

February 19, 2017

Bulletin

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church

Orthodox Church in America

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The Gospel according to Saint Mark

16:1-8 (2nd Matins Gospel)

Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him. Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they said among themselves, “Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?” But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away – for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. But go, tell His disciples – and Peter – that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you. So they went out quickly and fled from the tomb, for they trembled and were amazed. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2017 SUNDAY OF MEATFARE — Tone 2. Sunday of the Last

Judgment. Apostles of the Seventy Archippus (Arkhipp) and Philemon, and Martyr Apphias (1st c.). Martyrs Maximus, Theodotus, Hesychius and Asclepiodota, of Adrianopolis (305-311). Ss. Eugene and Macarius, Presbyters and Confessors, at Antioch (363). Ven. Dositheus of Palestine, disciple of Ven. Abba Dorotheus (7th c.). St. Rabulas of Samosata (ca. 530). Ven. Theodore of Sanaskáry (1791).

TROPARIA

(Tone 2) When Thou didst descend to death, O Life Immortal, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead! And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out: O Giver of Life! Christ our God! Glory to Thee!

(Tone 4) In truth you were revealed to your flock as a rule of faith, a model of meekness, and teacher of abstinence, so you won the heights by humility, and riches by poverty, O Holy Father Nicholas, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

KONTAKION

(Tone 1) When Thou, O God, shalt come to earth with glory, / all things shall tremble, / and the river of fire shall flow before Thy judgment seat; / the books shall be opened, and the hidden things disclosed; / then deliver me from the unquenchable fire, // and make me worthy to stand at Thy right hand, O Righteous Judge!

The Prokeimenon in the Third Tone: Great is our Lord, and abundant in power, / His understanding is beyond measure.

v. Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God!

THE FIRST EPISTLE OF THE HOLY APOSTLE PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS (8:8 - 9:2) Brethren: Food will not commend us to God. We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. Only take care lest this liberty of yours somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. For if any one sees you, a man of knowledge, at table in an idol's temple, might he not be encouraged, if his conscience is weak, to eat food offered to idols? And so by your knowledge this weak man is destroyed, the brother for whom Christ died. Thus, sinning against your brethren and wounding their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food is a cause of my brother's falling, I will never eat meat, lest I cause my brother to fall. Am I not free? Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen Jesus our Lord? Are not you my workmanship in the Lord? If to others I am not an apostle, at least I am to you; for you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

Alleluia, Tone 8

v. Come; let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our

Savior!

v. Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!

THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST MATTHEW (25:31-46)

At that time Jesus said, "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will place the sheep at his right hand, but the goats at the left. Then the King will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see thee hungry and feed thee, or thirsty and give thee drink? And when did we see thee a stranger and welcome thee, or naked and clothe thee? And when did we see thee sick or in prison and visit thee?' And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when did we see thee hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to thee?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it not to one of the least of these, you did it not to me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

COMMUNION HYMN

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Sunday of Meatfare - the Last Judgment

Today's Gospel reading is Matthew 25:31-46, the parable of the Last Judgment. It reminds us that while trusting in Christ's love and mercy, we must not forget His righteous judgment when He comes again in glory. If our hearts remain hardened and unrepentant, we should not expect the Lord to overlook our transgressions simply because He is a good and loving God. Although He does not desire the death of a sinner, He also expects us to turn from our wickedness and live (Ezek. 33:11). This same idea is expressed in the prayer read by the priest after the penitent has confessed his or her sins (Slavic practice).

The time for repentance and forgiveness is now, in the present life. At the Second Coming, Christ will appear as the righteous Judge, Who will render to every man according to his deeds" (Rom. 2:6). Then the time for entreating God's mercy and forgiveness will have passed.

As Father Alexander Schmemmann reminds us in his book GREAT LENT (Ch. 1:4), sin is the absence of love, it is separation and isolation. When Christ comes to judge the world, His criterion for judgment will be love. Christian love entails seeing Christ in other people, our family, our friends, and everyone else we may encounter in our lives. We shall be judged on whether we have loved, or not loved, our neighbor. We show Christian love when we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit those who are sick or in prison. If we did such things for the least of Christ's brethren, then we also did them for Christ (Mt.25:40). If we did not do such things for the least of the brethren, neither did we do them for Christ (Mt.25:45).

Today is the last day for eating meat and meat products until Pascha, though fish, eggs and dairy products are permitted every day during the coming week. This limited fasting prepares us gradually for the more intense fasting of Great Lent.

February 19, 2017



CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR THE HEALTH AND BLESSINGS OF

Tom Branoff, for his birthday (2/18)

Linda, Peter & Marilyn

Fr. Joe, Fr. Tom, Deacon Anthony, Aaron, Noah, JoAnn, Nicolai, Kosta,
Luba, Jimmy, Laurie, Walt, Zina, Dorothy, Allen, Joseph, Helen, Jeanette,
Gloria, Reggie, Calvin, Ruth, Taras, Matushka Lisa, Anna, Stojan, Mira, Bosa,
Ted, Marlene, Nicholas, Margaret, Gladys, my family and friends

Joe Tome

Special Intention

Joe Tome

Anna Branoff and Helen Popoff

Alex and Magda Popoff

CANDLE INTENTIONS FOR ALL THOSE IN BLESSED REPOSE

Blessed Repose Peter Popoff, John Naum & Vlado Kocovski

Alex and Magda Popoff

In memory of Stella Branoff on her birthday (2/16)

Linda, Peter & Marilyn



Welcome all of our friends and visitors to St. Nicholas! Please join us for fellowship and our **MEATFARE LUNCHEON** following the Divine Liturgy. The Menu will include roasts, cévapi, baked potato bar and desserts. Free-will offerings will be accepted.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING will be held this Tuesday, February 21st at 6:45 pm. If you are unable to attend, please contact the parish office

CHARITY MINISTRIES

HOPE IN A BOX is collecting shampoo for the month of February. Place the items in the Blue Box in the hall. Catholic Charities Community Closet will distribute the items.

FOOD DRIVE Place non-perishable food items in the other blue box in the hall.

NORTH END SOUP KITCHEN We serve Thursday, March 2 from 9 am to 1 pm. Please mark your calendar and plan to be there if you can. Our numbers have been dwindling and it makes it difficult to get all of the work done when so few are there to help.

CHEESEFARE LUNCHEON will be held on Sunday, February 26 following the Divine Liturgy. The menu consists of Deviled Eggs, Blintz, Pierogi and Mac n Cheese. We will collect a free will offering. Please be generous. If you would like to help with the Cheesefare Luncheon, please see the sign-up sheet in the hall or any member of the parish council.

MEMORY ETERNAL

+Thomka (Thomai) Brayannis, fell asleep in the Lord on Sunday, February 12. She was the widow of Tony Brayanis, who fell asleep in the Lord seven years ago (2/12/2010). May God grant his servant +Thomka blessed repose and rest among the saints.

Schedule of services and events for the week of February, 12th :

Monday, February 20 Communion Calls

Tuesday, February 21

6-8 pm Book Club @ St. George
6:45 pm Parish Council Meeting

Wednesday, February 22

9 am Lenten Hours
11 am Adult Ed

Saturday, February 25

11:00 am Baptism: Kaylie Reese Harrington
4:45 pm Trisagion for the Departed
5 pm Vespers

Sunday, February 26

9: 30 am **CHEESEFARE/FORGIVENESS SUNDAY**
10 am Third Hour
 Divine Liturgy
 Church School / Cheesefare Luncheon / Forgiveness Vespers

Offerings for the week February 12, 2017

<i>Weekly Offerings</i>	\$1,438.00
<i>Estimated Average Weekly Expenses</i>	\$4,034.03
	-\$2596.03

90 people were in attendance on Sunday, February 12, 2017