



St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

812 Grand Street, Trenton, NJ 08610 (609) 393-1234

Rev. Volodymyr Chaikivskyi V. Rev. Paul Shafran, Pastor Emeritus

saintvladimir.org

[facebook.com/St-Vladimir-Orthodox-Church-Trenton-NJ-454092552035666](https://www.facebook.com/St-Vladimir-Orthodox-Church-Trenton-NJ-454092552035666)

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

March 3, 2024

TROPARION, KONTAKION & PROKEIMENON

Troparion – Tone 6

The Angelic Powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure body. Thou didst capture hell not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead, // glory to Thee.

Kontakion – Tone 3

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

Prokeimenon – Tone 6

O Lord, save Thy people, / and bless Thine inheritance!

V. To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!

LITURGICAL COMMEMORATION

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

The Sunday after the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee is the Sunday of the Prodigal Son. This parable of God’s forgiveness calls us to “come to ourselves” as did the prodigal son, to see ourselves as being “in a far country” far from the Father’s house, and to make the journey of return to God. We are given every assurance by the Master that our heavenly Father will receive us with joy and gladness. We must only “arise and go,” confessing our self-inflicted and sinful separation from that “home” where we truly belong (Luke 15:11-24). After the Polyeleion at Matins, we first hear the lenten hymn “By the Waters of Babylon.” It will be sung for the next two Sundays before Lent begins, and it serves to reinforce the theme of exile in today’s Gospel. Starting tomorrow, the weekday readings summarize the events of Holy Week. On Monday we read Saint Mark’s account of the Entry into Jerusalem. On Tuesday we read how Judas went to the chief priests and offered to betray the Lord. On the night before His death Christ tells His disciples that one of them will betray Him. He also predicts that they will desert Him, and that Peter will deny Him three times. On Wednesday the Gospel describes how Judas betrayed the Savior with a kiss. Thursday’s Gospel tells how Jesus was questioned by Pilate. On Friday we read the narrative of Christ’s crucifixion and death.

EPISTLE & GOSPEL READINGS

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.

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.'"

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK, CAREGIVERS, AND DECEASED

Dates are when the name was added to the bulletin; names will remain in four bulletins and then removed. To add the name again, please email Darice at daricekeyes@gmail.com.

For the Sick / Caregiver

Carmine (2/11)

Marianne (2/11)

Leon (2/18)

Michael (2/18)

Charlotte (2/18)

Subdeacon Serge (2/18)

Melody (2/18)

Nancy (2/18)

Father Paul (2/25)

Matushka Mary (2/25)

Alexandra (2/25)

Nicholas (3/3)

Julie (3/3)

Kelly (3/3)

Liam (3/3)

Dorothy (3/3)

For the Deceased

Igor (2/11)

Haydee (2/11)

Ann (2/25)

Joseph (2/25)

SERVICES

Service Schedule for the week of March 3

Sunday March 3 – 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

Saturday March 9 – **MEMORIAL SATURDAY** 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy; 5:00 PM Vespers followed by Confession

Sunday March 10– 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by FOCA Club Breakfast Fundraiser in Daria Hall

DONATIONS

Weekly Giving

February 25 –75 adults, 24 youth, \$3,471

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Congratulations to Matushka Mary! The Iconostas candles are in honor of Matushka Mary who turns 99 today! We extend our sincere love and gratitude for all her decades with us, and for all her services in so many ways to our parish. May God bestow on her his richest blessings today and always. **Многая лета!**

Daylight Savings Time begins next weekend. Please remember to turn your clocks one hour AHEAD next Saturday evening.

The FOCA Club will have a Breakfast Fundraiser next Sunday, March 10. **A sign-up sheet is on the table in the back of the church.** Please support our church clubs as funds raised support various Orthodox charities throughout the year.

The Ladies Assumption Altar Society is raffling two homemade Spring wreaths. Chances are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. Chances will be sold today, and winners will be picked today during Coffee Hour.

The Ladies Assumption Altar Society will hold a bazaar/flea market in Daria Hall - open to the public and parish on Saturday June 22 and only for our parish June 23. Please bring gently used items and clothing to be sold; electric items must work; no rust or damaged items please. The items may be placed in the coat room or on the left side only of the stage in Daria Hall. Large empty boxes, newspaper, bubble wrap, and tissue paper are also needed. The ladies are looking for volunteers to help price items and set up, and also to help on Saturday June 22 during the bazaar. We would really appreciate some male volunteers for security detail on Saturday. See Alla with any questions.

Catechumen/Adult Education Classes began yesterday. If you wish to convert to Orthodoxy, it is mandatory to participate in these educational classes, which will be held in the church basement every Saturday after Vespers. There will be 10 to 11 classes, and in order to finish classes before Pascha - so the Catechumens have an opportunity to be Baptized and/or Chrismated before Pascha - there may be two classes on a few Saturdays, or possibly a class one evening during the week. Scheduled dates other than Saturdays after Vespers will be announced during the classes. The classes are not only for those interested in converting to Orthodoxy, but anyone who wants to further their Orthodox education. Instructors will be Father Volodymyr, Herman Meyer, Alan Berck, John Cassar, and Trudy Ellmore.

As discussed at the annual Parish Meeting on January 28, a goal of \$85,000 for "annual pledges" has been set for this year. We have received 19 pledges to date, and are at 68% of the goal. Please remember to turn in your green pledge card, which was included with your donation envelopes, as soon as you can. The cards not only indicate your pledge for the year, but also your stewardship interests in helping your parish. If you need another card, please see Alex Brasowski. Thank you – your pledges are used to help the Parish Council budget projects for the church.

Summer Camp for parish children will be held the last week of June (June 24-28) – **there is a sign-up sheet in the back of the church.** Ages 4 through 12 may attend, however children ages 4-6 are required to have a parent/guardian attend with them. There is no charge for camp. We will need several children to commit in order to have the camp.

Your donations are needed to sustain Coffee Hour. Very little is being donated every Sunday, so please remember to put some money in the basket on the food table so we can continue to have Coffee Hour. Thank you!

A sign-up sheet for House Blessing is on the table in the back of the church. Please sign up and Father Volodymyr will contact you to set up a time. All house blessings must be completed before March 18.

Coffee Hour Support Persons are needed. If you would like to volunteer to assist once or twice a month, please see Alla Strauss, Melody Stavisky, or Father Volodymyr. We encourage everyone to get involved in this weekly parish event.

The Ladies Altar Society is creating and publishing the first Parish Cookbook – with your help! We are interested in your favorite recipes, ethnic recipes, recipes from your grandparents, parents, children, relatives and friends, and Lenten recipes. They can include Appetizers, Main Meals, Side Dishes, Soup, Salad, Dessert, and Beverages. In addition to recipes, the Cookbook will include a Helpful Hints section. In order for the Cookbook to be a success, we will need many recipes! Each recipe should include your name, who you may have received the recipe from, and your phone number (phone number is only if we have questions and will not be published in the Cookbook). Please give your recipes to Alla Strauss, Melody Stavisky, or Nancy Mitsos. Thank you!

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

Matushka Mary Shafran – March 3

Vera Pschenyczny – March 3

Chris Villabon – March 5

Carmen Mateiescu – March 6

Mihaela Milosav – March 7

Pheodora Kasmer – March 8

Anthony Cassar – March 9

Have a blessed birthday and may God grant you many years!

COFFEE HOUR

Hosts are responsible for providing and setting up the refreshments in Daria Hall at 9:00 AM and after Holy Communion, cleaning up after Coffee Hour including washing, drying and putting away dishes, taking out the trash, and cleaning up the Coffee Room including turning off and cleaning the coffee and tea pots. Hosts will be informed in advance if cream cheese, butter, or milk is needed. If you have any questions, please contact Melody Stavisky or Alla Strauss.

SUGGESTED MENU:

Bagels / Breads

Donuts / Pastries

Frozen desserts are available to use from the two freezers in Daria Hall

Fruit

Salads

Tortilla chips & Salsa

Hummus

Sugar-free dessert

Oreos (non-dairy)

NOTE: Hosts may provide a luncheon for a specific event or holiday (panikhida, birthday, anniversary, holiday) **with advance notice to reserve the specific date to host the event.** The hosts will be responsible for all food preparation for such a luncheon.

Mar. 3 Karina Kotelnicki, Gabriela Plesa

Mar. 10 FOCA Club Breakfast Fundraiser

Mar. 17 **NO MEAT** Fiyori Habtesilasse, Gebrekvistos Amleset

Mar. 24 **FAST** Svetlana Sosedov, Guy Radcliffe

Mar. 31 **FAST** Christine Waite, Alla & Perry Strauss

Apr. 7 **FAST** Germain & Tahara Ortiz, Vera Pschenychny

Apr. 14 **FAST** Corneliu & Florica Balasa, Viktoryia Baranava

Apr. 21 **FAST** Alan & Mimi Berck, Paul & Patti Denko

Apr. 28 **FAST** Alex & Brittani Brasowski, Anna & Leon Brasowski

May 5 **PASCHA – NO COFFEE HOUR**

May 12 Nina Schmidt, Alla & Perry Strauss

May 19 Carmen & Cezar Mateiescu, Valeria & Timothy Srock

May 26 Christina DiDonato, John Cassar

June 2 Alex & Rebeca Medina, Father Volodymyr & Matushka Oksana

June 9 Manuel & Lourdes Montiel, Cole Johnson

June 16 FOCA Club

June 23 Nina Laushell, Lynne Sheedy & Bill Hazelton

June 30 Ludwig & Paula Koerte, Nina Shafran

July 7 Madeleine Sekulich & Mark McDevitt, Ramazi Shubitidze

July 14 **ST. VLADIMIR DAY CELEBRATION**

July 21 Nicholas & Samantha Torrisi, Herman & Francine Meyer

July 28 Tamara Karkusova, Ekaterina & Stanislav Uritsky

Aug. 4 **FAST** Luwam Tesfa, Nebiat Tesfa

Aug. 11 **FAST** Nancy Mitsos, Darice Keyes

Aug. 18 Ladies Assumption Altar Society

Aug. 25 Alex Godun, Blake & Jessica Kilgore

Sept. 1 Melody Stavisky, Awet Tesfa

Sept. 8 Olga & James Bates, Tanya & Walter Tribbey

Sept. 15 James & Monia Pitra, Anne Cheslock

Sept. 22 **ANNUAL PARISH PICNIC**

Sept. 29 Sami Bachir, Nour Ragab

Oct. 6 Virgiliu & Gabriela Plesa, Mihaela & Tiberiu Milosav

Oct. 13 Sophia Dumas, Melissa Braun

Oct. 20 Tony & Chris Villabon, Alan & Mimi Berck