

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON



Icon of Saint Cyril, Teacher of the Slavs -- February 14th

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON – FEBRUARY 8, 2009

Tone 6

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 9 – FEBRUARY 15, 2009

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11	7:00 PM WEEKDAY VESPERS
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14	1 ST ALL SOULS SATURDAY 9:00 AM DIVINE LITURGY & PANAKHYDA 6:00 PM GREAT VESPERS
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15	10:00 AM LITURGY FOR ALL PARISHIONERS

Вічна Пам'ять – Eternal Memory!

We were all deeply grieved to learn of the falling asleep in the Lord of our longtime parishioner Roman Oleksyshyn. Our prayers and condolences go out to his daughter Ulana and here family. He will be greatly missed. Funeral Services will be held later this week. Call Fr. James on Tuesday for final schedule

Prayers For Those Serving In The Military



Let us especially remember in our prayers those family members and friends who are actively serving our country in the Armed Forces: Luke and Slavamira Haywas, Elizabeth Heltsley, Olena Hrivniak, Michael Lopes, Stefan Oborski, Raul Richelmi and Brian Tuthill. Please submit any names of those you would like remembered in the Liturgies to Fr. James.

Your Prayers Please!

Please remember in your prayers those people of our parish who are in hospitals, nursing homes and those who are not able to join us actively in our community. Remember especially the following: Katherine Andrus, Susie Boyko, Sonia Cronin, Bohdanchik James, Lesya Loznycky, Ken McDonald, Sophia Skop, and Ariadna Wall, Maria Helecky, Isabella Bachynsky. Please let Fr. James know if there is anyone who should be added to this list.



Thank you! Дуже дякую!

Thanks to all those who helped to take down the Christmas decorations. May God bless your generosity.

Generations of Faith

Our next *Generations of Faith* gathering will be next Sunday, February 15th (*Meatfare Sunday – М'ясопустна неділя.*) There will be **one Liturgy** that day followed by a potluck and the learning session in which we will explore the meaning of the Great Fast. The Great Fast starts with Forgiveness Vespers on February 22nd. All are encouraged to come and participate.

Forgiveness Sunday

On Sunday, February 22nd there will be a “Cheezey Potluck” following the 10 AM Liturgy. This is the last opportunity to enjoy dairy products before the Great Fast begins. Please bring a dish (ideally meatless) to share with others. Immediately following the potluck we will celebrate Forgiveness Vespers in the church to open the Great Fast. This is a beautiful opportunity to greet the fast in a meaningful way – through mutual forgiveness.

Pastoral Council Elections

Elections to the Pastoral Council will be held on the 4th Sunday in March. Nominations for the 3 elected positions will begin on the 1st Sunday in March. Names of nominees will be printed in the 2 subsequent bulletins before the election on March 22nd.

Donation letters

Donation Letters for 2008 income tax purposes are available in the church hall beginning Today. Any letters not picked up by February 16th will be mailed.

1st All Souls Saturday

Saturday, February 14th is the first All Souls Saturday. On that day, there will be a Divine Liturgy for all our beloved departed followed by a Panakhyda. Please write the names of all those you wish to be remembered and place in the basket in the back of the church today.

<p style="text-align: center;">Liturgical Schedule (unless otherwise noted in the bulletin): Saturday Evening Vespers: 6:00 pm Sundays 8:00 AM (English) 10:00 AM (Ukrainian)</p> <p>Holyday Vigil: 7:00 PM Holyday Liturgy: 10:00 AM</p> <p>Other Services as announced in Bulletin</p> <p>The Holy Mystery of Reconciliation (Confession): Sundays from 7:30 to 7:45 AM and 9:30 to 9:45 AM and also by appointment.</p> <p>The Holy Mysteries of Initiation (Baptism, Chrismation and Holy Eucharist): Parents must make arrangements with the Pastor at least 3 months prior to Initiation. Adults seeking to be initiated must undergo a period of instruction (Catechumenate.)</p>	<p>The Holy Mystery of Crowning (Marriage): The couple must contact the Pastor at least 6 months prior to the desired date of marriage and before scheduling anything related to the crowning (including the reception.) Couples must participate in pre-marriage catechesis.</p> <p>The Holy Mystery of Holy Anointing of the Sick: Please inform the Pastor of anyone in need of anointing or anyone homebound and unable to attend Liturgy or receive Holy Eucharist.</p> <p>Catechesis: Contact the Pastor.</p> <p>Cantors: Vladimir Bachynsky, Luke Miller and Olena Bankston</p>
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A PRODIGAL SON AND A GOOD FATHER

In reading and learning the Holy Gospels, we find that children are a great blessing and gift from God. *“Like olive trees planted around the home, so are grandchildren the window for the elderly,”* says the Psalmist. The Prophets Isaiah and Hosea portray fathers and mothers in a wonderful manner, saying that through their tenderness, love and patience they teach their children how they should live. They depict the joy and happiness which parents feel when they have children. Christ speaks of children with tender love: *“Trust Me when I tell you that whoever does not accept the kingdom of God as a child will not enter into it”* (Lk. 18, 17).

We do not deny the fact that, as children grow up, they often bitterly disappoint us with their egotism and unreasonable expectations. They test our patience and often bring us grief and sleepless nights. And, unfortunately, at that time, parents receive no support. When children follow the prodigal path, parents are likely to hear: *“They are your children, your problem. You should have raised them better.”* Is this a just response? No! In accordance with the teachings of the Holy Gospel, the family is the foundation upon which is built a community, a society, a nation. All of us – the community, the society, the nation - are responsible for our children and our youth. Special responsibility for our children rests with the schools and youth organizations. We have the right and the responsibility to ask: What do the schools and youth organizations provide for our children? Where do they lead them? Do they increase spiritual awareness, or do they decrease it? When we find it difficult to understand the behavior of our children, of the younger generation; when we ask ourselves why our children are not like us when we were their age; when it seems that there is a great chasm between the younger and older generations, let us remember the parable about the Prodigal Son. This is the story of a young man who caused great grief to his good and self-sacrificing father. But the father did not forget his responsibility. When the Prodigal returns to his father’s house seeking forgiveness, his father greets him with happiness: *“He ran out to meet him, threw his arms around his neck and kissed him.”*

We must treat our youth in the same manner. They are all our children. Let us bless them, show them the right road and forgive them as today’s Holy Gospel teaches us.

БЛУДНИЙ СИН І ДОБРИЙ БАТЬКО

Читаючи й вивчаючи Святе Письмо, ми дізнаємося, що діти, - це велике Боже благословення, діти - це дар Божий. *„Як оливкові дерева, засаджені довкола твого стола, так внуки є вікном для с т а р ш и х в і к о м ”*, - к а ж е псалмопівець. Пророки Ісаїя, Осія в чудовий спосіб зображують нам батьків і матерів, що з ніжністю, терпеливістю, любов'ю навчають дітей, як їм треба жити. Вони змальовують відчуття радості й щастя, яке спливає на батьків, що дають життя дітям та збільшують родину. Тому Христос говорить про дітей словами ніжної любові. Він ставить дитину перед народом і каже: *„Істинно кажу вам: Хто Царства Божого не прийме, як дитина - не ввійде до нього”* (Лк. 18, 17).

Не заперечуємо факту, що коли діти підростають, то часом гірко розчаровують нас своїм егоїзмом, нерозумними домаганнями. Вони стають для нас випробовуванням нашої терпеливості. Часом вони приносять смуток, недоспані ночі. Однак, найбільш прикрим є те, що в той час батьки ні від кого не мають підтримки. Коли ж діти зійдуть на блудну дорогу, тоді родичам доводиться чути слова: *„Це ваші діти, це ваш клопіт, це була ваша справа добре виховати дитину”*. Чи це справедливо? Ні! Бо, згідно з навчанням Святого Письма, родина — то цеглина, з якої будується народ, спільнота, громада. Тому ми всі, ціла громада, цілий народ несемо відповідальність за наших дітей, за нашу молодь. Особлива відповідальність за наших дітей лежить на школі, організація, які опікуються молоддю. Ми маємо право і обов'язок поставити питання: що школа і молодіжні організації дають нашим дітям? Куди вони їх провадять? Чи вони підносять духовне життя молоді, чи може його знижують? Отже, коли нам тяжко зрозуміти вчинки наших дітей, молоді генерачії, коли ми питаємо себе, чому наші діти не є такими, якими були ми в молоді роки, коли нам здається, що сьогодні між таршим і молодшим поколіннями утворилася глибока прірва згадаймо Христову притчу про Блудного сина. Це – історія молоді людини, яка своєму доброму, повному самопосягати батькові, спричинила біль. Але батько не забував своєї відповідальності, тому, коли норовистий син, шукаючи прощення, вернувся до батьківського дому, він прийняв його з радістю. За слоами Христової притчі: *„Він, змилюсередившись, побіг, на шию йому кинувся і поцілував його”*.

Ми не можемо інакше поступати з нашою молоддю. Вони всі -наші діти. Благословімо їх, показуймо їм правильну дорогу життя. Прощаймо їх, бо так навчає прочитане сьогодні Євангеліє.

Українська Католицька Парафія Матері Божої Неустаючої Помочі

Церква Святого Пророка й Предтечи Йоана Хрестителя
Святиня Святого Миколая, Архієпископа Мір Лікійського, Чудотворця

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Cyril, Equal to the Apostles and Teacher of the Slavs

Because their father was an officer in a part of Greece inhabited by many Slavs, the two Greek brothers, Saints Cyril and Methodius, ultimately became missionaries, teachers and patrons of the Slavic peoples. After a brilliant course of studies, Cyril (called Constantine until he became a monk) refused the governorship of a district such as his brother had accepted among the Slavic-speaking population. He withdrew to a monastery where his brother Methodius had become a monk after some years in a governmental post.

A decisive change in their lives occurred when the Duke of Moravia (present-day Czech Republic) asked the Eastern Emperor Michael for political independence from German rule and ecclesiastical autonomy (having their own clergy and liturgy). Cyril and Methodius undertook the missionary task. Cyril's first work was to invent an alphabet, still used in some Eastern Liturgies. His followers probably formed the Cyrillic alphabet (for example, modern Ukrainian and Russian) from Greek capital letters.

Together they translated the Gospels, the Psalms, Paul's letters and the liturgical books into Slavonic, and composed a Slavonic Liturgy. That and their free use of the vernacular in preaching led to opposition from the German clergy. The bishop refused to consecrate Slavic bishops and priests, and Cyril was forced to appeal to Rome. On the visit to Rome, he and Methodius had the joy of seeing their new Liturgy approved by Pope Adrian II. St. Cyril, long an invalid, died in Rome 50 days after taking the monastic habit.