



Saints Peter and Paul Orthodox Church

Lord's Day - 12-05-2021

Glory to Jesus Christ!

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

St. Savvas the Sanctified

Peace to All!

Tone 7 Troparion (Resurrection)

By Your Cross You destroyed death.

To the thief You opened Paradise.

For the Myrrhbearers You changed weeping into joy.

And You commanded Your disciples, O Christ God,

to proclaim that You are risen,//

granting the world great mercy.

Tone 8 Troparion (Ven. Sabbas)

By a flood of tears you made the desert fertile,

and your longing for God brought forth fruits in abundance.

By the radiance of miracles you illuminated the whole universe.//

Our Father Sabbas, pray to Christ God to save our souls!

Tone 7 Kontakion (Resurrection)

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!"

Tone 8 Kontakion (Ven. Sabbas)

From your youth you offered yourself to God as a blameless sacrifice,

having been dedicated to Him before your birth, O blessed Sabbas.

You were an adornment of the righteous and a praiseworthy citizen of

the desert.// Therefore, we cry to you: "Rejoice, O ever-glorious

Father!"

Tone 7 Prokeimenon (Resurrection)

The Lord shall give strength to His people. / The Lord shall bless His

people with peace. (Ps. 28:11)

V. Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord!

(Ps. 28:1a)

Tone 7 Prokeimenon (Ven. Sabbas)

Precious in the sight of the Lord / is the death of His saints. (Ps. 115:6)

Tone 7

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Your Name, O

Most High. (Ps. 91:1)

V. To declare Your mercy in the morning, and Your truth by night. (Ps.

91:2a)

Tone 6

V. Blessed is the man who fears the Lord, who greatly delights in His

commandments. (Ps. 111:1)

Holy Scripture:

Eph 2.14-22 (Epistle)

Brethren, Christ Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit

to the Father. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Gal 5.22-6.2 (Epistle—St Sabbas)

Brethren, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another. Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.

Luke 17.12-19 (Gospel)

At that time, as Jesus entered a certain village, there met Him ten men who were lepers, who stood afar off. And they lifted up their voices and said, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" So when He saw them, He said to them, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And so it was that as they went, they were cleansed. And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, returned, and with a loud voice glorified God, and fell down on his face at His feet, giving Him thanks. And he was a Samaritan. So Jesus answered and said, "Were there not ten cleansed? But where are the nine? Were there not any found who returned to give glory to God except this foreigner? And He said to him, "Arise, go your way. Your faith has made you well."

Matt 11.27-30 (Gospel—St Sabas)

The Lord said to his disciples: All things have been delivered to Me by My Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father. Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son, and the one to whom the Son wills to reveal Him. Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.

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. Dusan, Fr. Christopher, Prez. Alexandria, Mat. Gail, Mat. Donna, Mat. Pirsilla, Mat. Trudi, Tamara, Olga, Susan, Ron, Karen, Mary B. Margret, Bill S., Lexi, John, Nickolas, Timothy, Preston, Olivia, Jesse, Grace Delani, Jeremiah, Valentina, Sandy, William, Steve A., Anna, Sally, Noah
The Homebound Mary G
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, Don. Laura, Brenda Laken, Bob...
Departed : Priest Anastacy, Marie Guidus, Vincent, Richard, George, Ruth, Pearl, Jim(Grace's Dad), Ann, Lillian, Alice, William, Claudia, Theona, Helen, Ann, Katherine, Vernon, Paul, James, Nikolai, Andrew, Peter, Paul, Margaret, Michael Mary Ann, Timothy...

Services and Activities (Calendar changes see website)

www.orthodoxcrossingville.org

Today Divine Liturgy - Coffee Hour - St. Nicholas celebration

Wed. Dec. 8th - Vespers Liturgy - 6pm - Confession - 5-6pm

Sat. Dec. 11th - Great Vespers - 4pm

Dec. 12th - Divine Liturgy - Coffee Hour - Parish Annual Meeting

Missions

For our **Nativity Missions Project**, we are sponsoring Christmas gifts for 3 youth from Bethesda. The signup sheet is on the bar in the hall. All Christmas gifts must be unwrapped and in the hall by Sunday, December 12th. See Anna Rachocki for more information.

Bookstore & Gift Shop

Please support our shop... We would like to also support our own parishioners art and crafts this holiday season. If you are interested in putting yours on display for sale, see Anna Rachocki or Kyra Mathewson.

HOLY WORDS

Spirituality

Spirituality in the Orthodox Church means the everyday activity of life in communion with God. The term spirituality refers not merely to the activity of man's spirit alone, his mind, heart and soul, but it refers as well to the whole of man's life as inspired and guided by the Spirit of God. Every act of a Christian must be a spiritual act. Every thought must be spiritual, every word, every deed, every activity of the body, every action of the person. This means that all that a person thinks, says and does must be inspired and guided by the Holy Spirit so that the will of God the Father might be accomplished as revealed and taught by Jesus Christ the Son of God.

... *whatever you do, do all to the glory of God* (1 Cor 10.31).

Doing all things to the glory of God is the meaning and substance of life for a human being. This "doing" is what Christian spirituality is about.

Christ

Christian spirituality is centered in Christ. Jesus Christ is the divine Son of God who was born as a man of the Virgin Mary in order to give man eternal life in communion with God His Father.

In Jesus Christ "the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily" (Col 2.9). In Him is the "fullness" of "grace and truth" (Jn 1.16-17) and "all the fullness of God" (Col 1.19). When one sees and knows Jesus, one sees and knows God the Father (Jn 8.19, 14.7-9). When one is in communion with Jesus, one is in abiding union with God (cf. Jn 17, Eph 2, Rom 8, 1 Jn 1).

The goal of human life is to be continually "in Christ." When one is "in Christ," according to Saint John, one does God's will and cannot sin. *You know that He [Jesus] appeared to take away sins, and in Him there is no sin. No one who abides in Him sins; no one who sins has either seen Him or knows Him. . . . he who does right is righteous, as He is righteous. . . . No one born of God commits sin; for God's nature abides in him, and he cannot sin because he is born of God. By this it may be seen who are the children of God, and who are the children of the devil; whoever does not do right is not of God, nor he who does not love his brother* (1 Jn 3.4-10).

Jesus Christ is "the Way, the Truth and the Life" (Jn 14.6). He speaks the words of God. He does the work of God. The person who obeys Christ and follows His way and does what He does, loves God and accomplishes His will. To do this is the essence of spiritual life. Jesus has come that we may be like Him and do in our own lives, by His grace, what He Himself has done.

Truly, truly I say to you, He who believes in Me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I go to the Father (Jn 14.12).

"The Comforter, the Holy Spirit, who fills the whole universe, passes through all believing, meek, humble, good, and simple human souls, dwelling in them, vivifying and strengthening them. He becomes one spirit with them and everything to them - light, strength, peace, joy, success in their undertakings, especially in a pious life, and everything good - "going through all understanding, pure and most subtle spirits" (Wisdom of Solomon vii, 23). "We have been all made to drink into one Spirit" (1 Cor. xii.13). All pious people are filled with the Spirit of God similarly as a sponge is filled with water."

+ St. John of Kronstadt

"Take heed often to come together to give thanks to God and show forth His praise. For when you assemble frequently in the same place, the powers of Satan are destroyed, and the destruction at which he aims is prevented by the unity of your faith. Nothing is more precious

than peace, by which all war, in heaven and earth, is brought to an end."

— St. Ignatius of Antioch, The Ante-Nicene Fathers Vol. 1

"Stop defiling your flesh with shameful deeds and polluting your soul with wicked thoughts; then the peace of God will descend upon you and bring you love." — St. Maximos the Confessor - Four Chapter on Love

"If the Holy Spirit is peace of soul, as He is said to be, and as He is in reality, and if anger is disturbance of heart, as it actually is and as it is said to be, then nothing so prevents His presence in us as anger."— St. John Climacus

"There is nothing better than peace in Christ, for it brings victory over all the evil spirits on earth and in the air. When peace dwells in a man's heart it enables him to contemplate the grace of the Holy Spirit from within. He who dwells in peace collects spiritual gifts as it were with a scoop, and he sheds the light of knowledge on others. All our thoughts, all our desires, all our efforts, and all our actions should make us say constantly with the Church: "O Lord, give us peace!" When a man lives in peace, God reveals mysteries to him."— St. Seraphim of Sarov

"The soul that loves God has its rest in God and in God alone. In all the paths that men walk in in the world, they do not attain peace until they draw nigh to hope in God."— St. Isaac the Syrian, [Homily 56, 89](#)

Isaiah the Holy Prophet-

9 Unto to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders.

And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.⁷ Of the greatness of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever.

The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

26 In that day this song will be sung in the land of Judah:

We have a strong city;

God makes salvation
its walls and ramparts.

² Open the gates

that the righteous nation may enter,
the nation that keeps faith.

³ You will keep in perfect peace

those whose minds are steadfast,
because they trust in you.

⁴ Trust in the Lord forever,

for the Lord, the Lord himself, is the Rock eternal.

⁵ He humbles those who dwell on high,

he lays the lofty city low;
he levels it to the ground
and casts it down to the dust.

⁶ Feet trample it down—

the feet of the oppressed,
the footsteps of the poor.

⁷ The path of the righteous is level;

you, the Upright One, make the way of the righteous smooth.

⁸ Yes, Lord, walking in the way of your laws,

we wait for you;

your name and renown

are the desire of our hearts.

⁹ My soul yearns for you in the night;

in the morning my spirit longs for you.

When your judgments come upon the earth,

the people of the world learn righteousness.

¹⁰ But when grace is shown to the wicked,

they do not learn righteousness;

even in a land of uprightness they go on doing evil

and do not regard the majesty of the Lord.

¹¹ Lord, your hand is lifted high,

but they do not see it.

Let them see your zeal for your people and be put to shame;

let the fire reserved for your enemies consume them.

¹² Lord, you establish peace for us; all that we have accomplished you have done for us.