



## St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

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### Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenaries Cyrus and John, and those with them January 31, 2021

#### **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 mankind!”

#### **Troparion – Tone 5**

O Christ God; Thou hast given us the miracles of Thy martyrs Cyrus and John, as an invincible rampart; through their prayers frustrate the plans of the heathens, and strengthen the faith of the Orthodox Christians,// for Thou alone art good and lovest mankind.

#### **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 3**

Having received the gift of miracles through divine grace, O saints, you work wonders in the world unceasingly. You remove all of our passions through your invisible surgery, divinely-wise Cyrus and glorious John,// for you are truly divine physicians.

#### **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 you righteous! Praise befits the just!*

#### **Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenaries Cyrus and John, and those with them**

Saint Cyrus was a noted physician in the city of Alexandria, where he had been born and raised. He was a Christian and he treated the sick without charge, not only curing their bodily afflictions, but also healing their spiritual infirmities. He would say, “Whoever wishes to avoid being ill should refrain from sin, for sin is often the cause of bodily illness.” Preaching the Gospel, the holy physician converted many pagans to Christ. During the persecution by Diocletian (284-305), Saint Cyrus withdrew into Arabia, where he became a monk. He continued to heal people by his prayer, having received from God the gift to heal every sickness.

In the city of Edessa at this time lived the soldier John, a pious Christian. When the persecution started, he went to Jerusalem and there he heard about Saint Cyrus. He began to search for him, going first to Alexandria and then to Arabia. When Saint John finally found Saint Cyrus, he remained with him and became his faithful follower.

They learned of the arrest of the Christian woman Athanasia and her three young daughters. Theoctiste was fifteen; Theodota, was thirteen; and Eudoxia, was eleven. Saints Cyrus and John hastened to the prison to help them. They were concerned that faced with torture, the women might renounce Christ.

Saints Cyrus and John gave them courage to endure what lay before them. Learning of this, the ruler of the city arrested Saints Cyrus and John, and seeing their steadfast and fearless confession of faith in Christ, he brought Athanasia and her daughters to witness their torture. The tyrant did not refrain from any form of torture against the holy martyrs. The women were not frightened by the sufferings of Saints Cyrus and John, but courageously continued to confess Christ. They were flogged and then beheaded, receiving their crowns of martyrdom.

At the same place they executed the Holy Unmercenaries Cyrus and John, Christians buried their bodies in the church of the holy Evangelist Mark. In the fifth century the relics of Saints Cyrus and John were transferred from Canopis to Manuphin. Later on their relics were transferred to Rome, and from there to Munchen (Munich) (another account is located under June 28). Saints Cyrus and John are invoked by those who have difficulty in sleeping.

### **Epistle: Colossians 3:12-16**

Therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also must do. But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

### **Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30**

For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money. After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, 'Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.' His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.' He also who had received two talents came and said, 'Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.' His lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.' Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.' But his lord answered and said to him, 'You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. Therefore take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

### **Service Schedule for the week of January 31 – services will be streamed live**

**Today – MASKS REQUIRED** 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by the Annual Parish Meeting in Daria Hall

**Monday February 1 – MASKS REQUIRED** 7:00 PM Vespers with Litya **MEETING OF THE LORD IN THE TEMPLE**

**Tuesday February 2 – MASKS REQUIRED** 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy followed by the Blessing of candles **MEETING OF THE LORD IN THE TEMPLE**

**Saturday February 6 – MASKS REQUIRED** 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy and 5:00 PM Vespers

**Sunday February 7 – MASKS NOT REQUIRED** 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour and the FOCA Club chicken parmigiana sandwich sale in Daria Hall

### **Weekly Giving**

January 23 & 24 -

## **Parish Announcements**

***Masks will be required at all Holy Day services. Masks may be worn during any service, even those indicating No Mask.***

### **Upcoming service schedule (Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM):**

Saturday January 30 – Masks not required

Sunday January 31 – Masks required

Saturday February 6 – Masks required

Sunday February 7 – Masks not required

Saturday February 13 – Masks not required

Sunday February 14 – Masks required

Saturday February 20 – Masks required

Sunday February 21 – Masks not required

Saturday February 27 – Masks not required

Sunday February 28 – Masks required

Saturday March 6 – Masks required

Sunday March 7 – Masks not required

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held today after Divine Liturgy in Daria Hall. Voting Parishioners must sign in and will receive an information packet. Non-voting Parishioners are welcome to attend and listen to the meeting, but cannot vote or contribute to the meeting. If you are unsure of your status, please see Nina Laushell.

The funeral service for former parishioner, MaryAnn Varhula, was held this past Friday. Memory Eternal!

St Vladimir FOCA Club (formerly called the Senior R Club) will be selling chicken parmigiana sandwiches next Sunday February 7 after Divine Liturgy. All sandwiches will be packaged to go, and may be picked up in Daria Hall. The cost is \$7/sandwich. A sign-up sheet is on the table in the back of the church across from the candle desk. The last day to place an order is today. Thank you for your support!

The Parish Council voted to resume Coffee Hour as follows:

Individually plated donuts, pie slices, and bagels will be available, as well as individual packets of condiments and wrapped utensils.

No other food offerings are permitted at this time.

Coffee, decaf coffee, tea, decaf tea, water, and juice boxes will be available.

Tables and chairs are socially distanced.

Masks are required to be worn unless you are eating.

Hosts of Coffee Hour must wear masks and use gloves. Printed Coffee Hour instructions will be available.

Parents are responsible for getting food and beverages for their children; children are not permitted at the food tables.

If you would like to host Coffee Hour, please see Melody Stavisky or Michael Toth. We look forward to gathering together socially as a parish again! However, if you or a member of your family feel ill, please do not attend until you are well so as to avoid the spreading of germs.

The following was received from Archbishop Michael:



ASSEMBLY OF CANONICAL  
ORTHODOX BISHOPS  
OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

# 2021: The Year of the Youth

Wednesday, January 27, 2021

At the annual meeting in October 2020, the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America declared 2021 the Year of the Youth, with the intent of augmenting ministry to children, teens, and young adults across the country. The yearlong festivities will focus on the youth's presence and potential within the Church by celebrating and enhancing their God-given talents.

The presence of Youth, as full members of the Body of Christ, is essential to the life of our communities. The Youth are our present and future. Our hope stems from a faith that is not only lived on a daily basis but is passed on from generation to generation, ensuring continuity in witnessing Christ's love in the world.

The presence of Youth in our Church gives us hope and purpose, following the words of the Psalmist: "He established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which He commanded our fathers to teach to their children; that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and arise and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God but keep His commandments..." (Psalm 78:5-7).

The Assembly of Bishops, in collaboration with the Orthodox Youth Directors of North America, is planning a variety of exciting events in the coming months. The plan includes a series of online events and webinars as well as opportunities for youth, youth workers, and parents to witness the faith and celebrate their good works in Christ. More details will be made available in the coming weeks and months at [orthodoxyouth.net](http://orthodoxyouth.net) and [assemblyofbishops.org](http://assemblyofbishops.org).

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In order to properly social distance, we ask that parishioners **fill the front pews as well as all pews in the church before congregating in the back. Individuals should attempt to sit in a pew (one at each end) with another individual in order to free up pews for families. If your family is in need of a pew, please ask the person at the candle desk for assistance to see if individuals can be moved to open up a pew.** The choir loft is also available for a family. We must be vigilant in trying to prevent the spread of germs, so please do not attend church services if you have a fever, sniffles, cough, cold, sore throat, loss of smell or taste, etc. If individuals who attended church services are diagnosed with Covid, the church may need to shut down for a period of time. Father Volodymyr live streams Saturday Vespers and Sunday Divine Liturgy every weekend, so if you are home you may still participate in the services on line. Thank you for your consideration and cooperation!

The church has been set up for appropriate social distance seating. However, if you are feeling ill, please stay home. Also, those age 65 and over are still considered high risk and should make careful decisions about attending services. Father Volodymyr will continue to stream live Vespers and Sunday Divine Liturgy.

During the pandemic we are grateful that our parishioners have continued to contribute every week so the church can remain operational. Please continue to pray for everyone's health and well-being!