



Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church

13th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST —

Tone 4. Afterfeast of the Elevation of the Cross. Sunday after Elevation. Martyrs

Trophimus, Sabbatius, and Dorymedon of Synnada (276). Rt. Blv. Theodore, Prince of Smolensk and Yaroslavl' (1299), and his children, Ss. David and Constantine. Martyr Zosimas, Hermit, of Cilicia (4th c.). St. Theodore of Tarsus, Archbishop of Canterbury (ca. 690).

Lord's Day - 09-19-2021

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Tone 4 Troparion (Resurrection)

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel the joyous message of Your Resurrection, they cast away the ancestral curse and elatedly told the apostles: "Death is overthrown! Christ God is risen, // granting the world great mercy!"

Tone 1 Troparion (Cross)

O Lord, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance! Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries; and by virtue of Your Cross, // preserve Your habitation!

Tone 8 Troparion (Martyrs)

God praised in Trinity has glorified a trinity of martyrs: Trophimus, Sabbatius, and Dorymedon. By their faith, they overthrew the adversary. // Through their prayers, O Christ our God, have mercy on us!

Tone 4 Kontakion (Resurrection)

My Savior and Redeemer as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains. He has shattered the gates of hell, and as Master, // He has risen on the third day!

Tone 8 Kontakion (Martyrs)

As the foundation of athletes and the confirmation of piety, the Church honors and glorifies your brilliant suffering, wise and glorious Trophimus, ever-praised and blessed athlete. // Together with your fellow sufferers, ask cleansing for those who hymn you, for you are invincible.

Tone 4 Kontakion (Cross)

As You were voluntarily raised upon the Cross for our sake, grant mercy to those who are called by Your Name, O Christ God; make all Orthodox Christians glad by Your power, granting them victories over their adversaries // by bestowing on them the invincible trophy, Your weapon of peace!

Tone 7 Prokeimenon (Sunday After)

Extol the Lord our God: / worship at His footstool for He is holy! (Ps. 98:5)
V. The Lord reigns, let the people tremble! (Ps. 98:1a)

Tone 1

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. Remember Your congregation, which You have gotten of old! (Ps. 73:2)

V. God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth! (Ps. 73:13)

(Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing:) Tone 8

Magnify, O my soul, the most precious Cross of the Lord! You are a mystical Paradise, O Theotokos, who, though untilled, have brought forth Christ; through Him the life-bearing wood of the Cross was planted on earth. Now at its Exaltation, as we bow in worship before it, we magnify you.

Holy Scripture:

Gal 2.16-20 (Epistle—Sunday after Elevation)

Brethren, knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified. But if, while we seek to be justified by Christ, we ourselves also are found sinners, is Christ therefore a minister of sin? Certainly not! For if I build again those things which I destroyed, I make myself a transgressor. For I through the law died to the law that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

1 Cor 16.13-24 (Epistle)

Brethren, watch, stand fast in the faith, be brave, be strong. Let all that you do be done with love. I urge you, brethren - you know the household of Stephanas, that it is the firstfruits of Achaia, and that they have devoted themselves to the ministry of the saints - that you also submit to such, and to everyone who works and labors with us. I am glad about the coming of Stephanas, Fortunatus, and Achaicus, for what was lacking on your part they supplied. For they refreshed my spirit and yours. Therefore acknowledge such men. The churches of Asia greet you. Aquila and Priscilla greet you heartily in the Lord, with the church that is in their house. All the brethren greet you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. The salutation with my own hand - Paul's. If anyone does not love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be accursed. O Lord, come! The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen.

Mark 8.34-9.1 (Gospel—Sunday after Elevation)

The Lord said: "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels. And He said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power."

Matt 21.33-42 (Gospel)

The Lord said this parable: There was a certain landowner who planted a vineyard and set a hedge around it, dug a winepress in it and built a tower. And he leased it to vinedressers and went into a far country. Now when vintage-time drew near, he sent his servants to the vinedressers, that they might receive its fruit. And the vinedressers took his servants, beat one, killed one, and stoned another. Again he sent other servants, more than the first, and they did likewise to them. Then last of all he sent his son to them, saying, "They will respect my son." But when the vinedressers saw the son, they said among themselves, "This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and seize his inheritance." So they took him and cast him out of the vineyard and killed him. Therefore, when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those vinedressers? They said to Him, "He will destroy those wicked men miserably, and lease his vineyard to other vinedressers who will render to him the fruits in their seasons." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the Scriptures: "The stone which the builders rejected Has become the chief cornerstone. This was the LORD's doing, And it is marvelous in our eyes? "

Holy Words

The Beatitudes

In the Gospel writings, the beatitudes introduce the teachings of Jesus and are traditionally considered to contain the most concise summary of the spiritual life of man. In the Orthodox Divine Liturgy, the beatitudes are chanted when the Book of the Gospels is carried in solemn procession to the sanctuary to be proclaimed as the Word of God to the faithful. Thus it is the clear teaching of the Gospel and the Church that one enters into the mysteries of Christ and the Kingdom of God only by way of following the Lord's teachings in the beatitudes.

And He opened His mouth and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when men revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on My account.

Poverty in Spirit

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven” (Mt 5.3). This first beatitude is the fundamental condition for all man’s spiritual

progress and growth. Before everything else, if a person wants to live the life of God, he must be poor in spirit.

To be poor in spirit is to recognize clearly that one has nothing which he has not received from God, that one is nothing except by the grace of God. This blessed poverty is called “spiritual” in Saint Matthew’s Gospel because, first of all, it is an attitude of mind and heart, a conviction of the soul. It is the condition of man in total emptiness and openness before God, primarily in relation to the things of the Spirit, that is, to understanding and insight, to will and desire.

To be poor in spirit is to be devoid of all pride and trust in the power of one’s own spirit. It is to be freed from all reliance on one’s own ideas, opinions and desires. It is to be liberated from the “vain imaginations” of one’s own heart (Jer 23.17, Rom 1.21). For as the holy Virgin Mary, the perfect model of poverty in spirit, has sung in her magnificent song:

*God has shown strength with His arm,
He has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts,*

He has put down the mighty from their thrones,

And has exalted the humble and meek,

He has filled the hungry with good things,

And the rich He has sent away empty (Lk 1.51-54).

Jesus Himself was poor, not only in body but in spirit.

Not only was the Lord a poor man, without “place to lay His head” (Mt 8.20) but His physical poverty was the direct result of His perfect poverty of spirit.

Truly, truly I say to you, the Son can do nothing of His own accord, but only what He sees the Father doing . . . I can do nothing on my own authority . . . (Jn 5.19, 30).

If a person wishes to embark on the spiritual life, he must abandon all things and follow Christ in poverty of spirit. To be poor in spirit is simply to be wholly set free from the sinful lusts of this world.

If anyone loves this world, love for the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world.

And the world passes away, and the lust of it; but he who does the will of God abides forever (1 Jn 2.15-17).

The first revelation of the will of God is that His creatures must be poor in spirit. The violation of this spiritual attitude is the original sin and the source of all sorrows.

Every Christian should find for himself the imperative and incentive to become holy. If you live without struggle and without hope of becoming holy, then you are Christians only in name and not in essence. But without holiness, no one shall see the Lord, that is to say they will not attain eternal blessedness. It is a trustworthy saying that Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners (1 Tim. 1:15). But we deceive ourselves if we think that we are saved while remaining sinners. Christ saves those sinners by giving them the means to become saints.

(St. Philaret of Moscow, Sermon of September 23, 1847)

Services and Activities (Calendar changes see website)

www.orthodoxcrossingville.org

TOÐAY - Sept. 19th - Divine Liturgy - 9:30am

CGS - CGG - CGC - Adult Education - Parish Council

Wed. Sept. 22nd - Akathist to St. John the Baptist

Sat. Sept. 25th - Great Vespers - 4pm

Sun. Sept. 26th - Divine Liturgy - 9:30am

CGS - CGG - CGC - Adult Education

Thur. Sept. 30th - Vespers Liturgy - Protection of the Theotokos - 6pm w/ meal to follow

October 2nd - Men’s Fellowship -9am-12noon

October 30th - Following Great Vespers - A Family Fun Night for all ages

Our mission project this fall:

Thank you to all who participated and supported our **Trek4missions event** supporting OCMC missionaries. For more info on how you can support go to OCMC.org or our website. Look for more outreach events in the future!

Adult Education series topic:

Know your Faith and how to share it

Texts: The Faith by Clark Carlton and These Truths we Hold by St. Tikhon’s press

Pray with out ceasing...

PLEASE INCLUDE

THESE OUR BROTHERS AND SISTERS IN YOUR DAILY

PRAYERS: Those in need - Fr. Andrew, Fr. Isaac, Fr. David, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Joseph, Fr. Zachariah, Iguman Patrick, Hieromonk Herman, Fr. Christopher, Prez. Alexandria, Mat. Gail, Mat. Donna, Mat. Pirsilla, Tamara, Olga, Susan, Karen, Mary B. Margret, Bill S., Lexi, John, Nickolas, Timothy, Preston, Olivia, Delani, Jeremiah, Valentina, Sandy, William...

The Homebound Tanya, Mary G Travelers - Rachoeki Family Catechumen- Christian... Military servers...Greg

Special requests... Paul, Gilbert, Joanne, Phyllis, Anthony, Ian, Paul, James, Sean, Liam, Bill, Wesley, Kim, Margaret, Loren, Julia, Shelby, Janet, Lynn, Margret, Helen, Dan, Jonathan, Donna, Nicholas, Maya, Mia, Charles, Gregory, Donna...

Departed : Marie Guidus, Vincent, Richard, George, Ruth, Pearl, Jim(Grace’s Dad), Ann, Lillian, Alice, William, Claudia, Theona, Helen, Ann, Katherine, Vernon, Paul, James, Nickolai, Andrew, Peter, Paul, Margaret, Michael Mary Ann, Timothy...

(IF you would like a name added to the list above give it to Fr. Daniel in writing.)

