



THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE DORMITION

OF THE MOST HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
Парафія Успіння Пресв. Богородиці
A PARISH OF THE UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF EDMONTON

Address:

15608 -104 Avenue,
Edmonton, AB
T5P 4G5

Please register
online or by phone to
attend services.

Services:

Sunday Divine Liturgy
(Ukr & Eng) at 10 am

& Melkite (Arabic) D.L. at 2 pm

Parish Website:

<http://dormition.eeparchy.com>

Twitter:

@dormitionparish

<https://twitter.com/dormitionparish>

Eparchial Website:

www.eeparchy.com

Pastor:

Fr. Bo Nahachewsky

Fr. Bo's cell phone:

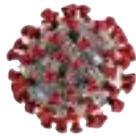
780-340-FR.BO (3726)

Fr. Bo's Emails:

fr.nahachewsky@eeparchy.com

January 24, 2021

Sunday of the Prodigal Son, Tone 2;
The Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenarics Cyrus and John (284-305)



At Dormition everyone is always welcome...
...unless you are feeling sick.
Get well first, then come and join us again.



Arion S.
Grade 3



Damen H.
Grade 3



Jack B.
Grade 2

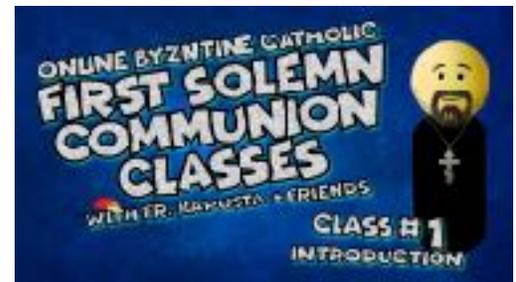


Gabby L.
Grade 2

This year our parish will be preparing 3 young men as well in addition to the one young lady who has already gone through the **FIRST SOLEMN COMMUNION** classes. These heroic characters are all on a profound adventure in real life that leads them deeper into the life of God.

I am asking all parishioners to pray daily for these awesome kids.

I also invite any and all of you to journey along with them by watching the online FSC videos. These videos are on our parish website.



Laying to rest of + **Anne Prokop**. This past Friday the family and I buried our sister + Anne. The funeral went quite beautifully. Greetings were read from the UCWLC, and the family was appreciative of all the parish has done for them. Thanks to all who helped and prayed for the family. Picture at the grave inside this bulletin.

In blessed sleep grant eternal rest, O Lord, to the soul of Your departed servant, Anne, and make her memory eternal. Vichnaya Pamyat.



The funeral of Mrs. +Anne Prokop took place at Westlawn Funeral Home and Cemetery. Due to covid there were only immediate family members attending.



Thank you Anne for all you have done and taught us in this parish. We will miss you.



Saints of the day from OCA.org

Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenaries Cyrus and John, and those with them

Saint Cyrus was a noted physician in the city of Alexandria, where he had been born and raised. He was a Christian and he treated the sick without charge, not only curing their bodily afflictions, but also healing their spiritual infirmities. He would say, "Whoever wishes to avoid being ill should refrain from sin, for sin is often the cause of bodily illness." Preaching the Gospel, the holy physician converted many pagans to Christ. During the persecution by Diocletian (284-305), Saint Cyrus withdrew into Arabia, where he became a monk. He continued to heal people by his prayer, having received from God the gift to heal every sickness.



In the city of Edessa at this time lived the soldier John, a pious Christian. When the persecution started, he went to Jerusalem and there he heard about Saint Cyrus. He began to search for him, going first to Alexandria and then to Arabia. When Saint John finally found Saint Cyrus, he remained with him and became his faithful follower.

They learned of the arrest of the Christian woman Athanasia and her three young daughters. Theoctiste was fifteen; Theodota, was thirteen; and Eudoxia, was eleven. Saints Cyrus and John hastened to the prison to help them. They were concerned that faced with torture, the women might renounce Christ.

Saints Cyrus and John gave them courage to endure what lay before them. Learning of this, the ruler of the city arrested Saints Cyrus and John, and seeing their steadfast and fearless confession of faith in Christ, he brought Athanasia and her daughters to witness their torture. The tyrant did not refrain from any form of torture against the holy martyrs. The women were not frightened by the sufferings of Saints Cyrus and John, but courageously continued to confess Christ. They were flogged and then beheaded, receiving their crowns of martyrdom.

At the same place they executed the Holy Unmercenaries Cyrus and John. Christians buried their bodies in the church of the holy Evangelist Mark. In the fifth century the relics of Saints Cyrus and John were transferred from Canopis to Manuphin. Later on their relics were transferred to Rome, and from there to Munchen (Munich) (another account is located under June 28).

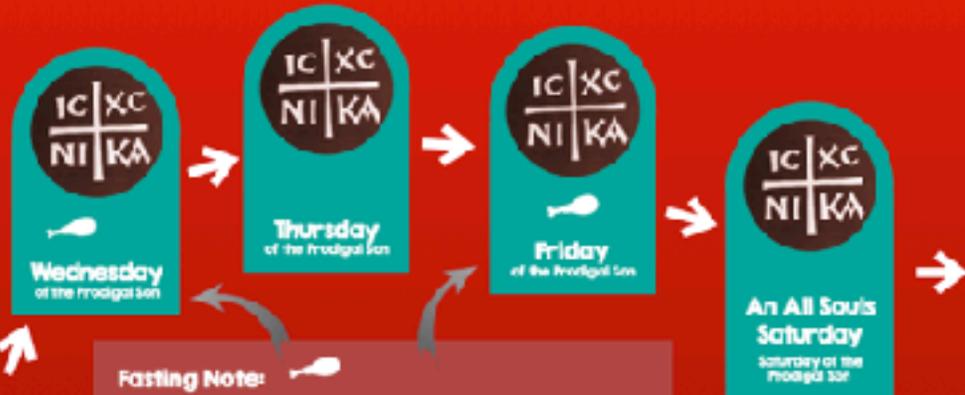
Saints Cyrus and John are often invoked by those who have difficulty in sleeping.

Our Journey to Pascha and Beyond

Understanding the seasons of Pre-Lent, the Great Fast, Holy Week, Easter, Bright Week, Easter Season, Pentecost and Beyond.

Pre-Lent 2

The daily Gospel readings during the Pre-Lenten season go through the entire struggle with the scribes and pharisees, and passion of Christ. This prepares us for what will be living out during the Great Fast.

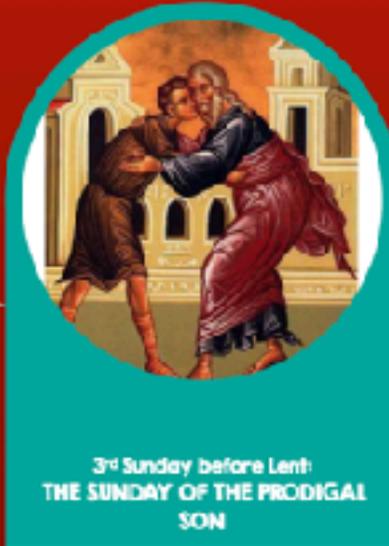


Fasting Note:

On the third week of the Pre-Lenten Season we begin to prepare remove meat from our regular diet. The only days it is prescribed is Wednesday and Friday, but on the other days we are encouraged to reduce the amount we consume.

All Souls Saturdays:

This is the first of 5 Saturdays during the liturgical year where the Church gathers to pray for the deceased.



3rd Sunday before Lent:
THE SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

Sunday of the Prodigal Son:

The next Sunday in the preparation for Great Lent is the Sunday of the Prodigal Son. Hearing the parable of Christ about God's loving forgiveness we are called to come to ourselves, as did the prodigal son, to see ourselves as being "in a far country" far from the Father's house, and to make the movement of return to God. We are given every assurance by the Master that the Father will receive us with joy and gladness. We must only "arise and go," confessing our self-inflicted and sinful separation from that "home" where we truly belong (Lk 15:11-24).

Fasting Note:

On the Second week of the pre-lenten season there is no fasting prescribed at all. This is a great time to clean out the fridge and freezer... Just don't over eat.



Meeting of the Lord

By Fr. Thomas Hopko

Forty days after Christ was born He was presented to God in the Jerusalem Temple according to the Mosaic Law. At this time as well His mother Mary underwent the ritual purification and offered the sacrifices as prescribed in the Law. Thus, forty days after Christmas, on the second of February, the Church celebrates the feast of the presentation called the Meeting (or Presentation or Reception) of the Lord.

The meeting of Christ by the elder Simeon and the prophetess Anna (Lk 2.22–36) is the main event of the feast of Christ's presentation in the Temple. It was "revealed to Simeon by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ" (Lk 2.26) and, inspired by the same Spirit, he came to the Temple where he met the new-born Messiah, took Him in his arms and said the words which are now chanted each evening at the end of the Orthodox Vespers service:

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation which Thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for the revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Thy people Israel (Lk 2.29–32).

At this time as well Simeon predicted that Jesus would be the "sign which is spoken against" and that He would cause "the fall and the rising of many in Israel." He also foretold Mary's sufferings because of her son (Luke 22.34–35). Anna also was present and, giving thanks to God "she spoke of Jesus to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem" (Lk 2.38).

In the service of the feast of the Meeting of the Lord, the fact emphasized is that Christ, the Son and Word of God through Whom the world was created, now is held as an infant in Simeon's hands; this same Son of God, the Giver of the Law, now Himself fulfills the Law, carried in arms as a human child.

Receive him, O Simeon, whom Moses on Mount Sinai beheld in the darkness as the Giver of the Law. Receive him as a babe now obeying the Law. For he it is of whom the Law and the Prophets have spoken, incarnate for our sake and saving mankind. Come let us adore him!



Let the door of heaven open today, for the Eternal Word of the Father, without giving up his divinity, has been incarnate of the Virgin in time. And as a babe of forty days he is voluntarily brought by his mother to the Temple, according to the Law. And the elder Simeon takes him in his arms and cries out: Lord now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, O Lord, who has come to save the human race—glory to Thee! (Vespers Verses of the Feast).

The Vespers and Matins of the feast of the Meeting of the Lord are filled with hymns on this theme. The Divine Liturgy is celebrated with the lines from the canticle of Mary forming the prokeimenon and the words of Simeon being the verses for the Alleluia. The gospel readings tell of the meeting, while

the Old Testament readings at Vespers refer to the Law of the purification in Leviticus, the vision of Isaiah in the Temple of the Thrice-Holy Lord, and the gift of faith to the Egyptians prophesied by Isaiah when the light of the Lord shall be a "revelation to the Gentiles" (Lk 2.32).

The celebration of the Meeting of the Lord in the church is not merely a historical commemoration. Inspired by the same Holy Spirit as Simeon, and led by the same Spirit into the Church of the Messiah, the members of the Church also can claim their own "meeting" with the Lord, and so also can witness that they too can "depart in peace" since their eyes have seen the salvation of God in the person of his Christ.

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Full of Grace! From you shone the Sun of Righteousness, Christ our God, enlightening those who sat in darkness! Rejoice and be glad, O righteous elder; you accepted in your arms the Redeemer of our souls who grants us the resurrection (Troparion).

By Thy nativity, Thou didst sanctify the Virgin's womb. And didst bless Simeon's hands, O Christ our God. Now Thou hast come and saved us through love. Grant peace to all Orthodox Christians, O only Lover of man (Kontakion).

It is customary in many churches to bless candles on the feast of the Meeting of the Lord.

Lent is coming soon. (2 weeks)

It starts on the evening of Sunday, February 14

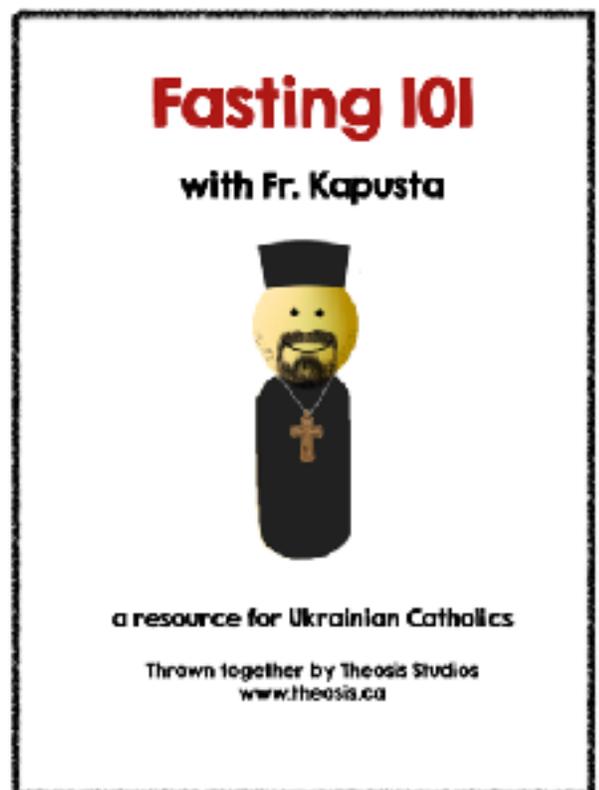
There are lots of 🐟 on the calendar. What do they mean?

The fish symbol on the calendar shows that this is a day that the church encourages people to fast or abstain from certain foods. Fasting is an ancient practice in which we deny ourselves with simple things in order to strengthen our will power, show devotion to God and to save money in order to better take care of the poor. It is not a diet to loose weight, nor is it a self punishment.

Jesus fasted and encouraged fasting. We too should fast if we are in good health, not too young, or too old to do so.

I have put together a booklet all about fasting so that you can know what is the minimum required by healthy Ukrainian Catholics, and what is the traditional fasting rules of the church. Also I include a more pastoral middle ground. (No, i did not write the whole booklet, I just put it together.) You can find this booklet in the entrance of the church (same one as last year) or see it online on our parish website:

<https://dormition.eeparchy.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2021/01/fasting-101.pdf>



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- Please pray for several of our parishioners and family members including (but not limited to): Ross, Ron, Peter, Katie, Jean, Edward, Verna, Miranda, Sarah, Marge, Ann, Louis & Rosa Maria.
 - Happy birthday to **Donna Koziak (Jan 31)** who celebrates his birthdays this week. May God grant you many happy years. Mnohaya Lita.
 - Our website has been updated with upcoming liturgies (for registrations) for February & March.
 - Thank you to those who un-decorated the church.
 - Annual General Meeting (AGM) Well... please be patient. We are still trying to figure things out. Covid will obviously not let us do it like normal.
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How did the picture end up in jail? It was framed!

Table for Two

At Home

Nowhere to go on Valentines' day? Enjoy a romantic candlelit dinner at home!

Table for Two, presented by the Edmonton Eparchy is an evening for couples, married or dating, which provides the ideal opportunity to focus on each other.

Since we cannot meet in person this year, for those in Edmonton and area (Sherwood Park, Leduc, Beaumont, St. Albert) we are providing the opportunity to order a sumptuous meal for two created by a red seal chef, which will be delivered right to your home! All you have to do is set the table, light the candles and follow the instructions to heat your meal.

Each of the courses will come with discussion starters which invite couples to explore and deepen their relationship with each other and with God. You can take as much time as you would like.

As you are enjoying your coffee, tea or wine at the end of your meal, you will have the opportunity to watch and listen to Bishop David (a link will be sent) as he shares a few words reflecting on sacramental marriage.

We look forward to hosting you virtually!

WHEN: Sunday, Feb 14, deliveries made between 1:00 pm. and 3:00 pm.

WHERE: At home 12(Edmonton area)

HOW MUCH: \$75 per couple.

Register here by Feb. 10:

<https://eeparchy.com/2021/01/26/table-for-two-at-home-an-edmonton-eparchy-event/>



Evangelization 2021: Check it out at eeparchy.com



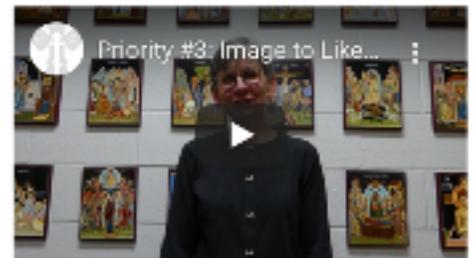
Priority #1: Parish Hub

Our Eparchy is working to strengthen our parishes. 2021 will have a new focus on parish communications with increased training, resources, and a focus on outreach.



Priority #2: Lay Leadership Program

It's the leaders in our communities that make our parishes vibrant. We intend to partner with Newman Theological College to help find and strengthen the leaders in our parishes.



Priority #3: Image to Likeness

Our children is the future of our Eparchy. Developing an educational program specifically geared towards our Ukrainian Catholic Faith will help strengthen and develop the faith in our youth.



Very Rev. Julian Bilyj appointed as Protosyncellus (Vicar General)

Bishop David appointed Very Rev. Julian Bilyj as Protosyncellus (Vicar General). As Protosyncellus, Father Julian is an ex officio member of the **Presbyteral Council** and **College of Consultors**. At the same time, Father Julian continues in his ministry as Pastor of Saint Nicholas Parish, Edmonton, and Chaplain, Edmonton Catholic Schools.



Retirement of Rt. Rev. Stephen Wojcichowski

Over his 46 years of diaconal and priestly ministry, Father Stephen served as pastor/assistant pastor in numerous parishes in the Eparchies of Toronto, New Westminster, and Edmonton, including Saint Demetrius Parish, Etobicoke, ON; Saint Nicholas Parish, Victoria, BC; and Dormition of the Most Holy Mother of God Parish, Saint Josaphat Cathedral, and Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, all in Edmonton.

In addition, he served as Director of the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies, Spiritual Director of Holy Spirit Seminary; and Chancellor and Protosyncellus (Vicar General) of the Eparchy of Edmonton.

However, Father Stephen's passion was and remains his love for religious education and catechesis, having served as Ukrainian Catholic Religious Education Consultant and Co-ordinator of Religious Services and Director of Religious Education at Edmonton Catholic Schools for many years.

For his dedicated service to God and the Church, he was awarded the ecclesial distinction of Mitrochoric Archbishoppriest, with the right to wear a mitre, by His Beatitude Patriarch Sviatoslav.

While Father Stephen is retiring from full-time pastoral ministry, he will serve as a project consultant for the Eparchy of Edmonton's "Image to Likeness," an online catechetical resource for students from sadochok to Grade 12, which will support their faith journey at home, school, and parish.

Father Stephen will be available for clergy substitution post-COVID-19.

With gratitude and love in our hearts, we wish Father Stephen a blessed retirement, as he looks forward to spending time with beloved spouse Maria, children and grandchildren!



The UCWLC's latest food delivery to Our Lady of Peace School has made it onto the Eparchial Website and Social Media. If you want to see this and other wonderful things that are going on in and around our Ukrainian Catholic Church throughout Alberta, go to:

eeparchy.com



The parish calendars are in!

You can pick yours up in the entrance of our parish.

These calendars show the readings of the day and the saint of the day, which days are days of obligation and which days are fasting days. They are sponsored by Park Memorial.

Dormition Parish January - February 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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<p>3I</p> <p>Sunday of the Prodigal Son, Tone 2; The Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenarys Cyrus and John (284-305);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; • Luke 15:11-32 <p>10 am D.L. Bilingual Ukrainian / English</p> <p>2 pm D.L. Bilingual Arabic / English</p> <p>Donna Koziak's Birthday</p>	<p>I</p> <p>Fore-feast of the Encounter; the Holy Martyr Tryphon (249-51);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Romans 8:28-39; • Luke 10:19-21 <p>11 am Fr. Bo Appointment</p> <p>2 pm (?) Meeting at Pastoral Centre.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>The Encounter of Our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ; Feast of our Lord.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hebrews 7:7-17; • Luke 2:22-40 <p>End of the Christmas Season.</p> <p>Decorations should be taken down by this point.</p> <p>2pm Appointment</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Post-feast of the Encounter; the Holy and Just Simeon Who Received God and the Prophetess Anna;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 John 3:21-4:6; • Mark 14:43-15:1 <p>Camp Oselia Meeting at Pastoral Centre.</p> <p>Fr. Bo's deadline for submission of an article.</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Post-feast of the Encounter; Our Venerable Father Isidore of Pelusium (408-50);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 John 4:20-5:21; • Mark 15:1-15 	<p>5</p> <p>Leave-taking of the Encounter; The Holy Martyr Agatha (249-51);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 John 1:1-13; • Mark 15:22-25, 33-41 <p>Young Adults Meeting Online</p>	<p>6</p> <p>All Souls Saturday; Our Venerable Father Boucolus, Bishop of Smyrna; the Holy Priest-Martyr Sylvanus, Bishop of Emessa and Those with Him;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Corinthians 10:23-28; • 1 Thessalonians 4:13-17; • Luke 21:8-9, 25-27, 33-36; • John 5:24-30 <p>Weekly day of editing the Liturgy video, making of this bulletin, updating the website and much more. Saturdays are busy.</p>
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<p>7</p> <p>Sunday of Meatfare - Sunday of the Fearful Judgement, Tone 3; Our Venerable Father Parthenius, Bishop of Lampsacus (312-37); Passing into Eternal Life (1957) of Blessed Petro Verhun, apostolic Visitor of Forced Labourers in Germany and Martyr of Siberia;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2; • Matthew 25:31-46 <p>10 am D.L. Bilingual Ukrainian / English</p> <p>2 pm D.L. Bilingual Arabic / English</p>	<p>8 </p> <p>The Holy Great-Martyr Theodore the General (286-305); the Holy Prophet Zechariah (c. 520 BC);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 John 1:1-15; • Luke 19:29-40; 22:7-39 	<p>9 </p> <p>The Holy Martyr Nicephorus;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jude 1-10; • Luke 22:39-42; 22:45-23:1 <p>Marta Dashkewytch's Birthday</p>	<p>10 </p> <p>The Holy Martyr Charalampus (193-211); (Aliturgical)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joel 2:12-26; • Joel 3:12-21 	<p>11 </p> <p>The Holy Priest-Martyr Blaise, Bishop of Sebastia (313-24);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jude 11-25; • Luke 23:1-34, 44-56 	<p>12 </p> <p>Our Holy Father Meletius, Archbishop of Antioch (379-95); (Aliturgical)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zechariah 8:7-14; • Zechariah 8:19-23 <p>6pm Younger Elementary, 7pm Older Elementary, 8pm Junior and Senior High, Youth Online (see Fr. Bo for details)</p>	<p>13 </p> <p>Saturday before Cheesefare; Our Venerable Father Martinian;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Romans 14:19-26; • Galatians 5:22-6:2; • Matthew 6:1-13; • Matthew 11:27-30 <p>This date would have been the 2nd Camp Oselia's Puschenya. Darn Covid.</p> <p>Weekly day of editing the Liturgy video, making of this bulletin, updating the website and much more. Saturdays are busy.</p>
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<p>14 </p> <p>Sunday of Cheesefare - Sunday of Forgiveness, Tone 4; the Repose of Our Venerable Father Constantine the Philosopher, in the Monastic Life, Cyril, Teacher of the Slavs (869); and our Venerable Father Auxentius (457-74); and the Venerable Maron the Wonderworker and</p>	<p>15 </p> <p>The Holy Apostle Onesimus; First day of the Great Fast. Abstinence from meat, dairy and eggs, and foods that contain these ingredients. According to liturgical prescriptions, the Divine Liturgy is not celebrated today. Sixth Hour - Isaiah</p>	<p>16 </p> <p>The Holy Martyrs Pamphilus the Priest (c. 309) and Porphyrius and Their Companions; Great Fast Day 2. Abstinence from meat and foods that contain meat. According to liturgical prescriptions, the Divine Liturgy is not celebrated today. Sixth Hour - Isaiah</p>	<p>17 </p> <p>The Holy and Great-Martyr Theodore the Recruit (286-305); Great Fast Day 3. Abstinence from meat and foods that contain meat. According to liturgical prescriptions, the Divine Liturgy is not celebrated today. Sixth Hour - Isaiah</p>	<p>18 </p> <p>Our Holy Father Leo, Pope of Rome (461); Great Fast Day 4. Abstinence from meat and foods that contain meat. According to liturgical prescriptions, the Divine Liturgy is not celebrated today. Sixth Hour - Isaiah</p>	<p>19 </p> <p>The Holy Apostle Archippus; Great Fast Day 5. Abstinence from meat and foods that contain meat. According to liturgical prescriptions, the Divine Liturgy is not celebrated today. Sixth Hour - Isaiah</p>	<p>20 </p> <p>First Saturday of the Great Fast: Great Martyr Theodore the Recruit; Our Venerable Father Leo, Bishop of Catania; Great Fast Day 6. Hebrews 1:1-12; 2 Timothy 2:1-10; Mark 2:23-3:5; John 15:17-16:2</p>
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Sunday of the Prodigal Son, Tone 2; The Holy Wonderworkers and Unmercenaries Cyrus and John (284-305)

Troparion: When You went down to death, O Life Immortal,* You struck Hades dead with the blazing light of Your divinity.* When You raised the dead from the nether world,* all the powers of heaven cried out:* “O Giver of Life, Christ our God, glory be to You!”

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion: Foolishly have I fled from Your glory, O Father,* wasting the wealth You gave me on vices.* Therefore, I offer You the words of the Prodigal:* Loving Father, I have sinned before You.* Take me, for I repent, and make me as one of Your hired hands.

Prokeimenon:

The Lord is my strength and my song of praise, and He has become my salvation.

verse: The Lord has indeed chastised me, but He has not delivered me to death.

Epistle: I Corinthians 6:12-20 (NRSV)

Brothers and Sisters, “All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. “Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, “The two shall be one flesh.” But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

Alleluia verses:

The Lord will hear you in the day of tribulation; the name of the God of Jacob will shield you.

Lord, grant victory to the king and hear us in the day that we shall call upon You.

Gospel: Luke 15:11-32 (NRSV)

The Lord spoke this parable: “There was a man who had two sons. The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

“Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise Him in the highest.* Alleluia, alleluia,* alleluia.