



Holy Resurrection Orthodox Church

1449 North Quentin Road, P.O. Box 421, Palatine, IL 60078

www.hroc-oca.org, www.oca.org, www.domoca.org

Fr. Alexander Kuchta, Pastor (847) 516-6025, holyresurrectionpalatine@gmail.com,

Michael Strelka, Parish Council President (224) 202-1554

Paige Lush, Choir Director, Maria Jacobs, Church School Co-ordinator

Weekly Services: Saturday: Great Vespers-5:00p.m., Sunday: Divine Liturgy-9:30a.m.

Great Feasts: Vespertal Liturgy on the eve of the Feast @ 6:30p.m. or as scheduled;

Women's Ministry meets: 1st Sunday on even months;

Choir rehearsal: 2nd Thursday of the month

Sunday, February 23, 2025

1 Corinthians 8: 8-9: 2.

Matthew 25: 31-46.

Tone 2

35th Sunday after Pentecost: Sunday of the Last Judgment. Hieromartyr Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna.

Today, February 23: Divine Liturgy – 9:30am You can watch live streams of services on Facebook or YouTube. Go to our web site: www.hroc-oca.org and click on the hyperlink for either one at the top of the page.

This week is Cheesefare week during which we fast from meat and animal products, while being able to consume milk, cheese, eggs and fish.

Saturday, March 1: Feed My Starving Children – 11:30 (see note below)

Sunday, March 2: Forgiveness Sunday. Sunday morning we observe our regular schedule. At approximately 11:45am or so we will celebrate Forgiveness Vespers.

IN OUR PRAYERS

Our suffering sisters and brothers experiencing war in Ukraine, Gaza and throughout the world, Lynette and Mike, Vince Feldman's mother in law; cancer and father-in-law, cancer treatments; **Andrey,** Alexandra Basinger's cousin, cleared to fight in war; **Laura** Salkauskas, Russ Frillman's cousin, cancerous tumor, **Lee Paige,** Russ' cousin, difficult ankle/foot surgery; **Sam and Helen Luburich,** for health; **Leah,** daughter of Fr. Howard and Michaelyn Sloan, sudden onset of neurological illness; **Elena,** Paul Melonas' granddaughter for strength of faith and health; **Jim McMillan,** friend of Mark Bach, prayers for health and future surgery, **Mark Bach,** for strength; **Nancy,** Margo Pelak's sister, kidney issues; **Dale Svetanoff,** for health; **David Judson,** for health; **Rita Lansing,** Sharon Wegh's mother, dementia; **Shari,** Amy Voltz's mother in law, for health; **Christine,** Francine Karas' sister, for health, **Leah,** friend of Michele Hagerman, cancer diagnosis; **Claudia,** for health, **Tony,** nephew with chronic pain and **Stephen,** cancer, **William and Pamela,** health issues, Helen Anderson's sister, nephew and dear friends; **Jeffrey,** Margaret Chobanian's cousin, retinal tear; **Michael,** Parkinsons, **Joy** (cancer), **James,** neighbor with MS, **Kenneth, Patricia,** multiple health issues, **Warren,** friend and husband of friend; **Gordana,** for health;; **Atlas,** young boy with serious disease; requested by Diane Damos; **Kurt,** brain trauma after a fall; **James,** son of Betty Anderson and **Betty** herself, for health following accident and stroke on 12/23; **George Mueller,** cancer (Betty's ex brother in law) **Ronald Twellman,** brother-in-law of Betty Anderson, melanoma, **Sheila,** Ron's wife, for strength; req. by Betty Anderson; **Anna** (Helen H's mother, in decline), **Laura**

(young mother with serious health issues, **Allene,** Helen Haffner's cousin with serious health issues, **Rob** (Mesothelioma) and **Mary Ann,** brother-in-law and sister; **Sister Chrysostomi,** ill, Helen's cousin, requested by Helen Haffner, **Fr. Djuro Krosnjar,** for health; req. by Oksana Manhart, Philip Neznanov and Lina his fiancee, traveling; **Newly departed: Archbishop Anastasios of Albania (+1/25), Rick Ferris (+1/24); Annamaria (+1/11) and Virginia, (+2/16)** newly departed neighbor Chobanian friends.

CELEBRATIONS

Monday (2/24) **Slava** Gabriel Rudyk's birthday, Thursday (2/27) **Rachel and Jeff** Johannsen's wedding anniversary, Friday (2/28) **Liz Lee's** birthday. Many years!

MEATFARE POTLUCK

This Sunday, February 23 we will have our annual pot-luck luncheon. There is a sign-up for main course dishes on the first table as you come into the hall. Set up will be taken care of by our Women's Ministry. We are asking all of the men in our parish (esp. Men's Fellowship) to help with post luncheon clean-up, dish (or other) washing, table wipe up, and taking out trash.

OUR LIFE

Betty Anderson is in residence at Avantara Lake Zurich, 900 S Rand Rd, Lake Zurich 60047. Visiting hours are 8AM-8PM daily. The family is very grateful for your prayers, visits, and thoughtful gifts.

FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN

Next Saturday we will make our annual trip to Feed My Starving Children! Feed My Starving Children is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing nutritious meals to malnourished children worldwide. As volunteers we will be packing meals to be distributed in schools, orphanages, clinics and feeding programs around the world to deliver hope and break the cycle of poverty. Our volunteer session is on Saturday, March 1st, 11:30AM - 1:15PM at the Libertyville location: 742 East Park Avenue, Libertyville, IL. This is a fun and meaningful way to come together as a church family and minister to those in need. There is a sign up sheet in the narthex. Children must be at least 5 years old to participate

FORGIVENESS VESPERS AND THE FIRST WEEK OF GREAT LENT

Next Sunday we will celebrate the beginning of Lent with Forgiveness Vespers. My hope is that as many as possible will be present for this service and its moving rite of forgiveness. If you've never experienced this—you should make every effort to do so. The first week of Lent and its services are extremely important. Look at the schedule and make plans to participate in at least one of the Compline/Canon of St. Andrew services and make a plan to be present for the 1st of our Lenten Pre-Sanctified Liturgies on Wednesday, March 5. Fr. Alexander

will be available for Confessions before services on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Please contact him for a scheduled time by e-mail: holyresurrectionpalatine@gmail.com

Great Lent: Too Many Services?

Great Lent is soon upon us. Our Church bids us to prepare because “a good beginning makes a good ending.” But why Lent? What is its purpose?

Simply that we return to the centrality of our faith, which is the baptismal mystery of dying and rising in Christ. In the waters of baptism, we drown the old human nature so that the New Adam might steadily and ever more perfectly come to life. Christianity alone can do this; it does nothing else. This is the sole claim of the Gospel. So Orthodox Christians who take their faith seriously understand how such a “drowning” takes place not simply once but on a daily and repeated basis; indeed, when the old Adam goes down into the waters, he does not go down easily but is beating back and kicking the whole way. “From the days of John the Baptist until now, the kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and men of violence take it by force” (Mat. 11:12).

Included in this return to our baptismal life is making ourselves present in the special Lenten services of the Church. For as we all know, Lent is the “tithe” of the year when we surrender our time to the Lord so that we can be in Church for ALL the daily lenten services. These services are not “easy” from a worldly point of view. They are longer. They include physical prostrations. We will be hungry from fasting. They require an intensified, prayerful focus. They demand that we stop obsessing over the sins and faults of others and attend only to our own sins and faults. They demand that we set aside physical comforts so that we might actually make a true sacrifice of our bodies, souls, and minds in worship. “I appeal to you brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and acceptable unto God” (Rom. 12:1).

How sad that many in the Church still “chafe” against the Lenten services and view them as being somehow ancillary to the Sunday Eucharist. Many have grown weary of worship, spiritually lethargic. “Too many services...” Their faith has become a chore, as just one more tedious thing on their do list. This is true today just as it was in the apostolic age, as we find in Hebrews, “Therefore lift your drooping hands and strengthen your weak knees, so that what is lame might not be put out of joint but healed” (Heb. 12:12).

The cycles and services of the Church are the greatest gift of the Church because they reorient our lives back from the “old human” nature with its deceitful desires to a life where Christ is “all and in all” (3:11). Fr. Alexander Schmemmann says it best in his book, *Great Lent*: “And yet the “old” life, that of sin and pettiness, is not easily overcome and changed. The Gospel expects and requires from man an effort of which, in his present state, he is virtually incapable. This is where Great Lent comes in. This is the help extended to us by the Church, the school of repentance which alone will make it possible to receive Easter not as mere permission to eat, to drink, and to relax, but indeed as the end of the “old” in us, as our entrance into the “new” (*Great Lent*, SVS Press, 1974).

Let us clear our calendars during Great Lent and truly commit ourselves to Christ, and let us begin by casting aside any bad attitude that recoils against our Lord’s invitation to Lenten worship. “Come, of faithful, let us enjoy the Master’s hospitality!” (9th Ode of the Canon of Matins of Great & Holy Thursday).
Fr. Paul Jannakos

SUNDAY COMMORATIONS WITH PROSPHORA

May I ask a favor please? This is about Sunday commemorations using small commemorative loaves. May I ask you to please have these loaves ready to be brought into the altar at least 10-15 minutes before the service begins? This makes doing these commemorations much easier for me to do with less interruptions for me during the first part of the service. We will also be doing this procedure a bit differently in that after commemorations are made the breads and the lists that accompany them will be put on a tray and returned to the candle desk for you to pick up at the end of the service—so don’t forget to get your bread(s). In the interest of good ecology and to minimize any need to handle the prospora we will no longer be using plastic bags. Thank you!