



THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH OF ST. TIMOTHY

“Following Christ and His Apostles — Into His Church and Their Faith.”

December 4th — 10th, 2005

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Great-martyr Barbara of Heliopolis in Syria; Venerable John of Damascus; Martyr Juliana; New-hieromartyr Seraphim, bishop of Phanar in Greece

Tone 7

Eothonon 2

“Let us now lay aside all earthly cares . . .”

~ Please, no cell phones (leave them in the car, at home, or turn them off)

~ Please, no talking or visiting during the Divine Liturgy (especially during Holy Communion)

ORTHROS

As a reminder, the six Psalms read at the beginning of Orthros are to be treated the same as the Gospel reading during the Divine Liturgy; i.e., no moving around, talking, etc. We are to stand in repentance as we hear these Psalms of Repentance.

HYMNODY

Apolytikion (Troparion) of the Resurrection (Tone 7): By Thy Cross Thou destroyed death! To the thief Thou opened Paradise! Thou changed the weeping of the myrrh-bearing women into joy. Thou commanded Thine Apostles, to proclaim that Thou are risen O Christ, granting the world great mercy.

Apolytikion of St Barbara (Tone 4): Let us honor the all-revered Saint Barbara; for she didst demolish the gins of the adversary; and escaped from them like a bird by the help of the Cross as with a weapon.

Apolytikion of St. John (Tone 8): Thou hast shown thyself, O God-inspired John, as a guide to the Orthodox Faith, a teacher of true worship and purity, O star of the universe and companion of the bishops, O wise one. Through thy light thou hast enlightened all, O harp of the Spirit. Therefore, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

Troparion of St Timothy: O holy Apostle Timothy, master of unction measured in all thy deeds, clothed with an upright conscience as befits a priest, thou has drawn ineffable truths from Paul the vessel of election; thou hast kept the faith and completed a course equal to his. Intercede with Christ God to save our souls!

Kontakion of Preparation of Christ’s Nativity: Today the Virgin comes to the cave, to ineffably give birth to the Eternal word. Hear the glad tidings and rejoice, all the ends of the earth. With the angels and shepherds glorify Him. He comes, a new child, the Eternal God.

READINGS

Those who need may sit during the Epistle

EPISTLE READING ~Galatians 3:23-4:5: Brethren . . . **23** Now before faith came, we were confined under the law, kept under restraint until faith should be revealed. **24** So that the law was our custodian until Christ came, that we might be justified by faith. **25** But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a custodian; **26** for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. **27** For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. **28** There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. **29** And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise. **[4]** **1** I mean that the heir, as long as he is a child, is no better than a slave, though he is the owner of all the estate; **2** but he is under guardians and trustees until the date set by the father. **3** So with us; when we were children, we were slaves to the elemental spirits of the universe. **4** But when the time had fully come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, **5** to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

During the Gospel, all are to stand and there is to be no moving around
GOSPEL READING ~ St Luke 13:10-17: Let us attend! . . . 10 Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. **11** And there was a woman who had had a spirit of infirmity for eighteen years; she was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. **12** And when Jesus saw her, he called her and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your infirmity." **13** And he laid his hands upon her, and immediately she was made straight, and she praised God. **14** But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be healed, and not on the sabbath day." **15** Then the Lord answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his ass from the manger, and lead it away to water it? **16** And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?" **17** As he said this, all his adversaries were put to shame; and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

SINCE WE UNDERSTAND COMMUNION TO MEAN THAT WE HAVE ALL THINGS IN COMMON, SHARING AN IDENTICAL FAITH, ONLY THOSE WHO ARE MEMBERS OF THE EASTERN ORTHODOX CHURCH AND WHO HAVE PREPARED THEMSELVES THROUGH PRAYER, FASTING AND RECENT CONFESSION MAY PARTICIPATE IN HOLY COMMUNION.

EVENTS OF THIS WEEK
Today, December 4th:
 *Ruth Garbarino [N] (*St Barbara*)
Monday, December 5th:
 * Al Zollars [B]
 * **Evening Divine Liturgy for the Feast of St Nicholas; 6:00 PM**
 * *Visit from St Nicholas following the Liturgy*
Tuesday, December 6th ~ Feast Day of St Nicholas of Myra:
 * Nicholas Dickson [N] (*St Nicholas*)

* Nicholas Mitran [N] (*St Nicholas*)
Wednesday, December 7th:
 * James Wehry [B]
Thursday, December 8th:
 * Academy; 6:00 - 8:00 PM
Friday, December 9th:
 * Anna Mantalvanos [N] (*St Anna's Conception of the Theotokos*)
Saturday, December 10th:
 * Great Vespers; 6:00 PM
 * *Confessions heard following Vespers*

**SPIRITUAL GUIDANCE, INSTRUCTION FROM THE SAINTS,
 WORDS FROM OUR FATHER, BISHOP JOSEPH**

“If you consider the promised reward, what you endure is less. Immortality is given to the one who perseveres; everlasting life is offered; the Lord promises His Kingdom.”

~ *St Cyprian of Carthage*



How do we earn the peace from above? By doing nothing? By repeating the same hymns every Sunday with no change or transformation? We need to be reconciled to our neighbors, our brothers and sisters and even to nature. That is why we fast — in order to be reconciled, because the more we are purified from any kind of corruption, the more God will occupy us.

When we fast we have to reconcile not only with one another, but with all creatures - with the animals and even with nature. Nature is acting against human beings. Why? Because we started it first by acting against nature in the Garden of Eden. So we need the peace from above.

Your Father in Christ,
 + *Bishop JOSEPH*