

**DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES ON JANUARY 16**  
**VENERATION OF THE PRECIOUS CHAINS OF THE APOSTLE PETER**

PEUSIPPOS AND NEONILLA, AND THE MARTYRS OF CAPPADOCIA; HIEROMARTYR DAMASKINOS OF HILANDAR MONASTERY ON ATHOS; HONORATOS, ARCHBISHOP OF ARLES AND FOUNDER OF LERINS MONASTERY; ROMIL OF RAVANICA

*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 SECOND ANTIPHON

Save us, O Son of God, Who art wondrous in the Saints; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN) OF ORDINARY WEEKDAYS

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

- *Now sing these hymns in the following order.*

**APOLYTIKION OF ST. PETER THE APOSTLE IN TONE FOUR**

Thou hast come to us without leaving Rome, O thou who dost preside over the Apostles, by the power of the venerable chains thou didst bear. While honoring them with faith, we beseech thee, that through thine intercessions, God may grant us great mercy.

- *Now sing the apolytikion of the patron saint or feast of the temple ONLY IF St. Peter is not the patron saint of your temple.*
- *Then sing the Kontakion of St. Peter ONLY IF he is the patron saint of your temple. Otherwise, sing the Kontakion of the Presentation. Do not sing both.*

KONTAKION OF VENERATION OF ST. PETER'S CHAINS IN TONE TWO

Let us all extol great Peter, the chief and foremost of the Apostles, the God-inspired expounder of the truth. And let us kiss his chains with faith, thereby obtaining the forgiveness of our sins.

KONTAKION OF THE PRESENTATION OF CHRIST IN TONE ONE

(CHANT) (CHORAL)

Thou, O Christ God, Who by Thy Birth, didst sanctify the Virgin's womb, and, as is meet, didst bless Simeon's arms, and didst also come to save us; preserve Thy fold in wars, and confirm them whom Thou didst love, for Thou alone art the Lover of mankind.

THE EPISTLE

*His voice has gone out into all the earth. The heavens declare the glory of God.*

**The Reading from the Acts of the Apostles. (12:1-11)**

In those days, Herod the king laid violent hands upon some who belonged to the Church. He killed James the brother of John with the sword; and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he

proceeded to arrest Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread. And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people. So Peter was kept in prison; but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the Church. The very night when Herod was about to bring him out, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries before the door were guarding the prison; and behold, an angel of the Lord appeared, and a light shone in the cell; and he struck Peter on the side and woke him, saying, "Get up quickly." And the chains fell off his hands. And the angel said to him, "Wrap your mantle around you and follow me." And he went out and followed him; he did not know that what was done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision. When they had passed the first and the second guard, they came to the iron gate leading into the city. It opened to them of its own accord, and they went out and passed on through one street; and immediately the angel left him. And Peter came to himself, and said, "Now I am sure that the Lord has sent His angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people were expecting."

### THE GOSPEL

#### **The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (21:14-25)**

At that time, Jesus showed Himself to His Disciples after He was risen from the dead, and Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; Thou knowest that I love Thee." He said to him, "Feed My lambs." A second time He said to him, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; Thou knowest that I love Thee." He said to him, "Tend My sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, Thou knowest everything; Thou knowest that I love Thee." Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep. Truly, truly, I say to you, when you were young, you girded yourself and walked where you would; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish to go." (This He said to show by what death he was to glorify God.) And after this He said to him, "Follow Me." Peter turned and saw following them the Disciple whom Jesus loved, who had lain close to His breast at the supper and had said, "Lord, who is it that is going to betray Thee?" When Peter saw him, he said to Jesus, "Lord, what about this man?" Jesus said to him, "If it is My will that he remain until I come, what is that to you? Follow Me!" The saying spread abroad among the brethren that this Disciple was not to die; yet Jesus did not say to him that he was not to die, but, "If it is My will that he remain until I come, what is that to you?" This is the Disciple who is bearing witness to these things, and who has written these things; and we know that his testimony is true. But there are also many other things which Jesus did; were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written.

- *The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom continues as usual. The only remaining variable is the Koinonikon.*

### **KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) FOR THE APOSTLE IN TONE EIGHT**

His sound hath gone forth into all the earth, and his words unto the ends of the world. Alleluia.

### THE DISMISSAL

Priest: May 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 the holy, glorious and all-laudable Apostle Peter—whose precious chains we now venerate—Peusippos and Neonilla, and the martyrs of Cappadocia; Hieromartyr Damaskinos of Hilandar monastery on Athos; Honoratos, archbishop of Arles and founder of Lerins Monastery; and Romil of Ravanica, 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.

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