



*Jesus Christ, our  
Saviour and Redeemer*

# Holy Protection Orthodox Church

Greetings on this blessed Lord's Day! Please take a green information sheet if this is your first time here. You can put in any collection basket or hand to greeter

**IN EMERGENCY CALL/TEXT**  
813-406-2620 (Fr.'s cell). If in middle of night and no answer, call home 813-719-6266 (home), or 813-451-9829 (Pani's cell)

## Schedule

Today is Tone 1

### **St. Thomas Sunday April 23**

9:45 am Divine Liturgy  
11:15 am Fellowship

### **Sunday April 30**

9:45 am Divine Liturgy  
11:15 am Fellowship

### **Monday, May 1**

7:15pm Parish Council

### **Sunday May 7**

9:45 am Divine Liturgy  
11:15 am Fellowship

### **Monday, May 8**

7pm Women of Faith  
Sweet Tomatoes  
10017 E Adamo Dr, Tampa, FL 33619



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

We need as many people here as possible on April 30<sup>th</sup> for a parish photo! Mark the date, come to church!

The first 100-year historical and pictorial account of the UOC in the USA is about to be compiled. All churches have been asked to participate.

Centennial Photo Day: April 30, 2017 - photos will be taken of our membership at Holy Protection Orthodox Church.

Deadline for historical data and photos: May 20, 2017 - parishioners must submit entries to Linda Bycz via email (linda.bycz@gmail.com).

We need a coordinator for the Orthodox Men's group to plan activities for the men of the parish.

Alexis is moving in June, so we need a new youth ministry leader! See Alexis for details.

We need volunteers for a Christian Education committee. See Mike Gursky if interested.

The UOL is hosting an essay contest. Even adults can participate. If interested, see Pani.

The last day to bring in food for the food bank is April 30. This activity is sponsored by our Outreach Ministry. If you would like to be involved in this ministry, see Sue Johnson.

We would like to fill our church with green again on Pentecost! On Sunday, June 4, bring a small tree to be planted on the church grounds. We currently have 4 trees near the bell tower, and 2 out front from the last time we did this on Pentecost. If you would like, it can be planted in memory of a loved one.

**Prayer Corner:** Please pray for the ailing: Mary, Kathy, Susan, Helen, Neila, Olexander, Anna, John, Carol, Mat. Mary, P.Vera, SD. John, Randee, John, Ryan, Marie, Paul, Mary, Pangratios, Tikon, Vasili, Jeremiah, Dcn. Luke, Maria, John David, Elizabeth, Joshua, Alexander, Nicholas, Rebecca, Genevieve, Panteleimon, Vladimir, Margaret, Sean, David, Sarah, Jonathon, Simon, Gene, Judy, Fr. Michael, Fr. John, Anastasia, Demitrios, Alexandra, Israel, George, Michelle, George, Beth, Alex, George, Joseph, Jaqueline, Michael, Geverylyn, Thomas, Norma, Sally, Sarah, Derek, Susan, Lucy, Beth, Kathy, Phyllis, John, David, Shirley, Kalie, Madeline, Thomas, Patricia, Marie, Archimandrite David, Jake, Tom, Gene, Lisa, Kelly, Beverly, Taylor, Reghyn, Sylvia, Andreas, Josh, Nicole, Joyce, Sandy, Yamileth, Georgina, Kathy, Pam, Tammy, Tatum, Ann, Connor, Dylan, Eli, Shay, Ocean, Lauren, Donna, Kim, Donnie, Lori, Nancy

*\*If you would like someone on the bulletin prayer list just let Pani know.* Please review the prayer list, if you know of someone who should be taken off, please let Pani know.

Stewardship Teams  
April 23 Linda  
April 30 Rebecca  
May 7 Scottie  
May 14 Nancy

Readers Schedule  
April 23 Brian  
April 30 Andrew  
May 7 Mike  
May 14 John

Please don't forget that if you want a memorial service to please, in addition to mentioning it, to also email both Fr. and Pani (she keeps Fr.'s schedule).

Please remember to follow the preparatory guidelines for communion (see website [www.holyorthodox.org](http://www.holyorthodox.org) for details).

### **St. Paisios: Be the Bee and not the Fly**

Some people tell me that they are scandalized because they see many things wrong in the Church. I tell them that if you ask a fly, "Are there any flowers in this area?" it will say, "I don't know about flowers, but over there in that heap of rubbish you can find all the filth you want." And it will go on to list all the unclean things it has been to.

Now, if you ask a honeybee, "Have you seen any unclean things in this area?" it will reply, "Unclean things? No, I have not seen any; the place here is full of the most fragrant flowers." And it will go on to name all the flowers of the garden or the meadow.

You see, the fly only knows where the unclean things are, while the honeybee knows where the beautiful iris or hyacinth is.

As I have come to understand, some people resemble the honeybee and some resemble the fly. Those who resemble the fly seek to find evil in every circumstance and are preoccupied with it; they see no good anywhere. But those who resemble the honeybee only see the good in everything they see. The stupid person thinks stupidly and takes everything in the wrong way, whereas the person who has good thoughts, no matter what he sees, no matter what you tell him, maintains a positive and good thought.

The Sunday after Easter is the **Sunday of St. Thomas**, also known as **Second Sunday** or **Antipascha** ("opposite" Pascha, i.e., at the other end of Bright Week). Historically, this day in the early Church was the day that the newly-baptized Christians removed their robes and entered once again into the life of this world.

This day is also known as **Antipascha**. This does not mean "*opposed to Pascha*," but "*in place of Pascha*." Beginning with this first Sunday after Pascha, the Church dedicates every Sunday of the year to the Lord's Resurrection. Sunday is called "Resurrection" in Russian, and "the Lord's Day" in Greek. The Orthodox Church dedicates every Sunday of the year to the Lord's Resurrection starting on this Sunday, the eighth day of the paschal celebration, the last day of Bright Week.

Liturgically, the Church remembers the Apostle Thomas' vision of Christ after eight days. At that time he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe" (John 20:26-29).

As with all the services until the feast of Ascension the Easter Troparion is sung, and the epistle readings are taken from the Book of Acts, telling us of the first Christians who lived in communion with the Risen Lord. Finally, the gospel readings are from the Gospel of John, considered by many to be a gospel written particularly for the newly baptized.