

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT ELIZABETH THE NEW-MARTYR

Volume XVIII

Number 22

30 January / 12 February 2017
SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON (Tone 1)
COMMEMORATION OF THE THREE HOLY HIERARCHS

SERVICES THIS WEEK

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON (Tone 1)

Holy Three Hierarchs

Saturday, 11 February (29 January, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 12 February (30 January, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Trapeza (coffee hour)
12:30 PM Parish Council Meeting

MEETING OF THE LORD

Tuesday, 14 February (1 February, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Wednesday, 15 February (2 February, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Blessing of Candles

MEATFARE SATURDAY: SOUL SATURDAY

Afterfeast of the Meeting; Martyr Agatha of Sicily

Friday, 16 February (4 February, o.s.)

6:00 PM Ninth Hour; Vespers
6:45 PM General Pannykhida;
Confessions

Saturday, 17 February (5 February, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Litya for the Departed

MEATFARE SUNDAY (Tone 6)

Afterfeast of the Meeting; St Bucolus of Smyrna

Saturday, 17 February (5 February, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 18 February (6 February, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Trapeza (coffee hour)
12:30 PM Adult Study

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Week of 12 February

<i>Su</i>	The Sunday of the Prodigal Son	
	<i>1st Resurrectional Matins Gospel:</i> Matt. §116 [28:16-20]	
	1 Cor. §135 (6:12-20)	Luke §79 (15:11-32)
	35TH WEEK after PENTECOST (Meatfare Week)	
<i>M</i>	1 John §71 (2:18-3:10a)	Mark §49 (11:1-11)
<i>Tu</i>	1 John §72 (3:10b-20)	Mark §64 (14:10-42)
<i>W</i>	THE MEETING OF THE LORD	
	<i>Vespers Paramia:</i> (1) Exodus 12:51, 13:1-3, 10-16, 22-29; Numbers 8:16; Leviticus 12:1-4, 12:6, 8; Numbers 8:16-17 • (2) Isaiah 6:1-12 • (3) Isaiah 19:1-5, 12, 16, 19-21	
	<i>Matins Gospel:</i> Luke §8 (2:25-32)	
	Heb. §316 (7:7-17)	Luke §7 (2:22b-40)
<i>W</i>	1 John §73 (3:21-4:6)	Mark §65 (14:43-15:1)
<i>Th</i>	1 John §74 (4:20-5:21)	Mark §66 (15:1-1-15)
<i>F</i>	2 John §75 (1:1-13)	Mark §68 (15:22, 25, 33-41)
<i>Sa</i>	Meatfare Saturday: Saturday of Souls	
	1 Cor. §146 (10:23-28)	Luke §105 (21:8-9, 25-27, 33-36)
	1 Thess. §270 (4:13-17)	John §16 (5:24-30)
<i>Su</i>	Meatfare Sunday: The Sunday of the Last Judgment	
	<i>2nd Resurrectional Matins Gospel:</i> Mark §70 (16:1-8)	
	1 Cor. §140 (8:8-9:2)	Matt. §106 (25:31-46)

FASTING DAYS THIS WEEK

The second pre-lenten week of the Triodion, the week beginning with the Sunday of the Prodigal Son and ending with Meatfare Sunday, is called the Week of 'Carnival' or 'Meatfare.' It is so termed because it is the last week that we eat meat and meat products before Pascha. The usual fast is kept on Wednesday and Friday. Otherwise there is no special fasting.

NAMEDAYS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Week of 5 February

Namedays – 5th (New Martyrs of Russia): Gabriel Chemodakov; 6th (St Xenia of Petersburg): Xenia Whitacre; 7th (St Gregory the Theologian): Gregory Welsh.

Birthdays – 5th: John Morrow IV.

Week of 12 February

Wedding Anniversaries – 15th: Joseph & Natalya Reitano (2009).

NAMEDAYS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

THE REST OF FEBRUARY

Namedays – 25th (St Alexis of Moscow): Alexei Darenkov, Aleksey Vishnykov.

Birthdays – 20th: Daniel Palko; 24th: Frank Fitzgerald; 26th: Elena Kostin; 27th: Nadezhda Sexton; 28th: Seraphima Morrow.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

If your home has not yet been blessed this year, please arrange a time *in the next two weeks* with Father when he can come to bless it *before* the Great Fast begins.

The Saturday of Souls (or Soul Saturday) is a day set aside for commemoration of the departed within the Orthodox Christian liturgical year. Saturday is a traditional day for prayer for the dead, because our Lord's body lay dead in the Tomb while His soul descended to hades on Saturday. There are several Soul Saturdays throughout the year:

- The Saturday of Meatfare Week, the second Saturday before Great Lent begins, the day before the Sunday of the Last Judgement (Meatfare Sunday)
- The second Saturday of Great Lent
- The third Saturday of Great Lent
- The fourth Saturday of Great Lent
- *Radonitsa* (Tuesday after Thomas Sunday)
- The Saturday before Pentecost
- Demetrius Saturday (the Saturday before the feast of the Great Martyr Demetrius: 26 October / 8 November).

The Divine Services on these days have special hymns added to them to commemorate the departed. There is normally a Pannykhida (Memorial Service) served either after the Divine Liturgy on Saturday morning, or after Vespers on Friday evening, for which *kolyva* (a dish made of sweetened boiled wheat) is prepared and placed in front of the cross before which the Pannykhida is served. After the service, the priest blesses the *kolyva* and it is then eaten as a memorial by all present.

This Saturday is the most important of the Soul Saturdays of the year. Ninth Hour and Vespers will be served at 6 o'clock on Friday evening, followed by a General Pannykhida (Memorial Service), with an opportunity for Confession afterwards. On Saturday

morning, the Liturgy will be served at 9:30, followed by a short Litya for the Departed. The names of the Departed in all the Commemoration Books kept at the church will be commemorated at these services. If you need to update your books, please take this opportunity to do so.

If anyone is able to provide a donation of *kolyva* (sweetened boiled wheat) for this Soul Saturday, please let Father know.

Only the names of Orthodox Christians are permitted to be commemorated at Memorial Services and at the Proskomedia. If you have included Non-Orthodox in your Commemoration Book or Commemoration Lists, please clearly indicate which persons named, if any, are Non-Orthodox.

There will be a blessing of Icons at St Elizabeth's at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy on the First Sunday of Great Lent: the Sunday of the Triumph of Orthodoxy. Because this day is a celebration of the victory of the Orthodox Faith over the heresy of Iconoclasm, it is a very appropriate day for the sanctification of icons. If you have icons at home that have not yet been blessed, please bring them to church as soon as possible so that they can be placed in the altar to begin the process of sanctification that will be complete after the prayers of blessing on the First Sunday of the Fast.

There will be a blessing of Crosses at St Elizabeth's at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy on the Third Sunday of Great Lent: the Veneration of the Precious and Life-giving Cross. Because this day is dedicated to our veneration of the Holy Cross, it is a very appropriate day for the sanctification of Crosses, both those worn around the neck and those hung on walls. If you have crosses at home that have not yet been blessed, please bring them to church as soon as possible so that they can be placed in the altar to begin the process of sanctification that will be complete after the prayers of blessing on the Third Sunday of the Fast.

Patrick Brien's room at Arbor Glen has been changed to room 606 on the second floor of the Holly Center, at 100 Monroe Street, Bridgewater, New Jersey 08807. Patrick loves to see visitors, so if you can go to see him, he would be very grateful. If you would like to send Patrick a card or letter, you may send it to Arbor Glenn at the address above or to Patrick's home address: 86 Eastern Avenue, Somerville, New Jersey 08876. Father David or Matushka Faith will bring any cards or letters he receives at Home to him. If you would like to try speaking to Patrick on the telephone, call Arbor Glenn at (877) 528-3843. (Patrick's secular

name is William, so you should ask for William Brien,
rather than Patrick)