



HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

Parish Newsletter

RESTON

New Parish Center: 20937 Ashburn Rd., #110, Ashburn, VA 13 June 2020

Readings for the First Sunday after Pentecost **Feast of All Saints**

Begin the Weeks of Matthew

After having celebrated Pentecost, keep a **FEAST** for one week. After that keep a **FAST** for one week [*origin of the so-called Apostles' Fast—Ed.*]; for it is right to rejoice over the Gift of God [*meaning the Descent of the Holy Spirit—Ed.*], and then to keep a fast after the time of relaxation [*of Wednesday/Friday fasting during the 50-day Paschal/Pentecost season*].

—Apostolic Constitutions, Syria (ca. 380 A.D.)

READING FROM THE PROPHECY OF ISAIAH: Isaiah 43.1–7

Thus says the LORD,
who created you, Jacob,
who formed you, Israel:
Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by your name, you are mine.
Should you pass through the sea, I will be with you;
or through rivers, they will not swallow you up.
Should you walk through fire, you will not be scorched
and the flames will not burn you.
For I am Yahweh, your God,
the Holy One of Israel, your savior.
I give Egypt for your ransom,
and exchange Cush and Seba for you.
Because you are precious in my eyes,
because you are honored and I love you,
I give men in exchange for you,
peoples in return for your life.
Do not be afraid, for I am with you.
I will bring your offspring from the East,
and gather you from the West.
To the North I will say, "Give them up,"
and to the South, "Do not hold them."
Bring back my sons from far away,
my daughters from the end of the earth,.

PROKIMENON, Tone VIII

Reader: The prokimenon of the eighth tone: **Make vows* and pay them to the Lord our God.** [v.11

NEB/RESTON] **PSALM 75**

NOTE: This psalm is a hymn of triumph in which Jerusalem's

Dear Fr. Paul,

Joy of the Feast! *S prazdnikom!* Kitty and I want to express our best wishes, prayers, and love to you and your parish on your patronal feast day—that of the Holy Trinity. May God continue to bless all of you and preserve and protect you for **MANY YEARS!**

Love, Fr. John and Kitty

victory is attributed primarily to God. He has overwhelmed the enemy and avenged the oppressed; to him therefore sacrifices of thanksgiving are due.

In Judah God makes himself known; in Israel his name is great. ²Salem became his den, and Sion, his lair.

³There he broke the attack of the archers, the shields and swords and weapons of war... ⁶At your roar, O God of Jacob, horse and chariot collapsed and lay stunned.⁷How awesome you are!...

⁸...The earth shall shudder with fright and lie still, ⁹when God rises for judgment, to deliver the lowly of the earth. ¹⁰They will rejoice and praise you;... they will feast in your honor.

¹¹Make vows and pay them to the Lord our God; let all those around him bring gifts to him who sees, ¹²who fathoms the minds of princes, who strikes terror in the hearts of kings.

Reader: Make vows. **People:** And pay them to the Lord our God.

READING FROM THE EPISTLE TO THE HEBREWS:

BRETHREN: ³³By faith all the saints conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained the promises, shut the mouths of lions, ³⁴put out raging fires, escaped the edge of the sword, drew strength out of weakness, became mighty in war, and turned back foreign invaders. ³⁵Women received back their dead through resurrection. Some were tortured, refusing accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. ³⁶Others endured mockery, scourging, even chains and imprisonment. ³⁷They were stoned [to death], sawn in two, put to death at sword's point; they went about in skins of sheep or goats, needy, afflicted, tormented. ³⁸The world was not worthy of them. They wandered about in deserts and on moun-

tains, in caves and in holes in the ground. ³⁹Yet all these, though approved because of their faith, did not receive what was promised. ⁴⁰God had foreseen something better for us, so that apart from us they should not be made perfect. ^{12.1}We too then, having such a cloud of witnesses around us—as we set aside every encumbrance and the disadvantage of sin—with perseverance let us run the race that lies before us, ²looking to Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith. For the sake of the joy that lay before him he endured the cross—ignoring its shame—and has taken his seat at the right of God’s throne. ³Consider how he endured such opposition from sinners, so that you may not grow weary and lose heart. .

ALLELUIA

PSALM 33

NOTE: This portion of the psalm is an admonition to respect the Lord and keep his commandments. The Lord Jesus, true Servant of God, realizes the promise of these words (note verse 20).

¹¹Come, children, hear me; awe and respect for the Lord is my lesson for you.

¹²Who is there among you who delights in life, who looks for a long life to enjoy prosperity? ¹³Guard your tongue against malice, then, and your lips against words of guile. ¹⁴Avoid evil and do good; seek out peace and follow after it.

¹⁵The eyes of the Lord are on the just; his ears hear their cries of anguish. ¹⁶But the Lord turns his face away from the wicked; all trace of them vanishes from the face of the earth.

¹⁷When the just cry out, the Lord hears, and he frees them from all their troubles. ¹⁸The Lord is close to the brokenhearted; he saves those who are crushed in spirit.

¹⁹It is woe upon woe for the just man, but the Lord will deliver him from them all. ²⁰For he keeps watchful care over every bone of his body: not one of them will be broken.

²¹But evil will reward the wicked with death, and he who despises the just will pay for it.

²²The Lord rescues the souls of his servants; those who take refuge in him shall never perish!

READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MATTHEW:

THE LORD SAID: ^{10.32}Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will acknowledge before my heavenly Father. ³³But whoever denies me before others, I will deny before my heavenly Father... “Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; ³⁸and whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me. ^{19.27} Peter said to him in reply, “We have given up everything and followed you. What will there be for us?” ²⁸ Jesus said to them, “Amen, I say to you that you who have followed me, in the new age, when the Son of Man is seated on his throne of glory, will yourselves sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. ²⁹ And everyone who has given up houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands for the sake of my name will receive a hundred times more, and will inherit eternal life. ³⁰ But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.

COMMUNION HYMN

PSALM 148

NOTE: All creatures in the heavens and on earth are called upon to join in the hymn of praise that all mankind should sing to the Lord of all. The psalm here takes on deeper—cosmic—meaning in light of Apoc. 21.5: “Behold, I make all things new,” and the communing assembly. (Does not Paul say: If any one is in Christ, he is a new creation?—2 Cor. 5.17) Cf. Eph. 1.9–10.

[O] Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the highest!

²Praise him, all you his angels; praise him all you his hosts!

³Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you glittering stars!

⁴Praise him, heavens of heavens, and the waters above the heavens!

⁵Let them praise the name of the Lord: He gave the word, and they took form.

⁶He fixed them for all eternity, with a law that will never change.

⁷Praise the Lord from the earth, sea monsters and all the depths.

⁸Fire and hail, snow and mist, hurricane winds, the work of his word.

⁹Mountains and all the hills, fruit trees and all cedars.

¹⁰Wild beasts, and tame ones, too, creeping reptile,

the bird that flies.

¹¹Kings of the earth and all their peoples, princes, and all the judges of the land.

¹²Young men and maidens, too, young and old alike.

¹³Let them praise the name of the Lord; his name alone is great; his majesty is far above both heaven and earth.

¹⁴He exalts his people's might—the boast of all his friends, of Israel, the people of his favored ones! Alleluia!

TROPARION, Tone VIII

Kievan Chant

DO From on high, O Lord so kind and loving, * you descended to this earth of ours: * And to free us from our passions, you suffered and died for us. * O our Life and Resurrection, * be pleased to hear our hymns of praise.

TROPARION FOR THE SAINTS

Tone IV:

Crimsoned with the blood of all your martyrs, O Christ, our God, * your Church cries out to you: * Bestow your mercies on all mankind, * and grant the world your lasting peace.

Another, Tone II:

Let us praise the Baptizer and Forerunner, with the Apostles, prophets, and martyrs; * let us hymn the hierarchs and all the martyred clergy, * the Christ-like and ascetic men and women, and all the just. * With hymns of praise, let us crown them as we should, * seeking a share in their glory at the hands of Christ, the Saviour.

Glory: Both now:

Kondakion, Tone VIII:

To you, creator of all things, * the universe presents the saints as first-fruits of creation. * For their sake, O Saviour rich in mercy, * preserve us all in holiness and peace through the Theotokos.

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 all who have asked for our prayers: 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.

The Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America issued the following statement on the recent events in Minneapolis, MN.

We, the members of the Holy Synod of Bishops of the Orthodox Church in America, mourn the tragic death of Mr. George Floyd on May 25, 2020. We too have looked with horror at the footage of this episode, and condemn the brutal actions that caused his violent death. We look to the civil authorities to bring to justice those who participated in this senseless tragedy. “We categorically reject racism in any form. Every human being is created in the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1:26-27), and was created to exist (Wisdom of Solomon 1:14). We are all, each of us, “one in Christ Jesus (Galatians 3:28).” As such, there should be no hatred, no enmity, no hostility between us, but reconciliation. “In the face of civil unrest, we call upon the members of the Orthodox Church in America, and to all the communities they live in, to engage in the service of righteousness and peace in the Holy Spirit. We exhort everyone to “pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding (Romans 14:17, 19).” Finally, we offer our prayers to God for Mr. Floyd, his family, and to those communities that are experiencing anxiety, sadness, and despair, because they have seen destruction of life and property.”



Abram Hannibal (above) was Peter the Great’s General and military engineer, a nobleman of African origin, and great grandfather of the celebrated Russian poet Alexander Pushkin (left).

June 12, 2020

Dear Father Paul,

Christ is in our midst!

I have carefully reviewed your proposal of May 28 for moving towards the gradual increasing of the liturgical life at Holy Trinity Church. I also thank you for the further clarifications provided in your update of June 5, in response to the request of the Chancellor.

Based on the information provided to me in that document, I am blessing you to enter the first phase of gradual re-opening as outlined in the Synodal Guidelines of May 1, 2020. In your case, **you may celebrate Vespers** with the minimal crew and the safety precautions as described in your proposal.

Anything beyond this, both in terms of types of services and numbers of parishioners will require the re-submittal of a proposal using the Archdiocesan form.



† Christ,

+TIKHON
Archbishop of Washington
Metropolitan of All America and Canada

cc: Archpriest John Vitko, Chancellor
File

**Also from the Archbishop:
News of Metropolitan Theodosius's
failing health**

Jun 10, 2020

I was informed this morning that his Beatitude, Metropolitan Theodosius, was hospitalized with kidney failure. He was in the Intensive Care Unit but has now been moved to a regular hospital room and is under observation.

The attending physicians have determined that dialysis would be ineffective at this time. His condition has stabilized somewhat and if it continues to improve, he will be moved back to the nursing home, but even in this circumstance it appears that the prognosis is not favorable.

I ask for your prayers for his health at this time and would also ask that you share this same request with anyone else that you feel it important to share this with.

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Metropolitan Tikhon

June 11, 2020

I held a FaceTime call with his Beatitude, Metropolitan Theodosius, this morning, facilitated by Fr. John Kovalik who is visiting him and bringing him communion in the hospital (it was not possible to visit him in the nursing home due to COVID-19).

He is doing better, is conscious and speaking, and the attending physicians are cautiously optimistic. It appears that he will remain in the hospital for the time being.

Please continue to offer prayers for him.

Yours in Christ,

Metropolitan Tikhon