



*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 4

Sunday, December 16
10:00 am Divine Liturgy
Betrothal Jonathan and
Gwen
11:15 am Fellowship
Youth Education
Counters: Paula, Ilya

Sunday, December 23
10:00 am Divine Liturgy
11:15 am Fellowship
Youth Education
Counters: Paula,
Marijean

Christmas Services:
Monday December 24

Vigil (Matins and
Liturgy) for the Feast of
the Nativity of our Lord
(Christmas)
6pm-7:30pm
Candlelight Vigil
(Matins and Liturgy)
with procession,
traditional Christmas
carols, etc.

Sunday, December 30
10:00 am Divine Liturgy
11:15 am Fellowship
Theophany Set Up
Youth Education
Counters: Paula

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Many years to Gwen and Jonathan!

Memory Eternal to Vera Juhasz who passed away this week.

Please pray for Kathy Sekala who had heart surgery this week.

2019 Church calendars are here! We ask for \$5 to cover the cost of the calendar. Pick yours up in the narthex today.

If you are following the Monday, Wednesday, Friday fast from meat for advent, you should begin fasting completely from meat from December 21 until after Liturgy on the evening of December 24, which inaugurates the Christmas Feast.

We have a sign-up sheet for house blessings. If you want your house blessed, sign up with your name, address and phone number by December 23 so we can make a schedule of times.

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.

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.

Please allow the youth and their families to get their food first at fellowship so the youth can go over the church for their lesson.

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 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.

Save the date!! There will be a Lenten Retreat on March 23.

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, Elisabeth, 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, Geverylyn, 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, Tori, Joan, Thomas, Susan

The Sunday that falls between December 11-17 is known as the Sunday of the Holy Forefathers. These are the ancestors of Christ according to the flesh, who lived before the Law and under the Law, especially the Patriarch Abraham, to whom God said, "In thy seed shall all of the nations of the earth be blessed" (Gen. 12:3, 22:18).



Saint Sophia, in the world Solomonia, a Great Princess, was the daughter of the noble Yuri Saburov. In the year 1505 she was chosen as bride by the heir to the throne, the future Great Prince Basil. Their marriage was unhappy, because Solomonia remained childless, so he divorced her. In order to have an heir, Great Prince Basil decided to wed a second time (to Elena Glinsky) and on November 25, 1525 he ordered Solomonia to become a nun. Forcibly tonsured with the name Sophia, Solomonia was sent under guard to the Suzdal Protection convent, where by ascetic deeds she banished from her heart worldly thoughts, and totally dedicated herself to God.

Prince Kurbsky calls the blessed princess "a Monastic Martyr." In the manuscript Lives of the Saints she is called "the holy Righteous Princess Sophia the Nun, the wonderworker, who dwelt at the Protection monastery." Under Tsar Theodore they revered her as a saint. Tsaritsa Irene sent to Suzdal, "to the Great Princess Solomonia, also called Sophia, a velvet veil with depiction of the Savior and other saints." Patriarch Joseph wrote to Archbishop Serapion of Suzdal about serving Panikhidas and Moliebens for Sophia. Saint Sophia departed to God in the year 1542. The Suzdal sacristan Ananias speaks of several miraculous healings at her grave.