

SS Peter and Paul Orthodox Church

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Sunday of the Prodigal Son/ Three Holy Hierarchs Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom

Sunday February 12, 2017

Heb 13: 7-16, 1 Cor. 6:12-20, Matt. 5:14-19, Luke 15:11-32

Tropar and Kondak Tone 8 and p. 175

There will be a Ladies Altar Society Meeting after the Liturgy today.

Tuesday 2/14 at 6:00 PM Vespers Liturgy for the Meeting of the Lord into the Temple. Confessions at 5:30.

Saturday 2/18 at 9:00 AM – All Soul Saturday. Please give Fr. Matthew a list of loved ones for prayers.

There will be a Potluck after Liturgy next week since it is Meatfare Sunday. Please see Pani.

Perogie making was postponed due to the storm this past week and is rescheduled for this Thursday and Friday, starting at 9. Halupki making will be on February 23 and 24.

Three Holy Hierarchs

St. Basil the Great (330-379), though known throughout Orthodoxy because of the Divine Liturgy that bears his name, was perhaps first and foremost a man of charity and compassion. Known as a protector of the weak and defender of the poor, St. Basil built hospitals, organized charities, cared for orphans and widows and emphasized acts of mercy on the part of all Christians.

A great defender of the faith in powerful writings and homilies, and known as an organizer and reformer of monasteries, St. Basil more than anything else burned with a heart of compassion, living out the words of Christ, "Inasmuch as you do it unto one of these little ones, you do it unto me."

St. Gregory the Theologian (329-389), a friend and classmate of St. Basil, was made a bishop against his wishes. Facing many challenges in the see of Constantinople, St. Gregory spent the final years of his life in retreat. Out of his meditations on God came beautiful poetry and some of the most powerful defense of the doctrine of the Holy Trinity ever written. While active as a powerful and compassionate bishop in the world, St. Gregory never lost sight of "the kingdom of God within you." A man of prayer, inward spirituality and meditation, St. Gregory produced the fruit of the "hidden life in Christ" which each of us must develop within our own hearts.

St. John Chrysostom (345-407) became bishop of Constantinople after 12 years of priesthood in Antioch. Perhaps the greatest preacher the Church has ever produced, St. John's lifetime of sermons emphasize Christian morality and how we should conduct ourselves as Christians in the world. For St. John, our Christian faith encompasses every aspect of our lives and is to be manifested in every "word, deed, and thought."

By the Very Reverend Stephen Rogers

Conference/pilgrimage Cruise to Alaska As announced last year on the OCA web site, a conference/pilgrimage cruise to Alaska is being organized to sail from Seattle to Sitka this September. The main speaker is Fr Michael Oleksa. Fr. Nik Ferencz will be lecturing on the theme of "Body, Soul and Spirit." Bishop David of Alaska said that he plans to be on-board and this will greatly enhance our experience in Juneau and Sitka. As of January 2017 however, they still need to fill about 25 cabins to meet the requirements of the cruise line. If you are interested, you will find all necessary information at

<http://www.eurekafirstchurch.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/cruise-flyer-2017.pdf>

"It is better to choose a commendable war than peace which separates from God. The faith which I was taught by the Holy Fathers which I taught at all times without adjusting according to the times, this faith I will never stop teaching; I was born with it and I live by it."

St. Gregory the Theologian

"The dying person, knowing only that there is only one Savior and Liberator cries out: 'In Thee have I put my hope, save me from my weakness' and 'rescue me from captivity'."

St. Basil the Great

Please remember those who are ill, in homes, or not able to attend services.

Our furnace is once again broken and will need replaced. Mike Charnego will have more info after the Liturgy.

Diocesan Website: <http://www.acrod.org> Camp Nazareth: <http://www.campnazareth.org>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/acroddiocese> Twitter: <https://twitter.com/acrodnews>
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