

*Please silence phones and pagers. Taking photos and videos during the liturgy is prohibited.*

**Saint Sophia Cathedral**



Sunday, February 16, 2020

*Sunday of the Prodigal Son*

All English Liturgy

*Pamphilus the Martyr & his Companions*

First Antiphon

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and  
all that is within me bless His  
holy Name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and  
forget not all that He has  
done for you.

The Lord in heaven has prepared  
His throne, and His kingdom  
rules over all.

Second Antiphon

Praise the Lord, O my soul; I will  
praise the Lord in my life; I  
will chant unto my God for  
as long as I have my being.

Blessed is He of whom the God  
of Jacob is his help, whose  
hope is in the Lord his God.

The Lord shall be King unto  
eternity; your God, O Zion,  
from generation  
to generation.

Third Antiphon

This is the day the Lord has  
made; let us rejoice and be  
glad in it.

Let the heavens and the earth  
praise Him.

HYMNS AT THE SMALL ENTRANCE

**Resurrection Apolytikion**

When Thou descended to an earthly death, Thou who art immortal Life, then did Thou strike down Hades by the lightning of Thy divinity and Lord when Thou did raise from the depths all those who were dead, all the Heavenly powers cried out to Thee: O Christ our God and giver of life, Glory to Thee.

**Troparion of Saint Sophia (Holy Wisdom)**

Blessed are You O Christ our God, Who as all wise the fishermen You showed forth; By sending your Holy Spirit down upon them and through them the universe You drew unto your net. O lover of mankind Glory to You.

**Kontakion for the Sunday of the Prodigal Son**

In my senseless bad deeds, I fled your fatherly glory, and I squandered all of the wealth that you gave to me; unto you, merciful father, I cry out saying: I have sinned, just as the Prodigal told you; and then may I be received as a hired servant, who comes repentant to you.

*We welcome baptized Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared to receive Holy Communion. All are welcome to receive a blessing.*

*Please let the children come first, then wait for the ushers to guide you out row by row.*

**SAINT SOPHIA CATHEDRAL**

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V. Rev. Father John S. Bakas  
*Dean*  
Fr. Christopher Kolentsas  
*Assistant Priest*

# Scripture Reading

*Faith comes by hearing...*

Epistle Reader Oriana Tavoularis

**Priest:** Let Us Attend...

**Reader:** The Lord is my strength and my song...the Lord has chastened me sorely.

**Priest:** Wisdom.

**Reader:** The reading is from St. Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians (6:12-20)

**Priest:** Let us be attentive...

Brethren, "all things are lawful for me," but not all things are helpful. "All things are lawful for me," but I will not be enslaved by anything. "Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food" -- and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two shall become one flesh." But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body and in your spirit which belong to God.

## **THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. LUKE (15:11-32)**

The Lord said this parable: "There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his belly with the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.' And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.' But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, 'Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.'"

# Memorials

*May their memory be eternal...*

*Among the spirits of the righteous perfected in faith, give rest, O Savior to the souls of your servants...*

<i>Peter Mellos (8 years)</i>	<i>Donna Alex</i>	<i>Kalliope Maltas</i>
<i>Anthony (Tony) Mellos (2 years)</i>	<i>Marigo Fovos</i>	<i>Konstantinos Lekas</i>
<i>Chase Morrison (2 years)</i>	<i>Yianni Fovos</i>	<i>Astasia Kitchens</i>
<i>Christos Vasiliadis</i>	<i>George Fovos</i>	<i>Lucy</i>
<i>Evdokia Argyri</i>	<i>Athina Fovos</i>	<i>Sebastian Opffer</i>
<i>Ioannis Argyris</i>	<i>Mihalis Fovos</i>	<i>Angeliki Karatsikis (1 year)</i>
<i>Jim Alex</i>	<i>Katina Malta</i>	

## **ALTAR CANDLES**

Offered in loving memory of Peter and Tony Mellos by Donna and Anthony Tyler Mellos.

## **ALTAR TABLE CANDLES**

Offered in loving memory of Chase Morrison by his wife Mary Morrison.

Offered in loving memory of Christos Vasiliadis, Evdokia Argyri, Ioannis Argyris, Jim Alex and Donna Alex by Mary Morrison.

## **SOLEA CANDLES**

Offered in loving memory of Astasia Kitchens by her husband Russell, son Christopher and brother Steven.

## **PERPETUAL CANDLES**

Offered in loving memory of Konstantinos Lekas by Patricia Della-Corna.

## **COFFEE HOUR SPONSORS**

Offered in loving memory of Peter and Tony Mellos by Donna and Anthony Tyler Mellos.

## ***Special Appreciation to Mary Gallanis***

*For sponsoring the Altar Candles and Coffee Hour Last Sunday*

In loving memory for the families of Gallanis, Arvanitis, Spiro, and Argyros



## TRUE TRANSFORMATION

*Lacantius*

The power of divine wisdom is so great that, when infused into one's heart, it expels foolishness (the mother of all faults) by one impulse—once and for all. This wisdom doesn't need payment, books, or nightly studies to come about. But the results are accomplished freely, easily, and quickly, if only the ears are open and the heart thirsts for wisdom. Don't be afraid: we don't sell water or offer the sun as a reward. The fountain of God, most abundant and full, is open to everyone. This heavenly light rises for everyone who has eyes. Did the philosophers bring about these things, or can they accomplish these results if they want? For although they spend their lives studying philosophy, they can neither improve any person nor improve themselves. Their wisdom at its best doesn't eradicate, but actually hides faults. However, a few of God's principles will change people so completely and make them new by having them put off their old selves so that you wouldn't recognize them as the same.

## PUBLICAN AND PHARISEE

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 past week they called it 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 last Sunday, 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.

### **The Mission of Saint Sophia Cathedral**

- 1. Proclaim and teach the Gospel according to the Orthodox Christian Faith*
- 2. Sanctify and enhance the spiritual life of the faithful through Orthodox Christian worship.*
- 3. Receive persons into the Church through instruction, baptism and/or chrismation.*

### Sunday, February 16

8:30 am — Orthros  
9:45 am — Memorials  
10:00 am — *Divine Liturgy*  
12:30 pm — Bible Faith Studies

### Monday, February 17

Office Closed — President's Day

### Tuesday, February 18

11:00 am — Bible Studies

### Saturday, February 22

*1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of Souls*  
9:00 am — Orthros  
10:00 am — *Divine Liturgy*

