



Saints Peter and
Paul Orthodox
Church **CROSSINGVILLE**
06-05-2022



Christ has ascended in
Glory! And we with Him!

7th SUNDAY OF PASCHA – Tone 6. Holy Fathers of the First Ecumenical Council. Afterfeast of Ascension. Hieromartyr Dorotheus, Bishop of Tyre (ca. 362). Translation of the Relics of Bl. Igor (George), tonsured Gabriel, Grand Prince of Chernígov and Kiev (1150). Bl. Constantine, Metropolitan of Kiev (1159). Repose of St. Theodore Yaroslavich, older brother of St. Alexander Nevsky (Novgorod–1233). Finding of the Relics of Ven. Bassian and Jonah, Monks of Pertominsk (Solovétsky Monastery–1599). Martyrs Marcian, Nicander, Hyperechius, Appolonius, Leonidas, Arius, Gorgias, Pambo, Selenia, and Irene of Egypt (4th c.). Ven. Theodore the Wonderworker, Hermit of the Jordan (ca. 6th c.). Ven. Anubius, Confessor and Anchorite, of Egypt (5th c.). Ven. Abba Dorotheus of Palestine (6th c.). St. Peter of Korcha (Albanian).

Tone 6 Troparion (Resurrection)

The Angelic Powers were at Your tomb;
the guards became as dead men.
Mary stood by Your grave,
seeking Your most pure body.
You captured hell, not being tempted by it.
You came to the Virgin, granting life.
O Lord, Who rose from the dead, //
glory to You.

Tone 4 Troparion (Ascension)

You ascended in glory, O Christ our God,
granting joy to Your Disciples by the promise of the Holy Spirit.
Through the blessing, they were assured
that You are the Son of God, //
the Redeemer of the world!

Tone 8 Troparion (Fathers)

You are most glorious, O Christ our God!
You have established the Holy Fathers as lights on the earth.
Through them You have guided us to the true Faith. //
O greatly compassionate One, glory to You!

Tone 8 Kontakion (Fathers)

The Apostles' preaching and the Fathers' doctrines have established
one Faith for the Church. Adorned with the robe of truth, woven from
heavenly theology. // It defines and glorifies the great mystery of piety.

Tone 6 Kontakion

When You had fulfilled the dispensation for our sake,
and united earth to heaven:
You ascended in glory, O Christ our God,
not being parted from those who love You,
but remaining with them and crying: //
"I am with you, and there is no one against you!"

Tone 4 Prokeimenon (Song of the Three Holy Children)

Blessed are You, O Lord God of our fathers, / and praised and glorified
is Your Name forever! (Song of the Three Holy Children, v. 3)
V. For You are just in all that You have done for us! (v. 4)

Tone 1

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. The Lord, the God of gods, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. (Ps. 49:1)

V. Gather to Me My venerable ones, who made a covenant with Me by sacrifice! (Ps. 49:6)

(Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing:)

Magnify, O my soul, Christ the Giver of Life, Who hath ascended from earth to heaven!

We the faithful, with one accord, magnify thee, the Mother of God, who, beyond reason and understanding, ineffably gave birth in time to the Timeless One.

HOLY SCRIPTURE

Acts 20:16-18, 28-36 (Epistle)

For Paul had decided to sail past Ephesus, so that he would not have to spend time in Asia; for he was hurrying to be at Jerusalem, if possible, on the Day of Pentecost. From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called for the elders of the church. And when they had come to him, he said to them: "You know, from the first day that I came to Asia, in what manner I always lived among you, Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. For I know this, that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also from among yourselves men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves. Therefore watch, and remember that for three years I did not cease to warn everyone night and day with tears. So now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and give you an inheritance among all those who are sanctified. I have coveted no one's silver or gold or apparel. Yes, you yourselves know that these hands have provided for my necessities, and for those who were with me. I have shown you in every way, by laboring like this, that you must support the weak. And remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'" And when he had said these things, he knelt down and prayed with them all.

John 17:1-13 (Gospel)

Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, as You have given Him authority over all flesh, that He should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him. And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do. And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was. I have manifested Your name to the men whom You have given Me out of the world. They were Yours, You gave them to Me, and they have kept Your word. Now they have known that all things which You have given Me are from You. For I have given to them the words which You have given Me; and they have received them, and have known surely that I came forth from You; and they have believed that You sent Me. I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me, for they are Yours. And all Mine are Yours, and Yours are Mine, and I am glorified in them. Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as We are. While I was with them in the world, I kept them in Your name. Those whom You gave Me I have kept; and none of them is lost except the son of perdition, that the Scripture might be fulfilled. But now I come to You, and these things I speak in the world, that they may have My joy fulfilled in themselves.

HOLY WORDS

When the soul knows the love of God by the Holy Spirit, then he clearly feels that the Lord is our own Father, the closest, dearest Father, the best. And there is not greater happiness than to love God with all the mind and heart, and our neighbor as ourself. And when this love is in the soul, then all things bring joy to the soul.
(St. Silouan the Athonite, Writings, IX.15)

The Three Divine Persons

In Orthodox terminology the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are called three divine persons. Person is defined here simply as the subject of existence and life—hypostasis in the traditional church language.

As the being, essence or nature of a reality answers the question “what?”, the person of a reality answers the question “which one?” or “who?” Thus, when we ask “What is God?” we answer that God is the divine, perfect, eternal, absolute . . . and when we ask “Who is God?” we answer that God is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

The saints of the Church have explained this tri-unity of God by using such an example from worldly existence. We see three men. “What are they?” we ask. “They are human beings,” we answer. Each is man, possessing the same humanity and the same human nature defined in a certain way: created, temporal, physical, rational, etc. In what they are, the three men are one. But in who they are, they are three, each absolutely unique and distinct from the others. Each man in his own unique way is distinctly a man. One man is not the other, though each man is still human with one and the same human nature and form.

Turning to God, we may ask in the same way: “What is it?” In reply we say that it is God defined as absolute perfection: “ineffable, inconceivable, invisible, incomprehensible, ever-existing, and eternally the same.” We then ask, “Who is it?”, and we answer that it is the Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. In who God is, there are three persons who are each absolutely unique and distinct. Each is not the other, though each is still divine with the same divine nature and form.

Therefore, while being one in what they are; the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit are Three in who they are. And because of what and who they are—namely, uncreated, divine persons—they are undivided and perfectly united in their timeless, spaceless, sizeless, shapeless super-essential existence, as well as in their one divine life, knowledge, love, goodness, power, will, action, etc.

Thus, according to the Orthodox Tradition, it is the mystery of God that there are Three who are divine; Three who live and act by one and the same divine perfection, yet each according to his own personal distinctness and uniqueness. Thus it is said that the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit are each divine with the same divinity, yet each in his own divine way. And as the uncreated divinity has three divine subjects, so each divine action has three divine actors; there are three divine aspects to every action of God, yet the action remains one and the same.

We discover, therefore, one God the Father Almighty with His one unique Son (Image and Word) and His one Holy Spirit. There is one living God with His one perfect divine Life, who is personally the Son, with His one Spirit of Life. There is one True God with His one divine Truth, who is personally the Son, with His one Spirit of Truth. There is one wise and loving God with His one Wisdom and Love, who is personally the Son, with His one Spirit of Wisdom and Love. The examples

could go on indefinitely: the one divine Father personifying every aspect of His divinity in His one divine Son, who is personally activated by His one divine Spirit. We will see the living implications of the Trinity as we survey the activity of God in his actions toward man and the world.

When are we living in Christ? When we live according to His Gospel and His Church. For He Himself, and not only His Gospel, is in the Church with all of His perfections and virtues. The Church is the eternally living Body of the God-man Christ. In her we find the medium of the holy mysteries. In her we find the means of holy good deeds. Our Lord Jesus Christ abides inseparable from the Church in this world. He abides with each member of the Church throughout all ages. He has His entire self for us in the Church, and continually gives Himself to us entirely, so that we might be enabled to live in this world as He lived.

(St. Justin Popovich, Explanation of I John, 4:9, 17)

Our Father in heaven glorified be your name in us. – St. John Chrysostom

Parish Services and Activities

www.orthodoxcrossingville.org

TODAY- Divine Liturgy- Coffee Hour

Sat. June 11th – Great Vespers- 4pm – “Greening of the parish”

Sun. June 12th – PENTECOST – Divine Liturgy- 9:30am

Mon. June 13th – Holy Spirit Day – Divine Liturgy – 9:30am

(Youth and Children to sing and serve)

Sat. June 18th – Men’s Fellowship – 9am

Sun. June 19th – Parish Council Meeting

ANNOUNCEMENTS

As our children and youth prepare for Camp on July 24-30th – Please keep them in your prayers – Abigail, Karis, Josiah, Genevieve, Bethany, and River.

I look forward to us all working together again in preparation for, and at, our **2nd Annual Open House on Saturday, July 30, 2022!** Please remember to submit Sponsorship forms to me by June 30, 2022. – Anna, from Missions Team

Pray with out ceasing...

PLEASE INCLUDE THESE OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN YOUR DAILY PRAYERS: Those in need The newly Illumined Ophelia Estelle, Fr. Andrew, Fr. David, Fr. Joseph, Fr. Zachariah, Iguman Patrick, Hieromonk Herman, Fr. Dusan, Fr. Christopher, Prez. Alexandria, Mat. Gail, Mat. Donna, Mat. Pirsilla, Mat. Trudi, Ron, Karen, Isaiah, Andrew, Judy, John, Boris, Tamara, Susan, Mary B. Margret, Bill S., John S., Nickolas, Timothy, Preston, Olivia, Jesse, Grace, Delani, Jeremiah, Sandy, William, Steve A., Patricia, Anna, Sally, Noah, Annisatita, Paul, Irenia, Damen, Tanya
The Homebound Mary G,
Catechumen/Inquirers- David, Hannah & Family (Moving to N. Carolina)
Special requests... Gilbert, Joanne, Anthony, Paul, James, Sean, Liam, Kim, Loren, Janet, Helen, Dan, Gregory, Donna, Laura, Laken, Bob, Gary, Bill, Stevie, Kristen, Paul, Cletus, Nina (Add your own requests here)...
Departed : Newly Departed Theodore, James, Valentina, Proto-deacon Michael, Priest Anastasy, Marie