



St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

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Afterfeast of the Theophany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and Martyrs Hermylus and Stratonicus of Belgrade January 13, 2019

Troparion – Tone 8

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One! Thou didst accept the three day burial to free us from our sufferings!
O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee!

Troparion – Tone 1

When Thou, O Lord, wast baptized in the Jordan, the worship of the Trinity was made manifest. For the voice of the Father bore witness to Thee, and called Thee His beloved Son; and the Spirit in the form of a dove confirmed the truthfulness of His word. O Christ our God, Who hast revealed Thyself// and hast enlightened the world, glory to Thee.

Troparion – Tone 4

Thy holy martyrs Hermylus and Stratonicus, O Lord, through their sufferings have received incorruptible crowns from Thee, our God. For having Thy strength, they laid low their adversaries, and shattered the powerless boldness of demons:// Through their intercessions save our souls!

Troparion – Tone 4

O God of our fathers, do not take away Thy mercy from us, but ever act towards us according to Thy loving kindness, and, by the prayers of Thy saints, // guide our lives in peace!

Kontakion – Tone 2

Ye fled from worldly fame and hastened to a quiet refuge, where ye were crowned with the blood of martyrdom and ascetical labors. Therefore, ye now abide with the Martyrs and the Venerable Ones.

Kontakion – Tone 4

Today Thou hast shone forth to the world, O Lord, and the light of Thy countenance has been marked on us. Knowing Thee, we sing Thy praises. Thou hast come and revealed Thyself, // O unapproachable Light.

Prokeimenon – Tone 1

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee!

v: Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous! Praise befits the just!

Afterfeast of the Theophany of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

The seventh day of the Afterfeast of Theophany falls on January 13. Many of the Church's hymns during this period rejoice in the manifestation of God (Theophany) at Christ's baptism in the Jordan. The voice of the Father is heard, the Son enters the water, and the Holy Spirit appears in the form of a dove.

Martyrs Hermylus and Stratonicus of Belgrade

The Holy Martyrs Hermylus and Stratonicus, Slavs by origin, lived at the beginning of the fourth century during a persecution

against Christians by the emperor Licinius (311-324). Saint Hermylus served as deacon in the city of Singidunum (Belgrade). Condemned by Licinius to imprisonment, he was long and cruelly tortured for Christ, but he remained unyielding.

Hermylus mocked the pagan gods, calling them deaf, dumb, and blind idols. In anger Licinius ordered more severe torments for him, saying that he could avoid them if he would offer sacrifice. The holy martyr predicted that Licinius would suffer terrible wounds himself because he worshiped idols instead of the Creator. His words came true, for Licinius was killed in 324.

After three days Hermylus was brought before the tribunal again and asked whether he would avoid more torture by offering sacrifice. The saint replied that he would offer worship and sacrifice only to the true God.

Saint Hermylus prayed that the Lord would give him strength to endure his torments and triumph over the pagans. A voice was heard saying, "Hermylus, you will be delivered from your suffering in three days, and will receive a great reward." The torturers fell to the ground in fear, and took the saint back to prison.

Saint Stratonicus was one of the prison guards and a secret Christian. Seeing the agonizing torments of his friend, he was unable to keep from weeping, and he revealed that he was a Christian. They also subjected him to punishment.

After the torture, they put both martyrs into a net and threw them into the Danube. On the third day, the bodies of the saints were found by Christians on the bank of the river and buried near Singidunum. Their venerable heads were in the Church of Hagia Sophia, where the Russian pilgrim Anthony saw them in the year 1200.

Epistle: Ephesians 4:7-13

But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore He says: "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men." (Now this, "He ascended" – what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ.

Gospel: Matthew 4:12-17

Now when Jesus heard that John had been put in prison, He departed to Galilee. And leaving Nazareth, He came and dwelt in Capernaum, which is by the sea, in the regions of Zebulun and Naphtali, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, by the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles: The people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and upon those who sat in the region and shadow of death Light has dawned." From that time Jesus began to preach and to say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

Service Schedule for the week of January 13

Today – 9:00 AM Sunday School, 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by 40-day Panikhida for Lenore Sadowski and a luncheon in Daria Hall

Saturday January 19 – 5:00 PM Vespers followed by Confession

Sunday January 20 – 9:00 AM Sunday School, 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 Divine Liturgy followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

Weekly Giving

January 6 – 62 adults, 20 youth, \$2,315

Parish Announcements

A 40-day Panikhida for Lenore Sadowski will be held today after Divine Liturgy.

There will be Ladies Altar Society and Senior R Club meetings on Sunday, January 20 during coffee hour.

The sign-up sheet for House Blessing is in the back of the church. Please include your name, phone number, and your preferred date and time for Father's visit. All house blessings must occur prior to Great Lent, which begins on March 11.

Please sign up to host coffee hour during 2019. See Melody Stavisky or Michael Toth.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday, January 27 after Divine Liturgy.

When using the handicap lift, you must remember to push and hold the appropriate button if you want to summon the lift to your level to get in, or if you are inside the lift and want to get out. When the lift arrives, the door will automatically open to either let you in or out.

Button 1 = church basement

Button 2 = street level (outside)

Button 3 = church interior

If you want to summon the lift to get in, push and hold the appropriate button for the level you are on. When the lift arrives at your level, the door will automatically open to let you in. After several seconds the door will automatically close. Once the door has closed, push and hold the appropriate button and the lift will start moving. Once you arrive at your designated level, release the button and the door will automatically open to let you out.

Bible Study classes will be held on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month at 7:00 PM in the church basement. The next classes will be held on Wednesday January 23 and Wednesday February 13. All are welcome to attend!

On Sunday, January 27 the Senior R Club will be hold their annual chicken parmigiana sandwich fundraiser. The sign-up sheet for sandwich orders is on the table in the back of the church. Thank you for your support!

Please remember that the decorative items in the church and Daria Hall are for everyone's viewing pleasure, but belong to the church and are reused from year to year. Please leave them in place and enjoy how they beautify your surroundings!

There are two additional sign-up sheets in the back of the church. Vladika will be here on Friday February 1 and Saturday February 2 for the ordination of Father Volodymyr's brother, Bohdan, as a Deacon and to also bless the handicap lift.

Service schedule:

Friday February 1 – 6:00 PM Vespers followed by Lenten potluck meal in Daria Hall

Saturday February 2 – 9:30 AM Greeting of Vladika and Hierarchical Liturgy, followed by luncheon in Daria Hall

Sign-up sheets are for attendance as well as items needed for both the Lenten potluck meal and the luncheon.

Please remember to turn in your 2019 Stewardship Pledge Cards as soon as possible. They may be turned in to Nina Laushell, Father Volodymyr, or Herman Meyer. Thank you.