

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Through the parable of today's Gospel, our Savior has set forth three things for us: the condition of the sinner, the rule of repentance, and the greatness of God's compassion. The divine Fathers have put this reading the week after the parable of the Publican and Pharisee so that, seeing in the person of the Prodigal Son our own wretched condition -- inasmuch as we are sunken in sin, far from God and His Mysteries -- we might at last come to our senses and make haste to return to Him by repentance during these holy days of the Fast.

Furthermore, those who have wrought many great iniquities, and have persisted in them for a long time, oftentimes fall into despair, thinking that there can no longer be any forgiveness for them; and so being without hope, they fall every day into the same and even worse iniquities. Therefore, the divine Fathers, that they might root out the passion of despair from the hearts of such people, and rouse them to the deeds of virtue, have set the present parable at the forecourts of the Fast, to show them the surpassing goodness of God's compassion, and to teach them that there is no sin -- no matter how great it may be -- that can overcome at any time His love for man.

The Children's Word

What would you do if you had an hour free to do whatever you wanted? How about a weekend, or even a whole summer break? How would you spend your time? Reading books? Napping? Playing video games? Sometimes we might want to spend our time in a good way, but when it comes down to it, we waste our time on silly things. Today is the Sunday of the Prodigal Son. You remember that Gospel reading, don't you? The young man wasted all his money on things he shouldn't have. He might have wanted to spend his money on good things, but when he had the money in his hands, he wasted it all, every single bit of it! He didn't have any money left for something he really needed—like food. You'd probably never do what that young man did, but sometimes we do waste things, don't we? We might waste food, clothes, or money, but the biggest thing we waste is TIME! God wants us to spend our free time in a good way, but lots of times we waste it. We might spend too long watching TV, or playing video games, or other things. (Your parents might waste time too, but just on other things!) Then, we don't have any time left to use on something we really need—like praying to God and trying to grow closer to Him. Let's try to use our free time on things that God likes—like reading the Bible, praying to our Lord, helping and visiting others, and more!

-Presbyteria Houck (myocn.net)

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SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Orthros at 8:45 a.m. Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

Fellowship Coffee Hour will follow Divine Liturgy

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL

SUNDAY LITURGICAL GUIDE FOR

February 12, 2017 Sunday of the Prodigal Son

1st Tone

Eothinon Gospel 1

The Second Antiphon

page 5

Save us, O Son of God, who are risen from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia.

Only begotten Son and Word of God, though immortal for our salvation You deigned to be incarnate of the Holy Theotokos and ever Virgin Mary, without change becoming man, and were crucified Christ our God, trampling death by death; being one of the Holy Trinity, glorified with the Father and Holy Spirit: save us.

Resurrection Dismissal Hymn

page 7

The stone that had been sealed before Your tomb by the Jews and the soldiers guarding did watch over Your pure and sacred body. O Savior the third day You arose, and unto all the world did You give life. Where by all the heavenly powers did proclaim that You are the giver of Life. Glory unto our resurrected Christ. Glory unto Your Kingdom. Glory to Your dispensation O You alone who loves all.

The Small Entrance

page 7

Come, let us worship and bow before Christ. Save us, O Son of God, who are risen from the dead, to You we sing: Alleluia.

Holy Trinity Dismissal Hymn

Ev-lo-gi-tos i Chri-ste o The-os i-mon, o pan-so-fus tus a-li-is a-na-thi-xas, ka-ta-pem-psas af-tis to pnev-ma to a-gi-on, ke thi af-ton tin i-ku-me-nin sa-gi-nef-sas, fi-lan-thro-pe tho-xa Si!

Blessed are You, O Christ our God, You made the fishermen all-wise by sending down upon them the Holy Spirit, and through them You drew the world into Your net. O Lover of mankind, glory to You.

Kontakion

I revolted senselessly out of Your fatherly glory, I have squandered sinfully all of the riches You gave me. Hence to You, using the Prodigal's words, I cry out, I have sinned before You, merciful loving Father. Receive me in repentance, I pray, and treat me as one of Your hired hands.

Hymn

page 8

Holy God, Holy Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us.

Page 130 - Epistle: I Corinthians 6:12-20

Brethren, "all things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food" -- and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I, therefore, take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh." But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with Him. Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body and in your spirit which belong to God.

Page 130 - 132 - Gospel: Luke 15:11-32

The Lord said this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has

devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

Homily

The Great Entrance 12

The Creed 18

The Anaphora (*Offering of the Gifts*) 19

The Consecration 22

(*Litany from Page 15 and 16 is repeated*) 26

The Lord's Prayer (*Greek & English*) 26

Communion Prayers 29

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise Him in the highest.

Holy Communion: Orthodox Christians prepared to receive Holy Communion should come forward, quietly and reverently, at the direction of the ushers.

Prayers of Thanksgiving after Holy Communion can be found on pages 40-42.

After Communion 32

Seasonal Hymn

The Dismissal 34

Hymn: Blessed be the name of the Lord, from now and to the ages.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE OF SERVICES & EVENTS

Tuesday, February 14 **No Breakfast Fellowship**
Adult Ed Group 11:00 AM

Wednesday, February 15 **No Paracletis**
Junior Choir 5:45 PM

Saturday, February 18 **Saturday of Souls**
Divine Liturgy 9:30 AM
No Great Vespers

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Please join us** for refreshments in the coffee hour room right after church.
- **Orthodoxy 101** today will be our final discussion in this winter's series. Everyone is welcome to join us in the church at 4:30 pm. Meanwhile our **HOPE/JOY** can enjoy a movie and hot cocoa from 4:00 - 6:00 pm in the parish hall.
- **Adult Fellowship Group** meets this Tuesday at 11:00 am., to complete our tour of "The Mountain of Silence."
- **Junior Choir practice** this Wednesday, February 15 at 5:45 pm.
- **Adult choir practice** this Thursday, February 16.
- **Greek School Update** -- We are excited to announce that we have secured three teachers from Holy Trinity in Charlotte, NC to teach weekly in Columbia. On Sunday, February 19, at 5:00 pm. Fr. Vasilios Tsourlis and the teachers will hold an informational meeting for interested Greek School participants of all ages.
- **Save the Date:** March 10 - 12 The Reverend George Dragas, Professor of Patristics at Holy Cross will be at Holy Trinity in Columbia to lead us in a Lenten weekend. Please mark your calendars.
- **The Breakfast fellowship** and the **Adult Ed** book studies are beginning a new book, "With Pain and Love" by Saint Paisios. You may purchase your new book and begin to read ahead. Books will be available next week in the church office. Cost is \$37.79. PLEASE JOIN US!!!! Because we are beginning a new book soon, now is a great time to start!