ST. PAUL'S GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF REGINA

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Chris Perentes
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Φεβρουάριος 2021
February 2021
Submission deadline: February 15th
Secretary: Marina Sellis
Marina_sellis@hotmail.com

COMMUNITY NEWS

Attending Church Services

If you would like to attend an upcoming church service, please call Fr. Spiro at 306-539-7753 to book a day. As you are aware, current COVID-19 restrictions allow a maximum of 30 people to attend church services. If you schedule a day to attend, please ensure you arrive with the stated number of people you have booked for and arrive early. You must wear a mask at all times while in church and follow any direction by the Council Members or Epitropous.

Εάν θέλετε να παραβρεθείτε σε μια λειτουργία, παρακαλούμε καλέστε τον Πάτερ Σπυρίδων στο 306-539-7753 για να κάνετε κράτηση. Όπως γνωρίζετε, οι τρέχοντες περιορισμοί COVID-19 επιτρέπουν εώς 30 άτομα να παρευρεθούν στις λειτουργίες της εκκλησίας μας. Την ημέρα που είναι να παρακολουθήσετε τη λειτουργία, σας παρακαλούμε να έρθετε νωρίς με όσα άτομα έχετε πει και να φοράτε μάσκα. Τα μέλη του Συμβουλίου ή οι Επιτρόποι θα είναι στη διαθέσή σας να σας δείξουν τη θέση σας.

Ladies of Phyloptochos:

Due to the Covid pandemic, we would like to inform our Phyloptochos members that the membership fees can be paid through e-transfer to phyloptochos@sasktel.net or dropped off at the church mailbox with your name on the envelope. You may also contact Margarita Parisone at 306-535-3133.

Reminder for the The 200th Anniversary of the Greek Revolution OF 1821

We are inviting you to be a part of our special March 25th, 2021 celebrations marking the 200th anniversary of the Greek Revolution of 1821. Please share your memories of March 25th celebrations in our Community. Send us your photos, new and old, to be included in a special Facebook photo album. For group photos please try to identify as many people as possible and add the approximate year the photo was taken. So, look through your old photo albums, stick drives and cloud accounts to share your March 25th memories with us.
Please forward your photos to Costa Maragos at costamaragos@gmail.com. Please let Costa know if you are unable to scan your photos. The deadline to submit is **February 28, 2021.**

DAY	PROGRAM	SERVICES	TIME
Monday February 1st	**Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία για την: Υπαπαντή του Κυρίου**	Orthros & Divine Liturgy for Our Lord's Presentation in the Temple	6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
Sunday February 7th	**16η Κυριακή του Ματθαίου** 16th Sunday of Matthew	**Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία** Orthros & Divine Liturgy	9:00 to 11:00 a.m.
Monday February 8th	Services will be held: **St. Anargyroi Church, YORKTON**	**Θεία Λειτουργία** Divine Liturgy	7:00 p.m.
Wednesday February 10th	**Του Αγίου Χαραλάμπους** Holy Martyr Haralambos	**Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία** Orthros & Divine Liturgy	6:30 to 8:00 p.m.
Sunday February 14th	**17η Κυριακή του Ματθαίου** 17th Sunday of Matthew	**Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία** Orthros & Divine Liturgy	9:00 to 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday February 17th	Services will be held: **Lifegiving Font Church, SWIFT CURRENT**	**Θεία Λειτουργία** Divine Liturgy	7:00 p.m.
Sunday February 21st	**Τελώνου & Φαρισαίου** Publican & Pharisee	**Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία** Orthros & Divine Liturgy	9:00 to 11:00 a.m.
Sunday February 28th	**Κυριακή του Ασώτου** Sunday of the Prodigal Son	**Όρθρος & Θεία Λειτουργία** Orthros & Divine Liturgy	9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

On January 3rd a three year memorial service was held for Nikos Hasapis

Sunday, February 21st:

The Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee is the first Sunday of a three-week period prior to the commencement of Great Lent. It marks the beginning of a time of preparation for the spiritual journey of Lent, a time for Orthodox Christians to draw closer to God through worship, prayer, fasting, and acts of charity. It is also on this day that the Triodion is introduced, a liturgical book that contains the services from this Sunday, the tenth before Pascha (Easter), to Great and Holy Saturday.

The name for this Sunday is taken from the parable of our Lord Jesus Christ found in Luke 18:10-14. This is the story of two men, one a Pharisee, a member of a Jewish sect known for its diligent observance of the Law, and the other a Publican, a government official charged with the responsibility of collecting taxes. Both men enter the temple, and the Pharisee stands openly and prays, thanking God that he is not like other men, the unjust, adulterers, "or even this tax collector" (v. 11). He then begins to list his religious accomplishments by stating, "I fast twice a week, and I give tithes of all that I possess" (v. 12). In direct contrast to the pride of the Pharisee, the Publican goes to a place where he will not be noticed by others and beats his breast saying, "God, be merciful to me a sinner!" (v. 13). Having told this story, Jesus affirms that it was the Publican who returned home justified and forgiven rather than the Pharisee. He states, "Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled,

and he who humbles himself will be exalted" (v. 14).

The theme of this parable is repentance. Repentance is the door through which we enter Lent, the starting-point of the journey to Pascha. To repent signifies far more than self-pity or futile regret over things done in the past. The Greek term metanoia means "change of mind." To repent is to be renewed, to be transformed in our inward viewpoint, to attain a fresh way of looking at our relationship with God and with others. The fault of the Pharisee is that he has no desire to change his outlook; he is complacent, self-satisfied, and so he allows no place for God to act within him. The Gospel depicts him as a man that is pleased only with himself who thinks that he has complied with all of the requirements of religion. But in his pride, he has falsified the meaning of true religion and faith. He has reduced these to external observations, measuring his piety by the amount of money he gives.

The Publican, on the other hand, truly longs for a "change of mind." He humbles himself, and his humility justifies him before God. He becomes, in the words of the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5:3), "poor in spirit." He acknowledges that he is a sinner, and he knows that salvation is only found in the mercy of God. Here we find an example of true humility, an essential aspect of repentance. A "change of mind" and the transformation of our lives can only happen when we humble ourselves before God, acknowledge our willingness to turn from sin, and receive His grace into our lives.

Our preparation for Lent thus begins with a prayer for humility, the beginning of true repentance. Through repentance, we can find and return to the true order of things, a restoration of our spiritual vision that will guide us in a very difficult and challenging world. By entering Great Lent in humility and repentance, we can attain deeper communion with God as we receive His forgiveness and He blesses by guiding us to greater spiritual heights.

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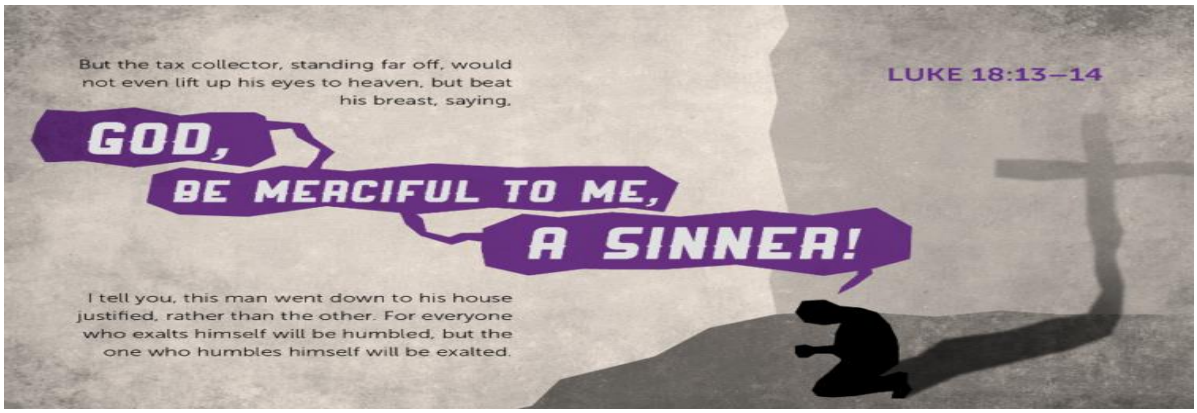
The week that follows the Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee is designated by the Church as a non-fasting week. All foods are allowed on every day of the week, including Wednesday and Friday. This dispensation from fasting is offered as a way of indicating that Great Lent and a more intense fasting period is approaching.



SAINT PAUL'S GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH • PROGRAM FOR FEBRUARY 2021
ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΟΣ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ Ο ΑΓΙΟΣ ΠΑΥΛΟΣ • ΦΕΒΡΟΥΑΡΙΟΣ 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6:30 p.m. Our Lord's Presentation in the Temple	2	3	4	5	6
7 9:00 a.m. 16th Sunday of Matthew	8 7:00 p.m. Services will be held: **St. Anargyroi Church, YORKTON**	9	10 6:30 p.m. Holy Martyr Haralambos	11	12	13
14 9:00 a.m. 17th Sunday of Matthew	15	16	17 7:00 p.m. Services will be held: **Lifegiving Font Church, SWIFT CURRENT**	18	19	20
21 9:00 a.m. Publican & Pharisee	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 9:00 a.m. Sunday of the Prodigal Son						

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