

Feasts and Commemorations for this Week

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
4 Sunday of the Prodigal Son » Mark 16:1-8 » I Corinthians 6:12-20 » Luke 15:11-32 »	5 Meatfare Monday I John 2:18-29; 3:1-8 » Mark 11:1-11 »	6 Pious the Great, Patriarch of Constantinople John 10:1-9 » Hebrews 7:26-28; 8:1-2 » John 10:9-16 »	7 ✙ Meatfare Wednesday I John 3:21-24; 4:1-11 » Mark 14:43-72; 15:1 »	8 ✙ Theodore the Commander & Great Martyr Ephesians 2:4-10 » Matthew 10:16-22 »	9 ✙ Meatfare Friday II John 1:1-13 » Mark 15:20,22,25,33-41 »	10 Hieromartyr Haralambos » II Timothy 2:1-10 » John 15:17-27, 16:1-2 »
✎ Wine / Oil Allowed		✎ Fish Allowed		✙ Strict Fast		

Prayer List:

Please keep the following intentions in your prayers:

- For His Eminence, Metropolitan Gerasimos and for his Grace, Bishop Apostolos, that God grant them wisdom and many years.
- For the children at St. Innocent's Orphanage and St. Basil's Academy
- For Dale Kraus, that he be granted the wisdom and patience to measure twice and cut once as he creates our new iconostasis. .

Save the Dates!

February

- 2/4 Morning Prayer 9:30 & Divine Liturgy 10:00 with Fr. Basil
Church School begins 930
Memorial service for Gheorghe Grecu, father of Doina Grecu
- 2/11 Morning Prayer 9:30 & Divine Liturgy 10:00 with Fr. Basil
Church School begins 930
- 2/18 Morning Prayer 9:30 & Divine Liturgy 10:00 with Fr. Basil
Church School begins 930
Forgiveness Vespers after Divine Liturgy
- 2/19 Great Lent Begins
- 2/23 Akathist 6:30 p
- 2/25 Morning Prayer 9:30 & Divine Liturgy 10:00 with Fr. Basil
Church School begins 930

Refer to e-mailed Parish Updates for additional events and details



Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church

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Services Schedule:

Divine Liturgy 10 AM on Sundays
9th hour Prayers 9:30 AM
Church School 9:30 AM



Bulletin for Sunday, February 4, 2018

Hymns of the Day

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the Second Mode

When you descended to the realm of death You as life immortal rendered to Hades a mortal blow by Your all radiant divinity. And when You from infernal depths and the darkness below did raise the dead. All the hosts of heaven's powers did proclaim and cry out, O life giving Christ and our God we give glory.

Apolytikion for Afterfeast of the Presentation in the First Mode

Lady full of grace, rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, for Christ our God, the Sun of righteousness has risen from you and He illumined those in darkness. And you, righteous Elder, be glad in heart, receiving in your embraces the One who liberates our souls and bestows on us the Resurrection.

Holy Cross Church Apolytikion in the First Mode

Save, O Lord Your people, and bless Your inheritance; grant victory to the faithful against the adversaries of the Faith, and protect Your people by the power of Your Cross.

Seasonal Kontakion in the First Mode

Your birth sanctified a Virgin's womb and properly blessed the hands of Symeon. Having now come and saved us O Christ our God, give peace to Your commonwealth in troubled times and strengthen those in authority, whom You love, as only the loving One.

Epistle Reading

The Reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians 6:12-20

Brethren, "all things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food" -- and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh." But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body and in your spirit which belong to God.

Gospel Reading

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

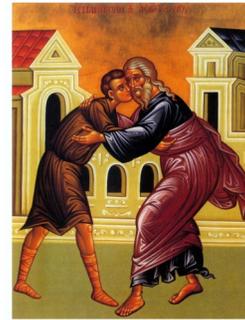
The Reading is from Luke 15:11-32

The Lord said this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his belly with the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he

was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

Saints and Feasts Commemorated

Sunday of the Prodigal Son



Through the parable of today's Gospel, our Saviour has set forth three things for us: the condition of the sinner, the rule of repentance, and the greatness of God's compassion. The divine Fathers have put this reading the week after the parable of the Publican and Pharisee so that, seeing in the person of the Prodigal Son our own wretched condition -- inasmuch as we are sunken in sin, far from God and His Mysteries -- we might at last come to our senses and make haste to return to Him by repentance during these holy days of the Fast.

Furthermore, those who have wrought many great iniquities, and have persisted in them for a long time, oftentimes fall into despair, thinking that there can no longer be any forgiveness for them; and so being without hope, they fall every day into the same and even worse iniquities. Therefore, the divine Fathers, that they might root out the passion of despair from the hearts of such people, and rouse them to the deeds of virtue, have set the present parable at the forecourts of the Fast, to show them the surpassing goodness of God's compassion, and to teach them that there is no sin -- no matter how great it may be -- that can overcome at any time His love for man.

Nicholas the Confessor

Hieromartyr Abramius

John the Righteous, Bishop of Irinopolis