



*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)

Schedule

Today is Tone 3

Sunday Aug 27

9:45 am Memorial
9:45 am Divine Liturgy
11:15 am Fellowship

Tuesday, Aug 29

6:00pm Vespers (St. John the Baptist)
6:30 pm Bible Study

Sunday Sept 3

9:35am Memorial
9:45 am Divine Liturgy
11:15 am Fellowship

Tuesday, Sept 5

6:00pm Vespers
6:30 pm Bible Study

Thursday, Sept 7

7:00 pm Vigil
Nativity of the Theotokos

Sunday Sept 10

9:45 am Divine Liturgy
11:15 am Fellowship

Tuesday, Sept 12

6:00pm Vespers
6:30 pm Bible Study

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's services are in loving memory of Gene Thompson. May his memory be eternal!

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

Stewardship Teams
Aug 27 Scottie
Sept 3 Nancy
Sept 10 Linda
Sept 17 Rebecca

Readers Schedule
Aug 27 Mike
Sept 3 John
Aug 13 Brian
Sept 17 Andrew

Please remember to follow the preparatory guidelines for communion (see website www.holyorthodox.org for details).

The grounds ministry needs your help! We need someone with a truck to haul away some trash on the church grounds. If you can help, please see Natalie and Mike Brennan.

We have scheduled a clean up day on October 28 to clean out the sheds! Put in on your calendar now to come and help out. The more help we have, the faster it will go!

We would like to put a blessing box at the front of the church property and need one built. If you can help out, please see Brian Delp.

We need you for our Lenten Retreat Planning! The theme is "Need for Repentance in an Unsorry World". The dates are February 23-24 at the Bethany Center in Lutz and February 25 at our church. Save the dates now, think of your talents and how you can be a part of this fantastic event. Please see Natalie or a Parish Council member for more information.

Would you like to sponsor a fellowship hour? There is a sign up calendar in the hall, just write your name down on the Sunday you would like!

Have you turned in your information sheet to the council? Did you lose it and need a new one? Please see a Parish Council member if you need one, and if you still have it, please turn it in.

The Women of Faith will be meeting on Monday, Sept 18 at the food court at the Brandon Mall.

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, David, Sarah, Jonathon, Simon, Gene, Judy, Fr. Michael, Fr. John, Anastasia, Demitrios, Alexandra, Israel, George, Michelle, George, Beth, Alex, George, Joseph, Jaqueline, Michael, Geverlyn, Thomas, Norma, Sally, Sarah, Derek, Susan, Lucy, Beth, Kathy, Phyllis, John, David, Shirley, Kalie, Madeline, Thomas, Patricia, Marie, Archimandrite David, Jake, Tom, Beverly, Taylor, Reghyn, Sylvia, Andreas, Josh, Nicole, Joyce, Sandy, Yamileth, Georgina, Kathy, Pam, Ann, Eli, Shay, Ocean, Lauren, Donna, Kim, Lori, Nancy, George, Sharon, Sylvia, Kristi, Gary

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.

The Beheading of the Prophet, Forerunner of the Lord, John the Baptist: The Evangelists Matthew (Mt.14:1-12) and Mark (Mark 6:14-29) provide accounts about the martyric end of John the Baptist in the year 32 after the Birth of Christ.

Following the Baptism of the Lord, Saint John the Baptist was locked up in prison by Herod Antipas, the Tetrarch (ruler of one fourth of the Holy Land) and governor of Galilee. (After the death of king Herod the Great, the Romans divided the territory of Palestine into four parts, and put a governor in charge of each part. Herod Antipas received Galilee from the emperor Augustus).

The prophet of God John openly denounced Herod for having left his lawful wife, the daughter of the Arabian king Aretas, and then instead cohabiting with Herodias, the wife of his brother Philip (Luke 3:19-20). On his birthday, Herod made a feast for dignitaries, the elders and a thousand chief citizens. Salome, the daughter of Herod, danced before the guests and charmed Herod. In gratitude to the girl, he swore to give her whatever she would ask, up to half his kingdom.

The vile girl on the advice of her wicked mother Herodias asked that she be given the head of John the Baptist on a platter. Herod became apprehensive, for he feared the wrath of God for the murder of a prophet, whom earlier he had heeded. He also feared the people, who loved the holy Forerunner. But because of the guests and his careless oath, he gave orders to cut off the head of Saint John and to give it to Salome.

According to Tradition, the mouth of the dead preacher of repentance once more opened and proclaimed: "Herod, you should not have the wife of your brother Philip." Salome took the platter with the head of Saint John and gave it to her mother. The frenzied Herodias repeatedly stabbed the tongue of the prophet with a needle and buried his holy head in a unclean place. But the pious Joanna, wife of Herod's steward Chuza, buried the head of John the Baptist in an earthen vessel on the Mount of Olives, where Herod had a parcel of land. (The Uncovering of the Venerable Head is celebrated (February 24). The holy body of John the Baptist was taken that night by his disciples and buried at Sebastia, there where the wicked deed had been done.

After the murder of Saint John the Baptist, Herod continued to govern for a certain time. Pontius Pilate, governor of Judea, later sent Jesus Christ to him, Whom he mocked (Luke 23:7-12).

The judgment of God came upon Herod, Herodias and Salome, even during their earthly life. Salome, crossing the River Sikoris in winter, fell through the ice. The ice gave way in such a way that her body was in the water, but her head was trapped above the ice. It was similar to how she once had danced with her feet upon the ground, but now she flailed helplessly in the icy water. Thus she was trapped until that time when the sharp ice cut through her neck.

Her corpse was not found, but they brought the head to Herod and Herodias, as once they had brought them the head of Saint John the Baptist. The Arab king Aretas, in revenge for the disrespect shown his daughter, made war against Herod. The defeated Herod suffered the wrath of the Roman emperor Caius Caligua (37-41) and was exiled with Herodias first to Gaul, and then to Spain.

The Beheading of Saint John the Baptist, a Feast day established by the Church, is also a strict fast day because of the grief of Christians at the violent death of the saint. In some Orthodox cultures pious people will not eat food from a flat plate, use a knife, or eat food that is round in shape on this day.