



Sunday January 29, 2017 32nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 7 Sunday of Zacchaeus, New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia. Translation of the Relics of Hieromartyr Ignatius the Godbearer, Bishop of Antioch (107). St. Lavrentii (Lawrence), Recluse, of the Kiev Caves, Bishop of Turov (Near Caves—12th c.). Ss. Gerásim (1441-1467), Pitirím (1445) and Jonah (1470), Bishops of Perm.

This Week's Schedule

Wednesday 2/01 Eve of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple Vespers & Liturgy Eve 6:30 p.m.

Saturday 02/04 Great Vespers 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 02/05 Hours 8:40 a.m.

Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m.

Followed by coffee hour

Reader Schedule

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>3RD HOUR</u> | <u>6TH HOUR</u> | <u>EPISTLE</u> |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Jan-29 | LEWIS | PECK | PECK |
| <i>Feb 2</i> | <i>MEETING OF THE LORD</i> | | |
| Feb-5 | WALES | WALES | \WALES |
| Feb-12 | SULPIZI | LEWIS | BRASOWSKI |
| Feb-19 | RILEY | RILEY | RILEY |

Hymns and Prayers

Tone 7 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

By Your Cross You destroyed death.
To the thief You opened Paradise.
For the Myrrhbearers You changed weeping into joy.
And You commanded Your disciples, O Christ God,
to proclaim that You are risen,//
granting the world great mercy.

Tone 4 Troparion *(New Martyrs of Russia)*

Today the Church of Russia joyfully forms a chorus,
praising her new martyrs and confessors;
hierarchs and priests, royal passion-bearers, right-believing princes and
princesses,
venerable men and women, and all Orthodox Christians.
Having laid down their life for faith in Christ during the days of godless
persecution,
they preserved the truth by the shedding of blood.//
By their protection, O long-suffering Lord, preserve our land in
Orthodoxy till the end of the age.

Tone 7 Kontakion *(Resurrection)*

The dominion of death can no longer hold mankind captive,
for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers.
Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry:
“The Savior has come to those in faith://
enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!”

Tone 3 Kontakion *(New Martyrs of Russia) (Today the Virgin)*

Today the new martyrs of Rus’ stand in white robes before the Lamb of
God,
and with the angels they sing to God the hymn of victory:
“Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and praise, and honor,
and power, and strength be to our God//
unto the ages of ages. Amen.”

Tone 7 Prokeimenon

The Lord shall give strength to His people. The Lord shall bless His people with peace. (*Ps 28/29:11*)

v: Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord!
(*Ps 28/29:1*)

Epistle 1 Timothy 4:9-15

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance.

For to this end we both labor and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Savior of all men, especially of those who believe.

These things command and teach.

Let no one despise your youth, but be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.

Till I come, give attention to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine.

Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.

Meditate on these things; give yourself entirely to them, that your progress may be evident to all.

Tone 7

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Your Name, O Most High. (*Ps 91/92:1*)

v: To declare Your mercy in the morning, and Your truth by night.
(*Ps 91/92:2*)

Gospel Luke 19:1-10

Then Jesus entered and passed through Jericho.

Now behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. And he sought to see who Jesus was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature.

So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that way.

And when Jesus came to the place, He looked up and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house."

So he made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully.

But when they saw it, they all complained, saying, "He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner."

Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold."

And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

Communion Hymns

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (*Ps 148:1*)

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just! (*Ps 32/33:1*)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

This Week's Announcement

Meeting of the Lord in the Temple The feast of the Presentation or Meeting of the Lord in the Temple takes place forty days following the Nativity of Jesus. The feast celebrates Christ's fulfillment of the Law of Moses calling for all the first born; whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, be consecrated to God. At this time we also see His mother Mary undergo the ritual purification offering the sacrifices prescribed in the Law. In the feast Christ's encounters the Elder Simeon who had long awaited His coming, and inspired by the Holy Spirit, leads the Messiah into the Temple.

We will celebrate the feast this Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. with Vespers and Liturgy. Join us!

Family Promise: St. Michaels will be hosting 4 homeless families for dinner and evening fellowship on Feb. 13, 14 & 16 (Monday, Tuesday & Thursday) at St. Philips Lutheran Church on 5320 Limestone Road (Wilmington). It's a good way to share our meals, hope, compassion and love for our neighbors in need. Please sign up on the board in narthex or contact Ellen Gundersen at puffins1@verizon.net or call 610.388.0695.

Parish Council Meeting Just a reminder that we will have our February parish council meeting this Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

House Blessings Schedule Fr. Barnabas will be offering home blessings following the feast of Theophany. Please see the signup in the Narthex.

Study Group Our Study group continued this past week with eight of us reading and discussing the 15th *Step* from “The Ladder of Divine Ascent”. Study group will continue this Thursday at 10 a.m.. All are welcome to join us.

Basics of Orthodoxy Update We will be offering the basics of Orthodoxy class on Friday evenings during the Lenten season. We will begin the week of Meatfare, Friday evening Feb 24th .following vespers. All are welcome to attend.

St Michael's Food Pantry A small food pantry bin is available to place the non-perishables for those who may come to St. Michael's in need of food. We would like to ask our community to kindly bring food items that are frozen or non-perishable, as nutritious and as minimally processed as possible. We would like to include some items that are easy to open and require little or no preparation for those who might not have fully operational kitchens, (No junk food or highly processed foods please.) If you bring frozen items, please label them as "St Michael's Food Pantry" donation and place in freezer. Thank you!

Saint Brigid of Ireland

On February 1st we celebrate one of the Orthodox Church's great ancient saints, Brigid of Ireland. Born in about 451, she was the daughter of an Irish chieftain and one of the female slaves in his court. Even as a child, Brigid apparently noticed and cared about poverty and destitution, responding by giving away her own and her family's considerable possessions to people in need.

This generosity did not meet with the wholehearted approval of her father, who complained to a friend that his daughter was bankrupting his household. The friend answered, "Let her be. She has more virtue before God than either you or I."

Brigid grew into a cultivated, energetic young woman with a sunny spirit. She had plenty of chances to marry, but turned them down and followed her desire to be a nun. With several other young women she established a monastic community, located under a large oak tree. It became known as the "Church of the Oak" (in Gaelic Cill-Dara), and she

is sometimes called "Brigid of Kildare"--an English rendering of Cill-Dara.

The community grew in numbers, reputation and achievement. Brigid was the abbess, and continued her care for the poor, selling whatever she had to give them what they needed. People who lived in the area flocked to the monastery to receive medical help and food, and to pray with the nuns. They would often see the abbess out in the fields, tending to the community's cattle. Brigid and the sisters cared for the local children as well, establishing schools and training for them. Others heard of these efforts, and before long the abbess was traveling all over Ireland to start schools, oversee the building of hospitals, and encourage people in their faith by her own steadfast, cheerful example.

Under Brigid's direction, the monastery itself became the site of an art school, where metal work and manuscript illumination (decoration of manuscript pages with colored figures and designs) were taught. The products of this school included a Gospel book, famously beautiful for its harmony of colors and intricate designs. To some it almost seemed that this "Book of Kildare" must have been the work of angels, with human beings merely copying the figures shown to them by celestial beings. Unfortunately, the book was later lost.

Brigid was a contemporary of Saint Patrick, Enlightener of Ireland, and a partner in spreading and strengthening the Christian faith throughout the country. There are many stories of their common work, and one involves a time when Brigid, perhaps exhausted by her labors and travels, fell asleep during one of Patrick's sermons. Rather than being miffed or reproachful, he simply asked his friend, "What did you dream about?" Brigid replied that she had had a most curious dream. She saw white-clothed sowers, peacefully sowing seed in a field. They were followed by another group of sowers, hunched over and wearing dirty clothes, who with hurried, jerky movements sowed weeds in the same field. Patrick told her the meaning of her dream. It was a stark prediction: After all the work the two saints had done to "sow" the true faith in Ireland, false teachers would come along and do their best to destroy it.

Perhaps many of us, if we could know beforehand that others would work vigorously to destroy our life's work, would ask, "What's the use?" and give up. Or would we find the faith and fortitude to continue working anyway, leaving the results in God's hands? Would we find it even in dark times, when others failed us? And Saint Brigid did continue to work. She is one of the most beloved and appealing saints in the

Church calendar. She is the patron of milkmaids, fugitives, printing press operators, chicken farmers, poets, and children whose parents are not married. Among her many titles is "Patroness of the Green Isle."

This weekly bulletin insert complements the curriculum published by the Department of Christian Education of the Orthodox Church in America.

This and many other Christian Education resources are available at <http://dce.oca.org>.

Wisdom from the Holy Fathers

"Blessed the one who farms fair and good thoughts each day and by hope conquers the wicked passion of despondency, by which the Lord's ascetics are warred upon."

–St. Ephrem of Syria

"Glory be to Him, Who never felt the need of our praising Him; yet felt the need as being kind to us, and thirsted as loving us, and asks us to give to Him, and longs to give to us. His fruit was mingled with us men, that in Him we might come near to Him, Who condescended to us. By the Fruit of His stem He grafted us into His Tree."

— St. Ephraim the Syrian

According to thy mercy, pour out upon me, who am miserable, at least one small drop of grace to make me understand and be converted, that I might make at least some small effort to correct myself. For if thy grace does not illumine my soul, I will not be able to see the carelessness and negligence that the passions have produced in me through my apathy and recklessness.

+ St. Ephraim the Syrian

Prayers for the Departed: Nabil Gouda, Jesse Jones, Joseph Wojceichowski, Sofia Puit, Anwor Kawaja

Prayers for the Sick and Those in Need: Fr. Joseph Chupeck, Fr. Josef Petranin, Mat Julia Petranin, Mat. Ellen Chupeck, Mat. Jennifer Franchak, Mat. Lisa Weremedic, Lemlem Resat, Alfred Mokhiber, Peter Melnik, Agnes Timchak, Olga Riley, Anna Hotrovich, Marie Holowatch, Marie Karawulan, Barbara Hicks, James Hicks, Maria Current, Anna Herko, Zack Bajuyo, Luke & Anna Wales, Nona Carey, Mona Elia, Lydia Kendall, Maria and Doug Dozier, Mary Anne Farrell, Michael Vannello, Catalina(Mary) & Jeremy (John) Finck, John Griffith, Cynthia Griffith, Carson, Stephen, Maria, Aiden, Peck Family, Walter Danchenka, Anne Peck, George Coyle

Prayers for Women and the Child to be born: Tatyana Klimova

Prayers for Catechumens: William Wennburg, Stephanie Smiertka

Prayers for Newly Illumined/Chrismated: Emily (Theodora) Zushi, Misty (Mary) Robinson

| Date | <u>Coffee Hour</u> | <u>Service Duty</u> | <u>Church Cleaner</u> | <u>Library</u> |
|---------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 22-Jan | Peck/Wales | Elia/ Morjana | Bunitsky | Gundersen |
| 29-Jan | Hojnicki/Flynn/ Roberts | Riley | Farrell | Farrell |
| 3-Feb | Potluck | Sulpizi/Fink | Gerassimakis | Skomorucha |

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

DATE

VESPERS and LITURGY

Jan-29 Team Conover

Feb-2 MEETING OF CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE SHARED

Feb-5 Team Gabriel

Feb-12 Team George

Feb-19 Team Conover

Attendance

1/14 Vespers: 31 1/15 Liturgy: 120