



*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 7

Sunday, Sept 24

9:45 am Divine Liturgy
11:15 am Fellowship

Wednesday, Sept. 27

7:00 Vespers

Sunday, Oct 1

Parish Feast Day!
9:45 am Divine Liturgy
11:15 am Fellowship

Wednesday, Oct. 4

7:00 Vespers

Sunday, Oct 8

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

Monday, Oct 9

7:00 Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday, Oct 11

7:00 Vespers

Sunday, Oct 15

9:45 am Divine Liturgy
11:15 am Fellowship

Monday, Oct 16

7:00 Women of Faith Brandon Mall
Foodcourt

Wednesday, Oct 18

7:00 Vespers

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our Parish Feast Day falls on a Sunday this year—Sunday October 1!

Our parish feast day commemorates a miraculous occurrence that took place on October 1, 911 AD. During that time, the city of Constantinople, at that time, the largest city in the world (over a million people within the city gates), was under threat of barbarian invasion. As such, the people remained in church day and night.

The church of Blacharnae, near the city gates, was filled in the early morning hours of October 1, as a vigil was going on. It was this church that housed certain relics of the Mother of God, including her Veil.

At 4 o'clock in the morning of October 1, our Lady appeared above the people, holding her omophorion outstretched as a protective covering for the faithful, and flanked by many Saints. St. Andrew the Fool-for-Christ and St. Epiphanius, were both standing in the rear of the church, with the former remarking: "Do you see, brother, the Queen and Lady of all praying for the whole world?" Epiphanius replied: "I see, Father, and am struck with amazement!" The invading barbarian armies also beheld a vision, and saw it as divine disapproval of their invasion, and they turned back, and the impending bloodshed and disaster were avoided.

We will be celebrating all month long.

As a side note, even though the miracle happened on October 1, because of the recession every 100 years of the Julian calendar, those on the Julian observation celebrate 13 days later on Oct. 14. Interestingly, the Church of Greece celebrates the feast on October 28. This is because, while the original Protection miracle happened on October 1, 911, other miracles of the Protectress happened in Greece in 1940 throughout October, saving the Church and her people from Axis forces, culminating on October 28. As such, the Church of Greece in 1952 officially transferred the celebration of the feast from October 1 to October 28. Thus, the Churches of Constantinople, Antioch, Alexandria, Cyprus, Romania, Bulgaria, Poland, Albania, Czech, and Slovakia, all celebrate it on Oct. 1, Ukraine, Russia, and Serbia on Oct. 14, and Greece on Oct. 28.

The church had some damage to the property due to Irma, we lost fence panels, the rectory roof has a leak, the cross on the top of the rectory has broken, and soffit came off of the church in some places. We will have a second collection today to help with repairs.

Time to help Texas and Florida! The Outreach Ministry will be accepting donations to help those by Hurricane Harvey. New or used clothes, shoes, blankets, ect, paper plates, plastic ware, cups and cups will be collected from September 10 to October 8. See Sue Johnson with questions. Thank you!

If you would rather give monetarily, you can write a check to the church, with Hurricane relief in the memo.

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 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.

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.

Please note, that bible study is temporarily canceled until further notice. Denis will be working overtime with all the insurance claims from Texas. There is vespers this week on Wednesday.

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

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

Sept 24 Scottie

Oct 1 Nancy

Oct 8 Linda

Oct 15 Rebecca

Readers Schedule

Sept 24 Mike

Oct 1 John

Oct 8 Brian

Oct 15 Andrew

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!

Council contacts: Scottie (President): 813-629-6027, Brian (Vice President): (813) 763-5226, Rebecca (Treasurer): (813) 763-5225, Nancy (Co Treasurer) (727) 584-7907, Linda (Secretary) (407) 399-2336. You can text all, except Nancy.

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 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.

Saint Thekla was born in Iconium to wealthy parents. After having heard St. Paul speak on chastity, she decided she must follow Christ and abandon her plans to marry. Her mother and her fiancé were opposed to this decision, and their accusations to the governor landed St. Paul in prison. St. Thekla slipped away from her house to listen to St. Paul in prison, having bribed the guards with her gold jewelry to gain entrance.

At his trial, St. Paul was banished from the city, and Thekla refused to change her mind against all the tears, threats, and reasonings her mother and the governor could apply. She was firm in her conviction to follow Jesus Christ the Bridegroom. Her mother, enraged, persuaded the judge to sentence St. Thekla to burn to death. Emboldened by her love for Christ, she made the sign of the Cross over the flames, and was surrounded by a light, untouched by the flames. Rain, and hail extinguished the fire, and, with thunder, helped to drive away those who wished to put Thekla to death.

She sought out St. Paul and his companions, including St. Barnabas, who were hiding in a cave near the city. She spread the gospel of Christ with them in Antioch, and throughout her life performed many miraculous feats and suffered many tortures to give glory to God. Having retired to a desolate region of Isaurian Seleucia with the blessing of St. Paul, Thekla continued to preach God's word and heal His children.

When St. Thekla had reached the age of 90, envious pagan sorcerers came to defile her. A large rock split open when St. Thekla called on Christ the Savior to help her, and the rock covered her, and she offered up her soul to the Lord.