



*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 1

### Sunday, September 30

9:45 am Divine Liturgy  
11:15 am Fellowship  
Youth Education  
Counters: Tom and Nancy

### Tues, October 2

6:30 Foundations of Orthodoxy  
7pm Supplicatory Service  
7:30 pm Parish Council Meeting

### Sunday, October 7

Parish Feast Day  
10:00 am Divine Liturgy  
11:15 am Fellowship  
Youth Education  
Counters: Pani and Barbara

### Sunday, October 14

9:45 am Fr. Anastasije Memorial  
10:00 am Divine Liturgy  
11:15 am Fellowship  
Youth Education  
Counters: Pani and Svetlana

### Tuesday October 16

9:55am Arrival of miraculous Iveron Icon  
10am Divine Liturgy

### Thursday, Oct. 18

St. Joel, St. John of Rila (we have his relics)  
6:30 Foundations of Orthodoxy  
7 pm Vespers

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Beginning October 7, start time for Divine Liturgy is 10 am.

### Tuesday October 16

9:55am Arrival of miraculous Iveron Icon  
10am Divine Liturgy

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

October shopping list: tissues for church

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.

We are planning on having a church picnic at Andy and Kathy's on October 28 after church. More details to follow!

**Holy Protection's Vision** is to be an authentic continuation of Christ's Church locally planted, to operate and to live our lives Biblically according to the will of God, walking the path of salvation that He has given us, and bring others into the life in Christ that we might have the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, living and abiding within us and among us both in this age and in the age to come.

**Holy Protection's Mission** is that of every parish of God's Holy Orthodox Catholic Church: to strive as a parish, as families of the parish and as faithful individuals, to fulfill His commandments that are summarized with the love of God, neighbor, one another, and even our enemies. This culminates in the Divine Liturgy on the Lord's Day, also fulfilled in the other Sacraments and Services of the Church, and in our homes and lives in prayer, self-restraint, and charitable giving.

**Holy Protection's Values** Holy Protection Orthodox Church, as a parish of God's Holy Orthodox Catholic Church, is a parish family of God's faithful dedicated to put God and what He wants before ourselves and what we want, because God alone has unselfish motives and knows what is best for us with regard to the one thing needful, eternal life. Holy Protection, therefore, has resolved to put God-given principles first and practice Christianity as delivered by God in Scripture and the living deposit of faith given to the Church both as individuals and together as a church. [Epitome: to live Biblically as faithful followers of Christ and to operate Biblically as a Church

We assembled homeless bags. They are by the door, take a few for your car to hand out when driving. Some things you can add: fresh fruit (orange, banana, apple), a bottle of water, cash, granola bar, etc.

When leaving the hall, if you are the last person there, please make sure all the lights are turned off, including the bathrooms. Also, please make sure the air conditioning is turned off. If you are unsure of how to turn off AC, text or call Pani, 813-451-9829, and she will make sure it is off.

**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

Saint Gaiana was the abbess of a women's monastery in Asia Minor. When the emperor Diocletian (284-305) saw a portrait of Saint Rhipsime, he fell in love with her and wanted to marry her. She refused, saying that she was a bride of Christ. Fearing that the emperor's agents would seize Rhipsime, the abbess and the nuns fled to Armenia. Diocletian sent word to King Tiridates of Armenia, asking him to capture Rhipsime and send her to him, or to marry her himself.

Armed soldiers took Rhipsime away from her place of refuge. When nothing would induce the holy virgin to marry the king, he sent for Saint Gaiana, hoping she might persuade her. The abbess, however, told her that death would be preferable to life with the king. After many cruel torments, Saint Rhipsime surrendered her pure soul to God.

Inspired by Rhipsime's example to endure torments for Christ, the abbess Saint Gaiana and two other nuns endured similar tortures, after which they were beheaded. The other nuns were run through with swords and their bodies thrown to be devoured by wild beasts.

The wrath of God befell emperor Tiridates, and also his associates and soldiers who had participated in the torture of the saints. Beset by demons, they became like wild boars (as once with Nebuchadnezzar, Dan. 4: 30), ranging through the forests, rending their clothes and gnawing at their own bodies.



Saint Rhipsime had fled to Armenia, together with her abbess and fellow nuns, to avoid entering into marriage with the emperor Diocletian (284-305), who was charmed by her beauty. Diocletian sent a letter to the Armenian emperor Tiridates asking that he either send Rhipsime back, or wed her himself.

The servants of the emperor found the fugitives and they urged Rhipsime to submit to the will of the emperor. The saint declared that she and the other nuns were betrothed to the Heavenly Bridegroom, and could marry no earthly suitor. Then a Voice was heard from the heavens: "Be brave and fear not, for I am with you." The messengers withdrew in fear. Tiridates gave the maiden over to cruelest torments: they plucked out her tongue, cut open her stomach, blinded and killed her, chopping her body into pieces.

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