

ST. NICHOLAS BULLETIN

Sunday, February 16, 2025

Prodigal Son

Tone 1. Epistle, 1 Cor. 6:12-20. Gospel, Luke 15:11-32
Martyr Pamphylus and His Companions / St. Nikolai of Japan

SERVICES

SATURDAY 6:00 p.m. Vespers (Holy Resurrection Church, Belle Vernon)

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP HOUR will be held today following the Divine Liturgy.

PRE-LENTEN DINNER will be held on Sunday, February 23 following the Divine Liturgy. Parishioners are asked to bring a covered dish. A sign-up sheet can be found outside the Candle Room. Also, you may make a cash donation toward the dinner. Please respond by doing your part to make this dinner a success.

SARRIS CANDY ORDERS are available in the back of the church or the Church Hall. Orders are due by Sunday, February 23. Delivery is Sunday, March 30. Call Mat. Sandy at (724) 705-5923 for more information.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING has been rescheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 18 at 7 p.m. on Zoom.

HOLIDAY PYSANKY EGG DECORATING CLASS will be held on Thursdays (for 5 weeks), from 6 to 8 p.m., starting on March 13 in the Church Hall. All skill levels welcome. Contact Sandy Carroll or Kelly Bavuso for more information or leave your contact information at the Candle Room.

ARCHDIOCESAN LENTEN RETREAT will be held on Saturday, March 1, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at St. Alexander Nevsky Cathedral in Allison Park, Pa. Archpriest Victor Gorodenchuk, Dean of St. Stephen's Cathedral in Philadelphia, will be speaking on the topic: *"The Book of Job: Suffering and Victory of Christ over Satan."* Visit <https://www.ocadwpa.org/news> for more information.

VIGIL OFFERINGS – Sunday, February 16, 2025

MARY BEHANNA (Virgin Mary Kiot) – In memory of parents, Andy and Patrina Gernat (2)

SANDY CARROLL – For health of family / In memory of friend, Bill Hustosky

VLAD KASH – In memory of Fr. Igor

SANDRA KLIZAS – In memory of Stephen and Helen Drake / In memory of Frank and June Drake / In memory of husband, Jim Klizas / For health of Linda Burton / For health of Dr. Dimitri Petro / Birthday blessings for godson, Kai

KEN BEHANNA – For health and welfare of our church

DR. DIMITRI and PAULINE PETRO – In memory of cousin, Jimmy Drake / For health of Christine and Alex (2) / For health of Tom and Russell (2) / For health of Jonah and Catherine (2) / For health of Natalie and Rob (2) / For health of Kyra and Luke (2) / Safe travel for Adam and Kyra (2)

PAULINE PETRO – For health of godchild, Gina / For health of husband, Dimitri

JIM and VERA HAYS – For health of Dr. Dimitri Petro / For health of Pauline Aitken / For health of cousin, Adrienne Hirsch / For health of cousin, Lillian Spak / For health and welfare of our Church

JIM HAYS – For health of wife, Vera

GERALDINE ROZIK – For health of brother, Gerald / In memory of parents, Joseph and Helen Rozik / For health of Dr. Dimitri Petro / For health and welfare of our Church

AITKEN FAMILY – Royal Doors (In memory of Fr. Igor)

M/M ROB MONTINI – For health of dad, Dr. Dimitri Petro

M/M NICK MILCHOVICH – For health of Pauline Aitken / For health of Jim and Vera Hays / For health of dad, Dr. Dimitri Petro

MARK SOROKA – In blessed memory of father, Fr. Igor / In blessed memory of mother, Matushka Irene

The Theme of the Prodigal Son

The parable of the Prodigal Son forms an exact icon of repentance at its different stages. Sin is exile, enslavement to strangers, hunger. Repentance is the return from exile to our true home; it is to receive back our inheritance and freedom in the Father's house. But repentance implies action: "I will rise up and go..." (v. 18). To repent is not just to feel dissatisfied, but to make a decision and to act upon it. For those who have fallen into great despair over their sins thinking that there is no forgiveness, this parable offers hope. The Heavenly Father is patiently and lovingly waiting for our return. There is no sin that can overcome His love for us.