



CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

10315 Carey Road; Berlin, MD 21811
 302-537-6055 (church) / orthodoxdelmarva.org /
 frjohn@orthodoxdelmarva.org

BULLETIN OF FEBRUARY 2, 2014

A Warm Welcome!

We warmly welcome all of our visitors! It's good to have you with us!

Annual Meeting of the Parish – February 2nd

will be today, following the coffee hour. Everyone – all full-time and part-time members, as well as visitors to the Mission – is asked to please stay for this very important meeting. A film will be shown for the children in the parish hall so that their parents might be able to more easily attend and participate in the meeting.



Meeting of the Lord in the Temple – February 2nd

Today, we celebrate the Meeting of the Lord in the Temple. This Twelve Great Feast commemorates the Lord's presentation into His Temple 40 days after His birth in the flesh. More info on page two.

Work Project

The walls and ceiling of our chapel are currently being beautified. A graphical rendering of the final design is available for your viewing at the candle stand. The new color which you currently see on the walls and ceiling is simply primer, upon which would be placed plaster and then painted stencils. For questions about the project, please speak with Fr. John or Laura Deckmann.



Fast-free Week

Unless you are looking to broaden your phylacteries (Matt. 23:5), during the week of the Publican and Pharisee, February 9-16, we do not fast, even on Wednesday and Friday.

Special Molieben – Sunday, February 9th

All welcome to join in these prayers of petition and thanksgiving.

Have Something on Your Mind?

Feel free to talk to your priest. Fr. John can be reached anytime via phone, 302-537-6055 or email, frjohn@orthodoxdelmarva.org.

Enlarging Your Circle of Friendship

Often times when we come to church we find ourselves mingling with the same group of people; people with whom we may have a special affinity or perhaps people with whom we may have formed lasting friendships – and this is a great and wonderful thing! Yet, at the same time, we mustn't pass up the opportunity to interact with and get to know people outside our circle of friends. There is nothing better than a unified parish, whose circle of friendship includes everyone. Take a moment each Sunday to get to know someone different – you won't regret it!



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2ND

Meeting of the Lord

One of the Twelve Great Feasts

- 8:40a.m. Hours
- 9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy w/ blessing of candles
- Coffee Hour
- Annual Parish Meeting

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH

8:00p.m. Great Vespers

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH

Publican and Pharisee Sunday

- 8:40a.m. Hours
- 9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy
- Coffee Hour
- Molieben

Looking Ahead:

- ❖ Feb. 23rd – Meatfare Sunday
- ❖ March 2nd – Cheesefare Sunday
- ❖ March 3rd – Great Lent Begins
- ❖ March 25th – Annunciation
- ❖ April 13th – Palm Sunday
- ❖ April 18th – Holy Friday
- ❖ April 20th – Pascha

READER SCHEDULE

Sunday, Feb. 9th

Joanne Patrick

Sunday, Feb. 16th

Gabriela Jones



CASH FLOWS THROUGH 12/31/13					CASH FLOWS IN JANUARY 2014					FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT		
OPERATING		OTHER		ALL	OPERATING		OTHER		ALL	ASSETS & LIABILITIES – 2/2		
Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Net	Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Net	Checking	Overdue	Due 2/2014
71,781	60,319	50,167	56,415	+5,214	7,092	7,422	700	1,000	-630	+10,021	0	0

THE MEETING OF THE LORD IN THE TEMPLE

Celebrated February 2nd – From the Prologue of Ochrid

The fortieth day after His birth, the All-Holy Virgin brought her Divine Son into the Temple of Jerusalem, in accordance with the Law, to dedicate Him to God and to purify herself. "Consecrate to me every first-born that opens the womb among the Israelites both of man and beast, for it belongs to me" (Exodus 13:2). "Tell the Israelites: when a woman has conceived and gives birth to a boy, she shall be unclean for seven days, with the same uncleanness as at her menstrual period. On the eighth day, the flesh of the boy's foreskin shall be circumcised, and then she shall spend thirty-three days more in becoming purified of her blood; she shall not



touch anything sacred nor enter the sanctuary till the days of her purification are fulfilled. If she gives birth to a girl, for fourteen days she shall be as unclean as at her menstruation, after which she shall spend sixty-six days in becoming purified of her blood. When the days of her purification for a son or for a daughter are fulfilled, she shall bring to the priest at the entrance of the meeting tent a yearling lamb for a holocaust and a pigeon or a turtledove for a sin offering. The priest shall offer them up before the Lord to make atonement for her, and thus she will be clean again after her flow of blood. Such is the law for the woman who gives birth to a boy or a girl child" (Leviticus 12:2-7). Even though neither the one nor the other was necessary, nevertheless the Lawgiver did not, in anyway, want to transgress His own Law whom He had given through Moses, His servant and prophet. At that time, the high-priest Zaccharias, the father of John the Forerunner [Precursor], was on duty in the Temple["serving as a priest before God in the order of his division" St. Luke 1:8]. Zaccharias placed the Virgin, not in the temple area reserved for women but rather in the area reserved for virgins. On this occasion, two unusual persons appeared in the Temple: the Elder Simeon and Anna, the daughter of Phanuel. The righteous Simeon took the Messiah in his arms and said: " Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, according to thy word: For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, which thou hast prepared before the face of all people; a light to lighten the Gentiles, and the glory of thy people Israel." (St. Luke 2: 29-32). Simeon also spoke the following words about the Christ-child: "Behold, this child is destined for the fall and rise of many in Israel" (St. Luke 2:34). Then Anna, who from her youth served God in the Temple by fasting and prayers, recognized the Messiah and glorified God and proclaimed to the inhabitants of Jerusalem about the coming of the long-awaited One.

Troparion – tone 1

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos full of grace! From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, Enlightening those who sat in darkness! Rejoice and be glad O righteous elder, you accepted in your arms the Redeemer of our souls, Who grants us the resurrection!

Kontakion – tone 1

By Thy Nativity Thou didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and didst bless Simeon's hands, O Christ God. Now Thou hast come and save us through love, grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, O only Lover of men!

The Pharisees present in the Temple, who having seen and heard all, became angry with Zacharias because he placed the Virgin Mary in the area reserved for virgins and reported this to King Herod. Convinced that this is the new king about whom the Magi from the east spoke, Herod immediately sent his soldiers to kill Jesus. In the meantime the Holy Family had already left the city and set out for Egypt under the guidance of an angel of God. The Feast of the Meeting of our Lord in the Temple was celebrated from earliest times but the solemn celebration of this day was established in 544 AD during the reign of Emperor Justinian.

Concerning the Virgin Birth

According to the Law, "Every male child that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord." Only with Christ did this literally occur. He Himself opened the womb of the Virgin at birth, while all other wombs which have born a child have first been opened by a man.



- Blessed Theophylact

SUNDAY OF ZACCHAEUS

From OCA.org

The paschal season of the Church is preceded by the season of Great Lent, which is also preceded by its own liturgical preparation. The first sign of the approach of Great Lent comes five Sundays before its beginning. On this Sunday the Gospel reading is about Zacchaeus the tax-collector. It tells how Christ brought salvation to the sinful man, and how his life was changed simply because he "sought to see who Jesus was" (Luke 19:3). The desire and effort to see Jesus begins the entire movement through Lent towards Pascha. It is the first movement of salvation.

Our lenten journey begins with recognition of our own sinfulness, just as Zacchaeus recognized his. He promised to make restitution by giving half of his wealth to the poor, and by paying to those he had falsely accused four times as much as they had lost. In this, he went beyond the requirements of the Law (Ex. 22:3-12).

The example of Zacchaeus teaches us that we should turn away from our sins, and atone for them. The real proof of our sorrow and repentance is not just a verbal apology, but when we correct ourselves and try to make amends for the consequences of our evil actions. We are also assured of God's mercy and compassion by Christ's words to Zacchaeus, "Today salvation is come to this house" (Luke 19:9). After the Great Doxology at Sunday Matins (when the week tone is 1, 3, 5, 7) we sing the Dismissal Hymn of the Resurrection "Today salvation has come to the world," which echoes the Lord's words to Zacchaeus.

Zacchaeus was short, so he climbed a tree in order to see the Lord. All of us have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23). We are also short in our spiritual stature, therefore we must climb the ladder of the virtues. In other words, we must prepare for spiritual effort and growth.



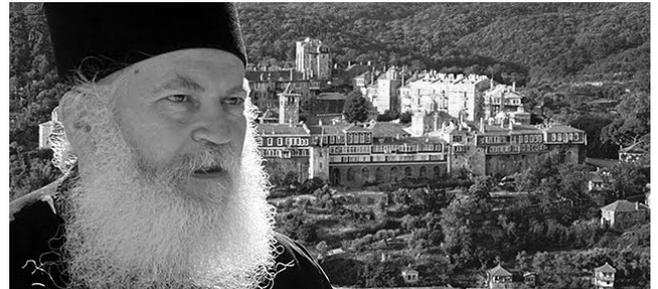
CONTEMPORARY MAN AND THE SPIRITUAL LIFE

Elder Ephraim, Abbot of Vatopaidi Monastery

We who live in the contemporary world prefer to justify everything and live as we see fit. We do not live the true spiritual life, and we do not like to follow the teachings of the Church.

If we keep the commandments of God, the Grace of the Holy Spirit will come into our hearts. Only then will our lives have meaning, because then the soul tastes God.

Though we are in the Church, we do not like to follow the rules of the Church. It is a fashion among youth. This cannot be however. Freedom is not going where you want to go or doing what you want to do. Freedom is to be free from the passions. One is free who knows Christ. Anyone who wants to be in the Church keeps the commandments. If you keep the commandments you receive Divine Grace.



FEBRUARY CONGRATULATIONS!

Birthdays:

2/6	Andrew Hageman	2/21	Beth Keller
2/10	Christopher Morsey	2/23	Natalia Korovina
2/14	Alma Linda Hageman	2/25	Constantine Cook
2/17	Daria Parsells	2/25	Pearl HopeAnne Stewart
2/18	Titus Samuel Stewart	2/26	Londy Kokkinos
2/20	Isabella Morsey	2/28	Ana Lucia Hageman

