



3820 Moores Lake Rd.
Dover, FL 33527

In case of emergency: Call Father Harry Lisinbigler, (813) 406 – 2620. If there is no answer, leave a message. Then call Pani Carrie at (813) 451-9829



Christ is in our midst! He is and ever shall be!

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Schedule:

Sunday January 29, Zacchaeus Sunday:

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

Wednesday February 1:

Eve of the Great Feast of the Meeting of the Lord in the Temple (40 days from His Nativity)

6:00 pm Vigil

Sunday, February 5, Publican and Pharisee:

10:00 am Divine Liturgy
Fast Free Week

Sunday, February 12, Prodigal Son:

10:00 am Divine Liturgy
Souper Bowl Sunday

Sunday, February 19, Meat fare Sunday:

10:00 am Divine Liturgy

Sunday, February 26, Cheese fare Sunday:

10:00 am Divine Liturgy For Great Lent we are going to have prayer pals. If you would like to participate, you will write your name on a piece of paper and pick a person on Forgiveness Sunday. You will let the person know at the end of Great Lent you were praying for them.

Church Motto:

“Cling to What is Good!” -Romans

NOTES From Father Harry:

Dear Brethren (this means brothers and sisters),

I am very appreciative of all those who came to celebrate our brother (now Subdeacon) Brian’s ordination, as well as to celebrate my 20 years of Priesthood. Brian has studied and worked hard for several years in the seminary program. As you know, me giving up an already blossoming and promising career to become a priest has no earthly reward to it, which means that for me, my reward is your presence. I think I speak for Brian when I say that our greatest reward this past Sunday was seeing our family in Christ, our friends, there for this very meaningful day, as well as the congratulatory emails and messages from those who couldn’t make it.

We especially appreciate all those who helped with the immense amount of work that was needed over the past few weeks to prepare for this, which I am not sure all understand how much it is not just a bishop's visit, which by itself is a lot of preparation, but also preparation for the ordination, full hierarchical liturgy, and the banquet that followed.

Also, I cannot possibly express how much I appreciate those who financially contributed toward the banquet that followed so that it was free of charge for all who wished to come. The cost was several thousand dollars to feed and provide for everyone on this special weekend and above all Sunday as the most special day.

Again, Subdeacon Brian and myself feel greatly loved by all those who came and attended. Some of our dear fellow parishioners were not able to attend because they are ill, and others are travelling locally and overseas; we ask everyone to please pray for them.

God bless you all,

Fr. Harry

A Special Thank You:

Special thanks go to Metropolitan Antony for making the journey to celebrate with us and Bless us with his presence. And another special thanks goes to Father Harry and Pani Carrie for all the extra work

that had to be accomplished before and during the weekend of the celebration. Another thanks to those who gave financially, helped prepare for the weekend, and assisted with set up and clean-up. It was a tremendous job well done!

Parish Council:

President: Ellen Flynn – (863) 242-4865
Vice President: Paula Karagounis - (813) 838-4554
Secretary: Rebecca Delp - (813) 763-5225
Treasurer: Ryan Becker - (813) 965-1881
Financial Secretary: Natalie Brennan – (508) 272-0395

Reader Schedule:

	Reader	Backup
Jan. 29	Linda	Sbdn. Peter
Feb. 5	Sbdn. Peter	Sbdn. Brian
Feb. 12	Ellen	Linda
Feb. 19	Joseph N.	Ellen
Feb. 26	Arlene	Sbdn. Joseph
Mar. 5	Sbdn. Joseph	Ellen

Counter Schedule:

	Council Member	2nd Counter
Jan. 29	Ellen	Arlene
Feb. 5	Paula	Jacob
Feb. 12	Paula	Tracy
Feb. 19	Paula	Arlene
Feb. 26	Paula	Nancy
Mar. 5	Rebecca	Svetlana

Amazon Smile is ending their program for donating to charities for purchases on February 20

If you are able to donate to the building fund which assists with ground and building upkeep, there is a basket in the narthex.

Prayer Corner:

Contact Cynthia Brown to add or delete names from the Prayer Corner lists. Cynthiaann36@live.com or (863) 223-6775.

Living: Please pray for the ailing: Pearl, (grandmother) Mike, Stella, Amanda, Darla, Stacy, Bruce, Nicole, Martha, Tim, Vilma, Dan, John, Sherrie, Chuck, Rick, Tony, Avi, Michelle, Bradley, Jeffery, Reagan, Jana, Roy, Erin, Cynthia, Rebecca, Petya, Stephanie, Denise, Cletus, Steven, Nora, Keith, Kassey, Clay, and Alyssa, Lola, Chris, Andrea, Archie, Gwen, Robert, Celina, Amy, Christina, Robert, Soccorro, and Dale.

Reposed: Please pray for the departed: John, George, Pavel, Subdeacon John, Jack, Nathaniel, PJ, Dorothy, Thomas, Kristy, and Vera.

Christian Education:

Fr. Harry will be doing “Five Minutes with Father Harry” periodically during Coffee Hour.

Fr. Frederick (“Fun with Fr. Frederick”) will be doing an explanatory series on the meaning of an icon the second Sunday of each month during coffee hour.

Church School Teachers are:

Rebekah Becker – Children under 6
Todd – Children 6 - 12
Arlene Tonjes – Teens
Nina Klymenko – Visiting Reader for Young Children

Coffee Hour Update:

Please continue to bring potluck or supplies such as wrapped snacks and paper products.

February 5 – Potluck
February 12 – Souper Bowl Sunday (Potluck) Bring your favorite soup and a donation for the hungry.
February 19 – Meat fare Sunday (Potluck)
February 26 – Cheese fare Sunday (Potluck) (No meat products)
March 5 – Great Lent (Only Lenten Foods can be brought for Potluck during lent (No meat or dairy products)

Outreach:

During the next month or two we will be supporting the Plant City Pregnancy Center. Save any new baby items and change or cash for donations for supporting “young mothers to be” who chose life. This project is in conjunction with the march for life held in January and our belief in the importance of life.

Pilgrimage to the Greek Monasteries:

A Pilgrimage to the Greek Orthodox Monasteries near Ocala is being planned for April 29th, the Saturday following Bright Week. Father Frederick will lead this trip to both the Men’s Monastery and the Women’s Monastery. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex on a Clip Board, for those interested in attending. Both monasteries have beautiful chapels and interesting bookstores. More details will be announced as plans are developed. It is a spiritually uplifting experience to be able visit a monastery and offer prayers there and learn more about our Faith.

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Archbishop Dmitri of Blessed Memory

Sermon on the Meeting of our Lord in the Temple

February 2

On February 2nd the Church celebrates the great feast of The Meeting of our Lord in the Temple. The Gospel lesson for that day relates how the mother of Jesus brought Him to the temple, as was the custom and requirement under the God-given Law of Moses, of Israel (Exodus 13:2, 12; Leviticus 12:2-8). When the righteous Simeon, who received Christ in his arms at the temple, saw the child, he knew immediately that this was the Redeemer promised by all of Israel's prophecies, for the elder was inspired by the Holy Spirit (Luke 2:26-27). Being inspired, he himself uttered prophetic words which form the hymn sung or chanted at the end of every Vespers service: *"Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation which Thou hast prepared before the face of Thy people, a light to lighten the gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel"* (Luke 2:29-32).

This particular feast is part of the great celebration that began forty days prior, with the Nativity of Christ (December 25). Eight days later (January 1) we remembered the Circumcision of Christ and then His Baptism (January 6). The commemoration of these events in our Lord's earthly life basically form one feast, the feast of the Incarnation of God the Word.

God literally entered the world, into time and history. He was physically present in the midst of His people, His creatures whom He loves. Our Lord took on human nature in order to reconcile unto Himself, man who had strayed far from the Source of his life.

In taking on the "form of a servant" God, at the same time, in the Person of Christ, fulfilled every requirement of the Law that He Himself had given to His people through Moses. He demonstrated, thereby, that everything that had happened in Israel's history could not be described merely as a succession of unrelated events. Rather this was a history with a definite goal: the salvation of mankind. He identified Himself as the Director of that history and fulfilled its expectation.

When the righteous Simeon took the child into His arms and declared that this indeed was Salvation Incarnate, the "Light to lighten the gentiles, and the glory of Israel," a new era began; the era of God's presence among His children.

To this day, all of the Church's celebrations, no matter what the event commemorated may be, whether in the life of Christ, of the Theotokos, or of the saints, all are celebrations of Christ and the establishment on earth of the Kingdom of His presence. He initiated this Kingdom and promised its ultimate realization. And now, just as the Old Israel had awaited the beginning of God's Kingdom, the New Israel (the Church) awaits

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the Second and Glorious Coming of Christ and the fullness of His Kingdom, revealed.

Although all of our celebrations are intimately rooted in the knowledge that we have been called for complete communion with Christ and to live in function of His Kingdom to which we already belong, we still live in a world that has for the most part rejected what Christ gave it, that is, authentic life “in abundance,” life with real purpose and meaning. We Christians, in spite of having accepted what God’s intervention in human affairs gave us, slip repeatedly and fall into the great temptation to convert the things of this world into gods. We are constantly attracted by ways of seeking happiness and fulfillment that exclude God. This, of course, always proves to be vain and futile.

So our lives vacillate, back and forth, between the assurance of salvation and indifference, between moments of real joy because we know that God is with us, and moments of boredom because we cannot give ourselves totally over to Him.

Every Christian celebration reaches its climax in the Divine Liturgy for the feast. In this sacred work, when God’s people assemble in His name, we actually become participants in the Heavenly Kingdom to come. We are as literally present with Christ in His future Kingdom as the Apostles were with Him at the Last Supper. So, the Kingdom is initiated

among us and we enjoy it before our time, by anticipation. This is what every Eucharist is; this is what our feasts and celebrations are all about, and that is why the Eucharist is the very center of all of them.

I will emphasize again, however, that although what we have said is true, we continually orient our lives towards everyday pursuits, often living as though we had never experienced this divine reality. That is why repentance and penitential seasons are in order. That is why in approximately one month we will enter the Great Fast or Lent during which time we are exhorted to repent of our sins.

What is important for us Christians is that we have really “seen the True Light, received the Heavenly Spirit, found the true faith” in this experience of the Kingdom of God. The question we must all ask ourselves sincerely, however, is “what are we like when we return into this world after this Heavenly experience?”

To Christ Who willed to be held in the arms of the righteous Simeon for our salvation be glory, honor and worship, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.