



St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

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Sunday of the Prodigal Son

February 4, 2018

Troparion – Tone 2

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life immortal, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead. And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out:// “O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to Thee!”

Troparion – Tone 1

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace! From thee shone the Sun of Righteousness, ^Christ our God, enlightening those who sat in darkness. Rejoice and be glad, O righteous Elder, thou didst accept in thine arms the ^Redeemer of our souls, Who grants us the Resurrection!

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!”

Kontakion – Tone 1

By Thy Nativity Thou didst sanctify the Virgin’s womb and didst bless Simeon’s hands, ^O Christ God. Now Thou hast come and saved us through love. Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, O only Lover of Man!

Prokeimenon – Tone 2

The Lord is my strength and my song; He has become my salvation.

v: The Lord has chastened me sorely, but He has not given me over to death.

Prokeimenon – Tone 3

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

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.

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.'"

Service Schedule for the week of February 4

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

Saturday February 10 - 5:00 PM Vespers followed by Confession

Sunday February 11 – 9:00 AM Church School, 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

Weekly Giving

January 28 – 45 adults, 15 youth, \$1,932

Parish Announcements

If you would like your house blessed, please sign the sheet on the table across from the candle desk and Father Volodymyr will contact you to schedule a time. There are only a few weeks left before the beginning of Lent (February 19).

Please remember to turn in your blue Stewardship card as soon as possible to Nina Laushell, Ludwig Koerte, or Herman Meyer. Thank you for your continuing support of St. Vladimir Orthodox Church.

The Ladies Altar Society will be making pierogies on Friday night February 9 and Saturday morning February 10. Many hands are needed to help! Friday night we will peel, cook, and mash the potatoes, and assemble the filling balls for Saturday morning. Saturday morning we will roll the dough, pinch-pinch-pinch, and boil the pierogies. Nadja Nowicki needs the following donations – before buying anything please check with her to make sure you are not duplicating!

- Cash to purchase 50 lbs. of potatoes, 25 lbs. of flour, 3 lbs. of cheddar cheese, and 5-6 lbs. of margarine.
- Plastic freezer and storage bags (approx. 100 of each)
- 10 lbs. onions

Any questions see Nadja Nowicki.

Trip to Israel and Ukraine:

Father Volodymyr is arranging a trip for about 15 people to travel to Israel and Ukraine this spring as follows:

Departure Mon. May 21, JFK airport to Kiev with a connecting flight from Kiev to Israel, arriving Tues. May 22. 7 days and 6 nights in Israel.

Depart Israel Monday May 28, fly to Kiev for 4 days and 3 nights.

Depart May 31 Kiev to JFK.

Airline ticket is approx. \$940.

Hotel, bus tour, breakfasts and dinners in Israel \$575.

Hotels in Kiev are approx. \$30/night (3 nights).

Each traveler should budget for lunches in Israel, as well as 3 meals a day in Kiev and possibly some small activity/entry fees to various tourist attractions.

If you are interested in this trip, please see Father Volodymyr before February 15, which is the last day to book the trip.

The Senior R Club is selling Gertrude Hawks chocolate candy for Easter. Please see Paul or Betty Kavchok for a catalog and order form. The proceeds are used by the Club to support the church and various Orthodox charities.

Former parishioner, Olga "Candy" (Sadowski) Pipino, fell asleep in the Lord on Monday January 29 after a brief illness. Olga was a Parishioner of the church from birth until moving away from the area. She is survived by her daughter Debbie Cribari (Florida) and her son Jerry Pipino (North Carolina). Memory Eternal!

Installation of the Parish Council members will be held next Sunday February 11 during Divine Liturgy instead of today. Newly nominated to 2-year terms are: Anne Cheslock, Darice Keyes, Ludwig Koerte, Nina Laushell, and Awet Tesfa, bringing the total to 9 Parish Council members plus Father Volodymyr.