

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

v: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy Name, O Most High!

v: To declare thy mercy in the morning and Thy truth by night.

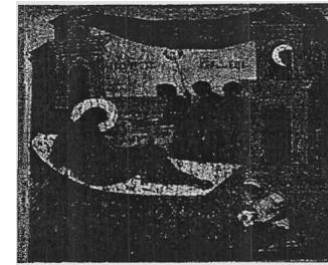
v: Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word.

The Gospel of the Holy Apostle and Evangelist Luke 19:1-10; 2:22-40

Gospel

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 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.

At that time: 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.”



Schedule

Sunday, February 2, 2025

Feast of the Meeting of our Lord in the Temple; Annual Parish Meeting

1:00 P.M. Annual Parish Meeting

Saturday, February 8, 2025

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, February 9, 2025

Publican & Pharisee: Beginning of Lenten Triodion

9:15 A.M. Church School

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

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Saturday, February 15, 2025

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, February 16, 2025

Prodigal Son

9:15 A.M. Church School

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

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Saturday, February 22, 2025

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, February 23, 2025

Last Judgment

9:15 A.M. Church School

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

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Saturday, March 1, 2025

5:00 P.M. Vespers

Sunday, March 2, 2025

Forgiveness Sunday

9:15 A.M. Church School

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

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

1:00 P.M. Forgiveness Vespers

Monday, March 3 – Thursday,

March 6, 2025

7:00 P.M. Compline with Canon of

St. Andrew of Crete

Nativity of the Virgin Mary

Orthodox Church

416 Ewing Ave, Madison, IL 62060

Sunday, February 2, 2025

32nd Sunday After Pentecost; Feast of the Meeting of our Lord in the Temple; Sunday of Zacchaeus

www.nativityofthevirgin.com

“Man, they say, is free; he cannot compel himself, or ought not to force himself, to any religion or instruction. Lord, have mercy upon us! What a diabolical opinion! If they are not forced, then what will become of men after this? What will become of you, the proclaimer of these newly-invented rules, if you do not force yourself to that which is good, and live as your vicious heart, your proud, short-sighted and blind intellect, your sinful flesh, incline you to live? Say, what will become of you? Do you not, then, force yourself, I do not say to good, but even to that which is your duty and is useful? How can one do without forcing oneself? How is it possible not to induce or force Christians, too, to fulfil the precepts of religion and piety? Is it not said in the Scripture that “the Kingdom of Heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force (St. Matthew 18:2-6)”? And, especially, how is it possible not to compel boys to instruction, to prayer? What will become of them? Will they not become idlers and good-for—nothing? Will they not learn every evil?” My Life in Christ – St. John of Kronstadt

Troparia

Resurrection

TONE 7

By Thy Cross, Thou didst destroy death! To the thief, Thou didst open Paradise! For the myrrhbearers, Thou didst change weeping into joy! And Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art Risen, granting the world great mercy!

Prayer Requests

Those in this earthly life

Carl	Catechumen Athanasius	April
Loraine	Alex	Joseph
Anastasia	Julia	Michael
Amy & CTBB	Martha	Barb
Deborah	Kendra	Barbara
David	David	Mark
Paul	Adina	Angela
Janet	Reader Stephen	Elijah
Kristine	Priest Andrew	Sophia
George	Popadija Joan	Kathy
Theresa	Eva	Matushka Tanya
Jake	Catechumen Mary	Mary
Cecelia	Alexandra	Archpriest John
Gabriella & CTBB	Mary Magdalene	Matushka Margaret
Shawn	Diana	Matthew
Reader Simeon	Barbara	Priest Josef
Anna	Elaine	Archpriest Michael
Elizabeth	Victor	Reader Peter
Edmund	Wilma	Patricia
	Michael	Matushka Virginia

Those in the life to come

Archbishop ANASTASIOS	Matushka Olga	Francis
Joe	Archpriest Thomas	Jean
Patricia	Metropolitan THEODOSIUS	Olga
Donald	Archpriest Vladimir	Cheryl
Elizabeth	Archbishop PAUL	Nancy
Robert	Archimandrite Innocent	Magdalene
<u>Max</u>	Edward	John

Meeting of the Lord

TONE 1

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 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 7

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers! Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry: The Savior has come to those in faith! Enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!

Now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Meeting of the Lord in the Temple

TONE 1

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

TONE 7: The Lord shall give strength to His people! The Lord shall bless His people with peace!

v: Offer to the Lord, o ye sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord!

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

First Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to Timothy 4:9 – 15

Brethren: My son Timothy: 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 the 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.

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.