



*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 813-659-0123 or 813-451-9829 (Pani's cell). If they are off duty please call Parish Council President below

Schedule

Tone 6

Sunday, February 24

Prodigal Son

10:00 am Divine Liturgy
11:15 am Fellowship
Counters: Pani, Denis
Altar: Vladislav &
Vasily
Reader: John

Sunday, March 3 Sunday of the Last Judgement

9:30 am Teaching
Proskimedia
10:00 am Divine Liturgy
11:15 am Fellowship
Counters: Scottie Harry
Altar: Jefferson
Reader: Brian

Sunday, March 10 Forgiveness Sunday

9:30 am Teaching
Proskimedia
10:00 am Divine Liturgy
11:15 am Fellowship
Counters: Scottie
Toney,
Altar: Vladislav &
Vasily
Reader: Andy

ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 3 (next Sunday), before church at 9:30 am we will be having a teaching Proskimedia so you can observe what Father Harry does before church.

Pick up your Pre-Lent/Lent service calendar, they are in the Narthex.

Due to the age of the swing set, after inspection, it had to be decided to take it down.

Interested in being a reader? We will have a class with Andy on March 10 after church.

If you are using a pew book and it needs re-stapled or another cover, please give it to Pani so she can repair it

Sign up for fellowship! It can be as simple as bagels or donuts. Please see the board in the hall, or a council member if you have any questions. Please refer to the Fellowship guidelines when it is your Sunday to do fellowship.

HELP US! The Maintenance Ministry has compiled a list of projects that need to be addressed around the property. "Ongoing projects" are those which need to be done regularly. We ask that you sign up and take responsibility for these tasks for a 3-month period. A second list highlights "One-time repairs". Please review both lists on the bulletin board in the Social Hall and see if you can lend a hand. If you have questions or have items you feel need to be addressed please see any Council member or Mike B.

Parish council contacts: Scottie (President): 813-629-6027, Brian (Vice President): (813) 763-5226, Rebecca (Treasurer): (813) 763-5225, Paula (813) 838-4554 (Secretary) Tom Moore Financial Secretary

LENTEN RETREAT – Date: Saturday, March 23, 2019 See flyer in narthex!

Location: Hillsborough County Community College
Ybor City Campus Student Service Building at:
1320 E. Palm Avenue Tampa, FL 33605

If you are coming to confession, please be in line by 9:50 am on a normal Sunday. On a Sunday there is a Memorial scheduled, please be in line by 9:35 am. Please line up down the center isle of the church.

We want to begin an emergency fund collection on the last Sunday of every month. The funds collected will be specifically put in an account for emergencies.

To those who will not be here for the Lenten retreat in March, if you are going to be up north check for one of the Lenten retreats in your area.

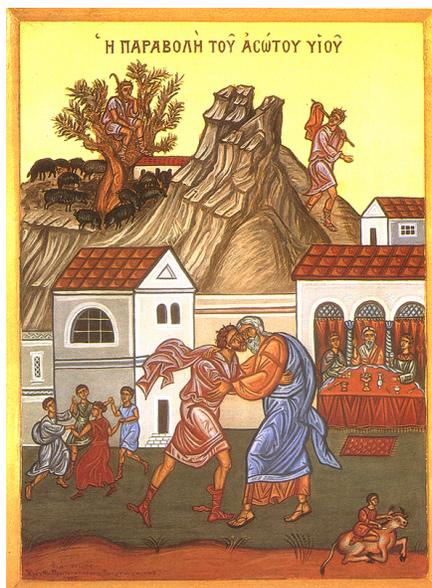
Prayer Corner: Please pray for the ailing: Mary, Kathy, Susan, Helen, Neila, Olexander, Anna, John, Carol, Mat. Mary, SD. John, Randee, John, Ryan, Marie, Paul, Mary, Pangratios, Tikon, Vasili, Jeremiah, Dcn. Luke, Maria, John David, Elisabeth, Joshua, Alexander, Nicholas, Rebecca, Genevieve, Panteleimon, Vladimir, Margaret, David, Sarah, Jonathon, Simon, Judy, Fr. Michael, Anastasia, Demitrios, Alexandra, Israel, George, Michelle, Joseph, Jaqueline, Michael, Geverylyn, Thomas, Norma, Sally, Sarah, Derek, Susan, Lucy, Beth, Kathy, Phyllis, John, David, Shirley, Kalie, Madeline, Thomas, Patricia, Archimandrite David, Jake, Tom, Beverly, Taylor, Sylvia, Andreas, Josh, Nicole, Joyce, Sandy, Georgina, Kathy, Pam, Ann, Eli, Shay, Ocean, Lauren, Donna, Kim, Lori, Nancy, George, Sharon, Sylvia, Kristi, Gary, Tori, Joan, Thomas, Susan, Alexei

Psalm 137—By the Waters of Babylon

By the waters of Babylon, There we sat down, we sat down and wept, when we remembered Zion. Alleluia. On the willows, on the willows there we hung up our harps, we hung up our harps, Alleluia. How shall we sing the Lord's song in a foreign land? Alleluia. If I forget you, O Jerusalem, let my right hand wither Alleluia. Let my tongue cleave to the roof of my mouth, If I do not remember you, if I do not set Jerusalem above my highest joy! Alleluia!

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.



Saint Erasmus of the Kiev Caves Saint Simon, Bishop of Vladimir (May 10), wrote about him to his friend Saint Polycarp (July 24): "At the Caves was Erasmus the black-robed. He acquired a legacy of fame because he used everything he possessed for the adornment of the monastery church. He donated many icons, which even now may be seen over the altar.

The saint experienced great temptations after he had given away his wealth. The Evil One began to suggest to him that he should have given the money to the poor, rather than spend it on the beautification of the church. Saint Erasmus did not understand such thoughts, so he fell into despondency and began to live in a careless manner. Because of his former virtue the gracious and merciful God saved him. He sent him a grievous illness, and the monk lay near death.

In this sickness Erasmus lay for seven days, unable to see or speak, and hardly breathing. On the eighth day the brethren came to him and, seeing the difficulty of his approaching death, said, "Woe to the soul of this brother, for he lived in idleness and in sin. Now his soul beholds something and tarries, not having the strength to leave the body."

Erasmus suddenly got up, as though he had not been ill, and said to the monks, "Fathers and brethren! It is true that I am a sinner, and have not repented, as you said. Today, however, our monastic fathers Anthony and Theodosius have appeared to me, and said: 'We have prayed for you, and the Lord has given you time for repentance.' Then I saw the All-Pure Mother of God with Christ in Her arms, and She said to me, 'Erasmus, since you adorned My Church with icons, I will also adorn you and exalt you in the Kingdom of my Son!

Arise, repent, take the angelic schema, and on the third day you will be taken from this life.'

Having said this, Erasmus began to confess his sins before all without shame, then went to church and was clothed in the schema, and on the third day he died." Saint Erasmus was buried in the Near Caves. His memory is also celebrated on September 28 and on the second Sunday of Great Lent.