



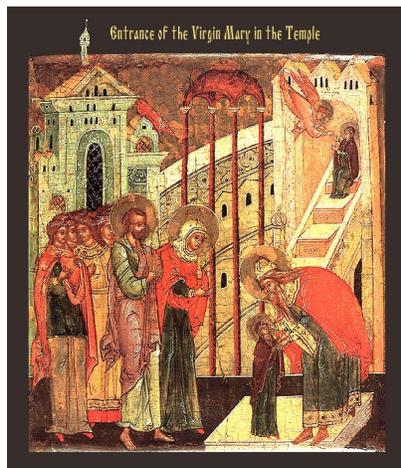
## NEWSLETTER & DEVOTIONAL GUIDE

**27th Week after Pentecost**

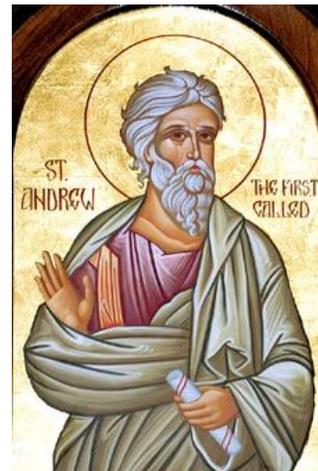
**Monday, December 7 — Sunday, December 13, 2020**



**Great Martyr Catherine of Alexandria**



**Leavetaking of the Entry of the Most Holy Theotokos**



**Apostle Andrew, the Holy and All-Praised First-Called**

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## ~ A NOTE FROM FATHER JOHN ~

“The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness there in.”(Psalm 24:1) God is everywhere present and fills all things. There is no place in creation that God does not exist. So, there is no place you cannot find Him. Therefore it behooves us to give Him the Glory. If we want to have a sense of peace, we must seek Him out in earnest, from the rising from sleep to our last thoughts as we drift off to sleep. During this preparation for Nativity, the Church invites us to fast and pray. We have much to pray about as countless people have lost jobs and businesses due to the Corona virus not withstanding the people who are sick or have died due to the virus. We need to waken each day to prayer and then practice throughout the day. In this way we will acquire peace and maintain it.

Glory to Jesus Christ!

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## ~ “TWITTER SUMMARY” ~

***The main points from Sunday’s sermon, in 280 characters or less!***

“As you can’t do business after the market closes, so you can’t win an Olympic medal when the games are over, as you can’t show your valor once the war has ended, so too you can’t postpone Godliness until the afterlife.” - St Basil

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**~ THOUGHTS FOR EVERY DAY ~**

*Scripture and liturgical readings to enrich your prayer life every day of the week*

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|--|--|
| <p align="center"><b>~ MONDAY~</b><br/>(12/7)</p> <p><b>Holy Scripture:</b><br/>1 Timothy 5:1-10<br/>Luke 17:20-25</p> <p><b>Excerpt from the Menaion:</b><br/><b>Great Martyr Catherine of Alexandria, Troparion, Tone IV —</b><br/>Thy ewe-lamb Catherine crieth out to Thee with a loud voice, O Jesus:/ "I love Thee, O my Bridegroom,/ and, seeking Thee, I pass through many struggles:/ I am crucified and buried with Thee in Thy baptism,/ and suffer for Thy sake, that I may reign with Thee;/ I die for Thee that I might live with Thee./ As an unblemished sacrifice accept me,/ who sacrifice myself with love for Thee// By her supplications save Thou our souls, in that Thou art merciful.</p> <p><b>Commemoration of the Day:</b><br/>Great-martyr Catherine of Alexandria (305)</p> | <p align="center"><b>~ TUESDAY~</b><br/>(12/8)</p> <p><b>Holy Scripture:</b><br/>1 Timothy 5:11-21<br/>Luke 17:26-37</p> <p><b>Excerpt from the Menaion:</b><br/><b>Hieromartyr Clement, Pope of Rome &amp; Peter, Patriarch of Alexandria, Troparion, Tone IV —</b><br/>O God of our fathers,/ deal with us ever according to Thy meekness./ Deprive us not of Thy mercy,/ but through their supplications// direct our life in peace.</p> <p><b>Commemoration of the Day:</b><br/>Hieromartyr Clement, pope of Rome (101)</p>  |
| <p align="center"><b>~ WEDNESDAY~</b><br/>(12/9)</p> <p><b>Holy Scripture:</b><br/>1 Timothy 5:22-6:11<br/>Luke 18:15-17, 26-30</p> <p><b>Excerpt from the Menaion:</b><br/><b>St. Innocent, first bishop of Irkutsk, Troparion, Tone III —</b><br/>O most radiant beacon of the Church, who hast illumined the Russian land with the rays of thy good works, and hast glorified God by many healings of them that have recourse to thy reliquary with faith, O holy hierarch Innocent, our father, we entreat thee: protect this city from all misfortune and grief.</p>  | <p align="center"><b>~ THURSDAY~</b><br/>(12/10)</p> <p><b>Holy Scripture:</b><br/>1 Timothy 6:17-21<br/>Luke 18:31-34</p> <p><b>Excerpt from the Menaion:</b><br/><b>Greatmartyr James the Persian, Troparion, Tone IV —</b><br/>In his suffering, O Lord,/ Thy martyr James received an imperishable crown from Thee our God;/ for, possessed of Thy might,/ he set at nought the tormentors and crushed the feeble audacity of the demons.// By his supplications save Thou our souls.</p> <p><b>Commemoration of the Day:</b><br/>Great-martyr James the Persian (421)</p> |

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|--|---|
| <p><b>Commemoration of the Day:</b><br/>         Repose of St. Innocent, first bishop of Irkutsk (1731)</p>  |   |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>~ FRIDAY ~</b><br/>(12/11)</p> <p><b>Holy Scripture:</b><br/>         2 Timothy 1:1-2, 8-18<br/>         Luke 19:12-28</p> <p><b>Excerpt from the Menaion:</b><br/> <b>Venerable Martyr Stephen the New, Troparion, Tone IV —</b><br/> <i>Struggling first in fasting upon the mountain,/ with the whole armor of the Cross thou didst destroy the noetic hordes of the enemy, O most blessed one;/ and afterwards thou didst manfully array thyself for thy contest,/ slaying Copronymus with the sword of faith.// And for both hast thou been crowned by God, O ever-memorable venerable martyr Stephen.</i></p> <p><b>Commemoration of the Day:</b><br/>         Martyr Stephen the New of Mt. St. Auxentius (767)</p> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>~ SATURDAY ~</b><br/>(12/12)</p> <p><b>Holy Scripture:</b><br/>         Galatians 5:22-6:2<br/>         Luke 10:19-21</p> <p><b>Excerpt from the Menaion:</b></p> <p><b>Commemoration of the Day:</b><br/>         Martyr Paramon and 370 Martyrs in Bithynia (250)</p> |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>~ SUNDAY ~</b><br/>(12/13)</p> <p><b>Holy Scripture:</b><br/>         Ephesians 6:10-17<br/>         Luke 13:10-17</p> <p><b>Excerpt from the Menaion :</b><br/> <b>Holy Apostle Andrew, the First-Called, Troparion, Tone IV —</b><br/> <i>As thou art the first-called of the apostles/ and the brother of the pre-eminent one,/ entreat thou the Master of all, O Andrew,/ that He grant peace to the world// and great mercy to our souls.</i></p> <p><b>Commemoration of the Day:</b><br/>         Holy and All-praised Apostle Andrew the First-called (62)</p>  | <p><i>“Their sound hath gone forth into all the earth, their words unto the ends of the world.”</i></p> <p>[Prokeimenon of Pentecost, Tone 8, Liturgy]</p> <p><b>To read more:</b><br/> <a href="https://www.holytrinityorthodox.com/calendar/">https://www.holytrinityorthodox.com/calendar/</a></p>     |

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**~ PONDER THIS ~**

*A few thoughts to ponder in light of this week's lessons and sermons.*

<http://orthodoxinfo.com/praxis/peace.aspx>

**Inner Peace  
by St. Theophan the Recluse**

There is disorder within; this you know from experience. You must destroy it; this is what you want, and you have decided to do this. Begin by directly removing the cause of all this disorder. The cause of the disorder is that our spirit has lost its original foundation. Its foundation is in God. The spirit gets back to it again through remembrance of God. Thus, the first thing is this: It is necessary to get in the habit of unceasing remembrance of God, along with fear and reverence.\*\*

I wrote you about this last time, and you agreed to it. You know what method is required for this. and you have already begun Lord give the blessing! And allow the continuation of this labor unhindered. Be with the Lord, no matter what you do; and turn to Him with your whole mind, trying to conduct yourself as you would in front of a king. You will soon get in the habit, just do not give up or break off. If you carry out this little rule conscientiously, it will reduce inner confusion and, although there will be disruptions, sometimes in the form of idle and unnecessary thoughts, or at other times in the form of emotions and inappropriate desires, you will immediately notice this error and drive out these uninvited guests, rushing each time to renew the oneness of mind concerning the One Lord.

May you be inspired!

(... TO CONTINUE READING, CLICK ON THE LINK ABOVE)

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## ~LOOK IT UP~

**Did you know:** The relics of Saint Catherine were taken by the angels to Mount Sinai. In the sixth century, the venerable head and left hand of the holy martyr were found through a revelation and transferred with honor to a newly-constructed church of the Sinai monastery, built by the holy Emperor Justinian (November 14).

**Read more:**

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2020/11/24/103382-great-martyr-catherine-of-alexandria>

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## ~ PRAYER CORNER ~

- Father John and Matushka Deborah.
  - Please keep in prayer our older parishioners who, if they contract the COVID-19 virus, will be in greater risk of serious health complications.
  - Anna and her family
  - Ekaterina, memory eternal
  - Please keep in prayer our heroic parishioners who work in the health care profession and are on the front lines of our society's fight against the Novel Corona Virus and COVID-19 disease.
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## ~ THIS WEEK'S SERVICES ~

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| Monday    | 6pm - Vespers (Facebook Live)  |
| Tuesday   | 8 am - Divine Liturgy  |
| Wednesday | 8 am - Matins (Facebook Live)<br>6pm - Vespers (Facebook Live)<br>6:40 - Akathist: St. Nicholas the Wonderworker<br>7pm - Studies in the Faith |
| Thursday  | 8 am - Matins (Facebook Live)<br>6pm - Vespers (Facebook Live)<br>6:40 - Akathist: Joy of All Who Sorrow                                       |
| Friday    | 6pm - Vespers (Facebook Live)  |



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To submit **commemorations for the next Divine Liturgy**, to make an appointment with Fr. John to give **confession by telephone**, to alert us to any pastoral needs, to submit an item for the **Prayer Corner**, or just to chat, please contact Fr. John or Mat. Deborah using the following contact information:

**Archpriest John Tomasi \* (310) 749-0524 \* [frjohn\\_tomasi@yahoo.com](mailto:frjohn_tomasi@yahoo.com)**

**Matushka Deborah Tomasi \* (310) 849-9451 \* [deborah\\_tomasi@yahoo.com](mailto:deborah_tomasi@yahoo.com)**

**Glory to Thee, our God, glory to Thee!**