

VARIABLES – DECEMBER 15, 2024

# SS. PETER & PAUL ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN SABA, ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK AND METROPOLITAN OF ALL NORTH AMERICA

HIS GRACE BISHOP ANTHONY, AUXILIARY BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF LOS ANGELS AND THE WEST

REVEREND FATHER CHRISTOPHER DILLON, PASTOR

REVEREND FATHER GEORGE WASHBURN, REVEREND FATHER JOHN CHRISTIANSON

*“The wondrous love of God toward man is recognized when man is in misfortunes that are destroying his hope. Here God manifests His power for man’s salvation. For man never recognizes the power of God in tranquility and freedom.” ~ St. Isaac the Syrian*

**Welcome to all our visitors worshipping with us this morning!** Please sign our Guest Register as you enter the church and be our guest for coffee and refreshments this morning after the service is over. We look forward to meeting you and welcoming you personally to Ss. Peter and Paul.

## Hieromartyr Eleutherios, Bishop of Illyria & Forefathers (Ancestors) of Christ

MARTYR ANTHIA, MOTHER OF ELUETHERIOS; VENERABLE PAUL OF LATRA

### Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom—Hymns & Scriptures

Variable Hymns – see music in packet

Troparion of the Resurrection, Tn. 8, Byzantine

From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate One, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion; Thou art our life and our Resurrection, O Lord, glory to Thee.

Apolytikion of the Forefathers, Tn. 2, Byzantine

Thou hast justified by faith the ancient Forefathers, and through them Thou hast gone before and betrothed unto Thyself the Church of the Gentiles. Let the saints, therefore, take pride in glory; for from their seed sprouted forth a noble fruit, and it was she who gave birth to Thee without seed. Wherefore, by their pleadings, O Christ God, save our souls.

Apolytikion of St. Eleutherios of Illyria, Tn. 5, Byzantine

Being comely adorned in thy sacred priestly robes and newly drenched with the steams of thy pure and sanctified blood, thou didst soar aloft to stand before thy Master, Christ; hence never cease to intercede for those honoring with faith thy mighty and blessed contest, thou overthrower of Satan, O wise and blessed Eleutherios.

Troparion of Ss Peter & Paul, Tn. 4, Byzantine

O Foremost of the Apostles, and teachers of the world, intercede with the Master of all to grant peace to the world and to our souls the Great Mercy.

Clergy only – Kontakion of Preparation of Christ’s Nativity, Tn. 3, Byzantine

On this day the Virgin cometh to the cave to give birth to God the Word ineffably, Who was before all the ages. Dance for joy, O earth, on hearing the gladsome tidings; with the Angels and the shepherds now glorify Him Who is willing to be gazed on as a young Child Who before the ages is God.

Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to St. Timothy (1:8-18).

Timothy, my son, do not be ashamed then of testifying to our Lord, nor of me his prisoner, but share in suffering for the gospel in the power of God, Who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not in virtue of our works but in virtue of his own purpose and the grace which he gave us in Christ Jesus ages ago, and now has manifested through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, Who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a preacher and apostle and teacher, and therefore I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know Whom I have

believed, and I am sure that He is able to guard until that Day what has been entrusted to me. Follow the pattern of the sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus; guard the truth that has been entrusted to you by the Holy Spirit Who dwells within us. You are aware that all who are in Asia turned away from me, and among them Phygelos and Hermogenes. May the Lord grant mercy to the household of Onesiphoros, for he often refreshed me; he was not ashamed of my chains, but when he arrived in Rome he searched for me eagerly and found me. May the Lord grant him to find mercy from the Lord on that Day and you well know all the service he rendered at Ephesus.

**Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke (14:16-24).**

The Lord spoke this parable: "A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many; and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had been invited, 'Come; for all is now ready.' But, one by one, they all began to make excuses. The first said to him, 'I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine them; I pray you, have me excused.' And another said, 'I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.' So the servant came and reported this to his master. Then the householder in anger said to his servant, 'Go out quickly to the streets and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.' And the servant said, 'Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still there is room.' And the master said to the servant, 'Go out to the highways and hedges, and compel people to come in, that my house may be filled. For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.' For many are called, but few are chosen."

***Receiving Holy Communion:*** Only Orthodox Christians prepared through prayer, fasting, and a recent sacramental confession should approach the chalice for the Eucharist. The Orthodox Church does not practice "open communion" and has no intercommunion with non-Orthodox churches.

***After taking Communion:*** Please return to your place and continue standing until the announcements.

***Today's Commemorations and Prayer Requests***

*Take this list of prayer requests home with you and keep these people in your prayers this week.*

***For the living:*** Newly illumined Chrissy; Bp. Anthony; Prs. John, Thomas; Khs. Barbara, Carla; Sylvia, Lynne & Roger, Patty, Marilyn, Kurt, Magdalena, Betty, Ron, Sally, Kay, Noah, Timothy, Alexander, Jeremiah, Alex, Hector, Saoirse, Persephone, Samuel, Verity, Christine, Atticus, Evelyn, Enrica, Jon & Serenity, Ada, Grayson, Emmett, Sage, Rosanna, Beverly.

***For those who are pregnant and their unborn children:*** Monica.

***For the reposed:*** Met. Philip; Aps. Gordon, Jack; Prs. Tom, Stephen, Basil, David, Terry; Hmks. Ephraim, John, Athanasios; Mnk. Simeon; Dns. Mark, John, Mark, Nathaniel, David, Joseph, Michael, Daniel; Khs. Judy, Jedonne, Terry Elizabeth, Doris; Presbs. Zinnia, Barbara; Boris, Glaphyra; Stella, Dewitt, James, Karen, Larry, Isabel, Sandy, Russ.

***For those serving in the Armed Forces:*** Brycen, Jonathan, David, Jacob, Gregory, Daniel, Don, Scott, Michelle, Noah.