

# Saint Paul the Apostle Orthodox Church

24 BURKE ROAD

FREEHOLD, NJ 07728

Twenty Fourth Sunday After Pentecost

November 23, 2014

Father Robert E Lucas, Pastor;  
Subdeacon Daniel J. Korba and Nikitas Tsokris,  
Cantors

Rectory 215-862-9227; Parish Center 732-780-3158

## We Are A Stewardship Parish Of Time, Talent and Treasure

The mission of our parish faith community is to teach the Gospel message in the rich tradition of the Orthodox Church; to enable people to reflect the image of Jesus Christ in every day activities of life; to offer spiritual formation through changing times; and to celebrate community among Orthodox believers in our Freehold area.

We of St. Paul the Apostle Parish dedicate ourselves to maintaining the sanctity of worship and spiritual enlightenment in a family environment that reaches and involves all ages and unifies all people.

We believe in the spirit of ecumenism in which we share our faith by word and example and extend our spiritual insights to all people.

We accept the responsibility of Christian Stewardship that through generous giving we may all experience a faith communion with Christ as the Center of our lives.

We dedicate ourselves to insuring the well-being of all people so that we may truly experience the message of Christ's salutary gospel.

We are a beacon on a hill with the eyes of many upon us; that beacon is the inspired Light of Christ which must shine brightly in our lives.

*It is not ourselves we preach but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' has shone in our hearts, that we in turn might make known the glory of God shining on the face of Christ. This treasure we possess in earthen vessels to make it clear that its surpassing power comes from God and not from us. We are afflicted in every way possible, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in us 2 Corinthians 4: 5 - 8.*

## GLAD TIDINGS

+++ Today we have festal anointing on the occasion of this past week's solemn feast of the Entrance of the Birthgiver of God into the Temple. The customary greeting is "Christ Is Among Us!" to which we respond, "He Is And Shall Be!"

+++ Every Monday, we have prayerful devotions before the Myrrh bearing icon at 6:00 PM. Everyone is invited to be present in praise. The Birthgiver invites us to manifest our faith in response to her first



shown love, to unite our prayers with hers for the salvation of our souls. Invite your friends and neighbors to join us.

+++ Please remember we are in the Nativity Fast which began yesterday. Impose seriously on yourself the prescriptions of the Church that our hearts and souls become worthy manglers of our Saviour on the feast of His Nativity. Fast from sin, meat and dairy products that your soul is enriched.

+++ The Thanksgiving Bake Sale was yesterday. We thank all who contributed to its success. God bless you, devoted souls!

+++ Please keep the intentions of these members of our parish intercession community in your daily prayers: Father George, Anna, Barbara, Betty, James, Yevlogia, Nicholas, Maria, Cynthia, Nicholas, Pani Anna Marie and Andrea.

+++ The sign-up sheet for both the Web Site and Bulletin sponsors is on the bulletin board in the kitchen. Please sign up as soon as possible. Do NOT make payment until your sign-up month has arrived. This will make it easier for Father to keep track of payments. Thanks in advance to all who support the parish in this way.

+++ We offer thanks to the Blessed Trinity for inspiring generosity in the souls of our faithful and the blessing of abundant grace in our midst with the offering received last Sunday: Tithe Offering, \$525.00; Candles, \$8.00; Holyday, \$25.00; November Bulletin, \$25.00; Kitchen, \$263.00, for a total of \$821.00. We express our profound gratitude to the parishioner communicants who offer their God-given treasure and labored for the sake of the Lord and the good of our parish. God bless and reward you good and faithful souls!

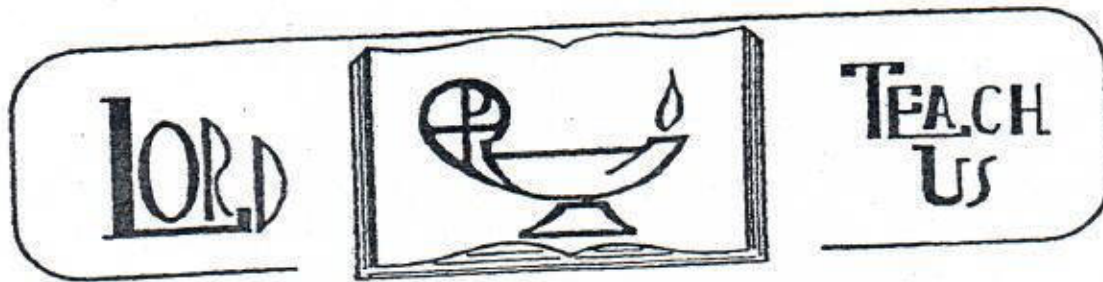
+++ As faithful believers, we intercede and associate ourselves in prayer with the following who have prayed and offered seven day lights for their intentions: Father Lucas, Maria Idronmenos, Anna Zacharyczuk, Bob Gorbich, Marilyn Korba and Pani Buletza.

+++ We make a PENNIES FROM HEAVEN Canister available for our faithful to bring in pennies for our altar and its appointments. We are already in receipt of \$1818.00 from this apostolate. Even your pennies can help and are a blessing to our parish.

+++ Please be certain to see a member of the Parish Council if you would like to help our parish by using Shop Rite Food Coupons available in \$20.00 denominations. We invite ALL to be caring and supportive and use Grocery Coupons for food shopping as we have gratefully realized \$5750 on this project to date!

+++ The Clothing Drive is a permanent on-going project in our parish. Please bring any type of clothing and fabrics along with stuffed animals and shoes for the benefit of our parish. The bags can be left in the vestibule or on the front porch of the rectory. Please invite your friends and neighbors to assist us in disposing of unwanted clothing, shoes and fabrics.

+++ We invite all pray the Lord our God grants us the grace of enrichment of our spiritual lives for his glory.



### Gluttony

*But of course some of them wouldn't listen, and left it until morning and when they looked, it was full of maggots and had a terrible odor; and Moses was very angry with them. So they gathered the food morning by morning, each home according to its need; and when the sun became hot upon the ground, the food melted and disappeared. But some of the people went out any way to gather food, even though it was the Sabbath but there wasn't any Exodus 16: 20 - 27.*

*Son, be wise and stay in God's paths; do not carouse with drunkards and gluttons, for they are on their way to poverty. And remember that too much sleep clothes a man with rags Proverbs 23: 19 - 21.*

*Happy the land whose king is a nobleman and whose leaders work hard before they feast and drink and then only to strengthen themselves for the tasks ahead Ecclesiastes 10: 17.*

*But instead you sing and dance and play and feast and drink. "Let us eat, drink and be merry," you say, "what's the difference, for tomorrow we die" Isaiah 22: 13.*

*And I will sit back and say to myself: "Friend, you have enough stored away for years to come. Now take it easy. Wine, women and song for you" But God said to him, "Fool, tonight your soul shall be taken from you. Then who will get it all?" Luke 12: 19, 20.*

*Their future is eternal loss, for their god is their appetite; they are proud of what they should be ashamed of; and all they think about is this life here on earth Philippians 3: 19.*



Here is offered the wealth of poetic prayer If we wish to  
enrich and personalize our daily conversation with God.

---

## **Common Troparia for Days of the Week**

### **Common for Monday - Holy Angels**

#### **Troparion - Tone 4:**

Leaders of the heavenly armies, although we are unworthy, we always beseech you to fortify us by your prayers and to shelter us beneath the wings of your sublime glory. Watch over us who bow to you and cry out fervently: Deliver us from danger. For you are the commanders of the powers on high.

#### **Kontakion - Tone 2:**

Leaders of God's armies and ministers of divine glory, commanders of angels and guides of mortals, plead on our behalf for what we need and for great mercy; since you are the leaders of the heavenly hosts.

### **Common for Tuesday - the Holy Forerunner John**

#### **Troparion - Tone 2:**

The memory of the righteous is celebrated with praise, but for you, O Forerunner, the Lord's testimony is enough. You were shown to be more honorable than the prophets since you were deemed worthy to baptize in the waters the Lord you had proclaimed. Therefore, you fought for the truth and with joy proclaimed the good news to those in Hades, that God has appeared in the flesh to take away the sins of the world and to grant us great mercy.

#### **Kontakion - Tone 3:**

Today she who once was barren gives birth to Christ's forerunner. He himself is the fulfillment of all prophecy; for in the Jordan, he imposed his hand upon the Word of God whom the prophets had foretold and was shown to be his prophet, herald, and forerunner.

---

---

**Common for Wednesday- Holy Cross**

**Troparion - Tone 1:**

Save your people, O Lord, and bless your inheritance. Grant victory to your Church over evil and protect your people by your cross.

**Kontakion - Tone 4:**

Christ our God, who were willingly raised upon the cross, grant your mercies to the new people who bear your name. By your power grant joy to the Church. Give her victory over evil with your invincible trophy, the weapon of peace, as an ally.

**Common for Thursday - the Apostles and St. Nicholas**

**Troparion of the Apostles - Tone 3:**

O holy apostles, intercede with the merciful God that he may grant our souls forgiveness of sins.

**Troparion of Nicholas - Tone 4:**

Your life has shown you to your flock as a rule of faith, an image of gentleness, and a teacher of moderation. You acquired greatness through humility and wealth through poverty. O Father and Archbishop Nicholas, intercede with Christ our God to save our souls.

**Kontakion of the Apostles - Tone 2:**

Lord, you have received your steadfast and inspired preachers, the foremost of your apostles, into the enjoyment of your good gifts and repose. You preferred their sufferings and death above any sacrifice. For you alone know the secrets of the heart.

**Kontakion of Nicholas - Tone 3:**

You were renowned as a priest in Myra, O holy Nicholas; for you fulfilled the Gospel of Christ, O venerable Father. You risked your life for your people and saved the innocent from death. Thereby you have been initiated into the mysteries of God's grace.

---

**Common for Friday -- Holy Cross**

**Troparion - Tone 1:**

Save your people, O Lord, and bless your inheritance. Grant victory to your Church over evil and protect your people by your cross.

**Kontakion - Tone 4:**

Christ our God, who were willingly raised upon the cross, grant your mercies to the new people who bear your name. By your power grant joy to the Church. Give her victory over evil with your invincible trophy, the weapon of peace, as an ally.

**Common for Saturday -- the Saints and the Departed**

**Troparion of the Saints - Tone 2:**

Apostles, martyrs, and prophets, bishops, venerable and righteous saints, you have finished the course and have kept the faith. Since you can approach the Savior with confidence, we ask you to beseech his goodness on our behalf, for the salvation of our souls.

**Troparion for the Departed - Tone 2:**

O Lord, in your goodness, remember your servants and forgive whatever sins they committed in their life; for no one is sinless but you alone. You have the power to grant rest to the departed.

**Kontakion for the Departed - Tone 8:**

With the saints, O Christ, give rest to your servants, where there is no pain, sorrow, nor mourning, but life everlasting.

**Kontakion of the Saints - Tone 8:**

To you, O Lord, Gardener of all creation, the world offers the God-bearing martyrs as the first fruits of nature. Through their prayers and through the Theotokos preserve your Church, your dwelling-place, in perfect peace, O most merciful One.



## Where To Look In The Bible . . . .

### WHEN

Anxious for dear ones – *Psalms 121; Luke 17*  
Business is poor – *Psalms 37, 92; Ecclesiastes 5.*  
Discouraged – *Psalms 23, 42, 43.*  
Everything seems going from bad to worse – *11 Timothy 3; Hebrews 13.*  
Friends seem to go back on you – *Matthew 5; 1 Corinthians 13.*  
Sorrow overtakes you – *Psalms 46; Matthew 28.*  
Tempted to do wrong – *Psalms 15, 19, 139; Matthew 4; James 1.*  
Things look "blue" – *Psalms 34, 71; Isaiah 40.*  
You seem too busy – *Ecclesiastes 3: 1 - 15.*  
You can't go to sleep – *Psalms 4, 56, 130.*  
You have quarreled – *Matthew 18; Ephesians 4; James 4.*  
You are weary – *Psalms 95: 1 - 7; Matthew 11.*  
Worries oppress you – *Psalms 46; Matthew 6.*

### IF YOU

Are challenged by opposing forces – *Ephesians 6; Philippians 4.*  
Are facing a crisis – *Job 28: 12 - 28; Proverbs 8; Isaiah 55.*  
Are jealous – *Psalms 49; James 5.*  
Are impatient – *Psalms 40, 90; Hebrews 12.*  
Are bored – *11 Kings 5; Job 38; Psalms 103, 104; Ephesians 3.*

### WHEN

Desiring inward peace – *John 14; Romans 8.*  
Everything is going well – *Psalms 33: 12 - 22; 100; 1 Timothy 6; James 2: 1-17.*  
Satisfied with yourself – *Proverbs 11; Luke 16.*  
Seeking the best investment – *Matthew 7.*  
Starting a new job – *Psalms 1; Proverbs 16; Philippians 3: 7 - 21.*  
You have been placed in a position of responsibility – *Joshua 1: 1 - 9;*  
*Proverbs 2; 11 Corinthians 8: 1 - 15.*  
Making a new home – *Psalms 127; Proverbs 17; Ephesians 5;*  
*Colossians 3; 1 Peter 3: 1 - 17; 1 John 4.*  
You are out for a good time – *Matthew 15: 1 - 20; 11 Corinthians 3; Galatians 5.*  
Wanting to live successfully with your fellowmen – *Romans 12.*



#### TO FIND

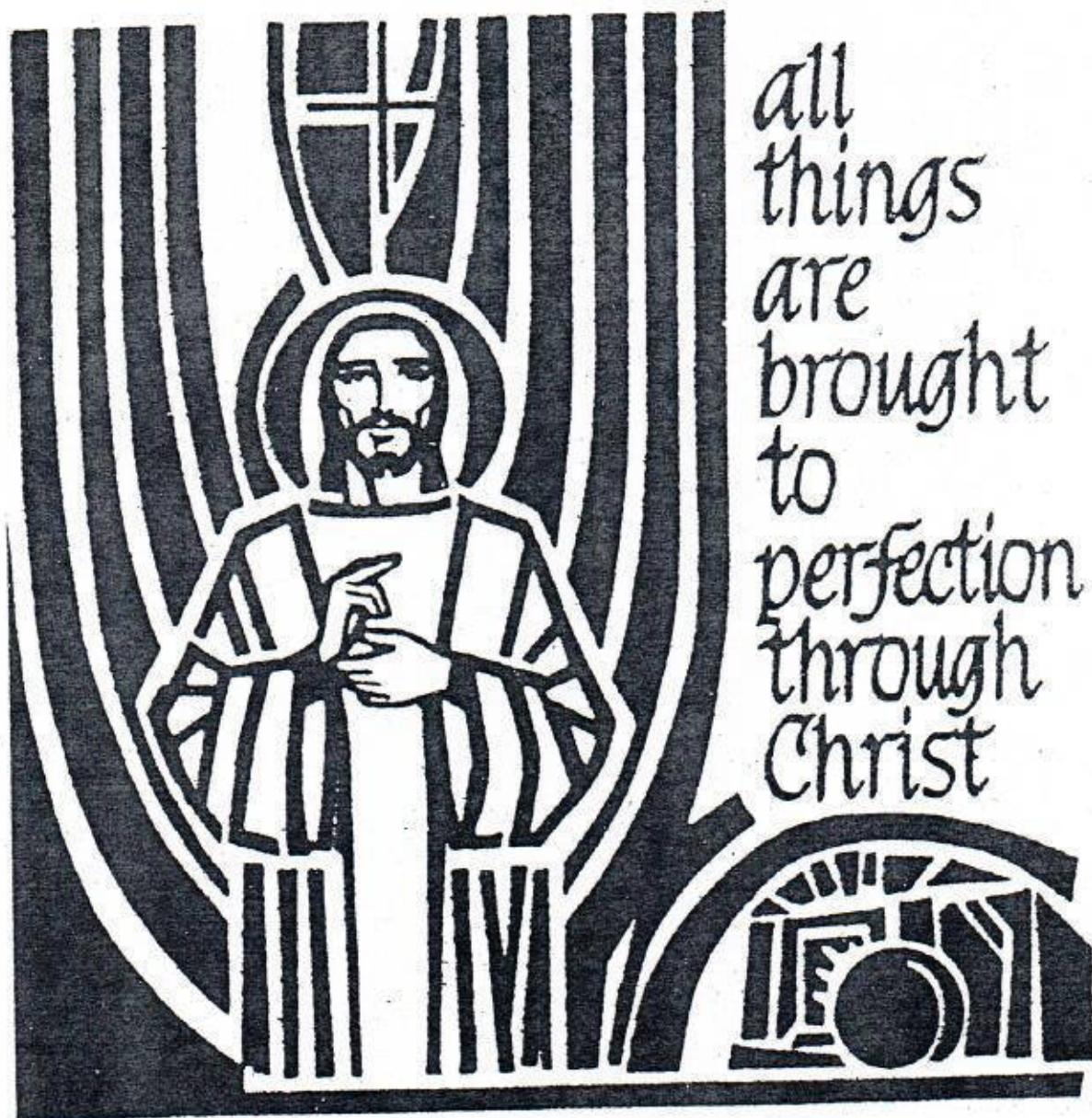
The Ten Commandments – *Exodus 20; Deuteronomy 5.*  
The Shepherd Psalm – *Psalms 23.*  
The Birth of Jesus – *Matthew 1, 2; Luke 2.*  
The Beatitudes – *Matthew 5: 1 - 12.*  
The Lord's Prayer – *Matthew 6: 5 - 15; Luke 11: 1 - 13.*  
The Sermon on the Mount – *Matthew 5, 6, 7.*  
The Great Commandments – *Matthew 22: 34 - 40.*  
The Great Commission – *Matthew 28: 16 - 20.*  
The Parable of the Good Samaritan – *Luke 10.*  
The Parable of the Prodigal Son – *Luke 15.*  
The Parable of the Sower – *Matthew 13; Mark 4; Luke 8.*  
The Last Judgment – *Matthew 25.*  
The Crucifixion, Death and Resurrection of Jesus – *Matthew 26, 27, 28, Mark 14, 15, 16; Luke 22, 23, 24; John, Chapters 13 to 21.*  
The Outpouring of the Holy Spirit – *Acts 2.*

#### IF YOU

Are bereaved – *1 Corinthians 15; 1 Thessalonians 4: 13 - 15; 28; Revelations 21, 22.*  
Bear a grudge – *Luke 6; 11 Corinthians 4; Ephesians 4.*  
Have experienced severe losses – *Isaiah 6; Mark 12; Luke 5.*  
Need forgiveness – *Matthew 23; Luke 15; Philemon.*  
Are sick or in pain – *Psalms 6, 39, 41, 67; Isaiah 26.*

#### WHEN YOU

Feel your faith is weak – *Psalms 126, 146; Hebrews 11.*  
Think God seems far away – *Psalms 25, 125, 138; Luke 10.*  
Are leaving home – *Psalms 119; Proverbs 3, 4.*  
Are planning your budget – *Mark 4; Luke 19.*  
Are becoming lax and indifferent – *Matthew 25; Revelation 3.*  
Are lonely or fearful – *Psalms 27, 91; Luke 8; 1 Peter 4.*  
Fear death – *John 11, 17, 20; 11 Corinthians 5; 1 John 3; Revelation 14.*  
Have sinned – *Psalms 51; Isaiah 53; John 3; 1 John 1.*  
Want to know the way of prayer – *1 Kings 8: 12 - 61; Luke 11, 18.*  
Want a worshipful mood – *Psalms 24, 84, 116; Isaiah 1: 10 - 20; John 4: 1 - 45.*  
Are concerned with God in national life – *Deuteronomy 8; Psalms 85, 118, 124; Isaiah 41: 8 - 20; Micah 4, 6: 6 - 16.*





*The disciples were not  
losing time when they  
sat down beside their  
Master, and held  
quiet converse with  
Him under the olives  
of Bethany or by the  
shores of Galilee.*

*Those were their  
school hours; those  
were their feeding  
times. The healthiest  
Christian, the one who  
is best fitted for Godly  
living and Godly  
labors, is he who feeds  
most on Christ.*

# ZECHARIAH

**Author**—Zechariah, whose name means “he whom God remembers.” He was born in Babylon, returning to Judah in 537 BC. Zechariah’s prophetic ministry was well established in Babylon among the people in captivity. He was from the tribe of Judah, succeeding his grandfather Addo as a prophet. Haggai was his contemporary. Zechariah is commemorated on February 8.

**Date**—520–480 BC. Zechariah’s prophecies coincide with those of Haggai.

**Major Theme**—*Encouraging the returned captives to rebuild the temple.* The prophecies of Zechariah are messianic, apocalyptic, and eschatological.

Zechariah foretold Christ’s coming in lowliness and humility (6:12; 13:7), His rejection and betrayal for thirty pieces of silver (11:12, 13), His crucifixion (13:7), His priesthood (6:13), His heritage (6:13; 9:9; 14:9, 16), His coming in glory (14:4), His building of the Lord’s temple (6:12, 13), his reign (9:10, 14), and His establishment of peace and prosperity (3:10; 9:9, 10).

As to the apocalyptic and eschatological emphasis, the prophecies foretold the invasion of Jerusalem (12:1–3; 14:1, 2), the victory of Judah’s enemies (14:2), the Lord’s defense of Jerusalem (14:3, 4), the judgment on the nations (12:9; 14:3), the geographical changes in Judah (14:4, 5), the commemoration of the Feast of Tabernacles in the messianic age (14:16–19), and the fulfillment of the prophecies about the holiness of the Israelites (14:20, 21).

This book also develops the theology of angels, as God communicates through them to Zechariah. Many New Testament apocalyptic images are foreshadowed in this book.

**Background**—In the first year of Cyrus the Great of Persia, a decree was issued permitting the return of the Jews to Jerusalem with a commission to rebuild the temple. The Israelites were led back by Zerubbabel and Joshua. Zerubbabel, son of Shealtiel, was the heir to the throne of David. In 520 BC, Zechariah and Haggai attempted to rouse the remnant of returned exiles to rebuild the temple.

## Outline

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| I. Introduction (1:1–6)                       | V. The Promise of the Future (8:1–23)                      |
| II. The Eight Night Visions (1:7–6:8)         | VI. The Rejection and Reception of the Messiah (9:1–14:21) |
| III. The Symbolic Crowning of Joshua (6:9–15) |  |
| IV. Obedience Better than Fasting (7:1–14)    |  |



ARIUS, THE NON-BELIEVER SAYS:

A fancy church costs too much to use  
once a week. I'd rather have a fancy  
house to live in. At least I use it seven  
days a week!



### *Jesus, the Great Physician*

A physician will ask you how you feel and what  
your symptoms are;

The Great Physician knows how you feel and  
understands what you are going through.

A physician will have you come to the office;

The Great Physician will stay with you and never  
leave your side.

A physician will show professional concern for you;

The Great Physician will show you true compassion.

A physician will treat you with the best medicine  
available;

The Great Physician will treat you with the riches  
of His Grace.

A physician will follow your progress with periodic  
visits;

The Great Physician will keep you in His constant  
care.

A physician will send you a bill for services rendered;

The Great Physician does His work without charge.

A physician tries his very best to help you;

The Great Physician assures you that your life  
couldn't be in better hands!

## A PROMISE IS FULFILLED

**T**he childhood of the Mother of God is as much of a mystery to us as that of her Divine Son. What we do know about her early life has been handed down to us by sacred tradition.



These sources tell us that the Virgin Mary was born of humble, saintly parents – Joachim and Anna – who waited patiently to be blessed with a child. Still childless at an advanced age, Joachim and Anna made a solemn promise to God: if He would give them a child, they, in turn, would offer that child up to the service of the Lord in the temple.

God heard the fervent prayers of Joachim and Anna, and a daughter was born to them. How great their joy must have been! What happiness the young girl Mary must have brought them! But they had made a solemn vow that had to be kept: Mary must be taken to Jerusalem for a higher calling!

The liturgical hymns prescribed for the Feast Day of the Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple vividly describe that fulfillment of this promise. We sing of a glorious procession of maidens carrying lamps as they lead the Mother of God into the Holy of Holies. We are told of Zacharias the great High Priest waiting to accept her. We hear the saintly Anna cry out to him: "Receive her of whom the prophets did preach in the spirit. Take her into the temple to be brought up in purity, so that she may become a divine throne to the Lord."

The Feast Day of the Entry of the Theotokos into the Temple is a lesson in SACRIFICE, OBEDIENCE and DEDICATION. May we be as eager to give the Lord whatever He may ask of us. May our lives be consecrated to serving Him as best we can.

**The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin** . . . . . Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey . . . . . Litho in U.S.A.