



HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH Parish Newsletter

RESTON

New Parish Center: 20937 Ashburn Rd., #110, Ashburn, VA 12 June 2021

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER THE PASCH [OF THE CROSS]

READING OF THE GOSPEL THE MESSAGE ENTRUSTED TO THE CHURCH

READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES.

IN THOSE DAYS: ^{20,16}Paul had decided to sail past Ephesos in order not to lose time in [the éparchy of] Asia, for he was hurrying to be in Jerusalem, if at all possible, for the day of Pentecost.

¹⁷From Milētos he sent [word] to Ephesos, calling together the presbyters of the church. ¹⁸When they came to him, he said to them:...

²⁸Keep watch over yourselves, and over the whole flock of which the Holy Spirit has appointed you overseers, in which you tend the Church of God that he acquired with his own blood. ²⁹I know that after my departure savage wolves will come among you, and they will not spare the flock. ³⁰And from your own group, men will come forward perverting the truth to draw the disciples away after them. ³¹So be vigilant and remember that for three years, night and day, I unceasingly admonished each of you with tears. ³²And now I commend you to God and to that gracious Word of his that can build you up and give you the inheritance among all who are consecrated. ³³I have never wanted anyone's silver or gold or clothing. ³⁴You know well that these very hands have served my needs and my companions. ³⁵In every way I have shown you that by hard work of that sort we must help the weak, and keep in mind the words of the Lord Jesus who himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'

³⁶When he had finished speaking he knelt down with them all and prayed. ³⁷They were all weeping loudly as they threw their arms around Paul and kissed him, ³⁸for they were deeply distressed that he had said that they would never see his face again. Then they escorted him to the ship.

PROKIMENON, Tone IV

Blest are you, Lord God of our fathers! * Praised and glorified be your name forever! [v.26 OCA/RESTON]

CANTICLE OF THE FATHERS

Daniel 3.26–45 LXX

NOTE: This Prayer of Azariah—missing from Hebrew and English bibles—is a penitential song reminiscent of Psalm 50; herein confession seeks forgiveness and restoration, and sues for communion.

²⁶Blest are you, Lord God of our fathers! Praised and glorified be your name forever! ²⁷You are just in everything you do to us; all your works are true; all your ways are right; all your decisions fair...



Saturday, June 19
Vespers at 6:00 p.m.

Pentecost Sunday, June 20
Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

After a number of parishioners emailed and called me, we decided to take a slightly different approach to our Parish Feast on 6/20. Our Liturgy starts at 10AM and lasts only 1 hour which means that we are really having more of a Brunch. It also means that for anyone celebrating Father's Day, perhaps you could stay for a short time and still celebrate Father's Day.

The food will be provided by a few individuals so that we can keep it simple and light. The menu will consist of Spanakopita, little meatballs, hummus, chips, crackers, cheeses, a tabouleh salad (made with quinoa to be gluten-free), and then some fresh fruit and cookies for sweets. We will still need some sodas and other drinks.

This weekend, I will provide a sign-up sheet that will be geared to determine the number of people who will attend. If you have a suggestion for something that has not been mentioned, please feel free to record that and let me know if you will bring that to the celebration.

Marsha Morrow

³⁴For your name's sake, do not desert us! Do not dissolve your covenant, ³⁵nor take away from us your favor: for the sake of your beloved, Abraham, for your servant, Isaac, and for Israel, your holy one!...

³⁹But a contrite heart and a humble spirit—may these please you ⁴⁰as much as burnt offerings.... Today, may our sacrifice, our open loyalty please you as much, for there is never any disappointment for those who trust in you.

⁴¹So now, we follow you wholeheartedly, filled with reverence and awe, straining to catch sight of you!

⁴²Never let us be ashamed. Instead, deal with us as you used to: with infinite and tender love and mercy....

⁴⁴As for those who harm your servants—let them scatter in confusion, covered by their own embarrassment! Let their strength fail them, and reduce their might to nothing! ⁴⁵Let them know that you alone are God and Lord, the glory of the entire world!

Reader: Blest are you, Lord God of our fathers!

People: Praised and glorified be your name forever!

READING FROM THE FIRST EPISTLE OF PETER TO ALL THE CHURCHES.

BELOVED: ^{5:1} I exhort the presbyters among you, as a fellow presbyter and witness to the sufferings of Christ and one who has a share in the glory to be revealed. ²Tend the flock of God in your midst, exercising oversight not by constraint but willingly, as God would have it, not for sordid gain, but eagerly. ³Do not lord it over the group in your care, but be examples to the flock. ⁴And when the chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the unfading crown of glory.

⁵Likewise, you in their care, be subject to the presbyters. And all of you, clothe yourselves with humility in your dealings with one another, for *God opposes the proud but bestows favor on the humble.*

⁶Bow down, then, before the strong hand of God, so that he may raise you up in due time. ⁷Cast all your cares upon him because he cares about you.

⁸Be sober. Be vigilant. Your opponent the devil is prowling around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. ⁹Resist him, steadfast in faith, knowing that your fellow believers throughout the world undergo the same sufferings. ¹⁰The God of all grace who called you to his eternal glory through Christ

will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you after you have suffered a little. ¹¹To him be glory and power unto ages of ages. Amen.

¹²I write you this brief letter through Silwánus, whom I consider a faithful brother, exhorting you and testifying that this is the true grace of God. Remain firm in it.

¹³She who is in Babylon [*meaning Rome*], chosen together with you, greets you, as does Mark, my son. ¹⁴Greet one another with a kiss of love.

Peace to all of you who are in Christ. Amen.

ALLELUIA

PSALM 49

NOTE: Like the prophets of old, the psalmist Asaph shows the worthlessness of divine service when it is divorced from true morality. Religion for show and hypocrisy earn divine retribution; whereas the sacrifice of praise—a way of life that takes God into account—finds salvation.

The mighty one, God, the Lord, speaks: he summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting. From Sion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth; our God is coming and he will not fail to act....

He summons the heavens from on high and the earth below to the trial of his people. Let those devoted to him gather together before him; those who made him a sacrifice when they entered a covenant with him....

Listen, my people, and I will speak.... Make praise your sacrifice to God and fulfill your vows to the Most High. Then, if you call on me in time of trouble, I will rescue you and I will spread out a feast for you.

But to the wicked, God says this: What right have you to recite my commandments, or mouth the terms of my covenant? For you despise correction, and turn your back when I speak.

When you find a thief, you fall in with him; you throw in your lot with adulterers. You use your mouth to forge evil and harness your tongue to deceit....

You do all these things and expect me to say nothing!... You are unmindful of God; you had better take care, or I will tear you to pieces and no one will save you.

As for him who offers me a sacrifice of praise—for him I will give a feast for he prepares a way for me to show him the saving power of God.

THE ÉKTENY or FERVENT PRAYER (Ancient Penitential Litany and Prayer)

Let us all say with our whole soul,
and with our whole mind let us say:
Lord, have mercy.

O Lord almighty! O God of our fathers!
We pray you. Hear us and have mercy.

Have mercy on us, O God,
according to your great mercy!

We pray you. Hear us and have mercy.

Again we pray:

- For devout and Orthodox Christians.
- For our Archbishop Tikhon.
- ~For Ed and Janet and Andrea and Mildred and Ritz Bernadette, and for all who have asked for our prayers *NN...*: we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation, pardon, and remission of their sins.
- For Orthodox Christians who are made to suffer on account of Christ, and we pray for those who persecute them.
- For Orthodox Christians and indeed all men who are victims of war and civil strife [and terror], of hunger and want, of intolerance and injustice.
- For physicians, nurses, care-givers, and all serving those infected with the virus; and for the thousands who have succumbed to the disease—and for all who will die today.

PRAYER OF THE ÉKTENY

Lord our God, accept this fervent prayer from your servants, and have mercy on us according to the greatness of your mercy. Send down your compassionate help upon us and upon all your people awaiting the rich mercy that comes from you.

For you are God, merciful and loving to man, and we render glory to you—to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.