



Ss. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church

A parish of the Orthodox Church in America

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Choir Director: Mr. Yuriy Galkin

MARCH 16, 2025 / FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (TONE 5)

RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION IN TONE FIVE

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, / co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, / born for our salvation from the Virgin; / for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, / to endure death, / and to raise the dead // by His glorious Resurrection.

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; now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.*

KONTAKION FROM THE 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 FIVE

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

v. I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Thy truth from generation to generation.

v. For Thou hast said: Mercy will be established forever; Thy truth will be prepared in the heavens.

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!

SAINTS COMMEMORATED TODAY

Commemorated on March 16th: *St. Gregory Palamas, Archbishop of Thessalonica*; Apostle Aristobulus of the Seventy, Bishop of Britain; Martyr Sabinus of Hermopolis; Martyr Papas of Lyconia; Hieromartyr Alexander I, Pope of Rome; Martyr Julian of Anazarbus; Hieromartyrs Trophimus and Thalus of Laodicea; Martyrs Hilary of Aquileia, Tatian the Deacon, and Companions; St. Heribert, Archbishop of Cologne; St. Serapion, Archbishop of Novgorod; St. Ambrose the Confessor.

TODAY'S SPECIAL OFFERINGS

Altar Vigils offered by Reader Stephen Wasilewski in memory of Robert Graf. **St. John's Cross** offered by Fr. W. Sophrony Royer in memory of Rena Robichaud. **St. Nicholas' Cross** offered by Fr. W. Sophrony Royer in memory of V. Rev. Archpriest Herman Schick (first anniversary of repose).

UPCOMING SERVICES

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

PARISH & LOCAL NEWS

- (1) Today's Lenten Vespers is at Holy Spirit Orthodox Church, 102 Route 284, Wantage, New Jersey, at 5:00 PM. Next Sunday's Lenten Vespers is at St. Vladimir Orthodox Church, 812 Grand St., Trenton, New Jersey at 5:00 PM.
- (2) The Parish Council is meeting in the church hall today after Divine Liturgy.
- (3) 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. Today is the deadline for bringing donated items to church. Thank you to all donors and volunteers!
- (4) All parishioners ought to go to confession during Great Lent. Confessions may be heard after any Friday or Saturday evening service. Those who legitimately cannot attend services on Friday or Saturday evenings may call the Rectory to make your arrangements for confession at another time.

Remember to support the parish every time you shop!



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