



ST. SIMEON ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

A Mission of the Antiochian Orthodox
Christian Archdiocese of North America
Primate- His Eminence Metropolitan
JOSEPH, Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of all North America

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**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2022
TONE 6 / EOTHINON 4; FIFTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST**

**& FIRST SUNDAY OF LUKE
OUR RIGHTEOUS MOTHER EUPHROSYNE**

VENERABLE MARTYR PAPHNOUTIOS OF EGYPT AND THOSE SLAIN
WITH HIM;
REPOSE OF VENERABLE SERGIOS OF RADONEZH

WELCOME!

“The Newest Church in Santa Clarita is the Oldest Church in the World.”

St. Simeon Orthodox Church welcomes all of you to our community this Sunday- for truly, ***“This is the Day that the Lord has made.”*** We are honored to have you worship with us. If you are new to our community or simply have any questions, please introduce yourselves to Fr. George after the Divine Liturgy. He would love to meet you.

RESURRECTIONAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE SIX

When Mary stood at Thy grave, looking for Thy sacred body, angelic powers shone above Thy revered tomb; and the soldiers who were to keep guard became as dead men. Thou led Hades captive and wast not tempted thereby. Thou didst meet the Virgin and didst give life to the world, O Thou, Who art risen from the dead, O Lord, glory to Thee.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. EUPHROSYNE IN TONE EIGHT

Through thee, the divine likeness was securely preserved, O mother Euphrosyne; for thou didst carry the cross and follow Christ. By example and precept thou didst teach us to ignore the body, because it is perishable, and to attend to the concerns of the undying soul. Therefore, doth thy soul rejoice with the angels.

TROPARION FOR ST. SIMEON IN TONE ONE

Rejoice, thou who art full of grace, O Virgin Theotokos, for from thee hath risen the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, enlightening those in darkness. Rejoice, thou also, O righteous Elder, as thou receivest in thine arms the Redeemer of our souls, Who also granteth unto us the Resurrection.

ORDINARY KONTAKION IN TONE TWO

O protectress of Christians that cannot be put to shame, and their constant intercessor before the Creator; despise not the petitions of us sinners who are imploring you; in your goodness come to our help, who in faith cry unto you: Hasten O Theotokos to intercede for us, and hurry to pray for us! For you have always protected those who honor You.

THE EPISTLE

(For the Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost)

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance. Unto Thee will I cry, O my God.

The Reading from the Second Epistle of St. Paul to the Corinthians. (4:6-15)

Brethren, seeing that it is the God who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, the same also shone in our hearts, to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the exceeding greatness of power is from God, and not from us. We are pressed on every way, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; smitten down, but not destroyed; always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our mortal flesh. So, then, death is working in us, but life in you. But having in us the same spirit of faith, according to that which is written, "I believed, and therefore I spoke," we also believe, and therefore we also speak, knowing that the One who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up through Jesus, and will make us stand together with you. For all things are for your sakes, that the grace, which is multiplied through the thanksgiving of many, may abound to the glory of God.

THE GOSPEL

(For the First Sunday of Luke)

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (5:1-11)

At that time, Jesus was standing by the lake of Gennesaret. And He saw two boats by the lake; but the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. Getting into one of the boats, which was Simon's, Jesus asked him to put out a little from the land. And He sat down and taught the people from the boat. And when Jesus had finished speaking, He said to Simon, "Put out into the deep and let down your nets for a catch." And Simon answered, "Master, we toiled all night and took nothing! But at Thy word I will let down the nets." And when they had done this, they enclosed a great shoal of fish; and as their nets were breaking, they beckoned to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me,

for I am a sinful man, O Lord.” For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the catch of fish, which they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. And Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid; henceforth you will be catching men.” And when they had brought their boats to land, they left everything and followed Him.

THE DISMISSAL

Priest: May He Who rose from the dead, Christ our true God, through the intercessions of His all-immaculate and all-blameless holy Mother; by the might of the Precious and Life-giving Cross; by the protection of the honorable Bodiless Powers of Heaven; at the supplication of the honorable, glorious Prophet, Forerunner and Baptist John; of the holy, glorious and all-laudable apostles; of our father among the saints, John Chrysostom, archbishop of Constantinople, whose Divine Liturgy we have now celebrated; of the holy, glorious and right-victorious Martyrs; of our venerable and God-bearing Fathers; of *Saint N., the patron and protector of this holy community*; of the holy and righteous ancestors of God, Joachim and Anna; of our righteous Mother Euphrosyne of Alexandria, her father the Venerable Martyr Paphnoutios of Egypt and those slain with him; and Venerable Sergios of Radonezh, whose memory we celebrate today, and of all the saints: have mercy on us and save us, forasmuch as He is good and loveth mankind.

Priest: Through the prayers of our holy fathers, Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy upon us and save us.

Choir: Amen.

HOLY OBLATIONS

Prayers are offered for Fr. George on the occasion of his birthday. We thank God for the day he was born!! God grant him many, many more in the best of health and happiness. By his loving family and friends at St. Simeon.

Prayers are offered for Samantha Rose Thekla Nassief in commemoration of St. Thekla (9/24). May God grant you many years! With love by Subdn. Mark, Alex, and Luke Nassief.

Prayers are offered in memory of Elias Nassief (66 years) and Lena Nassief (15 years). May their memory be eternal! With love by Subdn. Mark, Alex, Samantha, and Luke Nassief.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Calling all College Student for 2022-2023

1. Name
2. Address (Where to send the Care Package)
3. College Name
4. Cellular phone number
5. E-Mail

Please send to Kristy Maloof at kmmcode5@sbcglobal.net, if you want to text me the information that is also fine. 213-505-3400

Any monetary donations towards an Amazon Gift Card can be made to St. Simeon Orthodox Church in the memo line please indicate for College Care Packages.

Announcement from the Parish Council

The Parish Council has called a special parish meeting for Sunday, September 25th immediately following Liturgy to discuss a very exciting Proposal that will positively impact the future of our church.

The Parish Council received a very generous offer to purchase our current church building which we have leased for the past five years and unanimously approved a plan to purchase the building for the offered price. The next step is for the parish membership to approve it as well.

At the September 25th meeting, the Council will present the details of the proposed purchase, and following a discussion, it will call for a vote of the parish members.

Parishioners of St. Simeon that are at least 18 years of age, are financial contributors to the church, and are in good standing in the church are eligible to vote. Please be sure to attend this very important and exciting meeting.

Please submit your oblations to: stsimeonbulletin@gmail.com by 9pm on Wednesday.

Thought for the Week

“But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, to show that the transcendent power belongs to God and not to us.”

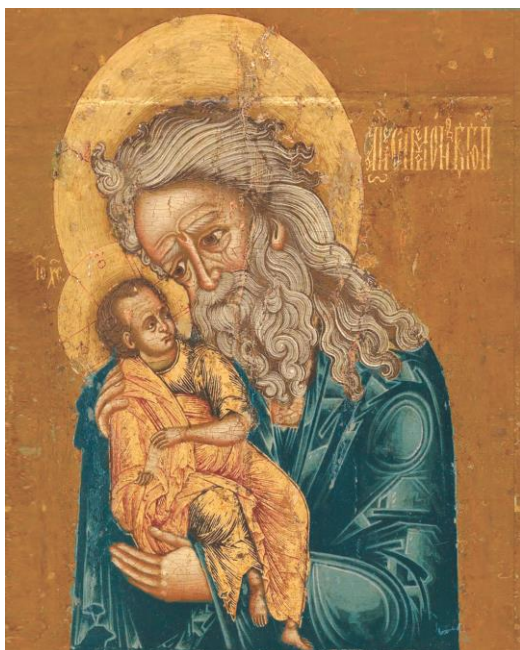
St. Paul on this 2nd Sunday of Luke tells us with what attitude we must live our lives. He is telling us first to recognize who our God is; and then to know who we are in relation to Him. When Abraham first encountered the Lord, he said ***“I am but dust and ashes.”*** When Peter encountered Jesus in the boat and realized that He had commanded the fish of the sea, that He was in control of nature- his reaction was the same; ***“he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!"***

The love that God has for us brings us a humility of heart, a sense of unworthiness, and a recognition of our own sinfulness. When we realize how much the transcendent and all-powerful God cares for and loves us our reactions, beloved, must be the same. We do not hold our heads high and proclaim to the world that “we are saved.” We do not judge or feel better than others. We must pray with the centurion: ***“Lord, I am not worthy that You should come under my roof. But only speak a word, and my servant will be healed.”***

You see beloved, the servant that will be healed is our soul. Even though we are unworthy of the love of our magnificent God, the fact is He does love us intensely and wishes to live inside of us in intimate communion. He desires to bring us peace and health of soul and body. The Word that heals us is our Lord Jesus, who gives us the Holy Spirit. This is the treasure that we contain in earthen vessels. The fact that God Himself dwells in us should change the entire way in which we view life. We recognize that we are weak and depend on God for everything- and we become thankful. When something good comes to us, we recognize that it is our Lord who gives us this gift- and we are thankful. When something bad comes to us, we recognize that our Lord allows it to strengthen our faith, to give us courage, and to allow us to share in His cross. It is by sharing His cross that we can overcome any obstacle. Evil itself is destroyed by the cross. We share in this victory- and we are even more thankful.

Finally, beloved, we must recognize that our weak earthen vessels can never have a complete or pure faith in our earthly lives. In this temporal world we will never have a perfect faith and we will continue to sin against God. We still have corruption and physical death inside of our earthen vessels. As we begin to recognize our own weaknesses and sinfulness, and begin the great struggle against them, it becomes impossible to judge anyone else. As we humble ourselves, the Holy Spirit, this great treasure inside of us, gives us power. We begin to love again, and without knowing it, we begin to live a life of virtue- and our faith increases. The life inside of us conquers the death inside of us. This, then, is the transcendent power of God. This is the treasure that our gracious Lord has given to us in the earthen vessels of our bodies. This is the treasure that He desires, above all else to share with each one of us. Amen

**Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant
depart in peace,
according to Thy word**



For mine eyes have seen Thy salvation.