

Sts. Peter and Paul Albanian Orthodox Church

First-enthroned of the apostles, teachers of the universe: Entreat the Master of all to grant peace to the world, and to our souls great mercy!

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March 3, 2019

SUNDAY OF THE LAST JUDGMENT

tone 7

Today	10:00am	Divine Liturgy Sunday School
Wed. 06	7:00pm	Bible Study
Fri. 08	6:00pm	Fun Night
Sat. 09	6:00pm	Vespers
Sun. 10	10:00am	Divine Liturgy Sunday School

One must be baptized and chrismated an Orthodox Christian to receive Holy Communion. Guests are invited to receive a blessing at the chalice and partake of the post-Communion bread (Antidoron).

Fast Days: This is a fast free week!

Troparion – Tone 7 (Resurrection)

*By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death.
To the thief Thou didst open Paradise.
For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy,
and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God,
to proclaim that Thou art risen,
granting the world great mercy.*

Kontakion – Tone 1 (from the Lenten Triodion)

*When Thou, O God, shalt come to earth with glory,
all things shall tremble,
and the river of fire shall flow before Thy judgment seat;
the books shall be opened, and the hidden things disclosed;
then deliver me from the unquenchable fire,
and make me worthy to stand at Thy right hand, O Righteous Judge!*

Welcome to all visitors! Please join us upstairs in the church hall for coffee hour after liturgy.

Prayers for those in our Sts. Peter and Paul community (parishioners, family, friends) can be listed for remembrance in our litanies during the Liturgy. Feel free to give names to Fr. Nicholas - please indicate how each person listed is connected to us (parishioner, family, friend, etc.), as well as why we are praying for them (health, memory, travel, etc.).

Confessions can be heard by appointment. If you need, I will come to you during the week. Please do not hesitate to call for a time to drop by the church or to have me visit you.

Remembrances for both the living and the dead during the prayers of preparation of the Eucharistic Lamb and during the Augmented Litany should be given the week before the desired remembrance so that the names can be put into the bulletin and given to the Deacons for the prayers. Any names of the living that are not marked as sick or traveling will be listed under general prayers.

SCRIPTURE THIS WEEK

Church Lectionary

Today

1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2
Matthew 25:31-46

Monday

3 John 1:1-15
Luke 19:29-40, 22:7-39

Tuesday

Jude 1:1-10
Luke 22:39-42, 45-23:1

Wednesday

Joel 2:12-26
Joel 3:12-21

Thursday

Jude 1:11-25
Luke 23:2-34, 44-56

Friday

Zechariah 8:7-17
Zechariah 8:19-23

Saturday

Romans 14:19-23, 16:25-27
Matthew 6:1-13

Reading the Bible in a Year

Mar 03: 1 Samuel 9-12
Mar 04: 1 Samuel 13-16
Mar 05: 1 Samuel 17-20
Mar 06: 1 Samuel 21-24
Mar 07: 1 Samuel 25-28
Mar 08: 1 Samuel 29-31
Mar 09: 2 Samuel 1-4

Special Prayers

Ill/Home-bound:

Virginia Rifkin, Ruth Rifkin, Virginia Daka, Emmelia Stone, Liam, Denise Gormley, Victor, Sonya, Anna, George, Lyanna, Barbara, Katelyn, Margarita, Annmarie, Shpresa, Ralph John, Christina, Mary, Alexandra, Matthew, Fran, Sophie Plasari, Donna, Michael, Fr. Gregory & Mat. Linda DuDash, Leon, child Luka, child Makayla, Rhonda, Ashley, CJ, Elizabeth, Rebecca, Lev, Margarita

General:

Michael Peterson, John, Darian, Tammy, Jean Dimitri, Cheryl Dimitri, Jason, Anna, George, Sonya, Catherine, Alisha, Sasha, Joseph, Kimberly, Niko, Kristin, Robert, Jerry, Pina, Jerry, Chris, Matt, Gianna, Menina,

Memory Eternal: Newly departed Bishop Athanasius, Newly departed Frosina, Newly departed Martha Linski, Newly departed Helen, Martha Murianka -St. Augustine of Hippo



“God has promised forgiveness to your repentance, but He has not promised tomorrow to your procrastination.”



March Events

March

03 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Sunday School

06 – 7:00pm Bible Study

08 – 6:00pm Fun Night

09 – 6:00pm Vespers

10 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy
Sunday School

Forgiveness Vespers

11 – 7:00pm Canon of St. Andrew

12 – 7:00pm Canon of St. Andrew

13 – 7:00pm Canon of St. Andrew

14 – 7:00pm Canon of St. Andrew

16 – 6:00pm Vespers

17 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Sunday School

Lenten Vespers

20 – 7:00pm Presanctified Liturgy

Pot-luck dinner

23 – 6:00pm Vespers

24 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Sunday School

Lenten Vespers

27 – 7:00pm Presanctified Liturgy

Pot-luck dinner

30 – 6:00pm Vespers

31 – 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Sunday School

Lenten Vespers

Coffee Hour

Today: Martha Murianka Memorial

Next Week: Lenten Luncheon

Birthdays/ Anniversaries

None on Calendar

The Importance of Lent

Guest Speaker: Constantine Zalalas
Saturday March 9, 2019 at 12:30PM

Schedule of the Day

10:00 am Holy Liturgy

11:30 am Memorial Service

12:00 Lunch

12:30 Guest Speaker Mr. Zalalas

Descent of the Holy Spirit Romanian Orthodox Church
1323 Ashbourne Road, Elkins Park PA 19027

Lenten Retreat with Phillip Mamalakis

Living Toward the Kingdom in Our Hearts and Homes

March 22-23, 2019

St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church
2300 W Huntington Drive, Wilmington, DE 19808

Friday, March 22nd, Workshop 6:30-8:30 PM with Food -
Marriage and Relationships Toward the Kingdom

Saturday, March 23rd, Coffee-Prayers 9AM;

Workshop 9:30 AM-Noon - Parenting Toward the Kingdom,
Part I

Lunch: 12-1 PM

Workshop 1-3 PM - Parenting Toward the Kingdom, Part II

1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 (Epistle)

But food does not commend us to God; for neither if we eat are we the better, nor if we do not eat are we the worse. But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak. For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will not the conscience of him who is weak be emboldened to eat those things offered to idols? And because of your knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? But when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble. Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord? If I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

Matthew 25:31-46 (Gospel)

When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Children's Word

What is the best reward you've ever received? A trophy? A bag of candy? A ribbon? A certificate?

In today's Gospel, you will hear about the reward God wants to give each one of us.

Did you know that God wants us to take care of each other? He wants us to feed the hungry, give something to drink to the thirsty, take care of the sick, and so on.

When we do these kinds of things, God will reward us. No, not with a trophy or a certificate for your wall, of course. This is the best reward you could think of. He wants to give us life forever with Him in heaven!

Let's listen to what the Bible says. When we love and help one another, God will say, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father! Come and possess the kingdom which has been prepared for you ever since the creation of the world."

That's right! Ever since the creation of the world, God has known about you. He has prepared a place for you in heaven. He wants us to receive our reward! It's hard to think of these words all the time, but let's try! "Come, you that are blessed by my Father!"

7 HERO HIEROMARTYRS OF CHERSON

What kind of person is brave? A fireman fearlessly running into a burning building? A policeman chasing a dangerous criminal?

These seven saints were some of the bravest you'll find. They are brave because they knew they had a dangerous job, but they happily did it anyway!

God called His disciples to "make disciples of all nations." God wants us to spread the good news about Jesus Christ to the whole world. In the 300's (1700 years ago), the bishop of Jerusalem sent bishops to spread the good news in Cherson (on the Black Sea— now in Ukraine). But the problem was that people were not so happy to hear the good news. The first two, Bishop Basil and Bishop Ephraim were killed. Then three more bishops were sent. They too were martyred (killed for their Christian faith). Then two more were sent. Finally, being a Christian was legal now, so they should have been safe, but one of these was still killed for being a Christian.

These seven men knew they had a dangerous job to do. But they knew it was an important one—a job that God had given them. That's why they bravely and joyfully did it.

We celebrate these saints on Thursday, Mar. 7th

Why Is “In The Flesh” Non-Negotiable?

March 1, 2019 · Fr. Barnabas Powell

Who is Jesus Christ? There are so many answers to that question, and I guess the human race has been preoccupied with this question since the Lord came in the first place. But, we learn today that how we answer this question is a great deal more important than we may realize!

Look at our Lesson today in 2 John 1:1-13:

The elder to the elect lady and her children, whom I love in the truth, and not only I but also all who know the truth, because of the truth which abides in us and will be with us for ever:

Grace, mercy, and peace will be with us, from God the Father and from Jesus Christ the Father's Son, in truth and love.

I rejoiced greatly to find some of your children following the truth, just as we have been commanded by the Father. And now I beg you, lady, not as though I were writing you a new commandment, but the one we have had from the beginning, that we love one another. And this is love, that we follow his commandments; this is the commandment, as you have heard from the beginning, that you follow love. For many deceivers have gone out into the world, men who will not acknowledge the coming of Jesus Christ in the flesh; such a one is the deceiver and the antichrist. Look to yourselves, that you may not lose what you have worked for, but may win a full reward. Any one who goes ahead and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God; he who abides in the doctrine has both the Father and the Son. If any one comes to you and does not bring this doctrine, do not receive him into the house or give him any greeting; for he who greets him shares his wicked work.

Though I have much to write to you, I would rather not use paper and ink, but I hope to come to see you and talk with you face to face, so that our joy may be complete.

The children of your elect sister greet you. Amen.

This is the entire “book” (better to say “Epistle”) of 2nd John, and it turns out to be a letter to a “lady” and her “children.” Many have concluded that St. John is actually referring to the Church of a particular area and the congregation. So, that would mean that the “elect sister” he refers to at the end of this letter is a church also, probably the Church at Ephesus where John was at the time.

But notice St. John's warning in this letter. Again, John, known as the Apostle of Love because of his emphasis on love in all of his writings, does the same here. And he uses strong language when he writes that he begs the Church to remember the commandment we have had since the beginning: Love one another.

St. John goes on to insist that when we love one another as we should:

- Insulate ourselves from wrong theology, specifically wrong beliefs about Who Jesus is! In fact, he says that anyone who abandons the “doctrine of Christ” that is the consistent understanding of Who Jesus really is preserved in the Church, actually becomes an “antichrist.” And just what identity of Jesus is John referring to? Simply this: Jesus Christ has come in the Flesh. In other words, the theology, the belief in the Incarnation.
- Preserve and promote the consistent teaching of the Church regarding the Incarnation; that teaching that says that Jesus Christ is God in the Flesh, born of a Virgin, lived a sinless life, died a real death on the Cross, buried in a real tomb, and physically resurrected, seen by His disciples and others alive after His crucifixion, taught the disciples after His resurrection, ascended in His flesh, His resurrected physical body to the right hand of the Father, and Who will come again in that same physical body a second time to gather His Body, the Church to Himself and cause the general resurrection of the dead of all of humanity.

Today, what do you believe about Jesus Christ? Truth be told, anyone can see what you believe by the way you live. So, I guess the better question is what does your way of life say about Who you believe Jesus Christ is? The answer determines whether you are Orthodox on Purpose or not!