

# The Gospel's Voice



## Orthodox Parish of the Holy Transfiguration

Number 14, January 2017



Dr Gérard Klepper is happy to invite you to his ordination as Deacon, Father John, on Saturday, the 7th of January at 9.30 a.m. by our Metropolitan, His Eminence Ignatios of Madagascar and the Indian Ocean, from the Patriarchate of Alexandria and all Africa, in the Church of the Transfiguration, Mauritius. Thanks a lot for your prayers.



*During the time of the Nativity, we became aware that the birth of our Lord is part of a long history: that of the Hebrew people as recounted in the Old Testament. From Adam, through Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, prophets, kings, sometimes women and also foreigners like Ruth the Moabite, who all played a part in the history of salvation especially by announcing the coming of the Messiah. But this story continues after the birth of Christ until today. As Saint Paul says: “we are surrounded by a multitude of witnesses who have gone before us.”*

*But this continuing history does not take us away from the origins, curiously, for we are in communion with those who preceded us, we are contemporaries of the great events of the life of Christ: from His birth to the Crucifixion, from Pentecost to now.*

*This is what the text shows below:*

## **Jerusalem meets the great King**

Rejoice, daughter of Zion, shout for joy, daughter of Jerusalem. Form a chorus and dance, people of the city of God. Bounce, doors and walls of Zion, and you also, go around his ramparts.

Today the God of heaven appeared in Zion. Today people speak of you for your glory, city of God, Jerusalem, city of the great King. Open your doors to Him who opens to all the gates of heaven...

Today, the one who use to converse with Moses on Mount Sinai with a divine majesty, was born under the Law; He accomplishes the Law as a servant... today, the heavenly Spouse with the Virgin Mother enters the Temple. Daughters of Jerusalem, go out, meet Him, light your lights with joy to the true light; prepare your souls for Christ the Bridegroom.

And we the nations of the nations, let us unite ourselves to Zion, meeting Christ by bearing our lights. Entering the Temple with Him who is at once Temple, God and Messiah. With the angels, let us sing with full voice: “Holy, Holy, Holy Lord Sabaoth and earth is filled with His glory!”

Yes, the ends of the world are filled with His goodness, all creation is filled with His praise, all humanity is filled with His condescension...

I see the child coming from Bethlehem to Jerusalem without to leave the Jerusalem from above. I see the child on earth presenting an offering to the Temple as prescribed by the Law; but He receives the adoration of all creatures; I see Him carried by the arm of the old man according to the redeeming purpose, and in His majesty resting on the throne of the cherubim. He is offered and consecrated, but He is He who consecrates and purifies all things; He is the offering and He is also the Temple; He is the Priest and He is also the Altar...

He is the Lamb and He is also the subsisting Fire, He is the Holocaust and He is the Sword of the Spirit...

He is the Priest and also the Victim...

Let Adam jump in joy in the person of Simeon, and cry out:

“Now, Lord, you can let your servant go in Peace, according to thy word. Now you deliver me from corruption; now you tear me away from death; now, you free me from the trouble, you my son and my God...”

Come, you who love Christ, you who love God. Let's go to the meeting of our Lord and our King, purified and brilliant of light, not to obey the Law, but driven by the Spirit.

Yes, today, let us prepare brilliant lamps and, like light, offer our candles to Christ, True Light, for He manifested to the world the Light that must enlighten the nations.

## **Note**

Homily on the Lord's Meeting, 1-15, PG 33, c. 1187 and ss. From “The manifestation of the Lord”, coll. Lex Orandi, p. 468, translated by Dom Lemarie.

## Divine Liturgy

*Every Sunday at 9.30 a.m.*

**Sunday the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 2017** : Sunday before the Theophany, circumcision of our Lord and memory of St Basile.

**Saturday the 7<sup>th</sup>** : Theophany, benediction of the Holy Water, Nativity (according to the Russian calendar) and **ordination of Father Jean as Deacon.**

**Sunday the 8<sup>th</sup>** :

**Sunday the 15<sup>th</sup>** : Memory of Saint Father Paul of Thebes

**Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup>** : Memory of the Apostle Timothy

**Sunday the 29<sup>th</sup>** :



## The Orthodox Church of the Holy Transfiguration

Grande-Rivière N-O

Mauritius

(behind Garage BALA)

**Divine Liturgy every Sunday  
at 9.30 a.m.**

Father Athanasios: 57 33 32 53

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