



St. Vladimir Orthodox Church

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Martyr Menas of Egypt

November 11, 2018

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

Thy holy martyrs Menas, Victor, Vincent, and Stephanida, 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 8

Champion of Orthodoxy, teacher of purity and of true worship, enlightener of the universe and adornment of hierarchs: all-wise Father Theodore, thy teachings have gleamed with light upon all things.// Intercede before Christ God to save our souls!

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 8

Today the Church honors those who fought the good fight and died for their faith: the victorious Menas, the noble Victor, and the ascetic Vincent. The Church glorifies their divine struggle and cries out with love: “Glory to Thee, O Christ, Lover of mankind!”

Kontakion – Tone 2

Thine ascetic life, equal to an Angel’s, made thee radiant through thy athlete’s contest; blessed by God, O Theodore, though didst become a companion of the Angels, with whom thou dost unceasingly intercede for us all.

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 ye sons of God! Offer young rams to the Lord!

Martyr Menas of Egypt

The Holy Great Martyr Menas of Egypt, an Egyptian by birth, was a military officer and served in the Kotyaeion region of Phrygia under the centurion Firmilian during the reign of the emperors Diocletian (284-305) and Maximian (305-311). When the emperors began the fiercest persecution against Christians in history, the saint refused to serve these persecutors. He removed his soldier's belt (a sign of military rank) and withdrew to a mountain, where he lived an ascetic life of fasting and prayer.

Once he happened to arrive in the city during a pagan festival. At the climax of the games the saint's accusing voice rang out, preaching faith in Christ, the Savior of the world. At his trial before the prefect Pyrrhus, the saint bravely confessed his faith, saying that he had come to denounce the impious. The prefect was angered, and had Menas arrested.

Pyrrhus offered to restore the saint's former rank if he would offer sacrifice to the pagan gods. When he refused, he was put to cruel tortures, then he was beheaded. This occurred in the year 304. Christians gathered up the martyr's relics by night and hid them until the end of the persecution. Later, they were brought to Egypt and placed in a church dedicated to Saint Menas southwest of Alexandria.

The saint received grace from God to work miracles, and to help those in need. Saint Menas is noted for healing various illnesses, delivering people from possession by demons, and as a protector, especially during times of war. We also ask his help in finding lost objects.

Epistle: Ephesians 2:14-22

For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father. Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

Gospel: Luke 10:25-37

And behold, a certain lawyer stood up and tested Him, saying, "Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What is your reading of it?" So he answered and said, "'You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind,' and 'your neighbor as yourself.'" And He said to him, "You have answered rightly; do this and you will live." But he, wanting to justify himself, said to Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Then Jesus answered and said: "A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, 'Take care of him; and whatever more you spend, when I come again, I will repay you.' So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?" And he said, "He who showed mercy on him." Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Service Schedule for the week of November 11

Today – 9:00 AM Sunday School, 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Panikhida for the Kobren/Levitsky/Zvoliak and Pschenychny families

Today – 12:30 PM Turkey Social in Daria Hall

Saturday November 17 – 5:00 PM Vespers served by Father Maryon Chaykivsky

Sunday November 18 – 9:00 AM Sunday School, 9:45 AM Hours, 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy served by Father John Kluchko followed by Coffee Hour in Daria Hall

Weekly Giving

November 4 – 59 adults, 18 youth, \$2,711

Parish Announcements

Father Volodymyr will be away starting this evening to attend his brother Bohdan's wedding in Ukraine. Father will return on Friday November 23. If you are in need of a priest please contact Father Gary Breton in Brick, NJ – phone 732-458-9032.

The Nativity Fast will begin this Wednesday November 14 through Christmas Eve, December 24.

Bible Study classes will be held every other Wednesday evening at 7:00 PM in the church basement. The next class will be held on November 28. All are welcome to attend!

Guy Radcliffe will be Chrismated into the Orthodox faith at 9:20 AM on Sunday November 25. Guy has been attending our church for the past several months and we welcome him into the Faith!

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Sunday January 27, 2019. Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Parish Council should see Father Volodymyr by mid-December. Also, current Parish Council members who are interested in re-election should submit their names to Father Volodymyr as well.

The annual Turkey Social will be held today starting at 12:30 PM. Food will be sold in lieu of Coffee Hour.

The church bake sale will be held on Saturday December 15 and Sunday December 16.

The Sunday School Yolka program will be held on Sunday December 16 during coffee hour.

The children will decorate a Christmas tree in Daria Hall on Sunday November 25 during Coffee Hour. Each child is encouraged to bring in a special ornament to add beauty to the tree!

Parents and children are reminded to please clean up the play area in Daria Hall before leaving. The area has been left messy for others to clean up, and unfortunately if this continues the play area will be dismantled.

There are copies of the latest "Jacobs Well" publication on the table in the back of the church. Please help yourself to a copy.

Through December 2, the Senior R Club will collect funds to sponsor a Seminarian family from St. Vladimir's Seminary for the FOCA's Christmas Wish List Program. The Club will purchase gift cards for the family with the funds collected. Thank you for your generosity in the upcoming season celebrating the Nativity of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. A collection plate is on the small table behind the back pew.

Good news - the handicap lift installation began this week! The equipment was shipped earlier than expected and the contractor was able to start the installation sooner than expected.