
St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church

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Sunday February 16, 2020 SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON – Tone 2. St. Nicholas, Equal-to-the-Apostles, Archbishop of Japan (1912). Martyrs Pamphilius – Presbyter, Valens – Deacon, Paul, Seleucus, Porphyrius, Julian, Theodulus, Elias, Jeremiah, Isaiah, Samuel, and Daniel, at Cæsarea in Palestine (307-309). St. Maruthas, Bishop of Martyropolis in Mesopotamia (422). Persian Martyrs in Martyropolis in Mesopotamia (4th c.).

This Week's Schedule

Thursday 2/20 Study Group 10:00 a.m.

Friday 2/21 Little Angels 9:30 a.m.

Saturday 2/22 Great Vespers 5: 00 p.m.

Sunday 2/23 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>
Feb-16	J PECK	PECK	PECK
Feb-23	RILEY	RILEY	RILEY
Mar-1	LEWIS	SULPIZI	LEWIS
Mar-8	J PECK	PECK	PECK



Hymns and Prayers

Tone 2 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

When You descended to death, O Life Immortal,
You destroyed hell with the splendor of Your Godhead.
And when from the depths You raised the dead,
all the powers of heaven cried out://
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!”

Tone 3 Kontakion *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

I have recklessly forgotten Your glory, O Father;
and among sinners I have scattered the riches which You gave me.
And now I cry to You as the Prodigal:
“I have sinned before You, O merciful Father;
receive me a penitent,
and make me as one of Your hired servants!”

Tone 2 Prokeimenon

The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation. (*Ps 117/118:4*)

v: The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death. (Ps 117/118:18)

Epistle 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.

Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.

And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not!

Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For “the two,” He says, “shall become one flesh.”

*But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.
Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body,
but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.
Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is
in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?
For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and
in your spirit, which are God's.*

Tone 2

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*v: May the Lord hear you in the day of trouble! May the name of the God
of Jacob protect you! (Ps 19/20:1)*

v: Save the King, O Lord, and hear us on the day we call! (Ps 19/20:9)

Gospel Luke 15:11-32

*Then He said: "A certain man had two sons.
And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion
of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them his livelihood.
And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together,
journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with
prodigal living.
But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and
he began to be in want.
Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent
him into his fields to feed swine.
And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine
ate, and no one gave him anything.
But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired
servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!
I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have
sinned against heaven and before you,
and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of
your hired servants."'"
And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way
off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck
and kissed him.*

And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet.

And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.'

And they began to be merry.

Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing.

So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant.

And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.'

But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore his father came out and pleaded with him.

So he answered and said to his father, 'Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends.

But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.'

And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours.

It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.'"

Communion Hymn

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

This Week's Announcements

Great Lent Begins Our Lenten journey will begin with Forgiveness Vespers on Sunday, March 1st at 7:00 p.m. All should make a sincere effort to begin the Lenten season with this service and the "Mutual Rite of Forgiveness". "On Forgiveness Sunday, we sing of Adam's exile from paradise. We identify ourselves with Adam, lamenting our loss of the beauty, dignity and delight of our original creation, mourning our corruption in sin. We also hear on this day the Lord's teaching about fasting and forgiveness. Join us for this Lenten beginning

Study Group Our Study group continued this week with seven of us reading and discussing chapter 10 of the gospel of St. Matthew. We will continue this Thursday at 10 :00 a.m. with Matthew 10. All are welcome!

Diocese of Eastern PA Womens Retreat “Preparing Our Hearts for Great Lent” w/ speaker Mother Gabriella (Ursache) from the Dormition of the Mother of God Monastery. St. Tikhon’s Monastery Trapeza will host the retreat this Saturday, February 22, 2020 9:30-3:00 Cost: \$10/person (includes continental breakfast and lunch) For more information, please contact Matushka Emilia Shepherd at (910) 988-3462 or officermillie79@gmail.com

**PHILADELPHIA ORTHODOX CLERGY BROTHERHOOD
MISSION VESPERS SCHEDULE GREAT LENT 2020**

ALL SERVICES ARE SCHEDULED FOR 4:00 PM

Sunday of Orthodoxy 1st Sunday (March 08) Ss Peter and Paul, Wilmington 1406 Philadelphia Pike, 19809

Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas 2nd Sunday (March 15) St Mark Church, Wrightstown 452 Durham Rd, 18940

Sunday of the Precious Cross 3rd Sunday (March 22) Holy Trinity Church, Pottstown 1236 Juniper St, 19464

Sunday of St. John of the Ladder 4th Sunday (March 29) St George Church, Upper Darby 8210 W. Chester Pike, 19082

Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt 5th Sunday (April 05) St John Chrysostom, Philadelphia 237 N 17th Street, 19103

Basics of Orthodoxy Update We will be offering the basics of Orthodoxy class during the Lenten season. Please stay tuned from more details concerning times and dates. This class will be an excellent opportunity for those interested in becoming Catechumens. All are welcome to attend.

Compassion and Salvation

On February 13th the Church honors Saint Martinian, a fourth-century native of Caesarea in Palestine. His life is closely intertwined with the lives of two women, Zoe and Photina, who are commemorated on the same day. Yet he was a hermit saint, and already by the age of eighteen he had decided to live his life in a mountain retreat fairly near the city

but having no contact with it. He would be there for twenty-five years, becoming known in the area for his gift of healing and his silence. A woman of Caesarea, named Zoe, had heard a great deal about the holiness of this man who never came to the city but who seemed to be known to everyone in it. Perhaps it was because she wanted to test the power of her feminine wiles that she decided she would make him betray his vow of celibacy. Zoe put on rags and made herself look disheveled. Then she approached his dwelling at night, pretending she was disoriented after wandering too far in the dark. Appealing to his compassion, she prevailed on him to let her spend the night in his cell. He went to sleep in a large crevice near the cell. Just before morning, Zoe tidied herself and changed into alluring clothes she'd brought in what had seemed like a beggar's bundle. When Martinian came to tell her she must leave, she offered herself to him in a low, sultry voice. He was almost overcome with desire, and walked outside for a moment to recover. Perhaps it was because he'd been compassionate that God strengthened Martinian, keeping him from doing something that would have destroyed the life he'd worked for a quarter-century to build. He returned to the cell, built a small fire, and put his feet into it. The pain made this man, known for silence, cry out. He pulled his feet from the fire and lay gasping and sobbing on the ground. Then he said to Zoe: "If I cannot bear this little fire, how shall I cope with the fires of hell?" She was so overcome that she begged him to help her change her life. He sent her to the monastery in Bethlehem overseen by Saint Paula, and there she lived in prayer and repentance for the rest of her life. Once his legs healed, Martinian moved to a remote island, where a kind boatman brought him provisions every few months. But a few years later his compassion was called on again when he heard a young woman crying for help. She had survived a shipwreck and was floating toward his island on a plank. He went and pulled young Photina to safety. To avoid temptation, he invited her to stay on the island and live on his provisions till the boatman came again. Saying farewell, he dove into the water and swam to the mainland. Martinian lived out his life peacefully in Athens. He is called a hermit saint, but perhaps his salvation also depended on his compassionate unwillingness to leave a woman in distress.

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

'The man who lives in darkness is a fool, and the murk of ignorance awaits him.'

St. Thalassios the Libyan

'In general, distress arises from the privation of pleasure, whether it be of a worldly kind or relate to God.'

St. Thalassios the Libyan

'Grace has been given mystically to those who have been baptized into Christ; and it becomes active within them to the extent that they actively observe the commandments. Grace never ceases to help us secretly; but to do good - as far as lies in our power - depends on us.'

St. Mark the Ascetic

'The soul will not desire to be separated from the body unless it becomes indifferent to the very air it breathes. All the bodily senses are opposed to faith, for they are concerned with the objects of this present world, while faith is concerned only with the blessings of the life to come. Thus one pursuing the spiritual way should never be too greatly preoccupied with beautifully branched or shady trees, pleasantly flowing springs, flowery meadows, fine houses or even visits to his family; neither should he recall any public honors that he happens to have been given. He should gratefully be content with bare necessities, regarding this present life as a road passing through an alien land, barren of all worldly attractions. For it is only by concentrating our mind in this way that we can keep to the road that leads back to eternity.'

St. Diadochos of Photiki

Prayers for the Departed: Fr. John Kuchta, Peter Melnik, Michael Sinovich, Marie Karawulan, David Rex, Lubov Baldychev

Prayers for the Sick and Those in Need: Fr. John Zabinko, Fr. Joseph Chupeck, Fr. Josef Petranin, Fr. Daniel Kovalak, Fr. John Nightingale, Mat. Ellen Chupeck, Lemlem Resat, Olga Riley, Barbara Hicks, James Hicks, Anna Herko, Luke & Anna Wales, Nona Carey, Maria & Doug Dozier, Mona Elia, Mary Anne Farrell, John Griffith, Cynthia Griffith, , Stephanie Hojnicky, Laura Cristina Najemy, Harry Kutch, Dimitrios Jim Petrides, Albert Shock, Elizabeth Melnik, Alexandra Grishin, Sam Sylvest

Prayers for Catechmens Kristin Mackenzie, Edward Jones

Date	<u>Coffee Hour</u>	<u>Service Duty</u>	<u>Church Cleaner</u>
16-Feb	Elia/Gunderson/Farrell	Telep/Baldychev	Farrell
23-Feb	C. Peck/Sulpizi/Skomorucha	Bunitsky/Morjana	Clause/Whalen
1-Mar	Stephanie George/Sue Dorazio	Riley/Riley	Skomorucha/Lewis/M Kiflemarian
8-Mar	Whalen/Clause/Gabriel	Sulpizi	Peck
15-Mar	Hamwi/Morjana	Hojnicky/Najemy	Carey

Upcoming Dates to Keep in Mind

Meatfare Sunday Feb.23rd

Cheesefare / Forgiveness Sunday March 1st

Beginning of Great Lent March 2nd

Annunciation Wednesday March 25th

Pascha Sunday April 19th

Ascension Thursday May 28th

Pentecost Sunday June 7th