

The Sunday of Orthodoxy

The first Sunday of Great Lent is called the Sunday of Orthodoxy because it commemorates the restoration of the Holy Icons and the triumph of the Orthodox Faith against the terrible heresy of the Iconoclasts, i.e. those heretics who refused to honor the Holy Icons. For more than a hundred years the Church was disturbed by the evil doctrine of iconoclasm.

The first Emperor to persecute the Church was Leo the Isaurian, and the last was Theophilus, the spouse of Saint Theodora (February 11), who reigned after her husband's death and re-established Orthodoxy in the time of Patriarch Methodios (June 14). Empress Theodora proclaimed publicly that we do not kiss the Icons as a sign of worship, nor do we honor them as "gods," but as images of their prototypes.

In the year 843, on the first Sunday of the Fast, Saint Theodora and her son, Emperor Michael, venerated the Holy Icons together with the clergy and the people. Since that time this event has been commemorated every year, because it was definitively determined that we do not worship the Icons, but we honor and glorify all the Saints who are depicted on them. We worship only the Triune God: the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, and no one else, neither a Saint, nor an Angel.

Originally, the Holy Prophets Moses, Aaron, and Samuel were commemorated on this Sunday. The Alleluia verses appointed for today's Liturgy reflect this older usage.

“Let us Attend!”



“This is the Faith that has established the universe...”

A PARISH BULLETIN OF
ALL SAINTS ORTHODOX CHURCH

Olyphant, Pennsylvania

Rev. Paul J. Witek, Ph.D., Rector

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1 March 2026

First Sunday of the Fast -- Sunday of Orthodoxy

Bulletin, Sunday, 1 March 2026

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT — Tone 5. Sunday of Orthodoxy. Martyr Eudokia of Heliopolis (ca. 160–170). Ven. Martyrii (Martyrius) of Zelenétsk (Pskov—1603). Martyrs Nestor, Tribimius, and those with them (3rd c.). Martyr Antonina of Nicæa in Bithynia (3rd–4th c.). Martyrs Marcellus and Anthony. Saint Domnina the Younger of Syria (ca. 450–460). Ven. Agapius of Vatopedi (Mt. Athos).

Epistle: Hebrews 11:24–26, 32–12:2; **Gospel:** John 1:43–51

Our souls and minds are strengthened and fortified by the regular reading of the Holy Scriptures. Daily readings can be found on the parish's wall calendar, or online by visiting the OCA's daily reading page <https://www.oca.org/readings>.

Schedule

- ~ **Today, 4PM Mission Vespers, Holy Trinity Church, Stoudsburg.**
- ~ **Monday, 2 March 2026: 9AM Lenten Hours.**
- ~ **Wednesday, 4 March 2026: 6PM Joint Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts at All Saints followed by Parish potluck. Please bring a covered dish.**
- ~ **Friday, 6 March 2026: 6:30PM General Panikhida for departed members of All Saints, Blessing of Koliva.**
- ~ **Saturday, 7 March 2026. 5–5:45PM Fr. Paul available for Confession; 6PM Great Vespers.**

~ **Sunday, 8 March 2026, Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas 9:30AM, Divine Liturgy followed by Agape Coffee Hour Fellowship.**

Announcements

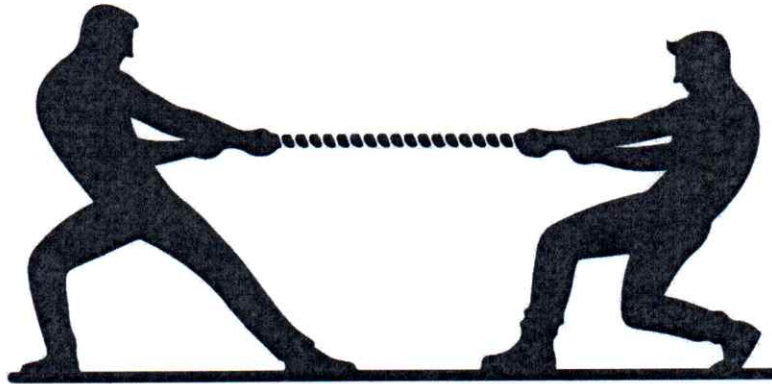
~ We welcome all those who join us today. Please come downstairs and enjoy fellowship together. We have place waiting for you.

~ On Saturday, 14 March 2026, All Saints will hold a workshop with Leadership Consultant Dean Harbry from 9AM–12:30PM. The workshop will focus on acquiring virtue the Middle Way between excess and deprivation. Dean has given many wonderful events at St. Tikhon's and is offering this wonderful opportunity out of his kindness at All Saints. As with our educational series talks it will be sessions with some presentation, but a good deal of discussion. We hope to see you there.

~ All Saints will hold a general Panikhida for departed members of our parish this coming Friday at 6:30PM. Please come and pray for the departed members of your family.

~ Please look at the March calendar of Lenten services during the month of March. Let us continue our Lenten journey by participating as much as possible in the beautiful services of lent held at our parish.

Angry Often??? Frustrated??? Depairing??? Judgmental???
Uncaring??? Combative??? Too Aggressive??? Too Passive???



We tend to live life in the extremes and are in need to view a healthy Middle. All Saints will have a workshop on Saturday, 14 Marh that will shed light on “The middle Way” a concepts known in antiquity and used by the Church Fathers

All Saints Church, Olyphant, PA

Saturday, 14 March 2026, 9AM–12:30PM

Light Lenten Refreshments Provided

Workshop Speaker Dean Harbry



Dean Harbry is founder of the Middle Way Institute and Orthodox Christian Leadership initiative. Following a successful career in corporate world, Dean has dedicated the last twenty-five years in helping individuals, parishes and non-profit and corporate institutions improve themselves by learning from the wisdom of the Fathers of the Church in applying the principles of the Middle Way. Dean lives in the city of Atlanta with his wife Janet. They have four married children and seven grandchildren, attend St. John the Wonderworker Orthodox Church, Grant Park, GA

