



Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church

OUR SUNDAY BULLETIN

February 21

First Sunday of Great Lent/Tone 4
Sunday of Orthodoxy



Protection of the Virgin Mary

8600 Grand Blvd.
Merrillville, IN 46410
(219) 947-4748 (Church)
(219) 730-4698 (Hall Rental)

Great Vespers
Saturday - 4 PM
Feast Days - 7 PM
Divine Liturgy
Sunday - 9:45 AM
Feast Days - 9 AM
Sunday Adult class 9Am
Children's classes after liturgy

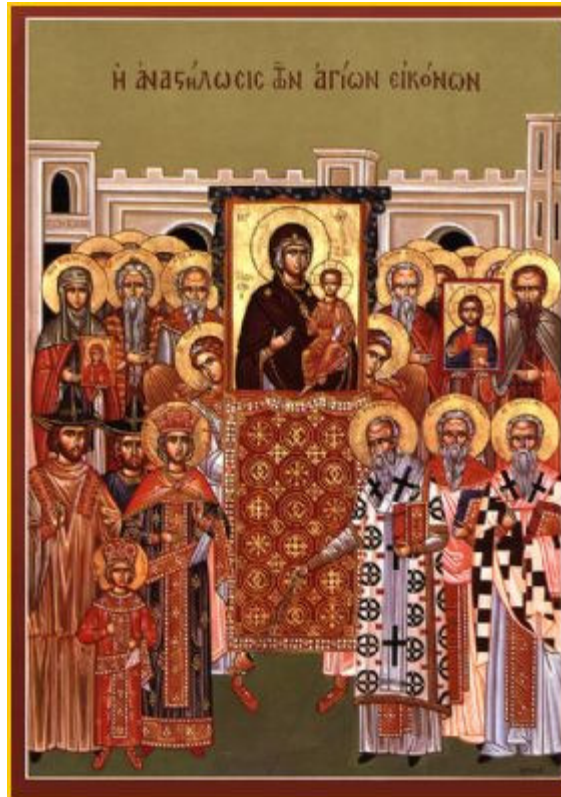
Fr. Peter Bodnar, Rector

Fr. Christopher Sarafin

All services in English

A parish of the
Orthodox Church in America

Ptv.com



Today's commemorated
feasts and saints...

**FIRST SUNDAY OF
LENT — Tone 4.
Sunday of Orthodoxy.**
Ven. Timothy of
Symbola in Bithynia (9th
c.). St. Eustathius
(Eustace), Archbishop
of Antioch (377). St.
George, Bishop of
Amastris on the Black
Sea (802-811). The
“**KOZEL'SHCHANSKA
YA**” Icon of the Most-
holy Theotokos (1881).

Tone 4 Troparion (Resurrection)

When the women Disciples of the Lord
learned from the Angel the joyous message of the
Resurrection,
they cast away the ancestral curse
and elatedly told the Apostles:
“Death is overthrown!
Christ God is risen,//
granting the world great mercy!”

Tone 2 Troparion (Sunday of Orthodoxy)

We venerate Your most pure image, O Good One;
and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ
our God.
Of Your good will You were pleased to ascend the
cross in the flesh
and deliver Your creatures from bondage to the
Enemy.
Therefore with thankfulness we cry aloud to You:
“You have filled all with joy, O our Savior,//
for You alone have come to save the world.”

Tone 8 Kontakion (from the Lenten Triodion)

No one could describe the Word of the
Father;
but when He took flesh from you, 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.

Tone 4 Prokeimenon (Song of the Fathers)

Blessed are You, O Lord God of our
fathers, and praised and glorified is
Your name forever! (Song of the three
Holy Children, v. 3)
v: For You are just in all that You have
done for us! (v. 4)

Hebrews 11:24-26,32-12:2 (Epistle)

24By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter,**25**choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin,**26**esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.**32**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:**33**who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,**34**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.**35**Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection.**36**Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment.**37**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-**38**of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth.**39**And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise,**40**God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.**1**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,**2**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.

John 1:43-51 (Gospel)

43The following day Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me."**44**Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.**45**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."**46**And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."**47**Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!"**48**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."**49**Nathanael answered and said to Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"**50**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."**51**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."

Commemorated on February 21

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).

Commemorated on February 21

Saint Timothy of Symbola, was of Italian descent. He became a monk at a young age and pursued asceticism at a monastery called "Symbola," in Asia Minor near Mount Olympus. At that time Theoctistus was the archimandrite of the monastery. St Timothy was the disciple of Theoctistus and also of St Platon of the Studion Monastery (April 5).

Attaining a high degree of spiritual perfection, he received from God the gift of healing the sick and casting out unclean spirits. He spent many years as a hermit, roaming the wilderness, the mountains and forests, both day and night offering up prayer to the Lord God. He died at a great old age, in the year 795.

Commemorated on February 21

The Kozelshchansk **Icon of the Mother of God** was glorified in the late nineteenth century, though it is older than that. This icon is of Italian origin and was brought to Russia by one of Empress Elizabeth's (1741-1761) maids of honor, who was Italian. The owner of the icon married a records clerk of the Zaporozhsky-Cossack army, Siromakh. So, the icon went to the Ukraine with them.

During the nineteenth century it belonged to the family of Count Vladimir Kapnist, and was one of their sacred possessions. The icon was in the village of Kozelschina, Poltava governance. During Cheesefare Week in the year 1880, Maria, the daughter of V. I. Kapnist, dislocated some bones in her foot. The local doctor said the problem was not serious. Dr. Grube, a noted surgeon in Kharkov, agreed with the diagnosis, and he applied a plaster cast to Maria's foot. He also prescribed hot baths and iron supplements. To lessen the discomfort of the foot while walking, a special shoe was made with metal bands that went around the girl's leg. Lent passed, but the girl did not feel any relief.

After Pascha, Maria's other foot became twisted. Then both shoulders and her left hip became dislocated, and she developed pain in her spine. The doctor advised Count Kapnist to take his daughter immediately to the Caucasus for the curative mineral waters and mountain air. The journey to the Caucasus and the curative treatments caused even greater affliction. The girl lost all feeling in her hands and feet, and did not even feel pinches.

Because of the advanced degree of the illness, and since therapy was not helping, they were compelled to return home.

In the month of October, the father journeyed with his sick daughter to Moscow. Here he consulted specialists, who declared that they could do nothing for Maria.

The parents and the sick girl began to despair. However, an unexpected opportunity for help from a foreign professor presented itself. Since it would be some while before his arrival in Moscow, the sick girl asked to return home. The Count sent her back to the village, and his wife promised to bring their daughter back to Moscow when he received news of the professor's arrival. On February 21, 1881, they received a telegram saying that the professor had arrived in Moscow.

On the day before the appointment, Maria's mother suggested that she pray before the family icon of the Mother of God. She said to her daughter, "Masha [a diminutive form of Maria], tomorrow we go to Moscow. Take the icon, let us clean its cover and pray to the Most Holy Theotokos that your infirmity be cured."

The girl, who had no confidence in earthly physicians, placed all her hope in God. This icon had long been known as wonderworking. According to Tradition, young women would pray before it to have a happy family. It was also the custom to clean the cover of the icon, and the one praying would wipe it with cotton or linen.

Pressing the holy icon to her bosom, the sick girl, with the help of her mother, cleaned it and poured out all her sorrow and despair of soul to the Mother of God. All at once, she felt the strength return to her body and she cried out loudly, "Mama! Mama! I can feel my legs! I can feel my hands!" She tore off the metal braces and bandages and began to walk about the room, while continuing to hold the icon of the Mother of God in her hands.

The parish priest was summoned at once and celebrated a service of Thanksgiving before the icon. The joyous event quickly became known throughout all the surrounding villages. The Countess and Maria went to Moscow and took with them the holy icon of the Mother of God. News of the healing quickly spread about Moscow and people began to throng to the hotel, and then to the church, where they had brought the icon.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY....February 21, 2010

SUNDAY 21 9am Adult Class,,9:45 3rd Hour, 10am Divine Liturgy
followed by Church School, O Club Mtg

WEDNESDAY 24 5:15 Confessions, 6pm Presanctified Liturgy
followed by Lenten Potluck

THURSDAY 27 7pm Choir Rehearsal

FRIDAY 26 7pm Akathist to the Theotokos & Confessions

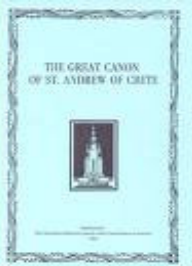
SATURDAY 28 4pm Great Vespers & Confessions

check your monthly bulletin for more dates and information

WHAT ARE THE ORIGINS OF FASTING ?

HOW DO WE APPROACH THE SACRAMENT
OF CONFESSION?

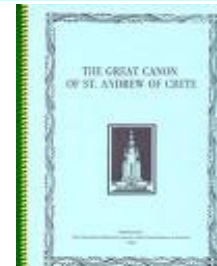
WHY DO WE USE THE CANON OF SAINT
ANDREW AND PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY?
SEE BELOW



**FOR ANSWERS TO THESE AND OTHER QUESTIONS, PLEASE
SEE THE BROCHURES ON THE TABLE OUTSIDE THE CHURCH OFFICE**

*Let's improve our understanding of our faith
Feel free to take , study, and share any of the relevant pamphlets*

Let's make this Lent even More special as we approach the feast of Pascha



Please join us for the O Club's Annual

Soup & Salad Luncheon

All you can eat buffet !!

Sunday, March 7 - 12:00 pm (after Divine Liturgy)

Adults \$ 8 or 2 for \$ 15

Teens (13-19) \$3

Children (12 and under) FREE

ADMIT
ONE

For Tickets contact Carol Kane (219-730-7295)

ADMIT
ONE

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(219) -947-4748 [wwwptvm.com](http://www.ptvm.com)

all proceeds benefit the church and or the church mortgage fund

email bulletin items to ptvmchurchgrowth@live.com