

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

February 28, 2021

Saints Commemorated today: Righteous John Cassian the Confessor; Basil the Confessor and Kyranna the New Martyr of Thessaloniki

EPISTLE READING

I Corinthians 6:12-20

Brethren, "all things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved 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 not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh." But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body and in your spirit which belong to God.

GOSPEL READING

Luke 15:11-32

The Lord said this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his belly with the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise 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 as one of your hired servants.' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And 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 servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

ENTRANCE HYMN: PLAGAL OF THE FIRST MODE

Let us worship the Word who is unoriginate with the Father and the Spirit and from a Virgin was born for our Salvation, O believers, and let us sing His praise. For in His goodness He was pleased to ascend to the Cross in the flesh, and to undergo death, and to raise up those who had died, by His glorious Resurrection.

FOURTH MODE

As the first-called of the Apostles, and brother of their leader O Andrew, entreat the Master of all that peace be granted unto the world and great mercy to our souls.



MARCH BOOK STUDY

As a way to prepare us for Great Lent, Fr. John will offer a virtual book study. We'll read and discuss [*Toolkit for Spiritual Growth*](#) by Fr. Evan Armatas. This book is a simple and digestible explanation of three of Christianity's basic spiritual disciplines: Prayer, Fasting, and Almsgiving. The Book Study will take place at 7pm the evenings of March 4th, March 11th, and March 18th. To receive updates and the Zoom link, please fill out the form [here](#) by Sunday, February 28. To purchase the book, click [here](#). We have purchased a number of copies to be sold in our bookstore after Liturgy on Sunday February 28th. If you have any questions, please [email Fr. John!](#)

PHILANTHROPY AT ST ANDREW

We are excited to welcome yet another new member to Saint Andrew Philoptochos! Welcome Eleni Flanck! Very happy to have you!

Operation Classroom - We have decided, for starters, to assume sponsorship of the Children's Room at the Brown Community Learning Center of the South Bend School Corporation. This work will entail decorating and otherwise beautifying this space. Look for more details to come, on how you can help!

Virtual Pastry Sales - We continue to host the virtual Greek pastry sales, now adding Greek olive oil to our offerings. The next sale will launch next week with drive-thru pick up scheduled for Saturday, April 3, in time for western Easter. Please help us spread the word about this new initiative - Greek pastries year-round, to help us help our parish and our community.

To join Philoptochos, please [email us!](#)

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

We thank the 84 parish families who have thus far pledged \$140,382 for 2021. This is just over half our parish having pledged, and about 1/3 of the church's operating budget being covered by stewardship. As of this week, we have received \$43,116 in stewardship payments. Of course money is not everything, but it's a very critical component of the parish's ability to exist. Remember this year we will, again, not have a festival due to the lingering effects of the pandemic, so it's imperative that the Saint Andrew faithful join together to fully support the church with time, talent and treasure. As you create your family budgets, think about where your church stands on your list of life priorities and consider allocating resources accordingly. If you prefer to donate toward a specific expenditure of the church, based on your wishes and passions, please contact Father John or Chris Kurtis, Parish Council president.

“My hope is that we will seize the opportunity that is literally being forced upon us, to become more altruistic, more compassionate toward others, more patient, and indeed more faithful.”-
Archbishop Elpidophoros of America

PROSFORO COMMITTEE

We are in need of parishioners willing to join the Prosforo Committee. If needed, we will do an instructional class for anyone who would like to join but is not sure how to prepare the Prosforo. Generally it means making the Prosforo for four Sundays during the year (2 every six months) and occasionally making extra for weekday Liturgies. The more who sign up the less often each individual will need to cover a Sunday. Please contact the office if you are able to volunteer. Thank you.

Jesus is the Bread of Life Who offers Himself for our salvation. "Unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink His blood you have no life in you; he who eats My flesh and drinks My blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day" (John 6:53-54).

DISCRETIONARY FUND

The Discretionary Fund is to assist local parishioners (individuals, and families) that have encountered financial hardship. If you would like to help please contact Father John or make donations payable to the Discretionary Fund.

VISITING SAINT ANDREW?

People of different religious affiliation or tradition are always welcome at the liturgical services of our Holy Orthodox Church. If you are interested in learning more about Orthodoxy or have specific questions, please set up a time to speak with Father John.

YOUR PRAYERS HELP...

"...I was sick and you visited Me..." St. Matthew 25:36. "Holy Father, Physician of our souls and bodies have mercy, forgive and heal thy servants." The following brothers and sisters in Christ need your constant prayers and love, recovering at home or ill at home/hospital: Lynn Whittenberger (home), and Nick Limberopoulos (home).

In nursing homes or home bound: Artemis Hoke (Westgate Garden), and Amelia Morris (Miller's Merry Manor, Walkerton).

Today's **Ushers** are: Manolis Anagnostou, Leon Andrews, Kurt Metros, Nick Giannakakis. If you are not serving in the pangari today, please join everyone in the Sanctuary.

Today's Epistle Lesson will be read by an Altar Boy.

The Prosforo Committee prepared the Prosforo for this morning. May our God grant you spiritual joy always.

MEMORIAL: A 40-day Memorial for **Anna Pappas** is offered this morning by her loving family and friends. MAY HER MEMORY BE ETERNAL

THIS WEEK

Saturday, February 27	Great Vespers	5pm
Sunday February 28	Sunday of the Prodigal Son	8:30am Orthros 9:30am Liturgy
Monday March 1	Good Samaritans	6:30pm via Zoom
Thursday March 4	Book Study - <i>Toolkit for Spiritual Growth</i>	7pm via Zoom
Saturday March 6	Saturday of the Souls	8:30am Orthros

9:30am Liturgy

Saturday March 6 Great Vespers 5:00pm

Sunday March 7 Meatfare Sunday 8:30am Orthros
9:30am Liturgy

LOOKING AHEAD

Tuesday March 9 40 Martyrs of Sebastia 9:30am Liturgy

Tuesday March 9 Parish Council 7pm

Thursday March 11 Book Study - *Toolkit for Spiritual Growth* 7pm via Zoom

Saturday March 13 Saturday of the Souls 9:30am Liturgy

Saturday March 13 Great Vespers 5:00pm

Sunday March 14 Forgiveness Sunday 8:30am Orthros
9:30am Liturgy

Sunday March 14 Forgiveness Vespers 5:00pm

Monday March 15 Great Compline 6:00pm
Great Lent Begins

Tuesday March 16 Lenten Vespers 6:00pm

Wednesday March 17 Presanctified Liturgy 6:00pm

Thursday March 18 Book Study -- *Toolkit for Spiritual Growth* 7pm via Zoom

Friday March 19 Salutations 6:00pm

Saturday March 20 Saturday of Souls 9:30am Liturgy

Saturday March 20 Great Vespers 5:00pm

Sunday March 21 Sunday of Orthodoxy 8:30am Orthros
9:30am Liturgy

Sunday March 21 Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers 6:00pm

Monday March 22 Presanctified Liturgy 6:00pm

Wednesday March 24 Great Vespers for the Annunciation 6:00pm

Thursday March 25 Annunciation of the Theotokos 8:30am Orthros
9:30am Liturgy

Friday March 26 Salutations 6:00pm

Saturday March 27 Great Vespers 5:00pm

Sunday March 28	Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas	8:30am Orthros 9:30am Liturgy
Monday March 29	Great Compline	6:00pm
Wednesday March 31	Presanctified Liturgy	6:00pm

2021 EASTER LOVE DONATIONS NEEDED

Flowers to offer to the Virgin Mary for the Salutations and Akathist Hymn Needed (\$75)

Sunday of Orthodoxy Icon Frame Needed (\$75)

Sunday of the Holy Cross Flowers Needed (\$175)

Holy Cross Icon Frame Needed (\$65)

Annunciation Icon Frame Needed (\$65)

St. Lazarus Icon Frame Needed (\$65)

Bay Leaves for Palm Sunday Needed (\$100)

Palm Trees for Palm Sunday Needed (\$65)

Palm Sunday Icon Frame Needed (\$70)

Bridegroom Frame for Palm Sunday eve. & Holy Monday Eve. Needed (\$85)

St. Kassiani Icon Frame Needed (\$65)

Mystical Supper Icon Frame Needed (\$65)

Holy Friday Solea Floral Wreath Needed (\$100)

Rose Petals, Rose water Needed (\$50)

Lily Plants (12) Needed (\$20 each)

Altar Candles (4) Needed (\$25)

Easter Candles Needed (\$300)

Easter eggs and Red dye Needed (\$75)

Priest Easter Candle Needed (\$225)

Incense and charcoal Needed (\$100)