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**St. Vladimir Orthodox Church**812 Grand Street, Trenton, NJ 08610
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**1st Sunday of Great Lent: Sunday of Orthodoxy
February 25, 2018**

**Troparion – Tone 5**Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead// by His glorious Resurrection.

**Troparion – Tone 2**We venerate Thy most pure image, O Good One; and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ our God. Of Thy good will Thou wast pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh and deliver Thy creatures from bondage to the Enemy. Therefore with thankfulness we cry aloud to Thee: “Thou hast filled all with joy, O our Savior,// for Thou alone hast come to save the world.”

**Kontakion – Tone 8**No one could describe the Word of the Father; but when He took flesh from thee, O Theotokos, He accepted to be described, and restored the fallen image to its former state by uniting it to divine beauty.// We confess and proclaim our salvation in words and images.

**Prokeimenon – Tone 4**Blessed art Thou, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Thy name forever!
 *v: For Thou art just in all that Thou hast done for us!*

**1st Sunday of Great Lent: Sunday of Orthodoxy**Originally, the Prophets Moses, Aaron, and Samuel were commemorated on this Sunday. The Alleluia verses appointed for today’s Liturgy reflect this older usage.

Today we commemorate the “Triumph of Orthodoxy,” the restoration of the holy icons in the reign of the holy Empress Theodora (February 11).

**Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2**By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens. Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection. Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment. They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented – of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth. And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise, God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us. Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

**Gospel: John 1:43-51**The following day Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, “Follow Me.” Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote – Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” And Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!” Nathanael said to Him, “How do You know me?” Jesus answered and said to him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” Nathanael answered and said to Him, “Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” Jesus answered and said to him, “Because I said to you, ‘I saw you under the fig tree,’ do you believe? You will see greater things than these.” And He said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

**Service Schedule for the week of February 25
Today** – 9:00 AM Church School, 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall.
**Wednesday February 28** – 5:30 PM Confession, 6:30 PM Pre-Sanctified Liturgy followed by Confession
**Friday March 2** – 8:30 AM Confession, 9:30 AM Pre-Sanctified Liturgy followed by Confession
**Saturday March 3** - 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy Memorial Saturday, 5:00 PM Vespers followed by Confession
**Sunday March 4 –** 9:00 AM Church School, 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy

**Weekly Giving**February 18 –50 adults, 16 youth, $2,220

**Parish Announcements**The Senior R Club will be selling soup during Coffee Hour today.

Please update your Memorial Books, which are on the table across from the candle desk. Father will use the books to pray for the departed during the upcoming Memorial Saturday Divine Liturgies.

There will be a Senior R Club meeting today during coffee hour.

The Senior R Club is selling Gertrude Hawks chocolate candy for Easter. Please see Paul or Betty Kavchok for a catalog and order form. The proceeds are used by the Club to support the church and various Orthodox charities. Orders can be turned in anytime up through Sunday, March 11.

There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the back of the church. Strict Lenten potluck food is needed for the meal after the Mission Service we are hosting on Sunday March 11. Vespers will be held at 4:00 PM followed by the Lenten meal in Daria Hall. We are anticipating possibly 80-90 people. Please indicate what you are able to bring (remember no meat, no dairy) – appetizer, food, beverages, desserts, paper products - so we can properly prepare. Thank you.

The picnic grounds will be cleaned up on Saturday March 17 (weather permitting) starting 9:00 AM. There is a lot of trash that has blown in over the last several months that needs to be picked up and bagged for disposal. We will also rent a bushwhacker from Home Depot to clear out a lot of the overgrowth surrounding the grounds. Please contact Father Volodymyr if the weather is questionable so he can advise if the project will be postponed.