



HOLY RESURRECTION ORTHODOX CHURCH



A Parish of the Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese
Ecumenical Patriarchate
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Very Rev. Peter Zarynow, Pastor
Protopresbyter John Fedornock
Subdeacons Anastasios Davis & Michael Vaporis Reader Stephen Sudik

09 February 2025

Triodion Begins

Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee

Translation of the relics of St. John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople

Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15

Gospel: Luke 18:10-14

Tone Eight

The Schedule of Divine Services for the Week is as Follows:

09 Feb (SUN) Triodion Begins

Sunday of the Publican & Pharisee

Chanting of 3rd Hour 9:15am

Divine Liturgy of St John Chrysostom 9:30am

Sunday School/Coffee Social to follow

12 Feb (Wed) FEAST OF THE THREE HEIRARCHS

Divine Liturgy of St John Chrysostom 9:30am

Breakfast at Tally-Ho to follow

15 Feb (Sat) FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD IN THE TEMPLE

Divine Liturgy of St John Chrysostom 9:30am

Blessing of Candles

Coffee Social to follow

16 Feb (SUN) Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Chanting of 3rd Hour 9:15am

Divine Liturgy of St John Chrysostom 9:30am

Sunday School/Coffee Social to follow

Announcements:

Confessions be heard by appointment. Please contact Fr Peter to schedule. All faithful are encouraged to come to the Sacrament every 8-10 weeks, on average, to help maintain spiritual health.

There is no fasting this week because of the Publican & Pharisee. All foods are permitted. Unlike the joyful fast-free weeks after Nativity, Pascha and Pentecost, this week should serve as a reflection on how we live our lives, especially in preparation for the Great Fast

We will take a special collection through 16 February. Please hand in your gift through the offering basket in the rear of the church or through the PayPal button on the website. Funds collected for this purpose will be forwarded to IOCC. Thank you, in advance, for your kindness and generosity. If handing in a check, make it payable to HROC and we will combine all our parish gift into one check

The annual OCMC Dinner for the Washington Area will be held at Sts Peter & Paul Orthodox Church on River Rd on Saturday 22 Feb. Vespers are at 5pm; Social Hour 5:45; Dinner and program 6:30-8:30. RSVP by 15 Feb. Tickets are \$45/adult; \$25/ youth under 25. Remember we have an anonymous doner offering to cover the first 4 to see Fr to register. See the flyer that was distributed in the 02 Feb bulletin and on the bulletin board.

Altar Wine needed: we are in need altar wine to get us through the Lenten season. Sponsors are being sought at \$20/bottle; a total of six bottles are needed. Please use the sheet on the bulletin board to sponsor.

We will be needing coffee social hosts for the month of February. Please sign up for this vital ministry in the life of our parish! Never hosted a social before or you don't have the time or resources to think you can host? What about setting up a simple "Grab & Stay" social? We have all the ingredients here. The donations collected during a "Grab & Stay" go back into purchasing items for us to keep in stock. Or have you thought about maybe teaming up with one or two others so that you do not have to do everything yourself? All these are possible. Let us try to get some others into the rotation of hosts. Remember, the main idea of the coffee social is fellowship! What is served is secondary. Keeping it simple is best!

2025 Sponsorships for the Bulletin and the Parish website are now available. Please use the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board and hand in your sponsorship asap. Make sure you fill in the special intention column so that Father does not have to contact you last minute to fill it in. Thank you!

CANDLE OFFERINGS

Eternal Light: Birthday blessings to Father John-Yuliya, Dru & Aleksey (*Many Years!*) In loving memory +Peter Dahulich on his 31st Anniversary of Repose-son George (*Memory Eternal!*)

Vigil Candles Offered For the Living- (*Many Years! Mnohaja L'ita!*)

- 2-for health-love Mom & Dad
Jonathan & Lara; Stephanie
- 1-health of Melanie-love Alex
- 1-health of Alex-love Melanie
- 2-safe travel-Alex & Melanie
Alex & Melanie; our family
- 1-health & Special intention John & Marie Smith, Georgene & Ray Ammon, Fr Peter & Pa i Bernadette, Alex Zarynow, Marie Skasko, Fr John & Pa i Marge Fedornock, Lois Erhard, Charlie & Debi Myers, Chris Fallon, Barbara Homick, All parishioners of HROC-Carol Miller
- 2-for health-Sheila
HROC parishioners; Family members
- 3-special intention-Sheila
Fr. Peter & family; Diocesan Priests & their families; OCMC Missionaries
- 1-health of children & grandchildren-Tom & Amy
- 1-health of Chris Fallon-Michael, Kathleen, John & Anna
- 1-health of cousin George Hazuda-Greg & Debbie Yakubik
- 2-special intention-brother George
Archbishop Michael; Barbara & Harold Harrington
- 1-special intention Metropolitan Gregory-George Dahulich
- 13-for health-George Dahulich
Archbishop Michael; Fr. Tom Kadlec; Fr. Jim Dutko; Chris Fallon; Charlie Myers; Barbara Harrington; Pañi Kathy Dutko; Alex Zarynow; Emily Dzubak; Katherine Chow; Psa. Diana Acsente; Fr. John & Pañi Marie Brancho; Georgia Wimberly
- 5-happy birthday-George Dahulich
Dn Peter Skoog; Fr John Fedornock; Ava Timko; Mike Sumner; Sophie Birkenmeier
- 1-happy Anniv. Eric & Susan Peart-George Dahulich
- 1-happy Ordination Anniv. Archbishop Michael-brother George
- 1-health of Savannah, Chloe, Caroline, Christopher, Natalie, Cole-love Grandparents
- 16-health & special intention-John & Marie Smith
Irene Dzubak; Melanie Samson; Carol Miller; Barbara Homick; Marie Skasko; Georgene & Ray Ammon; Fr Tom & Pañi Linda Kadlec; FrJohn & Pañi Marge Fedornock; FrPeter & Pañi Bernadette; FrJohn & Pañi Eleanor Pribish; Eleanor Breno; Charlie Myers; Lois Erhard; FrJohn & Pañi Marie Brancho; Pañi Jean Hutnyan; Chris Fallon
- 1-safety & peace Ukraine & Israel and their people-John & Marie Smith
- 6-special intentions-the Breno Family
Breno Family; Fedornock Families; Peart Family; Nakonecznyj Family; Zankey Family; Fabian Family
- 1-happy birthday FrJohn-the Breno family
- 1-happy anniv Susan & Eric Peart-the Breno Family
- 2-specail intention-Mom & Dad
Brian, Angela & Dominic; Stephen
- 11-for health & special intention-Mark & Marie
Nancy Shields; Mike Czap; Skeets & Beth; Irene Dzubak; Carol Miller; Ray & Georgene Ammon; Eleanor Breno; FrJohn & Pañi Marge; FrPeter & Pañi Bernadette; Chris & Mike Fallon; Susan & Dan Zelensky
- 4-for health-Charlie, Debi, Jacob & Joey
Skeets; Jessica; Carol Miller; Irene Dzubak
- 2-specail intention Jacob & Joey-love Mom & Dad
- 1-health & healing Hayley, Bob, Peggy and Bruce, Carol Miller, Chris Fallon, AnneMarie, Pa i Jean, Ray Ammon, Tom Delare, Irene Dzubak, JordanLNancy Hall-Lois
- 1-for health Savannah, Caroline, Natalie, Karen K, Jeanne Delasko, Barbara Homick, Georgene, Debbie Delare- Lois
- 1-health and wellbeing of Artem-Olga Vovk
- 1-health and wellbeing of Andrey, Lidia and Tatiana, Natalia, Konstantin, Eva, George, Michael, Lubov, Anastasia, Maxim and Ivan-Olga Vovk
- 1-health and wellbeing of Sofia, Sergey, Eva, Matthew, Tomothy, Yuliia, Alex, Dru, Irina and Dennis-Olga Vovk
- 4-for healing-Rose Plowchin
Susan Koval; Georgeann Shalayda; Bonnie Mack; Nancy Hall
- 1-happy 88th birthday Fr John-Rose Plowchin
- 1-happy 3rd birthday Ensley Plowchin-Rose Plowchin
- 1-special prayer-Pa i Marge Fedornock
- 1-special intention all my children-Pa i Marge Fedornock
- 2-for health-Pa i Marge Fedornock
son John; all who are ill
- 1-safe trip Faith & Dan-Pa i Marge Fedornock
- 4-for health-Pan Jean Hutnyan
Muhlenberg Family; Hutnyan Family; Fr Robert Prepelka; Fr Ted & Pañi Marjorie Moses
- 2-health & special intention-Love, Yulia
Dru; Aleksey
- 5-health & special intention-Yuliya & Dru Lore
Irene Dzubak, Olga Vovk, Joannie and Rick, Sabirov family, Irina Panfilov

Vigil Candles In Loving Memory: (*Memory Eternal! Vicnaja Pamjat!*)

- 1+in loving memory of Les-love Carol
- 1+in memory Mother & Father. Carol Miller
- 1+In loving memory of Chris Hudack, Grandparents, Bettie Searfoss, Myrtle Miller, John Hudack, John Hrapchak, John Homick, Marge Tomasevich-Carol Miller
- 1+in loving memory of Tom, Ann & Chrysa Thear-Taina & Craig
- 2+loving memory-the Fallons
Pañi Jeannette; Anna & John Luchok
- 1+in memory of parents Helen & Larry Rowland-Diane
- 1+in memory grandparents Helen & Peter Sedlar-Diane
- 1+Memory Eternal Parents/Grandparents-Koval Family
- 1+Memory Eternal Uncle George, Aunt Marge & Uncle Tony- Koval Family
- 2+Memory Eternal-love Alex, Melanie
parents Michael & Elaine; parents John & Katherine
- 6+in memory-Sheila
John; Dad Kraynok; Mom Kraynok; Charles Hrapchak; Anna Hrapchak; Evelyn Hrapchak
- 1+In loving memory of Metro-Love, Joan and Family
- 1+in loving memory of parents Peter & Ann Dahulich-love son George
- 1+loving memory of Nikolai Mushegian-love Mom & Dad
- 1+loving memory of Vladmir, Irina, Sergey, Nina, Rafael, Germina, Maxim, Anna, Irena, Lidia, Pavel, Tatiana, Natalia, Olga-Olga Vovk
- 1+loving memory of Leonid, Anna, Izot, Natalia, Afanasii, Anastasia, Lidia-Olga Vovk
- 1+in memory of Mom-Mark & Dorothy Sudik
- 2+in memory-Charlie, Debi, Jacob & Joey
Grammy; Aunt Dorothy
- 3+in memory-Pa i Marge Fedornock
Parents; Brother & Sister; airplane victims
- 1+loving memory Parents & Grandparents-Yuliya & Dru Lore
- 3+in memory-Pa i Jean Hutnyan
Fr Andrew; Mom & Dad; Pañi Delores Zuder

Flowers are donated this week by Yuliya Lore in loving memory of Grandpa George on his 70th Birthday

Memory Eternal! Vicnaja Pamjat!

The ACRY corner

Soup Sales for 2025: the final 2025 Soup Sale date is 09 March. All ACRY members, and any non-members who wish to help, are asked to make one (minimum) 5-quart batch of homemade soup. Quart containers are available in the ACRY closet in the parish hall. Please have your soup in the church kitchen fridge before Divine Liturgy on the morning of the sale.



Sr ACRY Annual Cash Day: Cash Day will be held on Meatfare Sunday, 23 February 2025. Tickets are now available from Nick Dzubak during Coffee Social. Tickets are still \$10 each. All 300 tickets need to be sold for Cash Day to work. Sign up for the Coffee Social/cash Day Luncheon is posted on the bulletin board.

PARISH ANNUAL MEETING MARCH 16, 2025

Once a year the parish has an Annual Meeting to review the past year and plan for the future. Be at the 2025 Parish Annual Meeting on Sunday, March 16 from 11:30 to 12:30 to participate in making plans for 2025! In preparation for the meeting, this is a request for nominations for the election of officers.

Election of Officers: This

year the following Council officer positions will be elected. Vice President, Financial Secretary, Curator, Trustee, and two Auditors. Please refer to the flyer, "Serving on the Church Council 2025," for the position duties and eligibility requirements. If you would like to nominate yourself to be a candidate or have questions, please talk with Tim Dzubak, Nominating Chair.



Requests for Reports: Presidents of the Junior and Senior ACRY and Chairs of committees and ministries are asked to submit a written report summarizing their activities in 2024 and plans for 2025. Please email your report to Fr. Peter **no**

later than February 16.

Suggestions for Agenda Topics: If you would like to have a certain topic discussed at the meeting, please give your suggestion to Marie Sudik, Council Secretary. We welcome them!

Prayer For The Priesthood



O Lord Jesus Christ, Good Shepherd of Your sheep, light the fire of ardent love in the hearts of all Your priests, that they may ever and in all things seek only Your glory. Remember especially, Lord, our **Metropolitan Gregory**, and our spiritual fathers who are laboring in Your vineyard for the salvation of all those whom You have entrusted to them. Remember also, O Lord, our priests and deacons, especially **Fr Edward Pehanich, Fr John Pribish, Fr Deacon Art Steinstra and our Diocesan Seminarians & Graduates: Dn. Peter Sodini, Sbdn. Nicholas Worobey, Dn Seamus Murry, Reader Samuel Loposky, Nicholas Laliberte, Ignatios Leonardo, an Alexander Hurtsellers.** Make their lives as holy as the word they preach. Keep them from being discouraged. Hear their prayers for our salvation. Give them wisdom and courage to proclaim Your truth. Make

them priests after Your own heart. For You are a merciful God who loves us, and to You we give glory, together with Your eternal Father and Your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

Orders for Easter Chocolates from Sarris Candies is open until **midnight 13 April**. Place your order online and your order will be shipped directly to you. Shipping is now at \$7.00 per order. Ground shipping is free for orders over \$100. Orders usually ship within 72 hours

Go to: www.sarriscandiesfundraising.com and click on line ordering. Go to Easter Fundraising. All items on the website, if available, are also eligible for this program.

Make sure that you give our full name:

Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church

Our customer number is 10-2493.

Proceeds from the sale goes to benefit our Camp Transportation Fund.



TWO WEEK REMAINING TO SCHEDULE!!

PREPARATION FOR THE BLESSING OF HOMES

Call or email FrPeter to make an appointment to have your home blessed.



Before the Priest arrives at your home, here are a few reminders on how to prepare:

- ❖ In the main room of the home, usually the kitchen or dining room, have placed on the table a white cloth, a candle and/or an Icon or cross. You may place a small container of Holy Water on the table as well. [Note: Father will bring water with him]
- ❖ Turn off TV's, radios, computers, etc. so as to keep focused on the blessing service
- ❖ Please make sure that pets are heeled or restrained so as not to get underfoot while Father goes through the home.
- ❖ If you have any items to be blessed (Icon, Cross, etc.), put them on the table where the blessing takes place.
- ❖ When the Priest arrives, have everyone in the home gather around the table and join in the blessing. Participation is important!
- ❖ Invite friends or neighbors to participate and witness the beauty of this Tradition.
- ❖ If you need to discuss a personal matter with Father, this is the time to do so. Time is made between appointments for this reason.

This year the Blessing of Homes will take place from Sunday 19 January to Saturday 22 February. Please schedule an appointment with Father as soon as possible. Please allow for changes due to Father's schedule or inclement weather.

Remember, the invitation to the priest to come and bless your home is an invitation to ask for the mercy of God upon the household. The sprinkling of the Holy Water is a sign of God's presence in the home as an extension of His Holy House, the Church. It is a time to renew our commitment to God as we begin another year in His mercy and love for mankind.

Please pray for the following: Metropolitan Gregory; Fr. Frank & Pañi Connie Miloro; Pañi Betty Jean Baranik; Fr Michael Rustik; Fr. Mark Leasure; Fr. John Fencik; Fr. Paul Stoll; Fr. Robert & Pañi Peggy Teklinski; Dn. Peter Skoog & family; Fr James & Pañi Kathy Dutko; Fr. Gregory Allard; Pañi Linda Barriger; Fr. James Gleason, Fr. Luke Mihaly; Fr. Ted & Pañi Marjorie Mozes; Hieromonk Michael; Fr Thomas Kadlec; Fr Stephen Krivonak; Fr David & Pañi Donna Smoley; Pañi Annamarie Slovesko; Pañi Patricia Duranko; Fr John & Pañi Cindy Zboyovski, Fr. Jonathan & Pañi Marsha Tobias, Pañi Sharon Holowaty; Pañi MaryMargaret Conjelko; Fr John & Pañi Eleanor Pribish; Fr John Mikitish; Pañi Karen Miklos; Pañi Marie Brancho; Pañi Jean Hutnyan; Fr David & Pañi Paula Kossy; Fr Edward Pihanich; Pañi Betty Baranik; SGT Joey Myers; SPC Alexander Zarynow; Beth & Ed 'Skeets' Williams; Carol Miller; Irene Dzubak; Dorothy Mastronicola; Tony Zankey; Justin Popek; Florence Gregoric, James & Melody Peyton; Carol Blum, Alexi Williams, Missy Johns, Susan Buckley, Constance Amey, James Lazor, Debbie Dell; Grace Yoon; Michael Dinneen; Joan Detwiler; Joan Kondratick; Barbara Homick; Jim David & Jeanne Delasko; Melanie Samson; Laura Gary; Richard & Wendy Sulich; Wendy Taylor; James Durachko; Randi Calle, Hayley Marshall, Jon Green, MaryJane, Kyle & Rosie Brant, Alicia, Lisa Chernob, Stephen Brancho; Emily; MaryMargaret; Leslie Perez; Thomas & Deborah Delare; Diana Hannan; Bridget Myers; Devan Merrill; Bob Fitzurka; Olga Vovk; Lela; Carly; Robert; Vic Fitzwater; Taina Ferguson; Olya Romanova; Luke Griffith; Richard Durachko; Jennifer Haire; Mary, Simon, Alla; Artem Vovk; Charles Arnhold; Danielle V; Debbie Aumen; David Bulko; Bill Finken; Angelo Taveira-DaSilva, Andrew S.; Natalie Z; Stephen Hutnyan; Barbara Drilllock; Dayton Naugle; Cassidy Riselvato; Phillip Trivett; Camila Bonilla; Hilary Soperak; Robert Knowlton; Ray Rushnak; Christine Sakmar; Joel F, Frank, Jordan, Ruth Moore; Hudson Kennedy, Maria H & baby

May Our Lord Jesus Christ Touch Them with His Healing Hand!!



Did you know that the parish has a grocery gift card program? If you shop at Giant grocery stores, you can assist the parish, too. Every time you purchase a gift card our parish receives 5% of the proceeds. See Marie or Mark

Sudik after Divine Services to purchase cards. The cards are available in increments of \$20, \$50 & \$100

CAMP NAZARETH SUMMER CAMP 2025

The time for Summer Camp is Rapidly Approaching!!! The clock is ticking!!

Dates for the Summer Camping Program

Week 1: Sunday, July 20 to Saturday, July 26, 2025 to Pittsburgh, Mid-Atlantic, Washington D.C., and Tri-State Deaneries

Register Online Starting March 1, 2025 @ 6pm (EDT)

Register at campnazareth.org

Registration for Camp will be on a First-Come First-Serve Basis!! Once capacity for a given week is filled, all other campers will be put on a waiting list.

Cost for Camp to Diocesan \$370/child, Non-Diocesan \$420/child

\$20 Early Bird Discount Per Child!!!!

(one-time only, not per week)

No child should be prevented from attending Camp because of cost. If a campership is needed, please contact Fr Peter

Must Register & pay by May 1, 2025!!!!

Online Registration MUST be complete AND payment must be submitted by May 1 in order to qualify for the Early Bird Discount.

Registration will close on June 15, 2025 @ 12pm!

Native Plant of the week:

Amsonia hubrichtii



Amsonia hubrichtii, commonly known as **Hubricht's bluestar**, or **thread-leaf bluestar**,^[4] is a North American species of **perennial** first described in 1943. It is native to **Oklahoma** and **Arkansas** in the south- It is commonly used as an ornamental plant.^[4]

It grows 60–90 centimetres (2–3 ft) high with upright stems that form bushy clumps. Leaves are very narrow, numerous, and alternate, giving the plant a feathery appearance. In the spring the leaves are bright green, and they turn gold in the fall

The plant is known from a limited number of populations in Oklahoma and Arkansas, primarily within the **Ouachita Mountains** In Oklahoma, it is considered an **endangered species**. It grows well in poor soils and full to partial sun.

ALL SOUL SATURDAYS

The All Soul Saturdays for 2025 will be observed on 22 February, 22 March and 7 June. *If there are any additions to make to your family list (or if you need to begin a family list), contact Fr. Peter as soon as possible.* Please come and pray for the departed of your family and our parish family. Divine Liturgy and Panachida will be at 9:30am on each of these Saturdays. (Note: This year we are observing 3 of the 5 All-Souls Saturdays in the *hope of boosting attendance* at these



Divine Services)

O God of spirits and of all flesh, Who has conquered death and destroyed Satan and has granted life to Your world: O Lord, rest the souls of Your departed servants in a serene, luxuriant and peaceful place where all pain sorrow and lamentation are absent. As a gracious God Who loves mankind, forgive all transgressions committed by them by word, deed or thought, for there is no one living who does not sin, you alone are without sin, Your truth is truth in eternity and Your word is truth.

For You are the resurrection, the life, and the repose of Your departed servants, who have fallen asleep, O Christ our God, and we give glory You together with Your eternal Father, and Your all-holy, gracious, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.

SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE

Beginning of the Lenten Triodion

The Sunday after the Sunday of Zacchaeus is devoted to the Publican and the Pharisee. At Vespers the night before, the Triodion (the liturgical book used in the services of Great Lent) begins.

Two men went to the Temple to pray. One was a Pharisee who scrupulously observed the requirements of religion: he prayed, fasted, and contributed money to the Temple. These are very good things, and should be imitated by anyone who loves God. We who may not fulfill these requirements as well as the Pharisee did should not feel entitled to criticize him for being faithful. His sin was in looking down on the Publican and feeling justified because of his external religious observances.

The second man was a Publican, a tax-collector who was despised by the people. He, however, displayed humility, and this humility justified him before God (Luke 18:14).

The lesson to be learned is that we possess neither the Pharisee's religious piety, nor the Publican's repentance, through which we can be saved. We are called to see ourselves as we really are in the light of Christ's teaching, asking Him to be merciful to us, deliver us from sin, and to lead us on the path of salvation.

Two weeks before the beginning of the Fast, as part of our preparation for Great Lent, Holy Week, and Pascha, the Church prescribes the reading of Saint Mark's Gospel. From Monday to Friday the focus is on the end times, and the Savior's death and burial.



TRANSLATION OF THE RELICS OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM, ARCHBISHOP OF CONSTANTINOPLE

Commemorated 27 January/09 February

Saint John Chrysostom, the great ecumenical teacher and hierarch, died in the city of Comana in the year 407 on his way to a place of exile. He had been condemned by the intrigues of the empress Eudoxia because of his daring denunciation of the vices of those ruling over Constantinople. The transfer of his venerable relics was made in the year 438, thirty years after the death of the saint, during the reign of Eudoxia's son emperor Theodosius II (408-450).

Saint John Chrysostom had the warm love and deep respect of the people, and grief over his untimely death lived on in the hearts of Christians. Saint John's disciple, Saint Proclus, Patriarch of Constantinople (434-447), during services in the Church of Hagia Sophia, preached a sermon praising Saint John. He said, "O John, your life was filled with sorrow, but your death was glorious. Your grave is blessed and reward is great, by the grace and mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ O graced one, having conquered the bounds of time and place! Love has conquered space, unforgetting memory has annihilated the limits, and place does not hinder the miracles of the saint. +

Those who were present in church, deeply touched by the words of Saint Proclus, did not allow him even to finish his sermon. With one accord they began to entreat the Patriarch to intercede with the emperor, so that the relics of Saint John might be brought back to Constantinople.

The emperor, overwhelmed by Saint Proclus, gave his consent and gave the order to transfer the relics of Saint John. But those he sent were unable to lift the holy relics until the emperor realized that he had sent men to take the saint's relics from Comana with an edict, instead of with a prayer. He

wrote a letter to Saint John, humbly asking him to forgive his audacity, and to return to Constantinople. After the message was read at the grave of Saint John, they easily took up the relics, carried them onto a ship and arrived at Constantinople.

The coffin with the relics was placed in the Church of Holy Peace (Hagia Eirene). When Patriarch Proclus opened the coffin, the body of Saint John was found to be incorrupt. The emperor approached the coffin with tears, asking forgiveness for his mother, who had banished Saint John. All day and night people did not leave the coffin.

In the morning the coffin was brought to the Church of the Holy Apostles. The people cried out, "Father, take up your throne. + Then Patriarch Proclus and the clergy standing by the relics saw Saint John open his mouth and say, "Peace be to all. + Many of the sick were healed at his tomb.

The celebration of the transfer of the relics of Saint John Chrysostom was established in the ninth century.



SYNAXIS OF THE ECUMENICAL TEACHERS AND HIERARCHS: BASIL THE GREAT, GREGORY THE THEOLOGIAN, AND JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

Commemorated 30 January/12 February

Synaxis of the Three Hierarchs: Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian and John Chrysostom: During the eleventh century, disputes raged in Constantinople about which of the three hierarchs was the greatest. Some preferred Saint Basil (January 1/14), others honored Saint Gregory the Theologian (January 25/February 7), while a third group exalted Saint John Chrysostom (November 13/26).

Dissension among Christians increased. Some called themselves Basilians, others referred to themselves as Gregorians, and others as Johnites.

By the will of God, the three hierarchs appeared to Saint John the Bishop of Euchaita in the year 1084, and said that they were equal before God. There are no divisions among us, and no opposition to one another.+

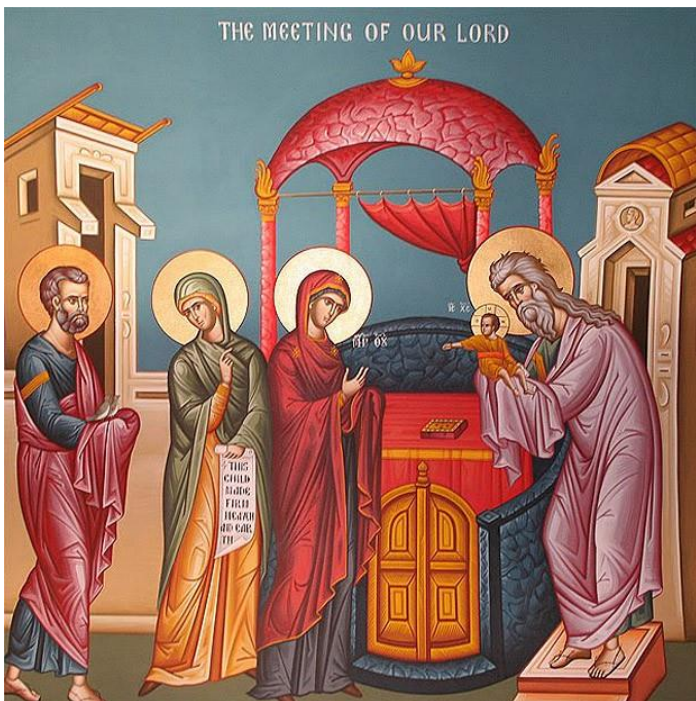
They ordered that the disputes should stop, and that their common commemoration should be celebrated on a single day. Bishop John chose January 30 for their joint Feast, thus ending the controversy and restoring peace.



THE MEETING OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST IN THE TEMPLE

Commemorated 02/15 February

The Meeting of our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ is described in the third Gospel (Luke 2:22-40). Forty days after His birth the Divine Child was brought to the Temple at Jerusalem to be presented to the Lord. According to the Law of Moses (Lev. 12:2-8), a woman who gave birth to a male child was forbidden to enter the Temple for forty days. At the end of the time of her purification, the mother went to the Temple with the child, to offer a young lamb, two turtledoves, or pigeons to the Lord as a sacrifice. The Most Holy Virgin had no need of purification, since she had given birth to the Source of purity and sanctity. Out of humility, however, she fulfilled the requirements of the Law.



At this time the righteous Elder Simeon (February 3/16) was living in Jerusalem. It had been revealed to him that he would not die until he beheld the promised Messiah. By divine inspiration, Saint Simeon went to the Temple at the very moment when the Most Holy Theotokos and Saint Joseph had brought the Child Jesus to fulfill the Law.

Saint Simeon received the divine Child in his arms,¹ and giving thanks to God, he spoke the words repeated by the Church each evening at Vespers: Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to enlighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel+(Luke 2:29-32). Saint Simeon said to the Most Holy Virgin: Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel, and for a sign which shall be spoken against. Yea, a sword shall pierce through your own soul also, that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed+(Luke 2:34-35).

At the Temple was an 84-year-old widow, Saint Anna the Prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel (February 3/16), who did not leave the temple, but served God with fasting and prayers night and day." She arrived just when Saint Simeon met the Divine Child. She also gave thanks to the Lord and spoke of Him to all those who were looking for redemption of Jerusalem+(Luke 2:38). In the icon of the Feast she holds a scroll which reads: This Child has established Heaven and earth.+

Before Christ was born, the righteous men and women lived by faith in the promised Messiah, and awaited His coming. The Righteous Simeon and the Prophetess Anna, the last righteous persons of the Old Testament, were deemed worthy to meet Him in the Temple.

The Feast of the Meeting of the Lord is among the most ancient feasts of the Christian Church. We have sermons by the holy bishops Methodios of Patara (+ 312), Cyril of Jerusalem (+ 360), Gregory the Theologian (+ 389), Amphilokhios of Iconium (+ 394), Gregory of Nyssa (+ 400), and John Chrysostom (+ 407). Despite its early origin, this Feast was not celebrated so splendidly until the VI century.

In 528, during the reign of Justinian, an earthquake killed many people in Antioch. Other misfortunes followed this one. In 541 a terrible plague broke out in Constantinople, carrying off several thousand people each day. During this time of widespread suffering, a solemn prayer service (Litia) for deliverance from evils was celebrated on the Feast of the Meeting of the Lord, and the plague ceased. Giving thanks to God, the Church established a more solemn celebration of this Feast.

Church hymnographers have adorned this Feast with their hymns: Saint Andrew of Crete in the VII centuryLSaint Cosmas Bishop of Maium, Saint John of Damascus, and Saint Germanus Patriarch of Constantinople in the VIII centuryLand Saint Joseph, Archbishop of Thessaloniki in the IX century.

¹ For this reason, he is known as the God-Receiver

Triodion: Getting Ready for Lent

From the website of Monastery of St. Tikhon of Zadonsk

The significance of the four Sundays.

The word Triodion is used frequently and it is used to denote the three-odes used during the matins canon that are specifically Lenten. During the time before Lent, the Church in Her wisdom offers us five preparatory Sundays (Slavic Tradition) to get us ready to enter the season of Great Lent. The Lenten Triodion officially begins with the Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee.

FIRST SUNDAY: SUNDAY OF THE PHARISEE AND THE PUBLICAN

To get our attention, the Church's Gospel this week focuses on true and false repentance by comparing actions and words. The Pharisee correctly 'practiced the faith' in regards to Jewish prayer and fasting, but within him the love of God was not present. The publican outwardly lived a sinful life as a tax collector for Rome, but inwardly realized the sin that was dominating him. The Pharisee demanded God's approval while the publican pleaded for God's mercy. The lesson for us is to diligently practice the 'outward' aspects of our Faith while inwardly realizing nothing we can do will earn God's favor and that we need to constantly seek His mercy. The central theme of this Gospel is the need for humility.

SECOND SUNDAY: SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

Modern dictionaries often translate 'repentance' as 'regret' or 'feeling sorry' for having done something. However, the true meaning of the word metanoia (repent) in the New Testament is to 'change one's mind (nous) or purpose' (*Vines*). Just as the Prodigal son left his father, realized the misery of his 'new' life, and returned to ask forgiveness, we too must realize that we have left our Father for the world and need to 'change' our life and return to Him. This Gospel gives us the assurance that God the Father will joyfully welcome us back if we turn from the sin in our life. This Sunday emphasizes repentance and the loving embrace of the Father.

THIRD SUNDAY: SUNDAY OF THE LAST JUDGEMENT

James 2:17 states "...faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead." The corporal (physical) works of mercy, which the Lord uses to pass judgement, are a reflection of the love or lack thereof in the hearts of the 'sheep and goats'. Individual repentance and love of God has been emphasized in the first two Sundays: love of neighbor, 'icons of Christ', is the central focus here. Giving alms and other exterior actions of love are also a vital part of the Lenten journey. This parable does not imply that we can 'work' our way into heaven but rather if our soul shows no active love for man then we really don't have true love of God.

FOURTH SUNDAY: FORGIVENESS SUNDAY

This Sunday summarizes the readings of the previous three weeks and prepares us for Lent. Like the Prodigal we must turn and leave behind the things of the world, of the past. We must forgive others or God will not forgive us. Why? Because we ask God to do that each time we pray the Lord's Prayer! We must not be like the Pharisee and draw attention to our fasting by trying to gain sympathy or praise of men. Finally, we must begin to store spiritual treasure in heaven by using our earthly treasure to help others through alms and other works of mercy. With this attitude we are ready for a successful Lent.



Summary of Special Parish Meeting 26 January 2025

"A special parish meeting was held on 26 JAN 2025 to obtain approval of an invoice requested by Master Plan Committee to secure a cost estimate for construction of a new rectory.

The \$5554 fee was approved unanimously by parishioners attending the meeting and will be funded by the Build for the Future fund."



The Parish Council thanks everyone for their participation, questions and comments. With your commitment, the "Build 4 the Future" initiative of our parish continues to move forward, Glory to God!

On Sundays

St. Gabriel of Imereti, on orthodchristian.com



Honor this day as a sacred day. On Sunday, we should serve the Lord alone and do the works of God. Even monks laboring in a monastery, who go to church every day and constantly pray, should also spend Sundays with special reverence and purity. And you, laymen, living in a city or village, may have gone six days without remembering God and being able to fervently pray at all. Do you really want to spend Sunday in worldly hustle and bustle too? If you do this often, you will eventually grow completely cold towards God, lose hope in salvation and the Kingdom of God, and earthly cares and sinfulness will completely ensnare you. As a Christian, you should have such a firm desire and need to be at the Sunday services that your heart and conscience give you no rest until you go to church. If the commandments of God are not engraved in a man's heart, and following them has not become his natural inclination and heart's desire, we can safely say that such a man is no Christian.

On Sunday morning, when you wake up, pray at home, then go to church. He who goes to bed on time in the evening and rises early in the morning will spend the day fully, joyfully, for the good of his soul. Try to read the passages from the Holy Scriptures

appointed for this day, for preparing this way, your soul will most benefit from the divine services. After Liturgy, after having had some lunch, try to do some good and useful deed, even the smallest: Perhaps you know some poor and infirm person- go help him however you can, but only so that your right hand does not know what your left has done. Perhaps one of your neighbors is sick and grieving- go and comfort him. Perhaps you have some friend who loves to talk about spiritual things- go talk to him about it, make him glad, and thus spend your time in a soul-profitable way. On this day, avoid meeting and talking with those who love idle talk, gossiping, and tattling. In the evening, go to church for Vespers, and so rested physically and refreshed spiritually, give yourself to sleep, so you may begin your six days' labor and daily cares in the morning. Know also that if you commit even a small sin on Sunday, it will be ten times more severe, for this day belongs to the Lord.

St. Gabriel of Imereti was a nineteenth-century Holy Hierarch of the Georgian Orthodox Church. He generously distributed alms to widows, orphans, and all in need; he clothed the naked and buried beggars, having mercy upon the least of the brethren. St. Gabriel was born on November 15, 1825, and reposed in the Lord on January 25, 1896.



Throughout the day, try to remember God more often. If you feel bad, turn to Him: "Lord, I feel bad, help me." If you feel good, "Lord, glory to You, thank You for this joy!" If you are worried about someone: "Lord, I am worried about him, help him." Whatever happens, turn it into prayer. St Ambrose of Optina





**HOW
DO
YOU
DEFINE
SUCCESS?**

HAS YOUR LIFE BEEN A SUCCESSFUL ONE?

The years of life seem to follow a similar pattern for all of us. Our youth is spent planning, dreaming and charting a course for the journey that will find us striving to achieve our goals and ambitions. Our "golden years" are often spent reflecting upon all that we originally set out to do. The successes and failures that come our way are found in that period in between.

We all want our lives to be successful; we want to be remembered as being a person who made the world a better place. Unfortunately, many of us use the wrong criteria to gauge our personal accomplishments. Our true motivation must be living a life that is pleasing to God. He does not measure "success" in terms of financial and material gain. No, "fame and fortune" mean little to our Heavenly Father. Many of the Church's saints had very little, and many whose good works and deeds were known only to God heard the blessed words of the Lord -- "**WELL DONE, GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT**" -- when they passed on to their eternal reward.

God does not expect great things from us, but He looks to us to do small things in a great way. In the Parable of the Last Judgment, those who had done all of the charitable acts of mercy were genuinely surprised that the Lord put so much emphasis on such simple gestures of compassion. Still, these are the things that are deemed important in God's eyes.

Has your life been a successful one? Have you dedicated your life to doing God's will? If you have, rest assured that a place in God's Kingdom awaits you. There could be no greater testimony to the ultimate success of your life!