

# St Michael's Orthodox Church

A parish of the Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania

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**February 2, 2025 – Meeting of the Lord in the Temple. Zacchaeus Sunday.**

## Upcoming Services & Events

February 2<sup>nd</sup> is the Great Feast of the Meeting of the Lord in the Temple.

**Saturday, Feb 1, 4:00 p.m.** – Small Festal Vigil (Great Vespers & Litya)

**Sunday, Feb 2, 9:30 a.m.** – Festal Divine Liturgy and the Great Blessing of Water

Saturday, Feb 8 – *No Vespers.*

Sunday, Feb 9, 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship. (*Publican & Pharisee – Beginning of the Pre-Lenten Sundays*)

*Charity Potluck for IOCC's "SOUPer Bowl" Food Drive. We are collecting canned goods for a local food bank. All proceeds from the potluck will be given to local shelters or International Orthodox Christian Charities.*

Saturday, Feb 15, 4:00 p.m. – Great Vespers & Confessions

Sunday, Feb 16, 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship (*Prodigal Son*)

**Sunday, Feb 16 is the All-Parish Meeting, immediately following the Divine Liturgy. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> announcement.**

Coffee Hour is offered by:

Feb 2: Mat. Dolores & Marilyn Petorak

Feb 9: *SOUPer Bowl Charity Potluck*

Feb 16: Ruthie Lasichak & Roxanne Neutts

Feb 23: Vickie Kravitsky & Charette Radionoff

March 2: Susan Schlasta & Deborah Bernosky

March 9: Millie Telep & Mat. Alexandra

## Hymns of the Day

*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.

*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 didst accept in thine arms the Redeemer of our souls, // Who grants us the Resurrection!

*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!"

*Meeting of the Lord (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!

*Instead of "It is truly meet"*

O Virgin Theotokos, hope of all Christians, / protect, preserve, and save those who hope in you! /// We the faithful saw the figure in the shadow and the Scriptures: / every male child that opened the womb was holy to God. / Therefore, we also magnify the first begotten Son of the un-originate Father, // the Son firstborn of the unwedded Mother!

## In your prayers

**The ill and the afflicted:** Fr. Daniel Donlick, Fr Gregory White, Pdn. Gabriel Petorak, Dn Geoffrey LoBalbo, Mat. Myra Kovalek, Gregory Hansen, Olga Krutz, Maryanne Krisa, Michael Krisa, Barbara Mosley, Mary Ann Serafini, Alexis Meholic, Tom Shaw, Marilyn Petorak, Sandy Gillott, Debbie Jadick, Susan Schlasta, Evan Kraky, Laura Piwowarski, Karen Abercia, Daniel Kitchura, Mark Klapatch, Gregory Klapatch, Jerry Soroka. **Homebound:** John Drutarosky, Theresa Krenitsky, Barbara Palubniak, Peggy Petrilak, Nicholas Mattise, Jerry & Marilyn Soroka, Paul Kostiak, Dolores Brophy, Paul Mosley, Adam & Mary Ann Serafini, Florence Zielinsky.

**The newly-departed:** Abp. Anastasios of Albania (1/25). Mat. Jeanne Ciarcigliano (12/16). Mat. Eugenia Nehrebecki (1/2). Mat. Susanne Senyo (1/18). Gene Howells (12/30). Karen (Dippel) Wisneski (1/26). Helen Meholic (1/27).

## Today's Scripture – For the Meeting of the Lord

*Epistle: 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."

*Gospel: Luke 2:22-40*

*At that time, the infant Jesus was brought up to Jerusalem by his parents 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 Joseph and his mother marvelled 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 till she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshipping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of him to all who were looking for the redemption in 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 in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

## For Zacchaeus Sunday

*Epistle: 1 Timothy 4:9-15*

*My son Timothy:* The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance. For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe. Command and teach these things. Let no one despise your youth, but set the believers an example in speech and conduct, in love, in faith, in purity. Till I come, attend to the public reading of scripture, to preaching, to teaching. Do not neglect the gift you have, which was given you by prophetic utterance when the council of elders laid their hands upon you. Practice these duties, devote yourself to them, so that all may see your progress.

*Gospel: Luke 19:1-10*

*At that time, Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. And there was a man named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector, and rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not, on account of the crowd, because he was small of stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Jesus, for he was to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he made haste and came down, and received him joyfully.*

And when they saw it they all murmured, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor; and if I have defrauded any one of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost."