



*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 5

Sunday, Sept 22 **14th Sunday after** **Pentacost**

10 am Divine Liturgy
11:15am Fellowship
Reader: Joseph
Altar: Jefferson
Counters: Tom, Natalie B

Sunday, Sept 29 **15th Sunday after** **Pentacost**

10 am Divine Liturgy
11:15am Fellowship
Reader: Brian
Altar: Vasiliy & Vladislav
Counters: Tom, Roxy

Sunday, October 6 **16th Sunday After** **Pentacost**

Parish Feast Sunday
10 am Divine Liturgy
11:15am Fellowship
Reader: Andy
Altar: Jefferson
Counters: Pani, Barbara

Sunday, October 13 **16th Sunday After** **Pentacost**

9:50 am Memorial Fr.
Anastaje
10 am Divine Liturgy
11:15am Fellowship
Reader: Joseph
Altar: Vasiliy & Vladislav
Counters: Pani, Svetlana

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please let the children and their families get their food first for fellowship so Christian Education for them can begin faster.

If your pew book is in need of repair, please give it to Pani.

Scottie talked about different ways you can be involved with different ministries. Think about what your talent is and let her know what you would like to participate in.

On September 27 and 28 at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church in Tarpon Springs there is a woman's retreat with Sylvia Leontaritis to talk about her book "Songs of Praise" Information is at this link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/st-nicholas-cathedral-womens-retreat-tickets-63539651809>
The retreat includes a copy of her book.

Denis is starting up a weight loss ministry. Please see him for more details.

We have started a visitation ministry to visit parishioners in need. We will focus on those who are sick, elderly and shut ins. If you interested in being part of this ministry, please speak to Rebecca.

Please review the calendar on the side of the bulletin and notice if you are scheduled to be a counter with a parish council member.

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.

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

If you have someone who needs to be added to the prayer list, please see Cynthia Brown. You can contact Cynthia during the week at cynthiaann36@live.com or on Facebook Messenger. We will update the list monthly.

Prayer Corner Living: Please pray for the ailing: Kathy, William, Mat. Mary, SD. John, Randee, John, Ryan, Olga, Paul, Katy, Joy, Will, Mike, Alex, Darla, Marjie, Pirkko, Freda, John, Joe, Amy, Travis, Logan, Joshua, Brian, Jacob, George, Sally, Walter, Nina, Pauline, Arlene, Stacey, Heidi, Lenny

Reposed: Virginia, Harry, Millie, Harry, Richard, Albert, Mary, John, Doris, Mary

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.

Saint Cosmas, Hermit of Zographou, was a Bulgarian. In his youth he avoided entering into marriage, and secretly left his parents' home for Mount Athos. Then as he was on his way to the Holy Mountain, the devil tried to shake the yearning of the youth, vexing him with a vision of the infinite abyss of the sea surrounding the Holy Mountain. The fervent prayer of the youth dispelled the demonic temptation.

On Athos, Saint Cosmas was accepted in the Zographou monastery. There he was a novice for a long time, and then he was tonsured, and was appointed ecclesiarch. Saint Cosmas received a special mercy to see the heavenly abbess of Mount Athos Herself, Who on the Feast of the Annunciation at the Vatopedi monastery deigned to reveal to him a glimpse of Her care for Her earthly appanage. He saw a Woman of royal majesty and grandeur, Who attended to everyone, both in church for services, and in the trapeza. All the monks served and obeyed Her.

Soon the saint was ordained as deacon, and then as presbyter, which inspired him to new exploits. Zealous for salvation, the saint through fervent prayer to the Most Holy Theotokos was granted a particular sign of Her special favor. He heard the voice of the Mother of God issuing from Her holy icon and asking Her Son, "How will Cosmas be saved?" The Lord answered, "Let him withdraw from the monastery into silence." After obtaining the blessing of the Superior, Saint Cosmas withdrew into the wilderness, and there in a cave cut into a cliff, and began his new deed of silent seclusion. God did not forsake the faithful man of prayer, for the saint was granted the gift of clairvoyance.

Just as at the start of his ascetic life, the Enemy of the race of mankind again tried to dissuade the saint from his intended path, and so the final days before the righteous one's death were also a grievous trial for him.

Not long before the death of God's chosen one, he was granted a vision of Christ Himself, Who informed the saint that before his soul would depart to the heavenly Kingdom, Satan himself with his hosts would beat and gnash at him. Prepared for the suffering by this divine solace, the saint bravely underwent the terrible demonic assaults, and on the third day after furious beatings, he received the All-Pure Mysteries. With words of praise on his lips, he peacefully departed to the Lord.

God, "Who glorifies those who glorify Him," also glorified Saint Cosmas miraculously at his death. At the time of the saint's burial a multitude of beasts and birds flocked to his cave, as though sensing the common loss of the Holy Mountain. When they placed his body in the grave and began to cover it with ground, each of the speechless creatures let out a mournful cry, bestowing final respect to the saint of God.

Forty days later, when the brethren opened the saint's tomb after the all-night Vigil (as was customary), in order to transfer his relics to the monastery with honor, they were not to be found. The Lord hid them in a miraculous manner. This occurred in the year 1323.

The Holy Prophet Jonah lived in the eighth century before the birth of Christ and was a successor of the Prophet Elisha. The Book of the Prophet Jonah contains prophecies about the judgments on the Israelite nation, the sufferings of the Savior, the downfall of Jerusalem, and the end of the world. Besides the prophecies, the Book of Jonah relates how he was sent to the Ninevites to preach repentance (Jon. 3: 3-10).

Our Lord Jesus Christ, addressing the Scribes and the Pharisees who demanded a sign from Him, said that no sign would be given except for the sign of the Prophet Jonah, "As Jonah was in the belly of the whale three days and three nights, so also shall the Son of Man be in the heart of the earth three days and three nights" (Mt. 12: 40). From these words the Lord shows clearly the symbolic meaning of the Book of the Prophet Jonah in relation to Christ's death on the Cross, descent into Hell, and the Resurrection.

Reproaching the lack of penitence and recalcitrance of the Jews, the Lord said, "The Ninevites shall rise in the judgment with this generation and will condemn it, because they repented at the preaching of Jonah; and one greater than Jonah is here" (Mt. 12: 41).