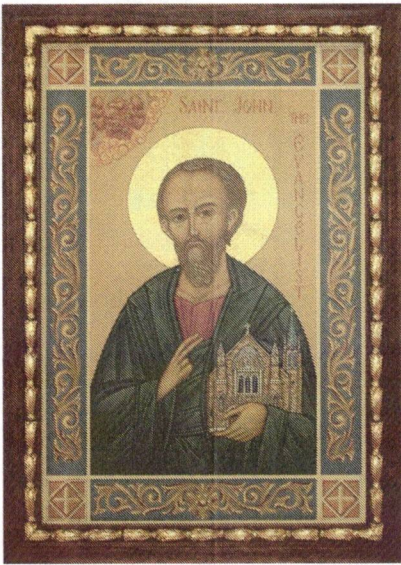




Experience the Glory of our
ORTHODOX CHURCH

February 2, 2025



*ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH*

1501 8TH AVENUE

BEAVER FALLS, PA. 15010

(724) 847-1111

WWW.SAINTJOHNCHURCH.ORG

HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN SABA , ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK
AND

METROPOLITAN OF ALL NORTH AMERICA

HIS GRACE BISHOP THOMAS, AUXILIARY BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE
OF CHARLESTON, OAKLAND , AND MID-ATLANTIC

REVEREND FATHER SERAPHIM MOSLENER

*Jesus said, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My Word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. (John 16:23)
When a new person is baptized or Chrismated we say to that person, "Welcome Home!" The Church is where each person voluntarily belongs as one who believes in and belongs to Christ .*

We take this opportunity to welcome those guests worshiping with us.

*Anyone wishing to request prayers for Health and Well-being, or a Trisagion prayer,
please contact Fr. Seraphim*

The Orthodox Church understands that the sacraments we experience are a fundamental part of the sacred life of a worshiping community that shares in "one body...one faith". (Eph. 4:5). Thus, we can only share Communion with those who are Orthodox and who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting and Confession. If you are not Orthodox, or are not properly prepared, you are welcome to come forward and receive a blessing and then to take a piece of the blessed bread.

DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 02, 2025

TONE 7 / EOTHINON 10

PRESENTATION (MEETING) OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

My heart hath poured forth a good word; I speak of my works to the king. My tongue is the pen of a swiftly writing scribe.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Grace is poured into thy lips: therefore, God hath blessed thee forever. (***Refrain***)

Glory... Both now... (***Refrain***)

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

Gird Thy sword upon Thy thigh, O mighty One, in Thy comeliness and Thy beauty. Bend Thy bow, and proceed prosperously, and be king.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who wast borne in the arms of righteous Simeon; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

Thine arrows are sharp, O mighty One, in the heart of the king's enemies; whereby the peoples fall under Thee. (***Refrain***)

A scepter of uprightness is the scepter of Thy kingdom. (***Refrain***)

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

Hearken, O daughter, and consider, and incline thine ear; forget also thine own people, and thy father's house. Even the rich among the people shall entreat thy countenance. I shall commemorate thy name in every generation.

Chant Third Antiphon - *Apolytikion of the Presentation of Christ.*

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN)

The Lord hath made known His salvation; He hath revealed His justice in the sight of the Gentiles. Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE SEVEN

Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the Great Mercy.

APOLYTIKION OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN TONE ONE

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, full of grace, for from thee arose the Sun of justice, Christ our God, lighting those who are in darkness. Rejoice and be glad, O righteous elder, carrying in thine arms the Deliverer of our souls, Who granteth us Resurrection.

KONTAKION OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN TONE ONE

Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon's arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

THE EPISTLE

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

For He hath regarded the humility of His servant.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (7:7-17)

Brethren, it is beyond dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior. Here tithes are received by mortal men; there, by one of whom it is testified that he lives. One might even say that Levi himself, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, for he was still in the loins of his ancestor when Melchizedek met him. Now if perfection had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need would there have been for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one named after the order of Aaron? For when there is a change in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change in the law as well. For the one of whom these things are spoken belonged to another tribe, from which no one has ever served at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, and in connection with that tribe Moses said nothing about priests. This becomes even more evident when another priest arises in the likeness of Melchizedek, who has become a priest, not according to a legal requirement concerning bodily descent but by the power of an indestructible life. For it is witnessed of him, "Thou art a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek."

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (2:22-40)

In those days, the parents of Jesus brought Him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male that 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." Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, looking 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 should not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And inspired by the Spirit he came 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 lettest thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Thy people Israel." And His father and his mother marveled at what was said about Him; and Simeon blessed them and said to Mary His mother, "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts out of many hearts may be revealed." And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher; she was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years from her virginity, and as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she gave thanks to God, and spoke of Him to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. And when they had performed everything according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon Him.

MEGALYNARION OF THE PRESENTATION IN TONE THREE

O Theotokos, * thou hope of all Christians; * keep and shelter and preserve * them that set their hope in thee.

In the shadow and letter of the Law, let us the faithful contemplate a prefiguring: Every male child that openeth the womb is holy unto God. Therefore, do we magnify the first-born Word, the Son of the Father Who is without beginning, the first-born Child of a Mother who hath not known wedlock.

KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) OF THE FEAST IN TONE EIGHT

I will receive the cup of salvation, and call upon the Name of the Lord. Alleluia!

FEBRUARY SERVICES

February 1st Saturday — Great Vespers 5PM

February 2nd Sunday — Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM

“PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE”

***** February 5th Wednesday—Daily Vespers at 6PM, light meal to follow with study session—GREAT LENT.***

February 8th Saturday — Great Vespers 5PM

February 9th Sunday — Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM

***** SUPER BOWL SUNDAY SOUP & SANDWICH MEAL ***** **COUNCIL MEETING TO FOLLOW**

*****February 12th Wednesday—Daily Vespers at 6PM, light meal to follow with study session—GREAT LENT.***

February 15th Saturday — Community Breakfast 8:30-10:30am
Great Vespers 5PM

February 16th Sunday — Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM

“OUR ANNUAL MEETING WILL BEGIN AFTER LITURGY “

*****February 19th Wednesday—Daily Vespers at 6PM, light meal to follow with study session—GREAT LENT.***

February 22nd Saturday — Saturday of Souls 10AM
Great Vespers 5PM

February 23rd Sunday — Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM

*****February 26th Wednesday—Daily Vespers at 6PM, light meal to follow with study session—GREAT LENT.***

March 1st Saturday— Great Vespers 5PM

March 2nd Sunday — Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM

Prayers are offered for the health and well-being of:

Fr. Steven, Kh. Paraskeva, Ann, Carol, Debbie, Shannon, Aiden, Justin, Sassic Family, Harriet, Jan, Fr. Andrew, Frank, Charlene, Trish, Cindy, Joann, Marlene, George, Julianna, Ray, and Lori

Catechumens Breana, Jessica, Nicholas

For Thou are the Resurrection, the Life, and the Repose of Thy servants who have fallen asleep especially:

Prayers are offered in memory of Infant Micah, Eleanor.

+++++

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

THOUGHT: "Do not be surprised that you fall every day; do not give up, but stand your ground courageously. And assuredly the angel who guards you will honor your patience."

(St. John Climacus)

+++++

GREAT LENT

Great Lent will begin on Monday March 3rd. Our Study sessions about Great Lent will continue on Wednesday's in February with Vespers at 6 PM followed by a light meal and a study session w/discussion. All are welcomed to attend.

+++++

"SUPER BOWL SUNDAY Feb. 9th - COME JOIN US"

AS WE DO EVERY YEAR, A SUPER MEAL IS PROVIDED WHICH INCLUDES 3 SOUPS (CHICKEN, CHEESE AND CHILI) AND SANDWICHES W/FIXINGS and DESSERTS WILL BE OFFERED TO ALL AFTER DIVINE LITURGY IN THE HALL.

✦ ✦ ✦ "COME AND SEE" ✦ ✦ ✦

Our Orthodox Church, after 2000 years, is still a missionary Church. Even in this modern era, it is still our commission to "go and teach all nations," bringing the unchurched to the knowledge of Jesus Christ. As we struggle to bring the truths of Holy Orthodoxy to others, what approach should we take? If we are attempting to share our Faith with a potential convert, what should we **EMPHASIZE**?

The essence of Orthodoxy is a unique blending of three distinct elements. First, we are a **SCRIPTURAL** Faith. All that we teach ... all that we believe has its basis on God's Word in the Holy Bible. Indeed, we must show others that we "practice what we preach," and what we preach is the same message that our Lord and His Apostles after Him took out to every nation.

We are a **LITURGICAL** Faith. The services of the Orthodox Church readily reveal the doctrines and dogmas that are dear to us. A prospective convert can gain tremendous insight into what Orthodoxy is all about simply by listening to the profound lyrics of our many liturgical hymns.

Finally, we are a **VISUAL** Faith. When Nathanael questioned Philip if "anything good could come out of Nazareth", Philip responded: "**COME AND SEE.**" Perhaps these words offer us the best "plan of attack" in allowing the light of Orthodoxy to shine on others. Through the holy icons and liturgical objects found in magnificent cathedrals and humble parish churches, our Faith comes alive. Invite someone to "come and see" your church. Let their eyes take in the mysteries of our Faith that are revealed in our sacred images and holy places. Many will, no doubt, echo the sentiments of the emissaries of Vladimir the Great when they entered the Church of the Holy Wisdom: "**WE KNEW NOT IF WE WERE IN HEAVEN OR ON EARTH.**"

The Orthodox Weekly

..... Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.

**St. John the Evangelist
Orthodox Church**
1501 8th Avenue
Beaver Falls, PA 15010

