



*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 home 813-719-6266 (home), or 813-451-9829 (Pani's cell)

Schedule

Today is Tone 1

Sunday June 18

9:45 am Divine Liturgy
11:15 am Fellowship

Sunday June 25

9:35 am Memorial Esper and Nancy Delp
9:45 am Divine Liturgy
11:15 am Fellowship

Sunday, July 2

9:45 am Divine Liturgy
11:15 am Fellowship

Sunday, July 9

9:45 am Divine Liturgy
11:15 am Fellowship

Sunday, July 16

9:45 am Divine Liturgy
11:15 am Fellowship

Sunday July 23

9:45 am Divine Liturgy
11:15 am Fellowship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Father's Day!

At the kiss of peace, we now say Christ is in our midst. He is and always shall be.

Today is Father Michael's and Matushka Terri's last Sunday. Prayers for safe travel back home!

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

We are putting together a raffle bag for the UOL Convention in July! Our theme is Florida, please see the green bag on the piano in the hall that says Florida on it. We need your help to add items to it. Here are some Florida based ideas: Ocean Potion (made in Florida), sunglasses, Flip-Flops, Stationary, travel diary, playing cards, Tervis (made in Venice, Florida). If you could help, that would be awesome!

At Saint Joseph Hospital Main, is revitalizing a program titled, "*Companions on The Journey*," where trained volunteers are available to be with dying patients who had no one. The program has been inactive for a couple of years, but Mission is in the process of recruiting and training a new group of volunteers for this ministry. If interested, it involves an initial training, then a commitment to be scheduled for two 8-hour periods per month (8:00am-4:00 pm or 4:00pm-Midnight) on days of your choice. During those times you agree to be reachable and available, should there be a need. The training is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 5, from 8:00am-2:00pm in the Medical Arts Building, located at St. Joseph Hospital Tampa. If interested, please contact Jill Mallott at (813) 870-4143 x804143 to register for the training.

Stewardship Teams

June 18 Linda
June 25 Rebecca
July 2 Scottie
July 9 Nancy

Readers Schedule

June 18 Brian
June 25 Andrew
July 2 Mike
July 9 John

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

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, Sean, 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, Gene, Lisa, Kelly, Beverly, Taylor, Reghyn, Sylvia, Andreas, Josh, Nicole, Joyce, Sandy, Yamileth, Georgina, Kathy, Pam, Tammy, Tatum, Ann, Connor, Dylan, Eli, Shay, Ocean, Lauren, Donna, Kim, Donnie, 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.

Three young Greek warriors in the legions of Rome in the first century carried the weapons of war for the state, but in their hearts they carried the love of Jesus Christ, so bearing themselves as Christians, when put to the test, that they are honored as saints. Their names are Leontis, Hypatios and Theodoulos, whose collective commemoration suggests that they were comrades-in-arms whose Christian courage came to the fore after years of close comradeship, but that is hardly the case. The fact that, not as cowed churchmen, but as armed soldiers, they achieved the ultimate in spiritual attainment makes more remarkable their story, which bears out Cowper's familiar line that "God moves in a mysterious way; his wonders to perform."

The most prominent of the three, Leontios, was a career officer whose Greek heritage so asserted itself that he rose from the ranks to become one of the youngest generals in Roman history. Cast in the classic mold of the "Golden Greek," he had the keen intellect which led him to embrace Jesus Christ as his true commander-in-chief. The same loyalty he expected from his troops, he felt for his Savior, subordinating his military duty to his greater duty to the Messiah, while managing to serve both as one can serve God and country. He strongly believed that serving God and country was no different than serving Christ and mankind.

In one of the provincial areas where he had assumed military command he was appalled at the poverty of a virtually starving people whose crying needs were being ignored by a provincial governor named Hypatios, who had transferred out of the service to serve as chief Roman magistrate. With granaries fairly bulging with a food supply far exceeding military requirements, Leontios ordered that grain be meted out to those in need, in spite of the heated protest of Hypatios. When challenged by the magistrate, Leontios asserted himself by saying that in this case he was answerable to a higher authority. The pagan official realized that this was an act of Christian charity and lost no time in contacting Rome to bring charges of treason against Leontios for having given away Roman property without authorization.

In view of the seriousness of the charge brought against an officer of such high rank, Hypatios was instructed to bring the accused before a military tribunal himself. For this task Hypatios selected a ranking officer named Theodoulos to serve the summons, and together they struck out for the campsite of Leontis, which was a two-day journey, obliging them to pause for a night's rest. When he awoke the next day, Hypatios was burning with fever and was so weak from a sudden malady he could go no further; as the day wore on, he felt his life slipping away so that by evening it appeared that he would surely die.

As Theodoulos sat helplessly watching his agonized friend, the stillness was broken by a voice heard by both men – that if their supplications were directed to the one God of Leontios instead of their many false gods, the Lord would listen to their plea. The awe-struck pair joined in begging for God's help, and within minutes the fever vanished as mysteriously as it had come. Hypatios resumed his journey with renewed vigor and with a different opinion, shared by his companion, of what they had blindly accepted in utter waste of their lives.

Leontis welcomed the pair, delighted that they had found the Savior; and all three spent the next several days together as the two converts learned about Christianity and were baptized during a gentle rain which served as waters of the river Jordan. The days ran into weeks, with none of the three in a hurry to decide what to do next. But in Rome the news had come of this transformation; the decision the three had yet to reach was made for them by an incensed military command now faced with not one, but three men they looked upon as traitors.

Leontios, Hypatios and Theodoulos were brought before a tribunal presided over by a magistrate named Hadrian who demanded that they disavow Christ and resume their old ways. The resolute trio refused to recant and were put to death on June 18, 72. They gave their last full measure of devotion not with military, but with Christian courage.

Text from Fr. George Poulos' Orthodox Saints.