

# Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church

Albanian Archdiocese - OCA

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Rev. Nicholas Dellermann – Rector (860-861-7468)

SUNDAY, JANUARY 29

33rd Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday of Zacchaeus

Translation of the Relics of Hieromartyr Ignatius the Godbearer

TONE 8

**Tone 8  
Troparion  
(Resurrection)**

*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!*

**Tone 4  
Troparion  
(St. Ignatius)**

*By sharing in the ways of the Apostles,  
thou didst become a successor to their throne.  
Through the practice of virtue, thou didst find the  
way to divine contemplation, O inspired one of God;  
by teaching the word of truth without error, thou  
didst defend the Faith, even to the shedding of thy  
blood.//  
O Hieromartyr Ignatius, entreat Christ God to save  
our souls!*

**Tone 8  
Kontakion  
(Resurrection)**

*By rising from the tomb, Thou  
didst raise the dead and resurrect  
Adam.  
Eve exults in Thy Resurrection,//  
and the world celebrates Thy  
rising from the dead, O greatly  
Merciful One!*

**Tone 4  
Kontakion  
(St. Ignatius)**

*Today thou didst rise from the  
east,  
enlightening all of creation with  
thy teachings,//  
and thou art crowned with  
martyrdom, Godbearing Ignatius.*

**Tone 4  
Troparion  
(Ss. Peter & Paul)**

*O leaders of the Apostles,  
and evangelists to the world,  
intercede with the Christ our God  
to grant peace to the world, //  
and to our souls great mercy.*

✠ **Prokeimenon** ✠

**Tone 8** (Resurrection)

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord, our God! (Ps. 75:10a)

V. In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel. (Ps. 75:1)

## ✠ The Epistle Reading ✠

### **1 Timothy 4:9-15**

*(Epistle)*

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance. For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. These things command and teach. Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership. Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.

### **I Timotheut 4:9-15**

E besueshme është fjala dhe e denjë për t'u pranuar. Sepse për këtë edhe mundohemi edhe përbuzemi, se shpresuam në Perëndinë e gjallë, i cili është shpëtimtari i gjithë njerëzve, po më fort i besimtarëve. Këto porosit edhe mëso. Askush le të mos të përbuzë për rininë tënde, po bëhu shembull i besimtarëve në fjalë, në shoqëri, në dashuri, në frymë, në besim, në dëlirësi. Deri sa të vij unë, jepu pas leximit, pas këshillimit, pas mësimimit. Mos ji i pakujdesshëm për dhuntinë që është tek ti, e cila t'u dha me anë profecie, me vënien e duarve të pleqësisë. Për këto kujdesu, në këto qëndro, që të shfaqet mbarësia jote tek të gjithë.

### **1-е Тимофею 4:9-15**

Слово сие верно и всякого принятия достойно. Ибо мы для того и трудимся и поношения терпим, что уповаем на Бога живаго, Который есть Спаситель всех человеков, а наипаче верных. Проповедуй сие и учи. Никто да не пренебрегает юностью твою; но будь образцом для верных в слове, в житии, в любви, в духе, в вере, в чистоте. Доколе не приду, занимайся чтением, наставлением, учением.

### **Tone 8**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior! *(Ps. 94:1)*

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

*(Ps. 94:2)*

### Sunday of Zacchaeus

*The paschal season of the Church is preceded by the season of Great Lent, which is also preceded by its own liturgical preparation. The first sign of the approach of Great Lent comes five Sundays before its beginning. On this Sunday the Gospel reading is about Zacchaeus the tax-collector. It tells how Christ brought salvation to the sinful man, and how his life was changed simply because he "sought to see who Jesus was" (Luke 19:3). The desire and effort to see Jesus begins the entire movement through Lent towards Pascha. It is the first movement of salvation.*

*Our lenten journey begins with a recognition of our own sinfulness, just as Zacchaeus recognized his. He promised to make restitution by giving half of his wealth to the poor, and by paying to those he had falsely accused four times as much as they had lost. In this, he went beyond the requirements of the Law (Ex. 22:3-12).*

*The example of Zacchaeus teaches us that we should turn away from our sins, and atone for them. The real proof of our sorrow and repentance is not just a verbal apology, but when we correct ourselves and try to make amends for the consequences of our evil actions.*

*We are also assured of God's mercy and compassion by Christ's words to Zacchaeus, "Today salvation is come to this house" (Luke 19:9). After the Great Doxology and Trisagion at Sunday Matins (when the Tone of the week is in Tone 1, 3, 5, or 7) we sing the Troparion of the Resurrection: "Today salvation is come to the world, let us sing praises to Him Who arose from the tomb, and is the Author of our life. For having destroyed death by death, He has given us the victory and great mercy."*

 The Gospel Reading 

**Luke 19:1-10**

*(Gospel)*

Then Jesus entered and passed through Jericho. Now behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature. So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, “Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house.” So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. But when they saw it, they all complained, saying, “He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner.” Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, “Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold.” And Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost.”

**Llukait 19:1-10**

Edhe Jisui hyri e shkonte nëpër Jeriko. Edhe ja një njeri i quajtur me emrin Zakhe, i cili ishte kryetagrambledhës. Dhe ky ishte i pasur. Edhe kërkonte të shihte Jisuin se cili është; po nuk mundej nga turma, sepse ishte i vogël në shtat. Edhe u sul përpara e hipi mbi një man që ta shihte, sepse nga ajo udhë do të shkonte. Edhe Jisui, si erdhi në atë vend, ngriti sytë dhe e pa atë, edhe i tha: Zakhe, zbrit shpejt; sepse sot unë duhet të qëndroj në shtëpinë tënde. Edhe zbriti shpejt dhe e priti me gëzim. Edhe të gjithë, kur panë, murmurisnin, duke thënë se hyri të rrijë te një njeri mëkatar. Edhe Zakheu qëndroi e i tha Zotit: Ja, o Zot, gjysmën e pasurisë sime tek po ua jap të varfërve, edhe në i kam marrë gjë njeriu me mashtrim, ia kthej katërfish. Edhe Jisui i tha se sot u bë shpëtim në këtë shtëpi, sepse edhe ky është bir i Abrahamit. Sepse Biri i njeriut erdhi të kërkojë e të shpëtojë të humburën.

**От Луки 19:1-10**

Потом [Иисус] вошел в Иерихон и проходил через него. И вот, некто, именем Закхей, начальник мытарей и человек богатый, искал видеть Иисуса, кто Он, но не мог за народом, потому что мал был ростом, и, забежав вперед, взлез на смоковницу, чтобы увидеть Его, потому что Ему надлежало проходить мимо нее. Иисус, когда пришел на это место, взглянув, увидел его и сказал ему: Закхей! сойди скорее, ибо сегодня надобно Мне быть у тебя в доме. И он поспешно сошел и принял Его с радостью. И все, видя то, начали роптать, и говорили, что Он зашел к грешному человеку; Закхей же, став, сказал Господу: Господи! половину имения моего я отдам нищим, и, если кого чем обидел, воздам вчетверо.

**Communion Hymn**

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! *(Ps. 148:1)*

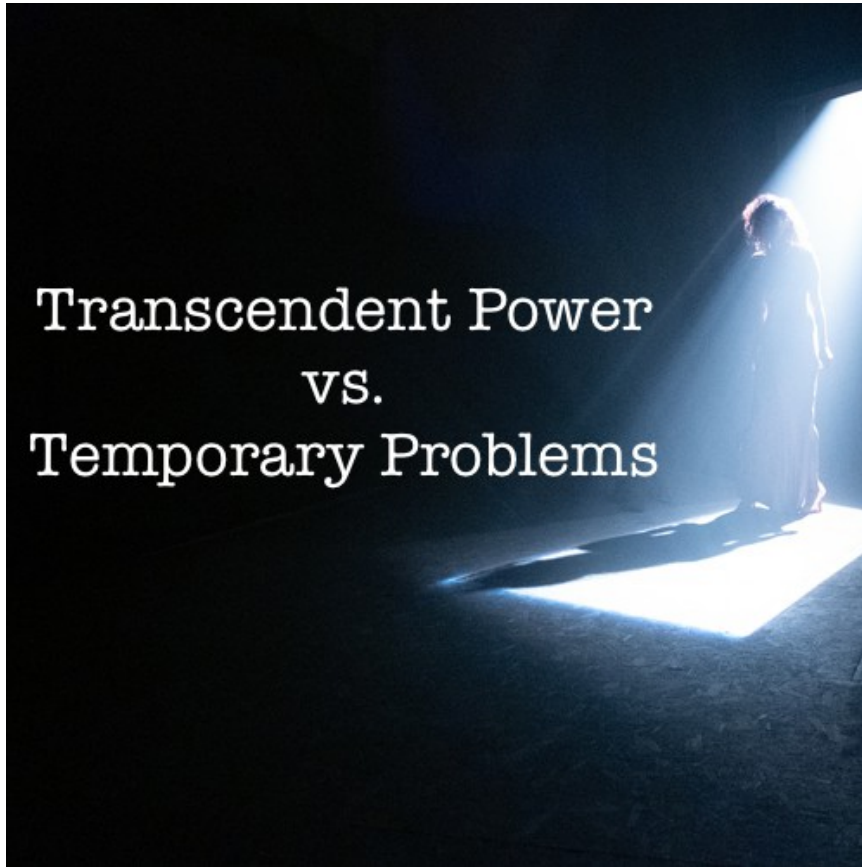
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!



PRAYERS	Birthdays, Names-days, & Anniversaries	SCRIPTURE THIS WEEK
<i>For Those Who Have Fallen Asleep</i>		
<p>Newly-Departed Paul Andrew Costa Newly-Departed Anastas Suli, Newly-Departed Andrew, Christopher John, Wolfgang, Tamara, Kola, Vano, Roy, Alice Mary,</p> <p><i>[To be inserted after the petition for the departed]</i> Again we pray for those who have lost their lives because of the war in Ukraine: that the Lord our God may look upon them with mercy, and give them rest where there is neither sickness, or sorrow, but life everlasting.</p>	<p><i>January 29 – February 4</i> Roland Dani (B) Simeon Burns (N) Brigid Burns (N)</p> <p><b><u>Seven-Day Vigil Candles</u></b></p> <p>Seven-Day Vigil Candles are used for the Eternal Light that hangs above the Royal Doors and are often placed in front of the icons of Christ or the Birth-giver of God. Often, people will donate these candles in honor of a loved one or along with special prayers. If you would like to donate a Seven-Day Vigil Candle, Please include the name or names of those for whom the candle is donated, and we will place them in this section for special prayers.</p>	<p><b><u>Church Lectionary</u></b></p> <p><i>Today</i> 1 Timothy 4:9-15 Luke 19:1-10</p> <p><i>Monday</i> Hebrews 13:7-16 Matthew 5:14-19 1 Peter 2:21-3:9 Mark 12:13-17</p>
<i>For Those Who Are Sick And Home-bound</i>		
<p>Virginia, Denise, Olvian, Marie, James, Alexandra, Andrew, Christina, Louise, Porter, Alvin, Tracy, Kathy, Andrew, Maria, Helen, John, Tom, Nina, Sophia, Jim, Spresha, Kristin, Niko, Spiro, Angjeliki, Melod, Olgay, Ruth, Fr. Milorad, Shane, Naomi</p>		<p><i>Tuesday</i> 1 Peter 3:10-22 Mark 12:18-27</p>
<i>Prayers In General</i>		
<p>Fr. Dennis and his family, Fr. Ioan, Christian, Michael, Erica, Kaida, DuDash family, Michael, Robert, Ally, Steve, Jake and Amanda and their children, Katherine, Ron, Anthony, Volodymyr, Nick, Sophia, Michael, Rafael, Bob, Barbara, Juliya and the child to be born of her, Isaac, Jemima and the child to be born of her, Ansley and the child to be born of her, Sandra, the Cropley family, David</p> <p><i>[To be inserted after the petition for the living]</i> Again we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, for those who are suffering, wounded, grieving, or displaced because of the war in Ukraine.</p> <p><i>[Petitions at Augmented Litany]</i> Again we pray for a cessation of the hostilities against Ukraine, and that reconciliation and peace will flourish there, we pray thee, hearken and have mercy.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">COFFEE HOUR</p> <p><b><u>January</u></b> 29</p> <p><b><u>February</u></b> 05 12 Souper Bowl Sunday 19 Stephen Murianka 26 Ladies Lenten Lucheon</p> <p>Coffee Hour is a wonderful chance for us to get together to break bread and spend time with each other, to celebrate those whom we have held memorials for, and to come together as the family of God outside of worship. To sign up, to host a coffee hour, contact Fr. Nicholas or Donna Bacon.</p>	<p><i>Wednesday</i> 1 Peter 4:1-11 Mark 12:28-37</p> <p><i>Thursday</i> 1 Peter 4:12-5:5 Mark 12:38-44 Hebrews 7:7-17 Luke 2:22-40</p> <p><i>Friday</i> 2 Peter 1:1-10 Mark 13:1-8</p>
<p>Again we pray for a cessation of the hostilities against Ukraine, and that reconciliation and peace will flourish there, we pray thee, hearken and have mercy.</p> <p>We give thanks to You, O Lord our God, Who in Your mercy and providential care, has called forth Archimandrite NIKODHIM to become a shepherd of wisdom and strength for our Albanian Archdiocese. We ask that You Bless Father NIKODHIM as he readies himself to become our future archpastor so he may:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• care for our spiritual well-being,</li> <li>• unite us in a zealous confession of our holy faith,</li> <li>• commit us in loving service to one another in bright witness to the glory of Your holy Name.</li> </ul> <p>Hear us and have mercy.</p>		<p><b><u>Reading the Bible in a Year</u></b></p> <p>Jan 29: Leviticus 21-24 Jan 30: Leviticus 25-27 Jan 31: Numbers 1-4 Feb 01: Numbers 5-8 Feb 02: Numbers 9-12 Feb 03: Numbers 13-16 Feb 04: Numbers 17-20</p>

## Transcendent Power vs. Temporary Problems

January 20, 2023 · Fr. Barnabas Powell



“But, father, why is this happening to me?” It was a hard question to hear, mainly because I didn’t have an answer. I was sitting across from this precious father as he told me about the medical diagnosis of his little girl. It wasn’t good, and he didn’t understand why God was allowing this to happen to an innocent child. I held him as he sobbed.

There are no words for moments like this. There isn’t any answer that would be sufficient to explain such a tragedy. And anyone who says differently is either too callous to be in the ministry or too immature to have anything helpful to say. The best response is “I don’t know” and then be present to them and walk with them through this suffering.

Let’s face it; bad times happen in life. Tragic deaths, fatal diseases, car accidents, emotional betrayals, and

the like, happen in people’s lives and they always ask “Why.” It makes perfect sense why they would ask this, but the truth is we usually have no answer. So, how do we get through tough times? How do we help others get through these times as well?

Look at our lesson today in 2 Corinthians 4:6-15:

*Brethren, it is the God who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.*

*But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies. For while we live we are always being given up to death for Jesus’ sake, so that the life of Jesus may be manifested in our mortal flesh. So death is at work in us, but life in you.*

*Since we have the same spirit of faith as he had who wrote, “I believed, and so I spoke,” we too believe, and so we speak, knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and bring us with you into his presence. For it is all for your sake, so that as grace extends to more and more people it may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.*

St. Paul is doing his best to guide the Corinthian Christians toward spiritual maturity. And his main tool in this passage is his own life. And his willingness to trust God’s transcendent power in the face of his temporary problems is a lesson for us today!



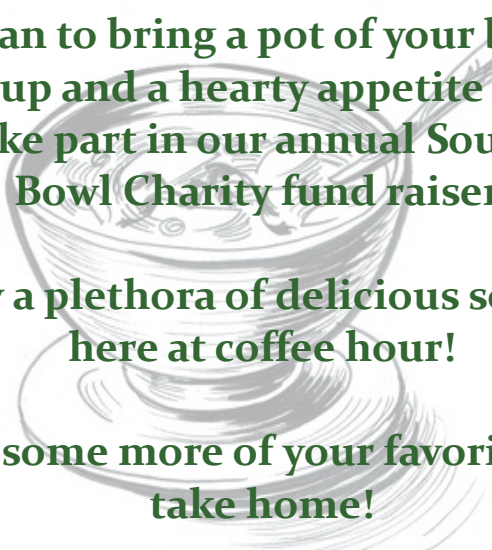
He begins by telling them that God has given us the light “out of darkness.” In the beginning, it was God’s Word saying “Let there be light” and now the Light is being called into existence again by the Word (Jesus) being the Light Himself. This contrast between Light and Darkness is key because when we face tragic or painful circumstances, we feel like we are “in the dark” groping for answers or trying to make sense of our situation. And Paul is telling these Christians their first and best answer isn’t some philosophical explanation, but a connection with Jesus Christ.

Then Paul reminds these Corinthians that this “treasure” (the glory of God in the face of Christ, is held in “earthen vessels.” Think of a costly medicine held in a clay jar. The medicine is more valuable than the container but the container is made precious because it holds the medicine! And even though Paul says that he is afflicted, perplexed, persecuted, struck down, and always carrying the death of Jesus in us (WOW, what a description of troubles), he refuses to allow the calamity to define his life. In light of all this trouble, St. Paul refuses to allow the trouble to overwhelm his faith in Jesus.

And he says that all of this trouble in his life is so that “the Life of Jesus may be made manifested in our mortal flesh.” I never will forget at a particularly painful and broken time in my life, someone asked me how I was able to keep going, and in a moment of inspiration I said Imagine how helpful it is going to be to someone else who is struggling to watch me not give up during this painful time.” That insight helped me so much to not give up when life really came down hard on me.

Today, as we commemorate St. Euthymios the Great, let us recall his holy life and the hardships he faced with the joy of the pure power of God in his life and answer the question ourselves are you able to make it through the hard times in life? If you do, it will be because you realize you are never going through hard times by yourself. Jesus Christ is right there with you and there are others who are praying you make it so they can have hope in their own dark times. Either way, it’s by living a Normal Orthodox life that makes all the difference when life is hard!

**P.S. Creation found delight and joy in your august nativity and the good cheer of your numberless miracles on your divine memorial. Now bestow thereof richly on our souls and wash clean the stains of our every sin, Euthymios most righteous, that we may chant: Alleluia!**

<u><b>SOUPER-BOWL SUNDAY</b></u>	<u><b>ICON PLEDGE</b></u>
<p><b>Souper Bowl Sunday is Feb. 12th!</b></p> <p><b>Plan to bring a pot of your best soup and a hearty appetite and take part in our annual Souper Bowl Charity fund raiser.</b></p> <p><b>Try a plethora of delicious soups here at coffee hour!</b></p> <p><b>Buy some more of your favorites to take home!</b></p> <p><b>Donate to a worthy cause!</b></p> 	<p><b>The Icon Pledge will be held on February 12<sup>th</sup> during our Souper-Bowl Sunday Event!</b></p> <p><b>Let Father Nicholas or Jim Schaeffer know if there is an icon that you would like added to the list to bid on.</b></p> <p><b>Please make sure that all pledged icons from last year have been returned!</b></p>

## Today's Memorial

Today we are having a yearly memorial Christopher John, Wolfgang, Tamara, Kola, Vano, Alice Mary, Roy. They are friends and family of Kristin and Niko Chocheli. Memory be Eternal!

### Eternity is a Very Long Time The Soul Requires Discipline to Overcome Disinclination



The soul suffers from a certain blindness when it comes to

itself. In its desire to be more relaxed, indolence, insensitivity and deceit rule the soul, and in our refusal to master the work of salvation, complacency sets in. Since no one can enter into your inner life but you, you are the only one who can persuade yourself to bring discipline into your spiritual life. You are the one who must reason with yourself before depravity and sin can extinguish the light of the knowledge of the truth.

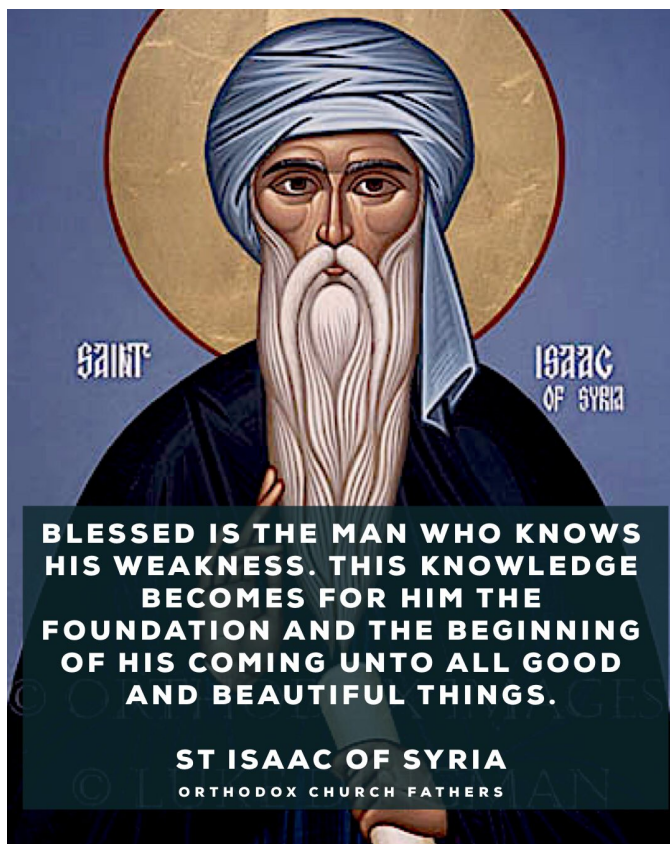
The growing drought will lead to water and food shortages and is likely to have a long-term effects that threaten our nations farms and food prices. The prospect our cities will not have enough water to make them livable, must surely be cause for thinking how we humans have become so filled with complacency, which is leading to fear.

The dramatic increase we are witnessing with mega-storms are forcing us to accept that we really do not have control over our environment. We are seeing that there are no easy fixes for all the societal problems that are mounting up like piles of garbage on hot city streets.

In truth, change can only come about when it begins in the soul of one person. Throwing off your own blindness can in itself bring light to countless others, which is why Saint Seraphim said, "if you acquire inner peace, a thousand around you will be saved".

This task is not just about monks or professional religious people, it is about you. You are the one that must overcome your disinclination to do anything that has salvation at the forefront, otherwise you will be the person who drags down those around you as they fail to thrive in the difficult world that is coming, where food shortages, and scarce water, will bring many to despair.

With love in Christ,  
Abbot Tryphon



**The Meeting of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in the Temple**  
*Commemorated on February 2*

The Meeting of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ is described in the third Gospel (Luke 2:22-40). Forty days after His birth the Divine Child was brought to the Temple at Jerusalem to be presented to the Lord. According to the Law of Moses (Lev. 12:2-8), a woman who gave birth to a male child was forbidden to enter the Temple for forty days. At the end of the time of her purification, the mother went to the Temple with the child, to offer a young lamb, two turtledoves, or pigeons to the Lord as a sacrifice. The Most Holy Virgin had no need of purification, since she had given birth to the Source of purity and sanctity. Out of humility, however, she fulfilled the requirements of the Law.

At this time the righteous Elder Simeon (February 3) was living in Jerusalem. It had been revealed to him that he would not die until he beheld the promised Messiah. By divine inspiration, Saint Simeon went to the Temple at the very moment when the Most Holy Theotokos and Saint Joseph had brought the Child Jesus to fulfill the Law.

Saint Simeon received the divine Child in his arms,<sup>1</sup> and giving thanks to God, he spoke the words repeated by the Church each evening at Vespers: "Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to enlighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel" (Luke 2:29-32). Saint Simeon said to the Most Holy Virgin: "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel, and for a sign which shall be spoken against. Yea, a sword shall pierce through your own soul also, that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed" (Luke 2:34-35).

At the Temple was an 84-year-old widow, Saint Anna the Prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel (February 3), "who did not leave the temple, but served God with fasting and prayers night and day." She arrived just when Saint Simeon met the Divine Child. She also gave thanks to the Lord and spoke of Him to all those who were looking for redemption of

Jerusalem" (Luke 2:38). In the icon of the Feast she holds a scroll which reads: "This Child has established Heaven and earth."

Before Christ was born, the righteous men and women lived by faith in the promised Messiah, and awaited His coming. The Righteous Simeon and the Prophetess Anna, the last righteous persons of the Old Testament, were deemed worthy to meet Him in the Temple.

The Feast of the Meeting of the Lord is among the most ancient feasts of the Christian Church. We have sermons by the holy bishops Methodios of Patara (+ 312), Cyril of Jerusalem (+ 360), Gregory the Theologian (+ 389), Amphilokhios of Iconium (+ 394), Gregory of Nyssa (+ 400), and John Chrysostom (+ 407). Despite its early origin, this Feast was not celebrated so splendidly until the VI century.

In 528, during the reign of Justinian, an earthquake killed many people in Antioch. Other misfortunes followed this one. In 541 a terrible plague broke out in Constantinople, carrying off several thousand people each day.

During this time of widespread suffering, a solemn prayer service (Litia) for deliverance from evils was celebrated on the Feast of the Meeting of the Lord, and the plague ceased. Giving thanks to God, the Church established a more solemn celebration of this Feast.

Church hymnographers have adorned this Feast with their hymns: Saint Andrew of Crete in the VII century; Saint Cosmas Bishop of Maium, Saint John of Damascus, and Saint Germanus Patriarch of Constantinople in the VIII century; and Saint Joseph, Archbishop of Thessaloniki in the IX century.

Today we also commemorate the Icon of the Most Holy Theotokos known as "the Softening of Evil Hearts" or "Simeon's Prophecy." The Mother of God is depicted without her Child, and seven swords piercing her breast: three from the left side, three from the right, and one from below.

A similar Icon, "Of the Seven Swords" (August 13) shows three swords on the

**January/February**  
**Events**

**January**

22 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy

25 – 7:15pm Bible Study via GoogleMeets

29 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy

*Education Sunday*

**February**

01 – 7:15pm Vespers Liturgy

*Feast of the Meeting of the Lord*

05 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy

08 – 7:15pm Bible Study via GoogleMeets

10 – 6:00pm Fun Night

12 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy

*Souper-Bowl Sunday*

*Icon Pledge*

15 – 7:15pm Bible Study via GoogleMeets

19 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy

22 – 7:15pm Bible Study via GoogleMeets

26 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy

*Forgiveness Vespers*

*Ladies Lenten Luncheon*

27 – 7:00pm Canon of St. Andrew

28 – 7:00pm Canon of St. Andrew

**Can't join us in person?**

We stream our services on our YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@sspeterpaulorthodoxchurch01810>

left side and four from the right. The "Softening of Evil Hearts" is also commemorated on August 13. The Icon "Simeon's Prophecy" symbolizes the fulfillment of the prophecy of the righteous Elder Simeon: "a sword shall pierce through your own soul" (Luke 2:35).

In Constantinople, the Emperors would celebrate the Feast Day at the Blakhernae church during the All-Night Vigil. This custom continued until the Fall of the Byzantine Empire.