

Please silence phones and pagers. Taking photos and videos during the liturgy is prohibited.

Saint Sophia Cathedral

Essentials

Your guide to fruitful worship.



Sunday, February 2, 2020

All English Liturgy

The Presentation of Our Lord and Savior in the Temple

First Antiphon

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and
all that is within me bless His
holy Name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and
forget not all that He has
done for you.

The Lord in heaven has prepared
His throne, and His kingdom
rules over all.

Second Antiphon

Praise the Lord, O my soul; I will
praise the Lord in my life; I
will chant unto my God for
as long as I have my being.

Blessed is He of whom the God
of Jacob is his help, whose
hope is in the Lord his God.

The Lord shall be King unto
eternity; your God, O Zion,
from generation
to generation.

Third Antiphon

This is the day the Lord has
made; let us rejoice and be
glad in it.

Let the heavens and the earth
praise Him.

HYMNS AT THE SMALL ENTRANCE

Second Antiphon

Save us O Son of God who was held in the arms of the righteous Symeon, sing we to Thee Alleluia.

Apolytikion of the Presentation

Hail to thee full grace Theotokos and virgin, for from thee rose the sun of righteousness, Christ our God, illuminating those in darkness. Rejoice righteous elder having welcomed into thy arms the liberator of our souls, He who also grants us the resurrection.

Isodikon

The Lord has made known His salvation to all the nations. Save us O Son of God who didst arise from the dead sing we to Thee Alleluia.

The Resurrection Apolytikion

Descending from on high O compassionate one, to free us all from our iniquities. Humbling Yourself by dwelling three days in the tomb, our life and resurrection. Lord, Glory to You.

Apolytikion of the Presentation

Hail to thee full grace Theotokos and virgin, for from thee rose the sun of righteousness, Christ our God, illuminating those in darkness. Rejoice righteous elder having welcomed into thy arms the liberator of our souls, He who also grants us the resurrection.

Troparion of Saint Sophia (Holy Wisdom)

Blessed are You O Christ our God, Who as all wise the fishermen You showed forth; By sending your Holy Spirit down upon them and through them the universe You drew unto your net. O lover of mankind Glory to You.

Kondakion of the Presentation

Virgin womb sanctified by Thy birth and by the hands of Simeon who blessed as was proper, coming just in time Thou saved us Christ the God. Always grant peace to Thy commonwealth and give strength to the leaders whom Thou hast loved, the only lover of all.

Megalynarion

Theotokos the hope of all the Christians, shelter guard and protect all those who hope in you. In the shadow of the law and in the scriptures a sign is revealed to us as the faithful believers that every male child who opens the womb is holy to God. The firstborn Son and Word of the Father without beginning or end, the first born Son of a mother who has known no man, we magnify.

Communion Hymn

I shall receive the cup of salvation and I shall call upon the name of the Lord. Alleluia.

We welcome baptized Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared to receive Holy Communion. All are welcome to receive a blessing.

Please let the children come first, then wait for the ushers to guide you out row by row.

SAINT SOPHIA CATHEDRAL

1324 S. Normandie Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90006

www.saintsophia.org

V. Rev. Father John S. Bakas

Dean

Fr. Christopher Kolentsas

Assistant Priest

Scripture Reading

Faith comes by hearing...

Epistle Reader Karen Scherrer

Priest: Let Us Attend...

Reader: My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior...For he has regarded the humility of his servant.

Priest: Wisdom.

Reader: The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Hebrews (7:7-17)

Priest: Let us be attentive...

BRETHREN, it is beyond dispute that the inferior is blessed by the superior. Here tithes are received by mortal men; there, by one whom it is testified that he lives. One might even say that Levi himself, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, for he was still in the loins of his ancestor when Melchizedek met him. Now if perfection had been attainable through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need would there have been for another priest to arise after the order of Melchizedek, rather than one named after the order of Aaron? For when there is a change in the priesthood, there is necessarily a change in the law as well. For the one of whom these things are spoken belonged to another tribe, from which no one has ever served at the altar. For it is evident that our Lord was descended from Judah, and in connection with that tribe Moses said nothing about priests. This becomes even more evident when another priest arises in the likeness of Melchizedek, who has become a priest, not according to a legal requirement concerning bodily descent but by the power of an indestructible life. For it is witnessed of him, "Thou art a priest for ever, after the order of Melchizedek."

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. LUKE (2:22-40)

At that time, the parents brought the child Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every male that opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtle doves, or two young pigeons." Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Symeon, and this man was righteous and devout, looking for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he should not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And inspired by the Spirit he came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said, "Lord, now let your servant depart in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to your people Israel."

And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him; and Symeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is spoken against (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that thoughts of many hearts may be revealed." And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher; she was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years from her virginity, and as a widow till she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the temple, worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she gave thanks to God, and spoke of him to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. And when they had performed everything according to the law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The Presentation of Our Lord and Savior in the Temple Reading



When the most pure Mother and Ever-Virgin Mary's forty days of purification had been fulfilled, she took her first-born Son to Jerusalem on this, the fortieth day after His birth, that she might present Him in the temple according to the Law of Moses, which teaches that every first-born male child be dedicated to God, and also that she might offer the sacrifice of a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons, as required by the Law (Luke 2:22-24; Exod. 13:2; Lev. 12:6-8). On this same day, a just and devout man, the greatly aged Symeon, was also present in the temple, being guided by the Holy Spirit. For a long time, this man had been awaiting the salvation of God, and he had been informed by divine revelation that he would not die until he beheld the Lord's Christ. Thus, when he beheld Him at that time and took Him up into his aged arms, he gave glory to God, singing: "Now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, O Master. . ." And he confessed that he would close his eyes joyfully, since he had seen the Light of revelation for the nations and the Glory of Israel (Luke 2:25-32). From ancient times, the Holy Church has retained this tradition of the churching of the mother and newborn child on the fortieth day and of the reading of prayers of purification.

The Apodosis of the Feast of the Meeting in the Temple is usually on the 9th of February. This, however, may vary if the Feast falls within the period of the Triodion. Should this occur, the Typicon should be consulted for specific information concerning the Apodosis of the Feast.

General Douglas MacArthur's Prayer for His Son

Bret and Kate McKay



Editor's note: While General Douglas MacArthur was stationed in Australia and acting as Supreme Commander of Allied Forces in the Southwest Pacific Area, he penned this prayer for his only son, Arthur.

Build me a son, O Lord, who will be strong enough to know when he is weak and brave enough to face himself when he is afraid; one who will be proud and unbending in honest defeat, and humble and gentle in victory.

Build me a son whose wishes will not take the place of deeds; a son who will know Thee—and that to know himself is the foundation stone of knowledge.

Lead him, I pray, not in the path of ease and comfort, but under the stress and spur of difficulties and challenge. Here let him learn to stand up in the storm; here let him learn compassion for those who fail.

Build me a son whose heart will be clear, whose goal will be high; a son who will master himself before he seeks to master other men; one who will reach into the future, yet never forget the past.

And after all these things are his, add, I pray, enough of a sense of humor, so that he may always be serious, yet never take himself too seriously. Give him humility, so that he may always remember the simplicity of true greatness, the open mind of true wisdom, and the weakness of true strength.

Then I, his father will dare to whisper, "I have not lived in vain. "

The Mission of Saint Sophia Cathedral

- 1. Proclaim and teach the Gospel according to the Orthodox Christian Faith*
- 2. Sanctify and enhance the spiritual life of the faithful through Orthodox Christian worship.*
- 3. Receive persons into the Church through instruction, baptism and/or chrismation.*

Sunday, February 2

8:30 am — Orthros

10:00 am — *Divine Liturgy*

12:30 pm — Bible Faith Studies

Tuesday, February 4

11 am — Bible Studies

