



St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

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Venerable Pelagia the Penitent

October 8, 2017

Troparion – Tone 1

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: “Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy Kingdom!// Glory to Thy dispensation, O thou who lovest of mankind!”

Troparion – Tone 8

The image of God was truly preserved in thee, O Mother, for thou didst take up the Cross and follow Christ. By so doing thou didst teach us to disregard the flesh for it passes away but to care instead for the soul, since it is immortal.// Therefore thy spirit, venerable Pelagía, rejoices with the angels.

Kontakion – Tone 1

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, raising the world with Thyself. Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished. Adam exults, O Master! Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee:// “Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

Kontakion – Tone 2

Thou didst wear out thy body through fasting, vigils, and prayer, beseeching the Creator to forgive thy deeds completely. Thou didst achieve this, O holy Mother Pelagía, thereby showing up the way to repentance.

Prokeimenon – Tone 1

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee!

v: Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous! Praise befits the just!

Venerable Pelagia the Penitent

Saint Pelagia the Penitent was converted to Christianity by Saint Nonnus, Bishop of Edessa (Saturday of Cheesefare Week). Before her acceptance of Christianity through Baptism, Pelagia was head of a dance troupe in Palestinian Antioch, living a life of frivolity and prostitution.

One day Pelagia, elegantly dressed, was making her way past a church where Saint Nonnus was preaching a sermon. Believers turned their faces away from the sinner, but the bishop glanced after her. Struck by the outer beauty of Pelagia and having foreseen the spiritual greatness within her, the saint prayed in his cell for a long time to the Lord for the sinner. He told his fellow bishops that the prostitute put them all to shame. He explained that she took great care to adorn her body in order to appear beautiful in the eyes of men. “We... take no thought for the adornment of our wretched souls,” he said.

On the following day, when Saint Nonnus was teaching in the church about the dread Last Judgment and its consequences, Pelagia came. The teaching made a tremendous impression upon her. With the fear of God and weeping tears of repentance, she asked the saint for Baptism. Seeing her sincere and full repentance, Bishop Nonnus baptized her.

By night the devil appeared to Pelagia, urging her to return to her former life. The saint prayed, signed herself with the Sign of the Cross, and the devil vanished.

Three days after her baptism, Saint Pelagia gathered up her valuables and took them to Bishop Nonnus. The bishop ordered that they be distributed among the poor saying, "Let this be wisely dispersed, so that these riches gained by sin may become a wealth of righteousness." After this Saint Pelagia journeyed to Jerusalem to the Mount of Olives. She lived there in a cell, disguised as the monk Pelagius, living in ascetic seclusion, and attaining great spiritual gifts. When she died, she was buried in her cell.

Epistle: 2 Corinthians 9:6-11

But this I say: "He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and he who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully." So let each one give as he purposes in his heart, not grudgingly or of necessity; for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound toward you, that you, always having all sufficiency in all things, may have an abundance for every good work. As it is written: "He has dispersed abroad, He has given to the poor; His righteousness endures forever." Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, supply and multiply the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God.

Gospel: Luke 7:11-16

Now it happened, the day after, that He went into a city called Nain; and many of His disciples went with Him, and a large crowd. And when He came near the gate of the city, behold, a dead man was being carried out, the only son of his mother; and she was a widow. And a large crowd from the city was with her. When the Lord saw her, He had compassion on her and said to her, "Do not weep." Then He came and touched the open coffin, and those who carried him stood still. And He said, "Young man, I say to you, arise." So he who was dead sat up and began to speak. And He presented him to his mother. Then fear came upon all, and they glorified God, saying, "A great prophet has risen up among us"; and, "God has visited His people."

Service Schedule for the week of October 8

Today – 9:00 AM Church School, 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall, 12:30 PM Catechumen Class (church)

Saturday October 14 – 5:00 PM Vespers followed by Confession

Sunday October 15 – 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Weekly Giving

October 1 – 46 adults , 17 youth , \$2,314

Parish Announcements

The final Catechumen class will be held in the church today at 12:30 PM; this will be a presentation given by Father Paul on our church's history and iconography. Everyone is invited to the class, but all Catechumens are required to attend.

There will be a Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday October 10 at 7:00 PM and there will be a Senior R Club Meeting on Sunday, October 15 during Coffee Hour.

Future church fundraisers:

Turkey Social – Sunday November 12

Christmas Bake Sale – Saturday December 16

More information will be forthcoming in the next few weeks. *Everyone is asked to please start baking and freezing Christmas cookies for the bake sale as cookie trays will be the main focus of the sale.*