



St. Elias the Prophet Church

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Phone: (505) 466-0015 • **Fax:** (505) 466-0015

Fr. Dimitrios Pappas, Proistamenos - Frederika Vaupen, Parish Council President - Malcolm Ennis, Bulletin Admin

Services Schedule

Sundays: Orthros/Matins - 9:00 am; Divine Liturgy - 10:00 am

Saturdays (as announced): Vespers - 5:00 pm

Weekdays (as announced): Orthros/Matins - 9:00 am; Divine Liturgy - 10:00 am

WEEKLY BULLETIN

02/01/2015

Saints and Feasts

February 01



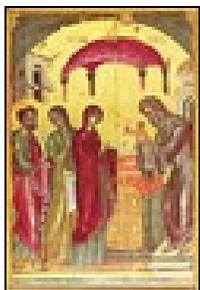
Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee: Triodion Begins Today

The Pharisees were an ancient and outstanding sect among the Jews known for their diligent observance of the outward matters of the Law. Although, according to the word of our Lord, they "did all their works to be seen of men" (Matt. 23:5), and were hypocrites (ibid. 23: 13, 14, 15, etc.), because of the apparent holiness of their lives they were thought by all to be righteous, and separate from others, which is what the name Pharisee means. On the other hand, Publicans, collectors of the royal taxes, committed many injustices and extortions for filthy lucre's sake, and all held them to be sinners and unjust. It was therefore according to common opinion that the Lord Jesus in His parable signified a virtuous person by a Pharisee, and a sinner by a Publican, to teach His disciples the harm of pride and the profit of humble-mindedness.

Since the chief weapon for virtue is humility, and the greatest hindrance to it is pride, the divine Fathers have set these three weeks before the Forty-day Fast as a preparation for the spiritual struggles of virtue. This present week they have called Harbinger, since it declares that the Fast is approaching; and they set humility as the foundation for all our spiritual labors by appointing that the parable of the Publican and the Pharisee be read today, even before the Fast begins, to teach, through the vaunting of the Pharisee, that the foul smoke of self-esteem and the stench of boasting drives away the grace of the Spirit, strips man of all his virtue, and casts him into the pits of Hades; and, through the repentance and contrite prayer of the Publican, that humility confers upon the sinner forgiveness of all his wicked deeds and raises him up to the greatest heights.

All foods are allowed the week that follows this Sunday.

February 01



Forefeast of the Presentation of Our Lord and Savior in the Temple

February 01



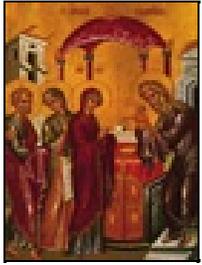
Bridget of Ireland

When Ireland was newly converted to the Christian Faith, the Holy Abbess Brigid devoted herself to the establishment of the monastic life among the women of her country, and founded the renowned convent of Kildare-Kil "Cell (or Church)" Dara "of the Oak." She was especially renowned for her great mercifulness, manifested in her lavish almsgiving and in miracles wrought for those in need. The Book of Armaugh, an ancient Irish chronicle, calls Saint Patrick and Saint Brigid "the pillars of the Irish" and says that through them both, "Christ performed many miracles." She reposed in peace about the year 525.



February 01

Anastasios the New Martyr of Navplion



February 02

The Presentation of Our Lord and Savior in the Temple

When the most pure Mother and Ever-Virgin Mary's forty days of purification had been fulfilled, she took her first-born Son to Jerusalem on this, the fortieth day after His birth, that she might present Him in the temple according to the Law of Moses, which teaches that every first-born male child be dedicated to God, and also that she might offer the sacrifice of a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons, as required by the Law (Luke 2:22-24; Exod. 13:2; Lev. 12:6-8). On this same day, a just and devout man, the greatly aged Symeon, was also present in the temple, being guided by the Holy Spirit. For a long time, this man had been awaiting the salvation of God, and he had been informed by divine revelation that he would not die until he beheld the Lord's Christ. Thus, when he beheld Him at that time and took Him up into his aged arms, he gave glory to God, singing: "Now lettest

Thou Thy servant depart in peace, O Master. . ." And he confessed that he would close his eyes joyfully, since he had seen the Light of revelation for the nations and the Glory of Israel (Luke 2:25-32). From ancient times, the Holy Church has retained this tradition of the churching of the mother and newborn child on the fortieth day and of the reading of prayers of purification.

The Apodosis of the Feast of the Meeting in the Temple is usually on the 9th of February. This, however, may vary if the Feast falls within the period of the Triodion. Should this occur, the Typicon should be consulted for specific information concerning the Apodosis of the Feast.

Hymns of the Day

Resurrectional Apolytikion in the First Mode

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews and the soldiers were guarding Thine immaculate Body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Saviour, granting life unto the world. Wherefore, the powers of the Heavens cried out to Thee, O Lifegiver: Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ. Glory to Thy Kingdom. Glory to Thy dispensation, O only Friend of man.

Τοῦ λίθου σφραγισθέντος ὑπὸ τῶν Ἰουδαίων, καὶ στρατιωτῶν φυλασσόντων τὸ ἄχραντόν σου σῶμα, ἀνέστης τριήμερος Σωτήρ, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὴν ζωὴν. Διὰ τοῦτο αἱ Δυνάμεις τῶν οὐρανῶν ἐβόων σοι Ζωοδότα· Δόξα τῇ ἀναστάσει σου Χριστέ, δόξα τῇ Βασιλείᾳ σου, δόξα τῇ οἰκονομίᾳ σου, μόνε Φιλάνθρωπε.

Apolytikion for Forefeast of the Meeting of the Lord in the First Mode

The Heavens' choir looked down from the vaults of the Heavens, and gazing on the earth, they beheld with amazement the First-born of all creation brought forth as a suckling babe to the Temple by a pure and virginal mother; and with us, they now do sing a hymn for the Forefeast, astonished and full of awe.

Ουράνιος χορός, ουρανίων αψίδων, προκύψας ἐπὶ γῆς, καὶ φερόμενον βλέπων, ὡς βρέφος υπομάζιον, πρὸς ναόν τόν πρωτότοκον, πάσης κτίσεως, ὑπὸ Μητρός απειράνδρου, προεόρτιον, νῦν σὺν ἡμῖν μελωδούσι, φρικτῶς ἐξιστάμενοι.

Apolytikion for Martyr Trypho in the Fourth Mode

Thy Martyr, O Lord, in his courageous contest for Thee received the prize of the crowns of incorruption and life from Thee, our immortal God. For since he possessed Thy strength, he cast down the tyrants and wholly destroyed the demons' strengthless presumption. O Christ God, by his prayers, save our souls, since Thou art merciful.

Ο Μάρτυρ σου Κύριε, ἐν τῇ ἀθλήσει αὐτοῦ, τό στέφος εκομίσατο τῆς ἀφθαρσίας, ἐκ σοῦ τοῦ Θεοῦ ἡμῶν, ἔχων γάρ τὴν ἰσχύν σου, τοὺς τυράννους καθεῖλεν, ἔθραυσε καὶ δαιμόνων, τὰ ἀνίσχυρα θράση, αὐτοῦ ταῖς ἰκεσίας Χριστέ, σώσον τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Apolytikion for St. Elias in the First Mode

The incarnate Angel and the Prophets' summit and boast, the second fore-runner of the coming of Christ, Elias, the glorious, from above he has sent down his grace upon Elisha; he doth cast out sickness and also doth cleanse the lepers; and unto all that honor him, streams of cures he poureth forth.

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Ὁ ἑνσαρκος ἄγγελος, τῶν Προφητῶν ἡ κρηπίς, ὁ δεῦτερος Πρόδρομος τῆς παρουσίας Χριστοῦ, Ἠλίας ὁ ἐνδοξος, ἀνωθεν καταπέμψας, Ἐλισαίῳ τὴν χάριν, νόσους ἀποδίδκει, καὶ λεπρούς καθαρίζει, διὸ καὶ τοῖς τιμῶσιν αὐτὸν βρῦει ἰάματα.

Seasonal Kontakion in the Fourth Mode

On this day doth Symeon receive with gladness God, the Giver of the Law and he doth cry to Him in fear: Let me depart now, O Master Christ, for I have seen Thee, the Glory of Israel.

Ὁς ἀγκάλας σήμερον, πιστοὶ καρδίας, ἐφαπλοῦντες δέξασθε, καθαρωτάτῳ λογισμῷ, ἐπιδημοῦντα τὸν Κύριον, προεορτίους αἰνέσεις προσάδοντες

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Gospel and Epistle Readings

Matins Gospel Reading

First Orthros Gospel

The Reading is from Matthew 28:16-20

At that time, the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. And when they saw him they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, to the close of the age. Amen."

First Orthros Gospel

Κατὰ Ματθαῖον 28.16-20

Οἱ δὲ ἕνδεκα μαθηταὶ ἐπορεύθησαν εἰς τὴν Γαλιλαίαν, εἰς τὸ ὄρος οὗ ἐτάξατο αὐτοῖς ὁ Ἰησοῦς. καὶ ἰδόντες αὐτὸν προσεκύνησαν αὐτῷ, οἱ δὲ ἐδίστασαν. καὶ προσελθὼν ὁ Ἰησοῦς ἐλάλησεν αὐτοῖς λέγων· ἐδόθη μοι πᾶσα ἐξουσία ἐν οὐρανῷ καὶ ἐπὶ γῆς. πορευθέντες μαθητεύσατε πάντα τὰ ἔθνη, βαπτίζοντες αὐτοὺς εἰς τὸ ὄνομα τοῦ Πατρὸς καὶ τοῦ Υἱοῦ καὶ τοῦ Ἁγίου Πνεύματος, διδάσκοντες αὐτοὺς τηρεῖν πάντα ὅσα ἐνετειλάμην ὑμῖν· καὶ ἰδοὺ ἐγὼ μεθ' ὑμῶν εἰμι πάσας τὰς ἡμέρας ἕως τῆς συντελείας τοῦ αἰῶνος. ἀμήν.

Epistle Reading

The Reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the Romans 8:28-39

Brethren, we know that in everything God works for good with those who love him, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the first-born among many brethren. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified.

What then shall we say to this? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, will he not also give us all things with him? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies; who is to condemn? Is it Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised from the dead, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us? Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For thy sake we are being killed all the day long; we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Πρὸς Ῥωμαίους 8:28-39

Ἀδελφοί, οἶδαμεν δὲ ὅτι τοῖς ἀγαπῶσιν τὸν θεὸν πάντα συνεργεῖ εἰς ἀγαθόν, τοῖς κατὰ πρόθεσιν κλητοῖς οὖσιν. Ὅτι οὐδὲν προέγνω, καὶ προώρισεν συμμόρφους τῆς εἰκόνας τοῦ υἱοῦ αὐτοῦ, εἰς τὸ εἶναι αὐτὸν πρωτότοκον ἐν πολλοῖς ἀδελφοῖς· οὐδὲν προώρισεν, τούτους καὶ ἐκάλεσεν· καὶ οὐδὲν ἐκάλεσεν, τούτους καὶ ἐδικαίωσεν· οὐδὲν ἐδικαίωσεν, τούτους καὶ ἐδόξασεν. Τί οὖν ἐροῦμεν πρὸς ταῦτα; Εἰ ὁ θεὸς ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν, τίς καθ' ἡμῶν; Ὅς γε τοῦ ἰδίου υἱοῦ οὐκ ἐφείσατο, ἀλλ' ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν πάντων παρέδωκεν αὐτόν, πῶς οὐκ καὶ σὺν αὐτῷ τὰ πάντα ἡμῖν χαρίζεται; Τίς ἐγκαλέσει κατὰ ἐκλεκτῶν θεοῦ; Θεὸς ὁ δικαίων· τίς ὁ κατακρίνων; Χριστὸς ὁ ἀποθανών, μᾶλλον δὲ καὶ ἐγερθεὶς, ὃς καὶ ἔστιν ἐν δεξιᾷ τοῦ θεοῦ, ὃς καὶ ἐντυγχάνει ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν. Τίς ἡμᾶς χωρίσει ἀπὸ τῆς ἀγάπης τοῦ Χριστοῦ; Θλίψις, ἢ στενοχωρία, ἢ διωγμός, ἢ λιμός, ἢ γυμνότης, ἢ κίνδυνος, ἢ μάχη; Καθὼς γέγραπται ὅτι Ἐνεκέν σου θανατούμεθα ὅλην τὴν ἡμέραν· ἐλογίσθημεν ὡς πρόβατα σφαγῆς. Ἄλλ' ἐν τούτοις πᾶσιν ὑπερνικῶμεν διὰ τοῦ ἀγαπήσαντος ἡμᾶς. Πέπεισμαι γὰρ ὅτι οὔτε θάνατος οὔτε ζωὴ οὔτε ἄγγελος οὔτε ἀρχαὶ οὔτε δυνάμεις οὔτε ἐνεστῶτα οὔτε μέλλοντα οὔτε ὕψωμα οὔτε βάθος οὔτε τις κτίσις ἐτέρα δυνήσεται ἡμᾶς χωρίσαι ἀπὸ τῆς ἀγάπης τοῦ θεοῦ τῆς ἐν Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ τῷ κυρίῳ ἡμῶν.

Gospel Reading

Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee: Triodion Begins Today

The Reading is from Luke 18:10-14

The Lord said this parable, "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee: Triodion Begins Today Κατὰ Λουκᾶν 18.10-14

Εἶπεν ὁ Κύριος τὴν παραβολὴν ταύτην· Ἄνθρωποι δύο ἀνέβησαν εἰς τὸ ἱερὸν προσεύξασθαι, ὁ εἷς Φαρισαῖος καὶ ὁ ἕτερος τελώνης. ὁ Φαρισαῖος σταθεὶς πρὸς ἑαυτὸν ταῦτα προσήχετο· ὁ Θεός, εὐχαριστῶ σοι ὅτι οὐκ εἰμι ὡσπερ οἱ λοιποὶ τῶν ἀνθρώπων, ἄρπαγες, ἄδικοι, μοιχοί, ἢ καὶ ὡς οὗτος ὁ τελώνης· νηστεύω δις τοῦ σαββάτου, ἀποδεκατῶ πάντα ὅσα κτῶμαι. καὶ ὁ τελώνης μακρόθεν ἕστως οὐκ ᾔθελεν οὐδὲ τοὺς ὀφθαλμοὺς εἰς τὸν οὐρανὸν ἐπάρα, ἀλλ' ἔτυπεν εἰς τὸ στήθος αὐτοῦ λέγων· ὁ Θεός, ἰλάσθητί μοι τῶ ἁμαρτωλῶ. λέγω ὑμῖν, κατέβη οὗτος δεδικαιωμένος εἰς τὸν οἶκον αὐτοῦ ἢ γὰρ ἐκεῖνος· ὅτι πᾶς ὁ ὑψῶν ἑαυτὸν ταπεινωθήσεται, ὁ δὲ ταπεινῶν ἑαυτὸν ὑψωθήσεται.

Wisdom of the Fathers

It is possible for those who have come back again after repentance to shine with much lustre, and oftentimes more than those who have never fallen at all, I have demonstrated from the divine writings. Thus at least both the publicans and the harlots inherit the kingdom of Heaven, thus many of the last are placed before the first.

St. John Chrysostom
AN EXHORTATION TO THEODORE AFTER HIS FALL, 4th Century

When lately we made mention of the Pharisee and the publican, and hypothetically yoked two chariots out of virtue and vice; we pointed out each truth, how great is the gain of humbleness of mind, and how great the damage of pride.

St. John Chrysostom
CONCERNING LOWLINESS OF MIND., 4th Century

If there is a moral quality almost completely disregarded and even denied today, it is indeed humility. The culture in which we live constantly instills in us the sense of pride, of self-glorification, and of self-righteousness ... Even our churches - are they not imbued with that same spirit of the Pharisee? Do we not want our every contribution, every 'good deed,' all the we do 'for the Church' to be acknowledged, praised, publicized? ... How does one become humble? The answer, for a Christian, is simple: by contemplating Christ..."

Fr. Alexander Schmemmann
Great Lent, pp. 19-20., 20th Century

Services and Information

Welcome to all visitors! Please join us for fellowship immediately following the Liturgy in the Social Hall. For those visiting an Orthodox Church for the first time, please be aware that Holy communion is a sign of unity of faith which is only offered to baptized and chrismated Orthodox Christians. However, all present are welcome to partake of the antidoron (or blessed bread) which is distributed at the end of the service. Those interested in learning more about the Orthodox Christian faith, please see Fr. Dimitri Pappas after the service.

Visit the church web site: <http://steliasnm.org/>.

Services Schedule

Sundays: Orthros/Matins - 9:00 am; Divine Liturgy - 10:00 am

Weekdays (as announced): Orthros/Matins - 9:00 am; Divine Liturgy - 10:00 am

Saturdays (as announced): Orthros/Matins - 9:00 am; Divine Liturgy - 10:00 am; Vespers - 5:00 pm

January 2015

1 Feb (Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee) 1 prosphoron and coffee hour: Mac Ennis

2 Feb (Monday, Presentation of Our Lord in the Temple) 1 prosphoron: Fr. Dimitrios Pappas

8 Feb (Sunday of the Prodigal Son) 1 prosphoron and coffee hour: Eugenia Parry

14 Feb (1st Saturday of Souls) 1 prosphoron: Fr. Dimitrios Pappas

15 Feb (Judgment Sunday/Meatfare Sunday) 1 prosphoron and coffee hour: April Dellas

21 Feb (2nd Saturday of Souls) 1 prosphoron: Fr. Dimitrios Pappas

22 Feb (Forgiveness Sunday) 1 prosphoron and coffee hour: Frederika Vaupen

28 Feb (3rd Saturday of Souls) 1 prosphoron: Leslie Cook

Parish News and Events

Church Meetings

Parish Council meeting — The next Parish Council meeting will be on Sunday, February 8, after the Divine Liturgy.

Questionnaire for a New Church Building

Please fill in the questionnaire for a new church building and give it to Diane Tintor, or email it to her at diane.tintor@sfcc.edu.

House Blessing 2015

It is the custom of Orthodox Christians throughout the world to have their homes blessed during the THEOPHANY season with Holy water. When the parish priest comes to bless a home, he asks the Lord "to keep safe from all harm those who dwell in the house, bestowing on them His blessing, purification and bodily health, and granting all the petitions which are for the salvation and eternal life". You may offer something to Father for his time and service. Please call Fr. Dimitrios at (505) 204-4655 between now and early February to schedule a blessing.

2015 Stewardship

We thank all of our members who have made a stewardship pledge to our parish of St. Elias the Prophet. Through your continued and loving support, the Parish Council and Fr. Dimitrios Pappas are able to serve as caretakers and deal with the needs and priorities that face our church. We ask that you complete your 2015 pledge card for the New Year and return it to the church at your convenience.

Recycling for St. Elias

The church can recycle your used toner cartridges and inkjet cartridges and receive a donation for their value. When it's time to get a new cartridge, please bring the used one to church, in its packing if possible, and we will recycle it. Every bit that we recycle means more funds for our parish. Please help with this free and painless way to raise money and protect the environment.

Albertson's Community Partners Cards

Wallet and key-ring size Albertson's Community Partners cards are available on the table in the back of the church. When you shop at Albertson's, give the checker your card to scan, and the church will get money back for every dollar you spend.

The iconographers have completed their work for this year

Next summer the iconographers Maria Sigala and Niko Spanopoulos will complete the beautiful iconography begun years ago. If you would like to be part of this historic endeavor please call Fr. Dimitrios or send your donations to the church. Thank you to all of those who have already donated.

Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America News

Encyclical of Archbishop Demetrios for the Feast of Three Hierarchs and Greek Letters Day**01/26/2015**

<http://www.goarch.org/news/encyclicalthreehierarchs2015>

On this blessed Feast of the Three Hierarchs, we give thanks to God for the beautiful and faithful witness of Saints Basil the Great, Gregory the Theologian, and John Chrysostom. Venerated on this day as great Teachers and Theologians, we also recognize them as representative of many great Saints of the Church who have conveyed truth, communicated divine wisdom, and offered an inspiring witness of the Gospel of love. For the depth of their teaching and their ardent defense of the faith, our hymns call all people to a universal celebration on this day.

Schedule of His Eminence Archbishop Demetrios for Jan. 24 - Feb. 1, 2015**01/23/2015**

<http://www.goarch.org/news/adschedule-01-23-2014>

Ionian Village Announces Summer 2015 Financial Aid Travel Grants by FAITH: An Endowment for Orthodoxy and Hellenism**01/21/2015**

<http://www.goarch.org/news/ionianvillagefaith-01212015>

The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America's summer travel program to Greece, Ionian Village, announces the continuation of the FAITH: An Endowment for Orthodoxy and Hellenism sponsored scholarships. Now in its ninth consecutive year these full and partial financial aid grants will be awarded to those participants in the summer camps program in Greece who qualify for need-based financial aid.

Message from Archbishop Demetrios

Encyclical of Archbishop Demetrios for the Feast of Three Hierarchs and Greek Letters Day**01/26/2015**

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