



Church website: [www.hrocby.org](http://www.hrocby.org)  
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*Holy Resurrection  
 Orthodox Church*

222 Mary Street, Rostraver Township, PA  
 (Serving the faithful of Belle Vernon and surrounding areas)

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**February 2, 2020**

*Glory be to Jesus Christ!  
 Glory be Forever!*

<b>Services</b>	Sat., Feb. 8 <sup>th</sup>	Archdiocesan Pre-Lenten Retreat <b>Akathist Prayer Service to          St. Herman of Alaska</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>10 am</b></span> followed by Retreat and Luncheon <b>Great Vespers</b> (Holy Sacrament of Confession to follow) <span style="float: right;"><b>7 pm</b></span>
	Sun., Feb. 9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Sunday of Publican &amp; Pharisee</b> Church School <span style="float: right;"><b>9:15 am</b></span> Hours <span style="float: right;"><b>9:45 am</b></span> Divine Liturgy <span style="float: right;"><b>10 am</b></span>

**Epistle**  
 (Hebrews 7:7-17)

Now beyond all contradiction the lesser is blessed by the better.

Here mortal men receive tithes, but there he *receives them*, of whom it is witnessed that he lives.

Even Levi, who receives tithes, paid tithes through Abraham, so to speak,  
 for he was still in the loins of his father when Melchizedek met him.

Therefore, if perfection were through the Levitical priesthood (for under it the people received the law), what further need *was there* that another priest should rise according to the order of Melchizedek, and not be called according to the order of Aaron?

For the priesthood being changed, of necessity there is also a change of the law.

For He of whom these things are spoken belongs to another tribe, from which no man has officiated at the altar.

For *it is* evident that our Lord arose from Judah, of which tribe Moses spoke nothing concerning priesthood.

And it is yet far more evident if, in the likeness of Melchizedek, there arises another priest

who has come, not according to the law of a fleshly commandment, but according to the power of an endless life.

For He testifies:

*“You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.”*

**Gospel**  
 (Luke 2:22-40)

Now when the days of her purification according to the law of Moses were completed, they brought Him to Jerusalem to present *Him* to the Lord

(as it is written in the law of the Lord, “*Every male who 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 turtledoves or two young pigeons.*”

And behold, there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon, and this man was just and devout, waiting 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 would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ.

So he came by the Spirit 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 You are letting Your servant depart in peace,  
 According to Your word;  
 For my eyes have seen Your salvation  
 Which You have prepared before the face of all peoples,  
 A light to *bring* revelation to the Gentiles,  
 And the glory of Your people Israel.”

And Joseph and His mother marveled at those things which were spoken of Him.

Then Simeon blessed them, and said to Mary His mother, “Behold, this *Child* is destined for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign which will be spoken against

(yes, a sword will pierce through your own soul also), that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed.”

Now there was one, Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, and had lived with a husband seven years from her virginity;

and this woman *was* a widow of about eighty-four years, who did not depart from the temple, but served *God* with fastings and prayers night and day.

And coming in that instant she gave thanks to the Lord, and spoke of Him to all those who looked for redemption in Jerusalem.

So when they had performed all things according to the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own city, Nazareth.

And the Child grew and became strong in spirit, filled with wisdom; and the grace of God was upon Him.

### **The Meeting of the Lord in the Temple**

**By Very Rev. Fr. Lawrence Farley**

In obedience to the Law, the Theotokos brought Christ into the temple to present Him to God as her firstborn son and to offer a sacrifice for her ceremonial purification. Thus did Christ, born under the Law, fulfill all the Law for our salvation, beginning a life of obedience and love to the Father.

While in the temple, they were met by aged Simeon, who had been promised by God that he would not die until he had seen the Messiah. Seeing Jesus in His mother's arms, he gave thanks to God, saying, "Lord, now You are letting Your servant depart in peace, for my eyes have seen Your salvation." They were also met by the aged prophetess Anna, who had lived since her early widowhood in chastity—she also recognized Him as the Messiah and spoke of this hope to all she met. Thus was Jesus recognized by Israel as their own Christ, in the persons of these two venerable representatives. This solemn feast dates from 544. Candles are blessed in church on this day and are held by the faithful throughout the liturgy.

\*Take time to read the scriptures to prepare your heart and mind for Sunday's Liturgy.

*Next Week:* 2 Timothy 3:10-15

*Gospel Reading:* Luke 18:10-14

### **Announcements:**

St. John's Orthodox Church in Canonsburg will be hosting a "Meet the Author" event on **Thursday, February 6 at 7 PM**, with local author Carleton Young. He'll be speaking on his book about the first-hand account of some brothers who fought in the Civil War. From the back cover of the book: "Imagine clearing out your family attic and discovering an enormous collection of letters written by two soldiers during the Civil War, but not knowing why the letters were there. Faced with that situation, Carleton Young spent more than a decade visiting battlefields and researching the two Vermont soldiers. In 'Voices From the Attic: The Williamstown Boys in the Civil War', he tells the story of two brothers who witnessed and made history by fighting in the Peninsula Campaign, then at South Mountain, Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, the Wilderness, and Cedar Creek. They then preserved that history through their surprisingly detailed and insightful letters."

The *2020 Church Calendars* have arrived and are available in the vestibule today.

**Paths of Righteousness** is a hiking group launched at St. Michael's in Greensburg under the leadership of Fr. Sam and Pete Papas. The group will embark on wilderness hikes of 5 to 7 miles in length once every 6 weeks on Saturdays or Sundays starting in April to early October. If interested, please contact Pete Papas at 412/558-1246 or [pnppapas@verizon.net](mailto:pnppapas@verizon.net). See today's insert for more information.

*Collection:* Jan. 26th: \$1,925