

DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON JANUARY 01
FEASTS OF CIRCUMCISION OF CHRIST & BASIL THE GREAT
NEW-MARTYR PETER OF THE PELOPONNESOS

DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT

NOTE TO CLERGY: Remember to include this special petition in the Great Litany before the one for the head of state, as directed by the Antiochian Archdiocese.

Deacon: For Metropolitan Paul, Archbishop John, and for their quick release from captivity and safe return, let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye earth. Sing unto His Name; make His praise glorious.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

Tell ye all of His wondrous works. Say unto God, "How wondrous are Thy works! Through the greatness of Thy power shall Thine enemies be proved false before Thee." (*Refrain*)

Glory... Both now... (*Refrain*)

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

Let the heavens rejoice, and the earth be glad. O sing unto the Lord a new song.

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who wast circumcised in the flesh; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

Out of Zion cometh the excellence of His beauty. (*Refrain*)

Our God is in heaven and on earth; He hath done whatsoever He hath pleased. (*Refrain*)

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord, forever. With my mouth will I tell of Thy truth. Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity.

- *During the Little Entrance, after the verses of the Third Antiphon, chant the Apolytikion of the Circumcision. Then, the following:*

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN) OF THE CIRCUMCISION

Come, let us worship, and fall down before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, Who wast circumcised in the flesh; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

- *After the Little Entrance (Eisodos), sing these Apolytikia in the following order.*

APOLYTIKION OF THE CIRCUMCISION OF CHRIST IN TONE ONE

(**While Gabriel was saying**)

Our human form hast Thou taken on Thyself without change, * O greatly-compassionate Master, though being God by nature; * fulfilling the Law, Thou willingly * receivest circumcision in the

flesh,* that Thou mightest end the shadow and roll away * the veil of our sinful passions. * Glory be to Thy goodness unto us. * Glory be to Thy compassion. * Glory, O Word, to Thine inexpressible condescension.

APOLYTIKION OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT IN TONE ONE

In all the earth that received thy sayings, thy melody did resound, O righteous father, through which thou didst go about and proclaim, as worthy of God, the nature of creatures, cultivating the character of mankind, O thou of kingly Priesthood, Basil. Wherefore, plead thou with Christ God to save our souls.

- *Now sing the apolytikion of the patron saint or feast of the temple.*

KONTAKION OF THE CIRCUMCISION OF CHRIST IN TONE THREE

*(**On this day the Virgin**)*

Now the Lord of all that is * doth undergo circumcision, * in His goodness cutting off * the sins and failings of mortals. * He this day doth give salvation * unto the whole world; * and the hierarch and bright daystar of the Creator * now rejoiceth in the highest, * Basil the wise and * divine initiate of Christ.

THE EPISTLE

My mouth shall speak of wisdom; and the meditation of my heart shall be of understanding.

Hear this, all ye people.

The reading from the Epistle of St. Paul Epistle to the Colossians. (2:8-12)

Brethren, see to it that no one makes a prey of you by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in Him the whole fullness of the Godhead dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness of life in Him, Who is the head of all rule and authority. In Him also you were circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of flesh in the circumcision of Christ; and you were buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised with Him through faith in the working of God, Who raised Him from the dead.

THE GOSPEL

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Luke. (2:20-21, 40-52)

And it came to pass that the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them. And at the end of eight days, when He was circumcised, He was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before He was conceived in the womb. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon Him. Now His parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover. And when He was twelve years old, they went up according to custom; and when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but supposing Him to be in the company they went a day's journey, and they sought Him among their kinsfolk and acquaintances; and when they did not find Him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking Him. After three days they found Him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; and all who heard Him were amazed at His understanding and His answers. And when they saw Him they were astonished; and His mother said to Him, "Son, why hast Thou treated us so? Behold, Thy father and I have been looking for Thee anxiously." And Jesus said to them, "How is it that you sought Me? Did you not know that I

must be in My Father's house?" And they did not understand the saying which He spoke to them. And He went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and His mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man.

ST. BASIL LITURGY MEGALYNARION

In thee rejoiceth all creation, O thou who art full of grace: the hierarchy of the angels, and all mankind, O consecrated temple and paradise endowed with speech; glory of virginity, of whom God, Who is our God before the ages, was incarnate and became a little child. For He made thy womb a throne, and thy belly did He make more spacious than the heavens. In thee doth all creation rejoice, O thou who art full of grace, and it glorifieth thee.

KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) OF THE FEAST IN TONE EIGHT

Praise the Lord from the heavens. Praise Him in the highest. Alleluia.

- *After Communion, instead of singing "We have seen the true light", sing the Apolytikion of the Circumcision in Tone One.*
- ***PRIESTS:** Use the St. Basil Liturgy Priest's Prayer Behind the Amvon: "O Thou Who for a sacrifice..." (cf. Liturgikon, P. 303, right column).*
- *Following "Blessed be the Name of the Lord", parishes may offer "The Doxology Service on the First Day of the New Year" (cf. Liturgikon P. 424-427).*

THE DISMISSAL

Priest: May He Who on the eighth day deigned to be circumcised in the flesh for our salvation, 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, Basil the Great, archbishop of Caesarea in Cappadocia, whose memory and 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; and of the new-martyr Peter of the Peloponnesos, whose memory we celebrate today, and of all the saints: have mercy on us and save us, for as much 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.

Portions of the Archdiocesan Service Texts include texts from *The Menaion*, *The Great Horologion*, *The Pentecostarion*, and *The Psalter of the Seventy*, which are Copyright © Holy Transfiguration Monastery, Brookline, Massachusetts, and are used with permission. All rights reserved. These works may not be further reproduced, beyond printing out a single copy for personal non-commercial use, without the prior written authorization of Holy Transfiguration Monastery.