



## St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

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

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

[saintvladimir.org](http://saintvladimir.org)

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### 1<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT: SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY

March 24, 2024

#### TROPARION, KONTAKION & PROKEIMENON

##### 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 2

We venerate Thy most pure image, O Good One; and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ our God. Of Thine own will Thou wast pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh and deliver Thy creatures from bondage to the Enemy. Therefore with thankfulness we cry aloud to Thee: “Thou hast filled all with joy, O our Savior,// by coming to save the world.”

##### Troparion – Tone 4

Today is the prelude of joy for the universe! Let us anticipate the feast and celebrate with exultation: Gabriel is on his way to announce the glad tidings to the Virgin; he is ready to cry out in fear and wonder:// “Rejoice, O Full of Grace, the Lord is with thee!”

##### Kontakion – Tone 8

No one could describe the Word of the Father; but when He took flesh from thee, O Theotokos, He accepted to be described, and restored the fallen image to its former state by uniting it to divine beauty.// We confess and proclaim our salvation in words and images.

##### Kontakion – Tone 8

Thou art the beginning of salvation for all of us on earth, Virgin Mother of God. For the great Archangel Gabriel, God’s minister, was sent from heaven to stand before thee to bring thee joy:// Therefore, we all cry to thee: “Rejoice, O unwedded Bride!”

##### Prokeimenon – Tone 4

Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers, / and praised and glorified is Thy Name forever!

*V. For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us!*

#### LITURGICAL COMMEMORATION

##### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Great Lent: Sunday of Orthodoxy

The first Sunday of Great Lent is called the Sunday of Orthodoxy because it commemorates the restoration of the Holy Icons and the triumph of the Orthodox Faith against the terrible heresy of the Iconoclasts, i.e. those heretics who refused to honor the Holy Icons. For more than a hundred years the Church was disturbed by the evil doctrine of iconoclasm.

The first Emperor to persecute the Church was Leo the Isaurian, and the last was Theophilus, the spouse of Saint Theodora (February 11), who reigned after her husband's death and re-established Orthodoxy in the time of Patriarch Methodios (June 14). Empress Theodora proclaimed publicly that we do not kiss the Icons as a sign of worship, nor do we honor them as "gods," but as images of their prototypes. In the year 843, on the first Sunday of the Fast, Saint Theodora

and her son, Emperor Michael, venerated the Holy Icons together with the clergy and the people. Since that time this event has been commemorated every year, because it was definitively determined that we do not worship the Icons, but we honor and glorify all the Saints who are depicted on them. We worship only the Triune God: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, and no one else, neither a Saint, nor an Angel.

Originally, the Holy Prophets Moses, Aaron, and Samuel were commemorated on this Sunday. The Alleluia verses appointed for today's Liturgy reflect this older usage.

## **EPISTLE & GOSPEL READINGS**

### **Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26; 32-12:2**

By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented – of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us. Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

### **Gospel: John 1:43-51**

The following day Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote – Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!" Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered and said to Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these." And He said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

## **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](mailto:daricekeyes@gmail.com).

### **For the Sick / Caregiver**

Julie (3/3)

Kelly (3/3)

Liam (3/3)

Dorothy (3/3)

Carmine (3/10)

Marianne (3/10)

Melody (3/17)

Subdeacon Serge (3/17)

Nancy (3/17)

Michael (3/17)

Charlotte (3/17)

Vera (3/17)

Ann (3/24)

Lynne (3/24)

Bill (3/24)

Father Paul (3/24)

Matushka Mary (3/24)

Alexandra (3/24)

Constance (3/24)

Nicholas (3/24)

### **For the Deceased**

Stavroula (3/24)

Eva (3/24)

Demian (3/24)

Anna (3/24)

John (3/24)

Michael (3/24)

Lenore (3/24)

## SERVICES

### Service Schedule for the week of March 24

**Sunday March 24 – SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY** 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy with Icon Procession, followed by Vespers for **FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION**. Then Coffee Hour in Daria Hall.

**Monday March 25 – FEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION** 9:30 AM Vespereal Liturgy

**Wednesday March 27** – 5:30 PM Confession, 6:30 PM Pre-Sanctified Liturgy followed by Confession

**Friday March 29** – 8:30 AM Confession, 9:30 AM Pre-Sanctified Liturgy followed by Confession

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

**Sunday March 31 – ST. GREGORY PALAMAS** 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

## DONATIONS

### Weekly Giving

March 17 – 76 adults, 24 youth, \$3,828

## PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be a FOCA Club meeting today during Coffee Hour.

The FOCA Colonial District will host a Religious Education Day on Saturday April 6 starting 1:00 PM at St. Stephen's Cathedral in NE Phila. Guest speaker will be Dr. David Ford, Professor at St. Tikhon's Seminary. The lecture will be "Marriage as a Path to Holiness"; there is no charge to attend this lecture. All are invited.

Our parish will host a Lenten Mission Service on Sunday April 7 at 5:00 PM, which will be followed by a potluck Lenten supper. A sign-up sheet for the supper is in the back of the church. We anticipate approx. 50 people will attend.

The Ladies Assumption Altar Society will be selling chances today for both a boy's and a girl's Easter basket. Chances for each basket are \$2 each or 3 for \$5. The winners will be announced today during Coffee Hour. Thank you for your support!

Copies of the Lenten Service Schedules are on the table in the back of the church.

Please remember to partake in the sacraments of Holy Confession and Holy Communion prior to Pascha. If you need to schedule a specific time for Confession, please contact Father Volodymyr.

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 are under way. 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.

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

Maximum Dorvil – March 24

Sosi Sengal Tesfa – March 27

Alexander Bagritsevich – March 27

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

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

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

Apr. 7 **FAST** Alan & Mimi Berck, Vera Pschenyczny

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

Apr. 21 **FAST** Germain & Tahara Ortiz, Paul & Patty Denko

Apr. 28 **FAST** Alex & Brittani Brasowski, Anna & Leon Brasowski, Simeon 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 Melody Stavisky, 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 Tyler Burger, 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