

WEEKLY BULLETIN

January 30, 2022 Vol. 39, No. 5
32nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
Three Holy Hierarchs



SAINT ELIA ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

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*His Eminence Alexander, Archbishop of Toledo, Bulgarian Diocese, OCA
Very Rev. Mitrred Archpriest Father Don Anthony Freude, Parish Rector
Rev. Protodeacon James M. Gresh, Attached*

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

32nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - Tone 7

**Synaxis of the Three Great Ecumenical
Teachers and Hierarchs: Basil the Great,
Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom**

Saturday, January 30

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, January 23

9:10 am 3rd & 6th Hours: Sue Ellen Turscak

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Sue Ellen Turscak

Epistle: 1 Timothy 1:15-17 Gospel: Luke 18:35-43

**Holiday - THE MEETING OF OUR LORD IN THE
TEMPLE. 40th Day of our Lord's Nativity**

Tuesday, February 1

**6:00 pm Vespers and Divine Liturgy of Saint John
Chrysostom**

33rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - Tone 8

**Afterfeast of the Meeting of our lord in the Temple
Sunday of Zacchaeus**

Saturday, February 5

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Sunday, February 6

9:10 am 3rd & 6th Hours: Sue Ellen Turscak

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Sue Ellen Turscak

Epistle: 1 Timothy 1:15-17 Gospel: Luke 18:35-43

Synaxis of the Ecumenical Teachers and Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom

Commemorated on January 30

Synaxis of the Three Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom: During the eleventh century, disputes raged in Constantinople about which of the three hierarchs was the greatest. Some preferred Saint Basil (January 1), others honored Saint Gregory the Theologian (January 25), while a third group exalted Saint John Chrysostom (November 13).

Dissension among Christians increased. Some called themselves Basilians, others referred to themselves as Gregorians, and others as Johnites.

By the will of God, the three hierarchs appeared to Saint John the Bishop of Euchaita (June 14) in the year 1084, and said that they were equal before God. "There are no divisions among us, and no opposition to one another."

They ordered that the disputes should stop, and that their common commemoration should be

celebrated on a single day. Bishop John chose January 30 for their joint Feast, thus ending the controversy and restoring peace.

Tone 4 Troparion (*Three Hierarchs*)

As sharers of the Apostles' life and character
and teachers of the universe,
intercede with the Master of all
to grant peace to the world,
and great mercy to our souls!

Tone 2 Kontakion (*Three Hierarchs*)

Lord, You have taken up to eternal rest
and to the enjoyment of Your blessings
the divinely-inspired heralds, the greatest of Your
teachers,
for You have accepted their labors and deaths as a
sweet-smelling sacrifice,
for You alone are glorified in Your saints.



MEETINGS RESCHEDULED

**Parish Council and Parish Annual Meetings
will be RESCHEDULED in February.**

OUR STEWARDHIP – January 23, 2022

Candles:	\$ 10.00
Bookstore:	30.00
<u>Sunday Offering:</u>	<u>1,147.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$1,157.00
“Tithley Donations:	\$448.50

FEAST OF THE MEETING OUR LORD IN THE TEMPLE

Commemorated on [February 2](#)



The Meeting of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ is described in the third Gospel (Luke 2:22-40). Forty days after His birth the Divine Child was brought to the Temple at Jerusalem to be presented to the Lord. According to the Law of Moses (Lev. 12:2-8), a woman who gave birth to a male child was forbidden to enter the Temple for forty days. At the end of the time of her purification, the mother went to the Temple with the child, to offer a young lamb, two turtledoves, or pigeons to the Lord as a sacrifice. The Most Holy Virgin had no need of purification, since she had given birth to the

Source of purity and sanctity. Out of humility, however, she fulfilled the requirements of the Law.

At this time the righteous Elder Simeon (February 3) was living in Jerusalem. It had been revealed to him that he would not die until he beheld the promised Messiah. By divine inspiration, Saint Simeon went to the Temple at the very moment when the Most Holy Theotokos and Saint Joseph had brought the Child Jesus to fulfill the Law.

Saint Simeon received the divine Child in his arms,¹ and giving thanks to God, he spoke the words repeated by the Church each evening at Vespers: *“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 enlighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel”* (Luke 2:29-32). Saint Simeon said to the Most Holy Virgin: *“Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel, and for a sign which shall be spoken against. Yea, a sword shall pierce through your own soul also, that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed”* (Luke 2:34-35).

At the Temple was an 84-year-old widow, Saint Anna the Prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel (February 3), *“who did not leave the temple, but served God with fasting and prayers night and day.”* She arrived just when Saint Simeon met the Divine Child. She also gave thanks to the Lord and spoke of Him to all those who were looking for redemption of Jerusalem” (Luke 2:38). In the icon of the Feast she holds a

scroll which reads: “This Child has established Heaven and earth.”

Before Christ was born, the righteous men and women lived by faith in the promised Messiah and awaited His coming. The Righteous Simeon and the Prophetess Anna, the last righteous persons of the Old Testament, were deemed worthy to meet Him in the Temple.

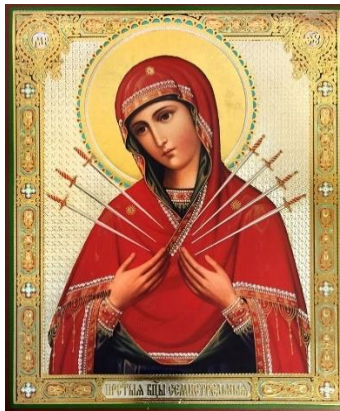
The Feast of the Meeting of the Lord is among the most ancient feasts of the Christian Church. We have sermons by the holy bishops Methodios of Patara (+ 312), Cyril of Jerusalem (+ 360), Gregory the Theologian (+ 389), Amphilokhios of Iconium (+ 394), Gregory of Nyssa (+ 400), and John Chrysostom (+ 407). Despite its early origin, this Feast was not celebrated so splendidly until the VI century.

In 528, during the reign of Justinian, an earthquake killed many people in Antioch. Other misfortunes followed this one. In 541 a terrible plague broke out in Constantinople, carrying off several thousand people each day. During this time of widespread suffering, a solemn prayer service (Litia) for deliverance from evils was celebrated on the Feast of the Meeting of the Lord, and the plague ceased. Giving thanks to God, the Church established a more solemn celebration of this Feast.

Church hymnographers have adorned this Feast with their hymns: Saint Andrew of Crete in the VII century; Saint Cosmas Bishop of Maium, Saint John of Damascus, and Saint

**Germanus Patriarch of Constantinople in the VIII century;
and Saint Joseph, Archbishop of Thessaloniki in the IX
century.**

**Today we also commemorate the Icon of the Most Holy
Theotokos known as “the Softening of Evil Hearts” or
“Simeon’s Prophecy.” The Mother of God is depicted without
her Child, and seven swords piercing her breast: three from
the left side, three from the right, and one from below. A
similar Icon, “Of the Seven Swords” (August 13) shows three
swords on the left side and four from the right. The
“Softening of Evil Hearts” Is also commemorated on August
13. The Icon “Simeon’s Prophecy” symbolizes the fulfillment
of the prophecy of the righteous Elder Simeon: “a sword shall
pierce through your own soul” (Luke 2:35).**



**Vespertal Divine Liturgy celebrating the Feast of
our Lord’s MEETING IN THE TEMPLE will be on
Tuesday evening, February 1 at 6:00 pm**

REMEMBERING THOSE IN THE
ARMED FORCES

Subdeacon Anthony Freude,
son of Fr Don and Popadia Donna Freude
Egor Cravcenco,
son of Serghei and Ludmila Cravcenco

REMEMBERING OUR SICK AND SHUTINS

Metropolitan Herman
Archbishop Paul
Archbishop Benjamin
Archbishop Nathaniel
Fr. Moses Berry
Joseph Boyle (brother of Kathy Gray)
Phyllis (sister of Rose Marie Vronick)
Angelo Lambo
Florence Lambo
Subdeacon Martin Paluch
Reader William Paluch
Martin Vronick
Rose Marie Vronick
Pani Dolores Zuder
Matushka Myra Kovalak
Mitred Archpriest Daniel Kovalak
Matushka Christine Zebren
Matushka Laryssa Huntyan
Sarah Niglio
Samir Hakim

PANDEMIC GUIDELINES

Since the beginning of the Covid-19 Pandemic we have been taking every PRECAUTION to protect the health and well-being of all our people. In accordance with the CDC St. Elia Parish will follow these directives:

- 1) If you are sick and/or exhibit coronavirus symptoms, you must refrain from attending services.**

- 2) The CDC recommends masking while indoors for both vaccinated and unvaccinated and to maintain social distancing.**

- 3)The kissing of Icons, the Cross, the Gospel Book, the Chalice and the priest's hand when receiving the blessing is permitted if you are comfortable doing so.**

- 4)The sanitizer and masks are available in
the vestibule for your convenience**