

February 26, 2017

SUNDAY OF FORGIVENESS (CHEESEFARE)

Sunday of Cheesefare: Expulsion of Adam from Paradise

As we begin the Great Fast, the Church reminds us of Adam's expulsion from Paradise. God commanded Adam to fast (Gen. 2:16), but he did not obey. Because of their disobedience, Adam and Eve were cast out of Eden and lost the life of blessedness, knowledge of God, and communion with Him, for which they were created. Both they and their descendents became heirs of death and corruption.

Let us consider the benefits of fasting, the consequences of disobedience, and recall our fallen state. Today we are invited to cleanse ourselves of evil through fasting and obedience to God. Our fasting should not be a negative thing, a mere abstention from certain foods. It is an opportunity to free ourselves from the sinful desires and urges of our fallen nature, and to nourish our souls with prayer, repentance, to participate in church services, and partake of the life-giving Mysteries of Christ.

At Forgiveness Vespers we sing: "Let us begin the time of fasting in light, preparing ourselves for spiritual efforts. Let us purify our soul, let us purify our body. As we abstain from food, let us abstain from all passion and enjoy the virtues of the spirit ..."

Text & Image from <https://oca.org/saints/lives/2017/02/26/17-sunday-of-cheesefare-expulsion-of-adam-from-paradise>



OUTREACH COLLECTION: Paper products

WISDOM FROM FATHER B: A Holy Task for you ...

The disciples were called Christians first in Antioch (Acts 11:26)



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Office Hours:
Monday through Thursday 8:30 - 4:00

February 26, 2017

**SUNDAY OF FORGIVENESS
(CHEESEFARE)**

COMMEMORATIONS:

ST. PHOTINI THE SAMARITAN WOMAN AND HER SISTERS ANATOLA, PHOTA, PHOTIS, PARASCEVA, AND CYRIACA; HER SONS PHOTINUS AND JOSES; AND SEBASTIAN THE DUKE, VICTOR, THEOKLITOS, AND CHRISTODULUS — ALL MARTYRED UNDER NERO (66)

PORPHYRIOS, BISHOP OF GAZA (420)

NEW MARTYR JOHN CALPHAS ("THE APPRENTICE") AT CONSTANTINOPLE (1575)

NEW MARTYR ELIAS OF TREBIZOND (1749)

NEW HIEROMARTYRS PETER (1930) AND SERGIUS (1933), PRIESTS

VIRGIN-MARTYR ANNA (1937)

Tone 3

Eothinon 3

Matins Gospel: St. Mark 16:9-20

Epistle: Romans 13:11 - 14:4

Liturgy Gospel: St. Matthew 6:14-21

RESURRECTION TROPARION - Tone 3 - Let the heavens rejoice and the earth be glad; for the Lord hath done a mighty act with his own arm. He hath trampled down death by death and become the First-born from the dead. He hath delivered us from the depth of hades, granting the world the Great Mercy!

TODAY: Coffee Hour, Sunday School & Teens after Liturgy.

SAINT PHILIP'S is a "Pan-Orthodox" parish of the Antiochian Archdiocese, serving Orthodox Christians of all backgrounds in the English language. If you are a newcomer to our community, please sign our guest book, and stay with us for the Coffee Hour today. AND, WE LOOK FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU AGAIN!

PLEASE NOTE: Holy Communion is only for practicing Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves through fasting, prayer, and recent confession, and who are dressed modestly and arrived on time for the Liturgy. All are welcome to kiss the Cross and receive Blessed Bread at the end of the Divine Liturgy.

THE ALTAR CANDLES are lighted today by Zerfenesh and family, in thanksgiving for blessings received.

MANY THANKS to Asma Ghannam and Suha Neno for sponsoring today's coffee hour. EVERYONE is invited to stay for refreshments after the Divine Liturgy.

THIS WEEK'S GREETERS: Teens

THIS WEEK'S CLEANING TEAM: Olena Kulbachna, Mary Kompass, Tadesse Abay

THANK YOU to all who fulfill these ministries!

Everyday Evangelist

"As the Father has sent me, so I send you." (Jn 20:21)

Become a creature of habit. Frequent the same coffee shop, gas station, restaurant, and so on, and build relationships with people there.

Mark Your Calendar:

The Lenten Services calendar has been posted and distributed. Pick up a copy from the literature rack if you need one.

Youth Choir

Rehearsals: Saturdays at 5 pm, March 4-18

Singing 2nd Akathist (Mar 10) and 4th Presanctified (Mar 22)

Creative Art Workshop (Film/Media) - Saturday, Mar 11, 1-4 p.m.

Missionary Visit

Jesse Brandow, home from Guatemala on furlough.

Saturday, March 18, following Vespers.

Services for Annunciation

Friday, March 24 - Vespers & Artoklasia 6 pm, Matins 7 pm

Saturday, March 25 - Liturgy 9 am, potluck (fish, wine, oil)

Lenten Retreat

Saturday, March 25

Dr Christopher Veniamin - St Silouan of Mt Athos

PASCHA - April 16, 2017

International Food Festival - Sept 15 & 16 - Mark your Calendar!

FR NOAH, FR JAMES, & FR HERMAN are available for hospital visits. If you or anyone you know is in the hospital and would like a visit, please call the church office.

PLEASE PARK ONLY IN DESIGNATED PARKING SPACES; OTHER AREAS MUST REMAIN FREE FOR EMERGENCY VEHICLE ACCESS.

AMPLE PARKING is always available for Church Services in lots just across Clearview Rd, thanks to our good neighbors at Solar Atmospheres. Thank you.

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Naomi C. - Ken H. - Victor - Jim R.
Newly-departed Helen S. - Chris H. - Steve B.

This Week:

Cheese Week

Monday Feb 27:

PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY 10 a.m.
COMPLINE & GREAT CANON 7 p.m.

Tuesday Feb 28:

PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY 10 a.m.
Matushka Olga Sewing Club 12 p.m.
COMPLINE & GREAT CANON 7 p.m.

Wednesday Mar 1:

6th HOUR & GREAT CANON 10 a.m.
PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY 7 p.m.; Fasting potluck

Thursday Mar 2:

ORTHROS 10 a.m.
COMPLINE & GREAT CANON 7 p.m.

**** Bishop Thomas will be with us March 3-5 ****

Friday Mar 3:

PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY 10 a.m.; Fasting potluck
AKATHIST 7 p.m.

Saturday, Mar 4:

Adult Study (Proverbs) 4:45 p.m.
Youth Choir 5 p.m.
VESPERS 6 p.m.
Fasting Potluck reception.
Bible Bowl Study 7 p.m.

Sunday, Mar 5:

Orthodoxy Sunday
MATINS 8:50 a.m., DIVINE LITURGY 10 a.m.
MEMORIAL (40 day) for Helen Smerkanich
Sunday School, Teens, Coffee Hour

ORTHODOXY SUNDAY VESPERS INFORMATION POSTED
(ALLEN TOWN & WILMINGTON [Bp Thomas will be in Wilmington])

ATTENDANCE: At Vespers on Feb 18: 28 Liturgy on Feb 19: 159 OFFERINGS:
Candles, \$187. Collections, \$263.45 Youth, \$1. Bookshelf, \$16. Needy, \$15.
Pastoral Discr, \$5,000. St Stephen Educ Fund, \$4,000. Smerkanich Schol,
\$250. Women, \$1,241.60. Memorials, \$650. Grave Sale, \$500. Stewardship,
\$8,866. Total received: \$20,990.05

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY