



ST. MARY'S HOLY DORMITION

Scripture Readings

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2

Brethren, food does not commend us to God; for neither if we eat are we the better, nor if we do not eat are we the worse. But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak. For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will not the conscience of him who is weak be emboldened to eat those things offered to idols? And because of your knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? But when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble. Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord? If I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

The Lord said this Parable: When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you 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 took Me in; 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, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting 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 take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

February 19th, 2023 SUNDAY OF THE LAST JUDGMENT

FEB Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1st - Libbie Meier
- 3rd - Alicia Glover
- 3rd - Carly Carneal
- 6th - Robert Hertneky
- 8th - Paul Robinson
- 13th - Daniel Rozdilski
- 20th - Myrle Hlatki
- 20th - Bill Hendrix
- 20th - Ben Hendrix
- 25th - Josh Tunink
- 25th - Richard Molner
- 26th - Harold Eurich
- 29th - Rodger Mikita

SCHEDULE

- Feb 25th - Reader's Vespers (5:00 PM)
- Feb 26th - Divine Liturgy w/ Vespers (9:30 AM)

WISDOM

"The parable of the Last Judgment is about Christian love. Not all of us are called to work for "humanity"; yet each one of us has received the gift and the grace of Christ's love. We know that all men ultimately need this personal love-- the recognition in them of their unique soul in which the beauty of the whole creation is reflected in a unique way. We know that men are in prison, are sick, thirsty and hungry because that personal love has been denied them. And, finally, we know that however narrow and limited the framework of our personal existence, each one of us has been made responsible for a tiny part of the Kingdom of God, made responsible by that very gift of Christ's love. Thus, on whether or not we have accepted this responsibility, on whether we have loved or refused to love, shall we be judged. For "inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, you have done it unto Me..."

- Fr. Alexander Schmemmann

WEEKLY JOKES

I got an email explaining how to read maps backwards. It was spam.

I once pulled a muscle as I was digging for gold. It was a miner injury.

WELCOME! IT IS GOOD TO BE HERE!

The Come and See Challenge:

Have you brought someone NEW this month?
Have you gone to Great Vespers at least once this month?
When was the last time you went to Confession?

Choir Rehearsals for Lent/Holy Week/Pascha

Today and until Holy Week, the choir will be rehearsing after Coffee Hour every week. Choir members, please remember to stay. If anyone else is interested in joining the choir, this is the best time to join. We would love to have more singers, youth included.

Let Us Attend: 2023 Lenten Theme

We are only a week away from the start of Great Lent. PreSanctified Liturgies will be every Wednesday, unless otherwise noted. Our Lenten Theme this year will be Let Us Attend, as you should make every effort to come to as many services as you can. This may require sacrificing other activities in order to fulfill this task. However, that is why this year's theme is so crucial as Lent is a time more so than every to put our attention and focus onto God. Please make the divine services a priority and not an afterthought or "if I'm not busy".

Panakhida for Kasha

We will be having a Panakhida today in remembrance of Ryleigh and Leilah's mother, Kasha. May her Memory be Eternal!

Special Collection Today

His Eminence, Archbishop Benjamin is asking all parishes to make a special collection this Sunday for the victims of the February 6 earthquake in Syria and Turkey. The suffering there is immense. He also asks that funding be directed to IOCC which has a goal of \$250K to meet the needs of most pressing urgency: food, bedding, and clothing for those who have been displaced.

We will take a special collection for 2 Sundays and donate it to IOCC but if you would like to donate directly you can here:
<https://dowoca.org/2023/02/10/emergency-special-collection-earthquake-relief/>

St. Ambrose Donations (Bin in the Hall, please donate)

Sunday of 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 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.

Prayer List

Living:

Abp. Benjamin, Abp. Melchisedek, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Dennis, Fr. Alexander, Anna, Muriel, Sheila, Meryl, Harold, Vern, Tammy, Stephanie, Daron (Basil), Steve, Litsa, Jill, Leilani, the child Lilliana, Carl, Christina, Lindy, Pina, John, Johnny, Jeremy, Preston, Ian, Emmary, Sabrina with child, Loren, George, Nicole, Mark, Mark, Samina, Betty, Alicia, Richard, Tiana, Will, Juston, Ann Marie, Marcie, Brenda, Serge, Jamie, newly born Gerhard, infant Gideon, infant Iryland, Patricia, Casey, Varoon, Bruce, Alice, Christina, Danny, Cassi with child, Infant Dominic, Roberta, Leonard

Departed:

Bp. Tikhon, Fr. Daniel, David, Yanni, Thomas, Lisa, Debra

Youth:

Snow Tubing (Saturday, Feb 25th):

We will be heading over to Ponderosa, where we have Church Camp every Summer to go Snow Tubing. Our time slot is set for 12:30 PM - 2:30 PM. The ladies group has offered to cover this cost so there is no fee to go. We will meet at the Hall at 10:30 AM and carpool to the site. If you are interested in going, please let Fr. Stephen know so we can get a proper head count. We will be going to an early dinner nearby as well; suggestions are welcome and needed.

Volunteers Needed:

We need Volunteers for the following:

- 1) Coffee Hour (2023 List up to end of May in the Hall)
- 2) Church Clean Up (2023 List up to May in the Hall. It is now weekly, not bi-weekly. Please sign up if you have not signed up before)
- 3) Church School: We could use a few extra subs. Please see Fr. Stephen if interested.