ST. PAUL'S GREEK ORTHODOX COMMUNITY OF REGINA

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Three Hierarchs Luncheon Sunday – January 28th

Every year on Three Hierarchs, the Parents Association of the Greek Language Heritage School puts on a luncheon. This year the Parents Association would like to thank **Jim and Sia Kolitsas from Houston Pizza** for their generous donation of the lunch. There are still tickets available and we would love to have you. Tickets are $25 each and you can purchase them the day of the event if you haven't done yet.
Thank-you!!!

You still have time to purchase this beautiful original painting by artist Katerina Mertikas valued at $495
Tickets are $5 each and the draw will take place on Sunday, January 28th following the luncheon.

The Parents Association is always thankful and appreciative of your support of our school, staff and students. All the fundraising that is done helps with the raising costs of running our Greek School.

Consulate General to visit Regina

I have recently spoken with and invited the new Consulate General of Greece in Vancouver, Mr. Dimitirios V. Skoutas, to visit our Community. He has tentatively agreed to come to Regina sometime in **April** to introduce himself to our Community and to provide consular services to members of Regina's Greek Community. I will provide firm dates once confirmed by the Consulate General's office.
In order to make the visit possible, Mr. Skoutas requires a list of Community members who would like to meet with him and the type of consular service required. If you would like to meet with Mr. Skoutas, please contact me (Tom Liagridonis) directly so that I may add you to the list that I will in turn provide to Mr. Skoutas. My email is tomliagridonis@gmail.com and my cellphone number is 306.591.3032. I require this information as soon as possible.

The most common consular services that Mr. Skoutas would be able to address on a visit to our Community include the following:

1. Power of Attorney

- for anyone who wants to register a marriage, birth of children or death of a relative.
- for being fully represented to tax authorities or (more narrow and specific) Letter of Authorization for the acquisition of a Tax Registry Number (AFM) and of a username/password (klidarithmos TAXISNET)
- both the AFM and the password are necessary for any person that owns real estate in Greece.
- for city authorities and public utilities representation (City, Urban Planning Office, Land Registry Office, Water/Electricity/Gas/Telecommunications). This is useful for people who own houses or apartments in Greece.

2. Letter of Authorization for the issuing of a Social Security Number (AMKA). This is necessary for every pensioner
3. Declaration of registration of beneficiary of pension in their respective Pension Authority (IKA, OGA etc.)
4. Any Letter of Authorization - Exousiodotisi

Please keep in mind that any Greek Citizen (that is already registered) must travel to Vancouver in order to apply for or to renew a Greek passport.

More information can be found at https://www.mfa.gr/canada/en/services/other-services/
VERY IMPORTANT: Anyone interested in consular services will need to contact the Consulate General directly well in advance of the meeting in Regina, as all documents must be completed beforehand, and ready for signatures. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Consulate directly:

Mr. Dimitrios V. Skoutas, Consulate General of Greece – Vancouver
Suite 500 – 688 West Hastings Street
Vancouver, BC V6B 1P1
Telephone**:** 604.681.1381
Fax: 604.681.6656
Email: ConGen-Van@mfa.gr

Tom A. Liagridonis, President
St. Paul's Greek Orthodox Community of Regina

SAINT PAUL'S GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH • PROGRAM FOR FEBRUARY 2024
ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΟΣ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ Ο ΑΓΙΟΣ ΠΑΥΛΟΣ • ΦΕΒΡΟΥΑΡΙΟΣ 2024

DAY	PROGRAM	SERVICES	TIME
Friday February 2nd	**Η Υπαπαντή Του Κύριου** Our Lord's Presentation In The Temple	**Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία** Orthros & Divine Liturgy	9:00 to 10:30 a.m.
Sunday February 4th	**15η Κυριακή του Ματθαίου** 15th Sunday of Matthew	**Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία** Orthros & Divine Liturgy	9:00 to 11:30 a.m.
Saturday February 10th	**Του Αγίου Χαραλάμπους** Charalampos The Holy Martyr	**Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία** Orthros & Divine Liturgy	9:00 to 10:30 a.m.
Sunday February 11th	**16η Κυριακή του Ματθαίου** 16th Sunday of Matthew	**Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία** Orthros & Divine Liturgy	9:00 to 11:30 a.m.
Monday February 12th	Service will be held: St. Anargyroi Church, **YORKTON**	**Θεία Λειτουργία** Divine Liturgy	7:00 p.m.
Sunday February 18th	**17η Κυριακή του Ματθαίου** 17th Sunday of Matthew	**Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία** Orthros & Divine Liturgy	9:00 to 11:30 a.m.
Wednesday February 21st	Service will be held: Lifegiving Font Church, **SWIFT CURRENT**	**Θεία Λειτουργία** Divine Liturgy	7:00 p.m.
Sunday February 25th	**Αρχή Τριωδίου** - Triodion begins **Κυριακή του Τελώνου και Φαρισαίου –** Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee	**Όρθρος και Θεία Λειτουργία** Orthros & Divine Liturgy	9:00 to 11:30 a.m.

Memorial Service – Μνημόσυνο:
February 18th: 5 year memorial service for Nick Lygouriatis

The Philoptochos society presented the vice principal of Albert community school a cheque in the amount of **$1000** on January 24th. These funds will go towards groceries as the school provides all students both breakfast and lunch daily. They were extremely grateful and we thank you all for supporting the work of the Philoptochos.

We hope to see you all at our next event, Sunday February 18th for the luncheon.

Presentation of Christ to the Temple

This feast, celebrated on **February 2**, is known in the Orthodox Church as *The Presentation of Christ in the Temple*. The story of the Presentation is told in Luke 2:22-29. Mary and Joseph were faithful Jews and observed their religious customs. An important custom was for the couple to take their first-born son to the Temple. The baby was taken to the Temple forty days after his birth and was dedicated to God. As they arrived at the Temple, Mary and Joseph were met by a very old man named Simeon. He was a holy man and was noted as a very intelligent scholar. Simeon spent much time studying about the prophets of Israel. It was during his studies that he learned of the coming of the Messiah. The Jewish people were waiting for the Messiah to come and deliver Israel from their conquerors. From that time on, Simeon spent his time praying for the Messiah to come. He spent many years in prayer. Finally, while Simeon was praying he heard the voice of God. God promised Simeon that he would not die until he had seen the Messiah. When Simeon saw Jesus, he took the baby in his arms and blessed the Lord and said:

"*Lord, now let Your servant go in peace according to Your promise, because my eyes have seen Your salvation which you have prepared before the face of all peoples, a light to bring revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory to your people Israel.*"

From ancient times, the Holy Church has retained this tradition of the churching of the mother and new born child on the fortieth day and of the reading of prayers of purification.

February 25th – Triodion starts

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 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. 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.

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.

The Ladies of Philoptochos Society invites you to **lunch, Sunday February 18th** following Church Services at the community hall.

Lunch features: **Spaghetti & meat sauce, salad & dessert**

We will be celebrating St. Philothei's feast day, the patron saint of the Philoptochos Society.
There will be no tickets sold, however a collection tray will be passed around.

Please join us for a lovely lunch and at the same time help the work of the Philoptochos!

Mosaic 2024 planning has begun and we are looking forward to hosting another successful event but we need the help of a few individuals to take on some key **Committee Head Roles** in order to achieve this.

The following Committee Head Roles are needing to be filled: **Senior Ambassador(1 position- 2yr Term), Food Line(2 people min), Kids Corner** ***Returning ***, **Cultural Display** ***New ** (1-2 ppl), **Social Media/Advertising** ***New***, **MC's** ***Returning/New***(1-2 people), **Volunteers Coordinator** ***New*, and Passports**

If you are interested in taking on any of these roles or have any questions please contact **Vasilis Vandoros, (306)539-2352, vasilis_vandoros@hotmail.com** or **Chris Hamilton, (306)539-0120, chrishamilton1700@gmail.com**

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ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΟΡΘΟΔΟΞΟΣ ΕΚΚΛΗΣΙΑ Ο ΑΓΙΟΣ ΠΑΥΛΟΣ • ΦΕΒΡΟΥΑΡΙΟΣ 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 9:00 a.m. Our Lord's Presentation in the Temple	3
4 9:00 a.m. 15th Sunday of Matthew	5	6	7	8	9	10 9:00 a.m. Charalampos the Holy Martyr
11 9:00 a.m. 16th Sunday of Matthew	12 7:00 p.m. Service will be held at SS. Anargyroi Church in Yorkton	13	14	15	16	17
18 9:00 a.m. 17th Sunday of Matthew Ladies of Philoptochos Lunch	19	20	21 7:00 p.m. Service will be held at Life Giving Font Church in Swift Current	22	23	24
25 9:00 a.m. Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee	26	27	28	29		

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