

ST. Paul^{the} Apostle Orthodox Church

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Bulletin for the Week of February 11th-18th

36th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST — Tone 3. Hieromartyr Blaise, Bishop of Sebaste (ca. 316). Ven. Dimitri (Demetrios), Wonderworker of Priluki (Vologdá— 1392). Righteous Theodora, wife of Emperor Theophilus the Iconoclast (ca. 867).

Feb 11th: Gundrum

WEDNESDAY, February 14th

Daily Vespers, 6:00pm
Adult Education, 6:30pm
No Choir Practice

FRIDAY, February 16th

Akathist, 9:00 pm
Church open for Confession and
Prayer, 9:30-10:30

SATURDAY, February 17th

Inquirers' Class, 3:30 pm
Choir Practice, 3:30 pm
Great Vespers, 5:00 pm

SUNDAY, February 18th

Liturgy, 9:00 am

37th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST —

Tone 4. Sunday of Zacchaeus. St. Leo the Great, Pope of Rome (461). Ven Cosmas of Yakhromsk (1492). St. Agapitos the Confessor and Wonderworker, Bishop of Synnada in Phrygia (4th c.). St. Flavian the Confessor, Patriarch of Constantinople (449-450).

TODAY'S EPISTLE 1 Timothy 1:15-17

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

TODAY'S GOSPEL Matthew 15:21-28

Then Jesus went out from there and departed to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed." But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, "Send her away, for she cries out after us." But He answered and said, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, "Lord, help me!" But He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs." And she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

For Your Reflection

"Now, what do we mean by nominalism, and why is it important? There are many aspects of the nominalist position, but the main one is just the denial that this created world is an icon of a heavenly reality. Instead, nominalists hold this world's form to be arbitrary, a product of sheer divine will.

"As Orthodox, we still comfortably assert that the world is an icon of heaven, or is meant to be. But in the West this union of the symbolic and the real became rather vexed. Now, we have even developed this destructive iconoclasm around gender, the human body, human sexuality, and so forth. Outside the Church, we have come to think that we can simply posit whatever reality we wish about these things. "The nominalist and the realist positions must be reconciled. We must see that the reality of the world depends upon its being a symbol of heavenly realities. If creation is not a symbol of heaven, then its essence, its substance, would be of little importance. For example, if the world is just the arbitrary product of God's

will, then God could have made some other world, or not have given us gender, and so forth. And if the world's form is arbitrary, then it is no longer 'good,' no longer beautiful and holy."

-Timothy G. Patitsas, *The Ethics of Beauty*

If we want to fare well in this life and to go to Paradise, and to call our God love and father, we must have two loves: the love for God and the love for our neighbor. It is natural for us to have these two loves, and contrary to nature not have them. Just as a swallow needs two wings in order to fly in the air, so we need these two loves, because without them we cannot be saved.

Let us have love for God and for our fellow men. Then God comes and brings us joy and implants the eternal life in our hearts, and we fare well in this life and also go to Paradise, there to rejoice forever.

Fortunate is the man who has these two loves in his heart, that for God and that for his brethren. He surely has God; and whoever has God has every blessing and does not bear to commit sin. Again, wretched is the man who does not have these two loves. Surely he has the devil and evil, and always sins. God, my brethren, asks us to have these two loves. As He Himself says in His Holy Gospel: "On these two commandments hang all the law and the Prophets." Through these two loves all the Saints of our Church, men and women, attained sainthood and won Paradise. Whoever has blessed love, firstly for God and secondly for his fellow Christian, becomes worthy of receiving the Holy Trinity in his heart.

Know my brethren that love has two characteristics, two gifts. One of them is to strengthen man in what is good and the other is to weaken him in what is evil. I have a loaf of

"If you wish to be saved, seek no other thing here in this world as much as love."

bread to eat; you do not have. Love tells me: Do not eat it alone, give some to your brethren and you eat the rest. I have clothes; love tells me: Give one garment to your brother and you wear the other one. I open my mouth to accuse you, to tell you lies, to deceive you; but at once I remember love and it

deadens my mouth, and does not allow me to tell you lies. I stretch out my hands to take what belongs to you, your money, all your possessions. Love does not allow me to take them. Do you see, my brethren, what gifts love has?

Those of you who earn your bread by means of your toil and sweat should rejoice, because that bread is blessed; and if you give a little of it as alms it is reckoned as much. But those who live by means of injustice and grasping should mourn, for what you thus acquire is cursed; and if you give alms out of these they do not benefit you at all, being fire that consumes you.

The Martyrs won Paradise through their blood; the

Ascetics, through their ascetic life. Now you, my brethren, who have children, how will you win Paradise? By means of hospitality, by giving to your brothers who are poor, blind, or lame.

--St. Kosmas of Aetolia

Community Meal for Catholic Charities will be on Monday, February 19

Please speak with Rae if you have questions: (702)235-8038

Calling all St. Paul's Ladies

Saturday, March 16th, following Vespers, we will have an evening of finger foods, a glass of wine, & Matushka & I will teach you how to play Mexican Train (if you have not played it).

Contact Pam Campbell 702-429-5065 if you are interested.

BAPTISM OF JAMISON TOBLER

Feb. 25th, 2024 8:00am

Please join us in welcoming Jamison to the family!

Congratulations to the Hickman family on the birth of their daughter Alice, who arrived on Tuesday, Jan. 23!

MENS HIKING GROUP

Next hike will be March 2

Liberty Arch Overlook, Details to follow

SAVE THE DATE

for the St. Paul's Annual Chili Cook-off!

Sign-ups for Chili Entries are in the Parish Hall

Saturday, March 1, 2024

We'll have vespers at 4pm,

and the cook-off begins at 5pm!

More information forthcoming.

For the sick and suffering

Archbishop Benjamin	Maria (Kuolt)
Archpriest Anthony	Pam (Campbell)
Victoria (Potter)	Marteen (Moore)
Michelle (Chong)	Child Monika
Kris (Stambaugh)	Etta (Sundberg)
Anita (Maresca)	Al (Geralt)
Cody (Wells)	James (Brophy)
Stephen (Osborne)	Ben & Andrea Foster
Eugene (Dauphinais)	Barry
Nathaniel	Fitui
Vram (Sarafian)	

Please pray for our Catechumens

Josh; Cody; Mackenzie & Daniel and sons Jesse, Nico, Erik; Brad; Patrick; Adam & Maggie and daughters Freya and Priscilla; Nathan & Erika; Justin & Sarah and children Brayden and Alice; Emily; Laurie; Kamuela; Julie; Jules; Cody; Jason; Mary; Silver; Mason & Carol, Keith, Perry and Patrick