir sings troparion of Apostles Peter & Paul*
- *Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

KONTAKION FROM TRIODION IN TONE FOUR

Now is the time for action! / Judgment is at the doors! / So let us rise and fast, / offering alms with tears of compunction and crying: / “Our sins are more in number than the sands of the sea; / but forgive us, O Master of all, // so that we may receive the incorruptible crowns!”

PROKEIMENON IN TONE FIVE

Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this generation forever.

v. Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly!

Prokeimenon in Tone One: My mouth shall speak wisdom; the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.

THE EPISTLE

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (1:10-2:3)

Brethren, “You, Lord, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You remain; and they will all grow old like a garment; like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed. But You are the same, and Your years will not fail.” But to which of the angels has He ever said: “Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool”? Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation? Therefore, we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (7:26-8:2)

Brethren, for such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens; who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for his own sins and then for the people's, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself. For the law appoints as high priests men who have weakness, but the word of the oath, which came after the law, appoints the Son who has been perfected forever. Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man.

ALLELUIA IN TONE SIX

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

v. He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the heavenly God.

v. He will say to the Lord: "My Protector and my Refuge; my God, in Whom I trust."

v. The mouth of the righteous shall meditate wisdom, and his tongue shall speak of judgment.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (2:1-12)

Again, He entered Capernaum after some days, and it was heard that He was in the house. Immediately many gathered together, so that there was no longer room to receive them, not even near the door. And He preached the word to them. Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men. And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So, when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you." And some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts, "Why does this Man speak blasphemies like this? Who can forgive sins but God alone?" But immediately, when Jesus perceived in His spirit that they reasoned thus within themselves, He said to them, "Why do you reason about these things in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise, take up your bed and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins" – He said to the paralytic, "I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

The Reading of the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (10:9-16)

I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep. But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them. The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep. I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own. As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.

- *"All Creation Rejoices in Thee ..." is sung instead of "It is Truly Meet ..."*

COMMUNION HYMNS

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance! He shall not fear evil tidings! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

TODAY'S SAINTS

Saints commemorated on March 12th: St. Gregory Palamas, Archbishop of Thessalonica; St. Gregory the Dialogist, Pope of Rome; St. Simeon the New Theologian; St. Theophanes the Confessor, of Sigriane; Righteous

Phineas, the grandson of Aaron; Martyr Maximilian of Tebessa; St. Paul Aurelian, Bishop of Léon (in Brittany); St. Alphege, Bishop of Winchester; St. Nicodemus of Mammola; Synaxis of the Venerable Fathers of the Kiev-Caves Lavra.

UPCOMING SERVICES

6:00 PM (Friday) – Presanctified Liturgy & General Parastas
5:00 PM (Saturday) – Great Vespers
9:20 AM (Sunday) – Third Hour & Divine Liturgy

PARISH & LOCAL EVENTS

- (1) Today's Deanery Lenten Vespers is at St. Gregory the Theologian Church in Wappingers Falls, N.Y. at 5:00 PM.
- (2) Next Sunday's Deanery Lenten Vespers is at St. Vladimir Church in Trenton, N.J. at 4:00 PM.
- (3) The *Osanna Chamber Ensemble* is having lenten concerts at St. Nicholas Russian Orthodox Cathedral, 15 E. 97th St., New York (Manhattan), N.Y. on March 23rd and 24th at 7:00 PM. These concerts will be an immersive spiritual journey through Estonian Orthodox composer Arvo Pärt's rarely-heard meditation on repentance entitled "Kanon Pokajanen" (canon of repentance).
- (4) The Parish Council is meeting in the church hall on next Sunday after Divine Liturgy.
- (5) All parishioners ought to go to confession during Great Lent. Confessions may be heard after any Friday or Saturday evening service. Those who are unable attend services on Friday or Saturday evenings may call the Rectory to make arrangements for confession at another time.

"If before the severe judge idle speech is reprehended, how much more that which is hurtful. Consider, then, how damnable those words be, which proceed of malice, when that talk shall be punished which proceeds only from idleness."

~ St. Gregory the Dialogist, Pope of Rome (c. 540-605), The Pastoral Rule