

**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2021**  
**Afterfeast of the Meeting in the Temple**  
**St. Parthenius, Bishop of Lampsacus**

Saint Parthenius, Bishop of Lampsacus, was a native of the city of Melitoupolis (in northwestern Asia Minor), where his father Christopher served as deacon. The youth did not receive adequate schooling, but he learned the Holy Scripture by attending church services. He had a good heart, and distributed to the poor the money he earned working as a fisherman.

Filled with the grace of God, Saint Parthenius from age eighteen healed the sick in the name of Christ, cast out demons and worked other miracles. Learning of the young man's virtuous life, Bishop Philetus of Melitoupolis educated him and ordained him presbyter.

In 325, during the reign of Constantine the Great, Archbishop Achilles of Cyzicus made him bishop of the city of Lampsacus (Asia Minor). In the city were many pagans, and the saint fervently began to spread the faith in Christ, confirming it through many miracles and by healing the sick.

The people began to turn from their pagan beliefs, and the saint went to the emperor Constantine the Great seeking permission to tear down the pagan temple and build a Christian church in its place. The emperor received the saint with honor, gave him a decree authorizing the destruction of the pagan temple, and provided him with the means to build a church. Returning to Lampsacus, Saint Parthenius had the pagan temple torn down, and built a beautiful church of God in the city.

In one of the razed temples, he found a large marble slab which he thought would be very suitable as an altar. The saint ordered work to begin on the stone, and to move it to the church. Through the malice of the devil, who became enraged at the removal of the stone from the pagan temple, the cart overturned and killed the driver Eutylian. Saint Parthenius restored him to life by his prayer and shamed the devil, who wanted to frustrate the work of God.

The saint was so kind that he refused healing to no one who came to him, or who chanced to meet him by the wayside, whether he suffered from bodily illnesses or was tormented by unclean spirits. People even stopped going to physicians, since Saint Parthenius healed all the sick for free. With the great power of the name of Christ, the saint banished a host of demons from people, from their homes, and from the waters of the sea.

Once, the saint prepared to cast out a devil from a certain man, who had been possessed by it since childhood. The demon began to implore the saint not to do so. Saint Parthenius promised to give the evil spirit another man in whom he could

dwell. The demon asked, "Who is that man?" The saint replied, "You may dwell in me, if you wish."

The demon fled as if stung by fire, crying out, "If the mere sight of you is a torment to me, how can I dare to enter into you?"

An unclean spirit, cast out of the house where the imperial purple dye was prepared, said that a divine fire was pursuing him with the fire of Gehenna.

Having shown people the great power of faith in Christ, the saint converted a multitude of idol-worshippers to the true God.

Saint Parthenius died peacefully and was solemnly buried beside the cathedral church of Lampsacus, which he built.

## ***GREAT VESPERS***

***LORD I CALL: Four stikhera of the Resurrection in tone 2, followed by three for the feast and three for the saint***

***Resurrection, tone 2:***

Come, let us worship the Word of God

begotten of the Father before all ages,

and incarnate of the Virgin Mary!

Having endured the Cross, He was buried as He himself desired.//

And having risen from the dead, He saved me, the erring one.

Christ our Savior nailed to the Cross the bond against us,

He voided it and destroyed the dominion of death.//

We fall down before His Resurrection on the third day.

With the Archangels let us praise the Resurrection of Christ!

He is our Savior, our Redeemer.

He is coming with awesome glory and mighty power//

to judge the world which He made.

The Angel proclaimed You as the crucified and buried Master.

He told the women: "Come, see the place where He lay!

He is risen as He said, for He is almighty."

We worship You, only immortal One.//

O Christ, the Giver of life, have mercy on us!

***Feast, tone 1:***

Simeon, tell us, Whom you bear in your arms,

that you rejoice so greatly in the Temple?

To Whom do you shout and cry aloud:

“Now I am set free, for I have seen my Savior?”  
This is He Who was born of a Virgin;  
this is God the Word, Who came forth from God,  
Who for our sakes has taken flesh and has saved man.//  
Let us worship Him!

Simeon, receive Him Whom Moses once beheld in darkness,  
granting the Law on Sinai,  
now that He has become a Babe subject to the Law!  
This is He Who spoke through the Law.  
This is He, of Whom the Prophets spoke,  
Who for our sakes has taken flesh and has saved man.//  
Let us worship Him!

Come, let us also go to meet Christ with divine songs!  
Let us receive Him Whose salvation Simeon saw!  
This is He Whom David announced;  
this is He Who spoke in the Prophets,  
Who, for our sakes, has taken flesh and Who speaks through the Law.//  
Let us worship Him!

***Saint Parthenius, tone 1:***

The great Parthenius, the namesake of virginity,  
the beacon of Lampsacus,  
the radiant morning star of miracles,  
calleth us all together by his memorial,  
that we who sing hymns to Christ the Savior//  
may keep the spiritual feast.

You bore God within yourself from childhood  
by the fire of your prayers, O all-blessed and wise one.  
You burned up legions of demons  
and guided the flock of Lampsacus.  
Casting down the temples of idols,//  
you renewed yourself for God.

The fish that was thrown away, breathless, yet life-giving;  
the fruit of the barren field and vineyard;  
the generous rain promised to those who wept,  
all proclaimed your wonder.  
Your works are wonderful, O celebrant of sacred mysteries.//  
Therefore, pray that we may be saved.

***Glory... for the feast, tone 6:***

In the hands of the Elder upon this day  
You were pleased to be laid, O Christ our God,  
as upon the chariot of the Cherubim.  
Deliver us also, who sing Your praise,  
calling us back from the tyranny of the passions,//  
and save our souls!

***Now & ever... the Dogmatkon in tone 2:***

The shadow of the Law passed when grace came;  
as the Bush burned, yet was not consumed,  
so the Virgin gave birth, yet remained a Virgin.  
Instead of a pillar of flame, the Righteous Sun has risen.//  
Instead of Moses, Christ, the Salvation of our souls.

***APOSTIKHA: all stikhera of the Resurrection in tone 2:***

Your Resurrection, O Christ our Savior,  
has enlightened the whole universe,  
calling back Your creation.//  
Glory to You, O almighty Lord!

O Savior, by the Tree You destroyed the curse of the Tree.  
By Your burial You mortified the majesty of death.  
You have enlightened our race by Your Resurrection.//  
O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!

O Christ, when You were seen nailed to the Cross,  
You restored the beauty of Your creatures.  
The soldiers showed their inhumanity when they pierced Your side with a spear.  
The Hebrews not knowing Your power asked that Your tomb might be sealed,  
but through the mercy of Your compassion,  
You accepted the tomb and rose on the third day!//  
O Lord, glory to You!

O Christ, the Giver of life,  
for the sake of the dead You voluntarily endured death,  
descending into hell as the Mighty One  
to save those who awaited Your coming,  
granting them the life of paradise instead of hell.  
Grant also to us who glorify Your Resurrection on the third day//  
cleansing of our sins and great mercy!

***Glory...now & ever... for the feast, tone 6:***

Let the gate of heaven be opened today,  
for the unoriginate Word of the Father  
has made a beginning in time without forsaking His divinity.  
As a Babe forty days old,  
of His own will He is brought by the Virgin, His Mother,  
as an offering in the Temple of the Law.  
The Elder receives Him in his arms,  
crying as a servant to his Master:  
“Let me depart for my eyes have seen Your salvation!”//  
Glory to You, O Lord, for You have come into the world to save mankind.

### ***TROPARIA***

#### ***Resurrection, tone 2***

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life Immortal,  
Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead!  
And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,  
All the powers of heaven cried out:  
O Giver O Life! Christ our God! Glory to Thee!

#### ***St. Parthenius, tone 4***

In truth you were revealed to your flock as a rule of faith,  
an image of humility and a teacher of abstinence;  
your humility exalted you;  
your poverty enriched you.  
O Hierarch Father Parthenius,  
entreat Christ our God//  
that our souls may be saved!

#### ***Feast, tone 1***

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace!  
From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, ^Christ our God,  
enlightening those who sat in darkness.  
Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder,  
you accepted in your arms the ^Redeemer of our souls,//  
Who grants us the Resurrection!

## ***DIVINE LITURGY***

### ***TROPARIA***

#### ***Resurrection, tone 2***

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life Immortal,  
Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead!

And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead,  
All the powers of heaven cried out:  
O Giver O Life! Christ our God! Glory to Thee!

***Feast, tone 1***

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace!  
From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, ^Christ our God,  
enlightening those who sat in darkness.  
Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder,  
you accepted in your arms the ^Redeemer of our souls,//  
Who grants us the Resurrection!

***Saint John of Damascus***

Teacher of Orthodoxy, piety, and purity!  
Enlightener of the universe!  
And divine inspiration to monastics  
by your teachings we are all enlightened,  
and by your spiritual music, O all-wise John of Damascus,  
pray to Christ our God for the salvation of our souls!

***St. Parthenius, tone 4***

In truth you were revealed to your flock as a rule of faith,  
an image of humility and a teacher of abstinence;  
your humility exalted you;  
your poverty enriched you.  
O Hierarch Father Parthenius,  
entreat Christ our God//  
that our souls may be saved!

***KONTAKIA***

***Resurrection, tone 2***

Hell became afraid, O almighty Savior,  
Seeing the miracle of Thy Resurrection from the tomb!  
The dead arose! Creation, with Adam, beheld this and rejoiced with Thee!  
And the world, O my Savior praises Thee forever.

***St. Parthenius, tone 3***

You received divine grace to work miracles/  
wise and holy God-bearing wonderworker Parthenius.  
You cleansed the passions of all the faithful  
and drove out evil spirits.//  
Therefore, we praise you as a great initiate of the grace of God.

***Feast, tone 1***

By Your Nativity You sanctified the Virgin's womb  
and blessed Simeon's hands, ^O Christ God.

Now You have come and saved us through love.

Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians,//

O only Lover of Man!

**Prokeimenon, tone 2:** The Lord is my strength and my song; / He has become my salvation.

*(Ps. 117:14)*

*V.* The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death.

*(Ps. 117:18)*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prok, tone 3:** My soul magnifies the Lord, / and my spirit rejoices in God my  
Savior. *(Lk. 1:46-47)*

**Epistle (280) 1 Timothy 1:15-17:** My son Timothy, we know that this is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am first. However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to them which should believe on Him to life everlasting. Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, unto God who alone is wise, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

***Alleluia in the second tone:*** *V. May the Lord hear you in the day of trouble! May the name of the God of Jacob protect you! (Ps. 19:1)*

*V. Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call! (Ps. 19:9)*

*V. Lord, now let Your servant depart in peace, according to Your word, for my eyes have seen Your salvation! (Luke 2:29)*

**Gospel (62) Matthew 15:21-28:** At that time, Jesus went out from there and departed to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed." But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, "Send her away for she cries out after us." But He answered and said, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." Then she came and worshipped Him, saying, "Lord, help me!" But He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs." And she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

***(Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing:)***

O Virgin Theotokos, hope of all Christians,  
protect, preserve, and save those who hope in you!

We faithful saw the figure in the shadow of the Law and the Scriptures:  
Every make child that opened the womb was holy to God!  
Therefore, we magnify the first-begotten Son of the unoriginated Father.  
The first-born Son of the unwedded mother!

**Communion Hymns:** Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest!  
(Ps. 148:1) I will receive the cup of salvation and call on the Name of the Lord. (Ps. 115:4)  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

**MEGALYNARIA OF THE 9<sup>TH</sup> ODE**  
**MEETING OF THE LORD, FEBRUARY 2**

1. O pure Virgin Mother  
That which came to pass in you,  
Is beyond the understanding  
Of angels and men.

2. Now Simeon the elder  
Receives in his arms  
The Maker of the law  
And the Master of all.

3. Desiring to save Adam  
The Creator took up His abode  
In your pure and spotless womb,  
O Virgin Mother of God.

4. All creation blesses you  
O pure Virgin,  
And in faith glorifies you  
“Now let me depart in peace.”

5. O come and behold  
Christ the Master of all,  
Whom Simeon holds  
In the temple today.

6. You look down upon the earth  
And make it tremble.  
How then can I who am old carry You,  
In my arms!

7. You, O God, Who are before all things  
By Your will became man  
And are carried to the temple  
As an infant forty days old.

8. The aged Simeon  
received the Lord of all  
Who by His own holy will  
Came to earth from heaven.

9. O God who are by nature One  
But in persons three,  
Keep watch over Your servants  
Who put their faith in you.

10. O Virgin Theotokos,  
Hope of all Christians  
Protect, preserve and aid  
All who put their hope in you.