



St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

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Prophet Obadiah (Abdia)

November 19, 2017

Troparion – Tone 7

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.

Troparion – Tone 2

We celebrate the memory of Thy Prophet Obadiah, O Lord; through him we beseech Thee: “Save our souls!”

Troparion – Tone 4

Armed with youthful fervor, Thou didst endure martyrdom in old age and glorified Christ. Thou didst offer Him thy right hand as a whole burnt offering and thy holy soul as a blameless sacrifice. Intercede that all that be granted forgiveness, Great-martyr Barlaam!

Kontakion – Tone 7

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry: “The Savior has come to those in faith;// enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!”

Kontakion – Tone 1

The great Obadiah, acquiring a mind luminous with divine splendor, speaks through the Holy Spirit, proclaiming things to come. Today we honor him with faithful minds, // celebrating his holy memory which enlightens the hearts of men.

Kontakion – Tone 3

Though weak with old age thou didst vanquish the Evil One in thy mighty contest, O Barlaam. Thou didst endure the rack like one without a body, and steadfastly endured the burning of thy hand. Therefore, God the Word has crowned thee with a crown of glory.

Prokeimenon – Tone 7

The Lord shall give strength to His people. The Lord shall bless His people with peace.

v: Offer to the Lord, O ye sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord!

Prophet Obadiah (Abdia)

The Holy Prophet Obadiah [or Abdia] is the fourth of the Twelve Minor Prophets, and he lived during the ninth century B.C. He was from the village of Betharam, near Sichem, and he served as steward of the impious Israelite King Ahab. In those days the whole of Israel had turned away from the true God and had begun to offer sacrifice to Baal, but Obadiah faithfully served the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in secret.

When Ahab's wife, the impious and dissolute Jezebel, hunted down all the prophets of the Lord (because of her quarrel with the Prophet Elias), Obadiah gave them shelter and food (3/1 Kgs 18:3 ff). Ahab's successor King Okhoziah [Ahaziah] sent three detachments of soldiers to arrest the holy Prophet Elias (July 20). One of these detachments was headed by Saint Obadiah. Through the prayer of Saint Elias, two of the detachments were consumed by heavenly fire, but Saint Obadiah and his detachment were spared by the Lord 4/2 Kgs 1).

From that moment Saint Obadiah resigned from military service and became a follower of the Prophet Elias. Afterwards, he himself received the gift of prophecy. The God-inspired work of Saint Obadiah is the fourth of the Books of the Twelve Minor Prophets in the Bible, and contains predictions about the New Testament Church. The holy Prophet Obadiah was buried in Samaria.

Epistle: Ephesians 2:14-22

For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Gospel: Luke 12:16-21

Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: "The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. And he thought within himself, saying, 'What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?' So he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. 'And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry." ' But God said to him, 'Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?' So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God."

Service Schedule for the week of November 19

Today – 9:00 AM Church School, 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

Monday November 20 – 7:00 PM Vespers with Litya, Presentation of the Virgin Mary to the Temple

Tuesday November 21 – 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Saturday November 25 – 5:00 PM Vespers followed by Confession

Sunday November 26 – 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Weekly Giving

November 12 – 50 adults, 13 youth, \$1,454

Parish Announcements

As a result of the Turkey Social last Sunday, \$1,188 has been donated to the church! We thank everyone for their help and donations, which made this such a successful event for our parish. Until next year.....

There will be a Senior R Club meeting today during coffee hour.

The last Catechumen class will be held today at 12:30 PM in the church. Father Paul will discuss the history and iconography of our church. All are invited to attend but the Catechumens must attend. A Chrismation Service will be scheduled for a Sunday morning in the next few weeks (prior to Divine Liturgy) to welcome the Catechumens into the Orthodox Faith – Francine Brady; Alex, Rebeca, Karolah and Emily Medina; Caryl Peck; Walter Tribbey.

The Nativity Fast began this week. Father Volodymyr reminds everyone to partake in the Sacraments of Confession and Communion prior to the Nativity. If you need to schedule a particular time for Confession please contact Father Volodymyr. There is a sheet on the table across from the candle desk about preparation for Holy Confession.

The Senior R Club is sponsoring a Seminarian family from St. Herman's Seminary in Alaska for the St. Nicholas Christmas Gift Project. Instead of gift tags we will collect money to purchase Walmart and Amazon gift cards, which are easier to transport to Alaska. ***Please support the Club with your donation. As you know, Seminarian families struggle to make ends meet while attending Seminary; the families we have supported in the past truly appreciate receiving Christmas gifts from our parish. A collection plate is in the back of the church; the last collection date will be next Sunday November 26. Thank you!***

The Sunday School children will decorate the Christmas tree in Daria Hall during coffee hour on Sunday December 3, and the Christmas Yolka will be held on Sunday December 10 during coffee hour.

Don't forget our next upcoming event is the Bake Sale on Saturday December 16. We need baked goods, especially cookies, dropped off in Daria Hall no later than 1 PM on Friday December 15 so cookie trays can be assembled. You may bring your cookies early and put them in the Daria Hall Coat Room freezer – please mark the contents, especially if there are nuts in the baked goods. Any questions contact Nina Laushell or Darice Keyes.

We will have a Christmas Eve Supper once again this year on Sunday, December 24 at 5:00 PM in Daria Hall. There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the church. Please bring a Lenten dish to share (estimate 20-25 people). The Supper will be followed by Great Compline services in the church at 7:00 PM.

Happy Thanksgiving! There is a special dispensation from the OCA for people to enjoy turkey on Thanksgiving Day even though we are in the Nativity Fast.