



The Olive Shoots
St. Symeon Orthodox Church
November 17, 2012

✦ The Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple ✦
Feast Day on: November 21, 2013



“The Theotokos and mother of The Light let us honor
and magnify in song!” ~ Matins (Orthos)

Upcoming Events

Tuesday- Vespers for the Entrance of the Theotokos at
6:30pm

Wednesday- Liturgy for the Entrance of the Theotokos
at 6:00 am



Troparion Tone 4

Today is the preview of the good will of God, of the preaching of the salvation of mankind.

The Virgin appears in the temple of God, in anticipation proclaiming Christ to all. Let us rejoice and sing to her: Rejoice, O Divine Fulfillment of the Creator's dispensation.

Kontakion Tone 4

The most pure Temple of the Savior; the precious Chamber and Virgin; the sacred Treasure of the glory of God, is presented today to the house of the Lord. She brings with her the grace of the Spirit, therefore, the angels of God praise her: "Truly this woman is the abode of heaven."

Today's Bible verse is:

"So is he that layeth up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

~Luke 12: 21

What does it mean?

We don't need to get lots of money and be famous. When we get greedy, we push ourselves away from God.

The Entrance of the Theotokos into the Temple is one of the 12 Great Feasts of the Orthodox Church. It is celebrated on November 21.

According to Tradition, the Virgin Mary was taken by her parents (Joachim and Anna) into the Temple in Jerusalem as a young girl. She was 3 years old when she was taken there. When she arrived, she ran up the 15 steps that led to the temple without any help! She was so happy that she was going to live in holiness. She lived and served in the Temple until she was betrothed to St. Joseph at age 13.

Mary was taken by the temple community which was headed by the priest Zacharias, the father of John the Baptist. No girl was ever allowed in the Holy Place. She was led to the Holy Place to become herself the "holy of holies" of God, the living sanctuary and temple of the Divine child who was to be born in her (Jesus).

ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS

