

St. Cyril of Alexandria on the Publican and the Pharisee

There are some who live a perfectly honorable and consistent life, practicing every kind of virtuous action, and abstaining from everything disapproved by the law of God, and crowning themselves with perfect praises in the sight of God and of men: while another is perhaps weak and trodden down, and humbled unto every kind of wickedness, guilty of base deeds, loving impurity, given to covetousness, and stained with all evil.

And yet such a one often in old age turns unto God, and asks the forgiveness of his former offences: he prays for mercy, and putting away from him his readiness to fall into sin, sets his affection on virtuous deeds. Or even perhaps when about to close his mortal life, he is admitted to divine baptism, and puts away his offences, God being merciful unto him. And perhaps sometimes persons are indignant at this, and even say, “This man, who has been guilty of such and such actions, and has spoken such and such words, has not paid unto the judge the retribution of his conduct, but has been counted worthy of a grace thus noble and admirable: he has been inscribed among the sons of God, and honored with the glory of the saints.”

Such complaints men sometimes give utterance too from an empty narrowness of mind, not conforming to the purpose of the universal Father. For He greatly rejoices when He sees those who were lost obtaining salvation, and raises them up again to that which they were in the beginning, giving them the dress of freedom, and adorning them with the chief robe, and putting a ring upon their hand, even the orderly behavior which is pleasing to God and suitable to the free.

It is our duty, therefore, to conform ourselves to that which God wills: for He heals those who are sick; He raises those who are fallen; He gives a helping hand to those who have stumbled; He brings back him who has wandered; He forms anew unto a praiseworthy and blameless life those who were wallowing in the mire of sin; He seeks those who were lost; He raises as from the dead those who had suffered the spiritual death.

“Let us Attend!”



“And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. ...”

A PARISH BULLETIN OF
ALL SAINTS ORTHODOX CHURCH
Olyphant, Pennsylvania

20 February 2022 – Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Bulletin, Sunday, 20 February 2022

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON — Tone 2. St. Leo, Bishop of Catania in Sicily (ca. 780). Ven. Agafón (Agathon), Wonderworker of the Kiev Caves (Far Caves—13th -14th c.). Beheading of Ven. Cornelius, Abbot of the Pskov Caves (1570). Hieromartyr Sadoc (Sadoth), Bishop of Persia, and 128 Martyrs with him (342-344). St. Agathon, Pope of Rome (682).

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Gospel: Luke 15:11-32

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 of Services:

Sunday, 27 February 2022: Sunday of the Last Judgment. Meatfare Sunday. Divine Liturgy, 9:30AM. Followed by Coffee Hour Agape.

Announcements ~We warmly welcome back to All Saints Fr. David Hester and Khouria Anne, and we and thank Father for serving and preaching this morning.

~ A warm welcome as well to all visitors. Please join us for coffee hour Agape fellowship downstairs following the Liturgy.

~ The parish will be holding a pre-order only Lenten Food Sale on Friday, 4 March 2022, with food pickup between 11am-and 3pm. Please tell your friends and neighbors. If you wish to place an order, please be in contact with Ann Schlasta or Anne Naughton. Orders must be placed by February 25th.

~Copies of Minutes from the last two meetings of and Financial Reports for the past two months are available with the Bulletin today. A Financial synopsis of the first third of the parish's fiscal year is also attached to the financial reports.

~ The parish is presently in need of purchasing a set of dark vestments to be used during Holy Week services, as services during the weeks of the Great Lent. Those interested in contributing, please see Dr. Paul Witek.

From Great Vespers

What great blessings have I forsaken, wretch that I am?

From what kingdom have I miserably fallen?

I have squandered the riches that were given me;

I have transgressed the commandments.

Woe to me when I shall be condemned to eternal fire!

Cry out to Christ, O my soul, before the end draws nigh://

“Receive me as the Prodigal, O God, and have mercy on me!”