

St. Paul Orthodox Church



A Parish of the Antiochian Christian Archdiocese of North America

Antioch where the followers of Jesus were first called Christians

Acts 11:26



Forgiveness Sunday

"On this last Sunday before Great Lent, the last day that traditionally Orthodox Christians eat dairy products until Easter, the Church remembers the expulsion of Adam and Eve from Paradise. God commanded them to fast from the fruit of a tree (Gen. 2:16), but they did not obey. In this way Adam and Eve and their descendants became heirs of death and corruption.

On Forgiveness Sunday we hear on the Lord's teaching about fasting and forgiveness and enter the season of the fast forgiving one another so that God will forgive them. If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your heavenly Father forgive you your trespasses(Matthew 6:14).

The Gospel reading of the day also gives advice on fasting. Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. (Matthew 6:16-18). Following Forgiveness Sunday, Pure Monday the next day begins Lent, the Great Fast.*from the Greek

Archdiocese

Due to our Clergy Brotherhood Meeting this week, the Parish Council meeting has been moved to Tuesday Feb. 20th

ADULT CLASS

Continue to read Nehemiah 5 & 6. You read about the continuing complaints and grouching about the building project. But this time the complaints come from the Jews themselves. So Nehemiah gets pretty hot under the collar and in doing so he gives us a good lesson in "cooling off"



Cooling off

Takeaways from last Sundays lesson.

How to deal with Discouragement. Nehemiah was being hit with criticism from all sides so he, 1. Directed his Attention to the Lord . Next, he directed workers attention to the Lord 3.Maintain a Balance in Your Thoughts and Actions. What did Nehemiah do next in his attempt to thwart discouragement? He not only prayed but he also went into "action." He maintained a sense of balance between prayer and action.

The Sunday of Orthodoxy We will have a grand procession around the Church, actually inside the Church. Everyone is asked to bring an icon as we proceed as we celebrate the Triumph of the Icons. The Seventh Ecumenical Council convened at Nicea in 787, declared Whenever Icons are contemplated, they will cause those who look at them to commemorate and love their prototype. The Council also deemed that they should be kissed and that they are an object of veneration and honor, but not of real worship, which is reserved for Him Who is the subject of our faith! On this Sunday we will also have a Pan Orthodox celebration of the Triumph of Orthodoxy at St. Anthony's Church in Spring.



Altar Servers for Sunday

Michael Yazigi karl Cook, Joseph Cook, Andrew Cogburn and Ian Reynolds

Reader Daniel Reynolds

Please remember you must be Vested 15 minutes before Matins, dark shoes, and dark slacks



Please remember the sick and recovering, George, John, James, William, Ron, Jared, Mark, Pat, Tiffani, Robert, Kathy, Alex, Dennis, Ethan, Elizabeth, Luda, Igor, Philip, Jeremiah, Anthony, Alfred and Irene

+For those serving in the Armed Forces Brett Sukolics

+With Child ~ Elizabeth Cogburn, Adrienne Gilpin, Ryleigh Gilpin and Paola Myres.

+ For the release of Met. Paul and Archbp. Johanna and for all those suffering persecution for their faith.

+ For our sister diocese of Bosra-Hauran, His Eminence Mt. Saba, the Archmandrite Isaac, the Priests, Peter, George, Peter, Philip, George, Symeon, Elia, Timon, Paul and Anas..

+For the St. Constantine School of Houston

+ Please pray for the repose of the soul of The Rev. Charles Harris brother in law of Subdeacon Elias

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