

The Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to Hebrews 7:7 – 17

Now - *Brethren*: 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 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

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

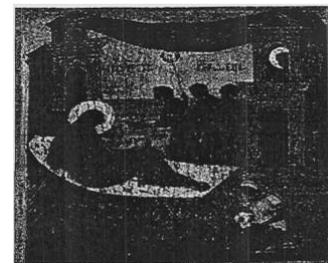
v: Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!

v: Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word.

Luke 2:22-40

Gospel

At that time: 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 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.



Schedule

Sunday, February 2, 2020

FEAST OF THE MEETING OF OUR LORD; Zacchaeus Sunday; PARISH ANNUAL MEETING following Coffee Hour

Saturday, February 8, 2020

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, February 9, 2020

PUBLICAN & THE PHARISEE

9:30 A.M. 3rd & 6th Hours

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Monday, February 10-Friday,

February 14, 2020

FAST FREE WEEK

Saturday, February 15, 2020

5:00 P.M. Vespers at Ss. Cyril & Methody, Granite City, IL

Sunday, February 16, 2020

PRODIGAL SON

9:30 A.M. 3rd & 6th Hours

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Saturday, February 22, 2020

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, February 23, 2020

LAST JUDGMENT

9:30 A.M. 3rd & 6th Hours

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Saturday, February 29, 2020

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, March 1, 2020

ORTHODOXY SUNDAY

9:30 A.M. 3rd & 6th Hours

Nativity of the Virgin Mary

Orthodox Church

416 Ewing Ave, Madison, IL 62060

Sunday, February 2, 2020

33rd Sunday After Pentecost; Feast of the Meeting of our Lord in the Temple; Sunday of Zachhaeus

www.nativityofthevirgin.com

“Even the saints of God were at times seized with diabolical despair and despondency. What, therefore, can we sinners expect? O, the enemy often wounds us by the wrath, humiliation, and cruel despondency of the heart! We must continually turn to God and be every moment with Him, in order that we may not be besieged with the wrath and despondency of the enemy. There are other means besides of escaping from them – the broad way of the world; only if you give yourself up to worldly pleasures, despondency will leave you for a time, at least while the pleasures last. But afterwards you will be captivated by these pleasures; they will become a necessity to you, and you will find comfort and joy in them, and in them alone; but may God preserve every Christian from finding his only way of escape from the despondency of the Devil through such means! It is better to walk in the narrow path, to patiently bear despondency, and to seek frequent help and deliverance from the Lord Jesus Christ, Who always rejoices those laboring for their salvation for His sake, than to enter on the broad and smooth way of the world and purchase there, by means of the pleasures of the flesh, freedom from the spirit of despondency. By means of this spirit of despondency the enemy has driven many from the narrow path of salvation on to the broad, smooth path which leads to destruction. You are praying, your prayer is successfully accomplished, and you have inward proof that the Lord hears it and deigns to receive it favorably; your thoughts are at peace, you feel lightness and sweetness in your heart; but at the end”

Prayer Requests

Those in this earthly life

Sarah	Michaela	Matushka Margaret
Elmer	Terry	Matthew
Tim	Mary	Protopresbyter Radomir
Janet	Irene	Archpriest Joseph
Livinia	Emily & Child to be born of	Archpriest Moses
Ian	her	Priest Josef
Beverly	Michael	Matushka Virginia
Julie	Jacob	Archpriest Vladimir
Abigail	David	Archprst Christopher <i>Phillips</i>
Christean	Marie	Archpriest Gregory
Eric	Reader George	Archpriest Myron
Kristina	George	Archpriest Philip
Patricia	Catechumen Kristine	Priest Benjamin
Vanca	Janet	Deacon Nicholas
Antoinette	Victor	Deacon Paul
Magdalene	Wilma	Deacon Paul
Reader Simeon	Michael	Deacon Gregory
Sarah	April	Matushka Snezana
Ava	Joseph	Matushka Melania
Subdeacon Paul	Michael	Helen
Judith	Barb	Theodore
Peter	Barbara	Paul
Rebecca	Mark	Mary
Priest Stephen	Angela	Nicholas
Matushka Anne	Elijah	Anne
Luke	Sophia	Andrew
Aaron	Mary	Anthony
Elizaveta	Matushka Tanya	Christopher
	Archpriest John	Jackie

Those in the life to come

Hailee	Archpriest John
Christopher	Archpriest Thomas
Priest Michael	
Steven	

"of your prayer, through some slight infirmity of your heart and thoughts, a heavy burden falls on you heart, a weakening fire, and you feel an extreme difficulty in praying, and even an aversion to it, instead of the former lightness and inclination to prayer. Do not despair, friend; these are only the snares of the enemy, who loves to mock at us, especially at the end of our pious employment, so that we may fall into despondency and consider all our previous labors in the holy work lost. Learn from this in future not to extinguish your spirit even for a moment during your prayer; pray in spirit and truth, unremittingly, and not flattering the Lord during prayer by one single word - that is, not pronouncing a single word feignedly, hypocritically; let your prayer be only the expression of truth, the mouthpiece of the Holy Ghost, and do not let it serve by a single word the enemy's lie, nor be in any way the organ of the Devil. And to release your soul from his heavy load and to extinguish his fire, pray fervently to God, heartily confessing your fault before Him - your hypocrisy during prayer - and you will obtain relief and peace. Do not hurry; say and do everything calmly. You will succeed. It is the enemy who hurries and disturbs us, for there is no sense in confused hurry." *My Life in Christ - St. John of Kronstadt*

TROPARIA

Resurrection

TONE 8

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!

Feast

TONE 1

Rejoice O Virgin Theotokos full of grace! From thee shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God. Enlightening those that sat in darkness! Rejoice and be glad, O Righteous Elder; thou hast accepted in thine arms the Redeemer of our souls, Who grants us the Resurrection.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

KONTAKIA

Resurrection

TONE 8

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!

Now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Feast

TONE 1

By Thy nativity, Thou didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and 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

TONE 8: Pray and make your vows before the Lord our God!

v: In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel.

Another (the Song of the Theotokos) TONE 3: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.