



St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

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January 22, 2023

New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia

Troparion – Tone 7

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death. To the thief Thou didst open Paradise. For the Myrrhbearers Thou didst change weeping into joy, and Thou didst command Thy disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art risen,// granting the world great mercy.

Troparion – Tone 4

Today the Church of Russia forms a chorus in joy, praising her new martyrs and confessors; hierarchs and priests, royal passion-bearers, right-believing princes and princesses, venerable men and women, and all Orthodox Christians. Having laid down their life for faith in Christ during the days of godless persecution, they preserved the truth by the shedding of blood.// By their protection, O long-suffering Lord, preserve our land in Orthodoxy till the end of the age.

Kontakion – Tone 7

The dominion of death can no longer hold men captive, for Christ descended, shattering and destroying its powers. Hell is bound, while the Prophets rejoice and cry: “The Savior has come to those in faith;// enter, you faithful, into the Resurrection!”

Kontakion – Tone 3

Today the new martyrs of Rus’ stand in white robes before the Lamb of God, and with the angels they sing to God the hymn of victory: “Blessing, and glory, and wisdom, and praise, and honor, and power, and strength be to our God// unto the ages of ages. Amen.”

Prokeimenon – Tone 7

The Lord shall give strength to His people. / The Lord shall bless His people with peace.

V. Offer to the Lord, O you sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord!

Prokeimenon – Tone 7

God is our refuge and strength, / a help in afflictions that severely befall us.

New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia

On the Sunday closest to January 25, the Church commemorates the Synaxis of the Holy New Martyrs and Confessors of Russia, remembering all those Orthodox Christians who suffered for Christ at the hands of the godless Soviets during the years of persecution. These include the royal Passion Bearers Tsar Nicholas II and his family, and the Grand Duchess Elizabeth.

Countless thousands of martyrs, both clergy and laity also suffered, some of whose names are known, as well as millions of simple believers whose names have been lost to history. It is estimated that the number of the New Martyrs of Russia, who were glorified by the Russian Orthodox Church at the Jubilee Council of 2000, far exceeds that of all the martyrs who died for Christ during the first three centuries of Christianity. The Russian Church lost millions of its sons and daughters, not only at the hands of external enemies, but also those of their own country. Among those who were murdered and tortured in the years of persecution were countless Orthodox: laity, monks, priests, and bishops, whose only "crime" was their unshakable faith in God.

In the long history of the world, never have so many new heavenly intercessors been glorified by the Church in such a way (more than one thousand New Martyrs were numbered among the saints). Among those who suffered for their faith were some who labored in America before the Russian Revolution: St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia (April 7); St. Alexander Hotovitzky (Dec. 4); St. John Kochurov (Oct. 31).

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.

Gospel: Luke 18:35-43

Then it happened, as He was coming near Jericho, that a certain blind man sat by the road begging. And hearing a multitude passing by, he asked what it meant. So they told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by. And he cried out, saying, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Then those who went before warned him that he should be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be brought to Him. And when he had come near, He asked him, saying, "What do you want Me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, that I may receive my sight." Then Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight, and followed Him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

Service Schedule for the week of January 22

Sunday January 22 – 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Pork Dinner Sale & Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

Saturday January 28 – 5:00 PM Vespers

Sunday January 29 – 9:45 AM HOURS, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Annual Parish Meeting in Daria Hall

Upcoming Holy Days

Wednesday February 1 – Forefeast of the Meeting of the Lord in the Temple, 7:00 PM Vespers with Litya

Thursday February 2 – Meeting of the Lord in the Temple, 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy

Monday February 27 – Beginning of Great Lent

Weekly Giving

January 15 – 75 adults, 24 youth, \$2,153

Parish Announcements

There is a sign-up sheet in the back of the church for House Blessing. If you would like Father to bless your home, please sign up and Father will contact you to schedule an appointment.

The Ladies Altar Society is selling pork dinners to go today.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held in Daria Hall next Sunday January 29, 2023. Please plan on being in attendance. The FOCA Club will sell soup during Coffee Hour before the Annual Parish Meeting on January 29.

There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the back of the church for a FOCA Club Breakfast Fundraiser on Sunday February 12 in Daria Hall. The cost is \$10 for breakfast with a Mimosa drink, \$7 without a Mimosa drink, and free for children 5 and under. There will be no Coffee Hour that day.

Please remember to clean up and remove holiday decorations at the parish cemeteries. Per the Cemetery By-Laws, holiday decorations are to be removed three weeks after the holiday. Thank you for your cooperation.

Gallons of spring water are needed for Coffee Hour. Please bring your donation of water to Daria Hall. The water is used for tea and coffee. Thank you!

The Ladies Altar Society is setting up a Ladies Boutique in Daria Hall starting January 29 through February 12. Stop by to shop for Valentine's Day for the special lady in your life!

Catechism classes are being held every Thursday evening at 7:00 PM in the church basement through March 16. Classes will be taught on a rotating schedule by Father Volodymyr, John Cassar, Herman Meyer, and Alan Berck. Everyone is invited to attend, but classes are mandatory for those wishing to convert to Orthodoxy. Classes will be finished before Pascha, at which time the Catechumens will schedule services to become Orthodox.

Please remember to sign-up for on-line giving, if you are interested. See a member of the Parish Council if you have any questions!

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:

Timothy Srock – January 22

Paul Denko – January 23

Nina Schmidt – January 24

Karolah Martinez – January 25

Have a blessed birthday and may God grant you many years!

If you do not see your birthday listed above during your birthday week, please let Darice know and she will add it to the schedule!

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE

Please remember the Coffee Hour Helpers do not normally bring any refreshments for Coffee Hour, but are there to assist in setting up for Coffee Hour. The host/hostess is responsible for bringing whatever refreshments they wish to serve – if desserts are needed please let the Helper know ahead of time as there are desserts in the freezer that can be used. Host/Hostess is responsible for setting up in the morning starting at 9:00 AM, with guidance from the Helper, and for cleaning up after Coffee Hour including washing and drying dishes, and taking out the trash. If you have any questions please contact Melody Stavisky, Alla Strauss, or the Helper assigned to your Coffee Hour date. Thank you!

Jan. 22 Sophie Dumas, Melissa Braun, Nancy Mitsos
Jan. 29 Blake & Jessica Kilgore, Alla Strauss
Feb. 5 Anna Brasowski, Francine Brady
Feb. 12 FOCA Club - Breakfast Fundraiser
Feb. 19 Carmen & Cezar Mateiescu, Darice Keyes
Feb. 26 **NO MEAT** Sami Bachir, Awet Tesfa
March 5 **FAST** Matthew & Nana Barrett, Darice Keyes
Mar. 12 **FAST** Awet Tesfa, Nebiat Tesfa
Mar. 19 **FAST** Alan & Mimi Berck, Francine & Herman
Mar. 26 **FAST** John Cassar, Nina Laushell
April 2 **FAST** Anne Cheslock, Nancy Mitsos
April 9 **FAST** Francine Brady, Herman Meyer, Alla Strauss
April 16 **PASCHA** – No Coffee Hour
April 23 Madeleine Sekulich, Mark McDevitt, Nancy Mitsos
April 30 Fiyori Habtesilasse, Awet Tesfa
May 7 Betty Kavchok, Nancy Mitsos
May 14 Nina Schmidt, Alla Strauss
May 21 Aftan Chowansky, Nina Laushell
May 28 Christina DiDonato, Francine Brady & Herman Meyer
June 4 Darice Keyes, Nancy Mitsos
June 11 Bill & Margie DiCicco, Chris Kasmer, Nina Laushell
June 18 **FAST** Timothy & Valeria Srock, Awet Tesfa
June 25 **FAST** Alla & Perry Strauss, Christine Waite
July 2 Alex & Brittani Brasowski, Melody Stavisky