



Protection of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church

OUR SUNDAY BULLETIN

February 7 2010

**Sunday of Meatfare /Tone 2
Sunday of the Last Judgment**



Protection of the Virgin Mary

8600 Grand Blvd.
Merrillville, IN 46410
(219) 947-4748 (Church)
(219) 730-4698 (Hall Rental)

Great Vespers
Saturday - 4 PM
Feast Days - 7 PM
Divine Liturgy
Sunday - 9:45 AM
Feast Days - 9 AM
Sunday Adult class 9Am
Children's classes after liturgy

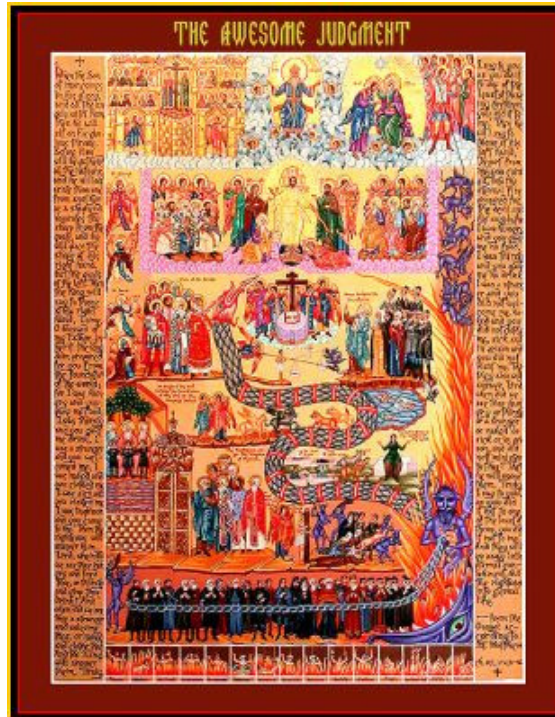
Fr. Peter Bodnar, Rector

Fr. Christopher Sarafin

All services in English

A parish of the
Orthodox Church in America

PtvM.com



**Sunday of Meatfare
/Tone 2
Sunday of the Last
Judgment
Afterfeast of the
Meeting of our
Lord in the Temple
St Parthenius the
Bishop of
Lampsacus on the
Hellespont
Venerable Luke of
Hellas 1,003
Martyrs of
Nicomedia Martyr
Aule**

Tone 2 Troparion (Resurrection)
When You descended to death, O Life Immortal,
You destroyed hell with the splendor of Your
Godhead.
And when from the depths You raised the dead,
all the powers of heaven cried out://
“O Giver of life, Christ our God, glory to You!”

**Tone 1 Kontakion (from the Lenten
Triodion)**
When You, O God, shall come to earth with
glory,
all things shall tremble,
and the river of fire shall flow before Your
judgment seat;
the books shall be opened, and the hidden
things disclosed;
then deliver me from the unquenchable fire,//
and make me worthy to stand at Your right
hand, O Righteous Judge!

Tone 3 Prokeimenon
Great is our Lord, and abundant in power,
His understanding is beyond
measure. (Ps 146/147:5)
*v: Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing
praises to our God! (Ps 146/147:1)*
Epistle
1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2

Tone 8
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!
*v: Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us
make a joyful noise to God our
Savior! (Ps 94/95:1)*
*v: Let us come before His face with
thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to
Him with songs of praise! (Ps 94/95:2)*

Gospel Matthew 25:31-46

Readings for Sunday Feb 7 2010

1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 (Epistle)

But food does not commend us to God; for neither if we eat are we the better, nor if we do not eat are we the worse. But beware lest somehow this liberty of yours become a stumbling block to those who are weak. For if anyone sees you who have knowledge eating in an idol's temple, will not the conscience of him who is weak be emboldened to eat those things offered to idols? And because of your knowledge shall the weak brother perish, for whom Christ died? But when you thus sin against the brethren, and wound their weak conscience, you sin against Christ. Therefore, if food makes my brother stumble, I will never again eat meat, lest I make my brother stumble. Am I not an apostle? Am I not free? Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? Are you not my work in the Lord? If I am not an apostle to others, yet doubtless I am to you. For you are the seal of my apostleship in the Lord

Matthew 25:31-46 (Gospel)

When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides his sheep from the goats. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. Then the King will say to those on His right hand, 'Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: 'for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.' Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? 'When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? 'Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?' And the King will answer and say to them, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these My brethren, you did it to Me.' Then He will also say to those on the left hand, 'Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels: 'for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.' Then they also will answer Him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see You hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to You?' Then He will answer them, saying, 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to Me.' And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.

Today's Gospel reading is Matthew 25:31-46, the parable of the Last Judgment.

It reminds us that while trusting in Christ's love and mercy, we must not forget His righteous judgment when He comes again in glory.

If our hearts remain hardened and unrepentant, we should not expect the Lord to overlook our transgressions simply because He is a good and loving God. Although He does not desire the death of a sinner, He also expects us to turn from our wickedness and live (Ezek. 33:11). This same idea is expressed in the prayer read by the priest after the penitent has confessed his or her sins (Slavic practice).

The time for repentance and forgiveness is now, in the present life. At the Second Coming, Christ will appear as the righteous Judge, Who will render to every man according to his deeds" (Rom. 2:6). Then the time for entreating God's mercy and forgiveness will have passed.

As Father Alexander Schmemmann reminds us in his book GREAT LENT (Ch. 1:4), sin is the absence of love, it is separation and isolation.

When Christ comes to judge the world, His criterion for judgment will be love. Christian love entails seeing Christ in other people, our family, our friends, and everyone else we may encounter in our lives.

We shall be judged on whether we have loved, or not loved, our neighbor. We show Christian love when we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit those who are sick or in prison.

If we did such things for the least of Christ's brethren, then we also did them for Christ (Mt.25:40). If we did not do such things for the least of the brethren, neither did we do them for Christ (Mt.25:45).

Today is the last day for eating meat and meat products until Pascha, though eggs and dairy products are permitted every day during the coming week.

This limited fasting prepares us gradually for the more intense fasting of Great Lent.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY.....February 7, 2010

SUNDAY 7 9am Adult class, 9:45 3rd Hr 10:00 Divine Liturgy
Church School , Ptc Meets, Maslinitza Meal

TUESDAY 9 6pm Prayer Service

THURSDAY 11 7pm Choir Practice

SATURDAY 13 4pm Great Vespers
check your monthly bulletin for more dates and information

COPTIC ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS
ARE FROM WHICH COUNTRY ?

- A EGYPT
- B INDIA
- C ARMENIA
- D RUSSIA

A

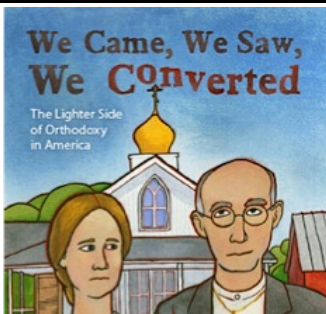
SAVE THE DATE: APRIL 11, 2010

The combined parishes "Spring Fashion Show" will be on Sunday, April 11, 2010 at the Avalon Manor. Please help to make this a success by donating a themed basket, baking your dessert specialty, and asking as many family members, friends, colleagues, or co-workers to join us for this annual event. Enjoy a delicious luncheon, awesome raffle prizes, and the latest men's and women's fashions from Fashion Affair and John Cicco's!

Fashion Affair Boutique
- Wonderful clothes for every event
- Come browse around
233 E 84th Dr
Merrillville, IN 46410

The "O" Club would like to thank everyone who joined us for the trip to the Merrillville Planetarium. Thirty people enjoyed the trip to the stars and back.

If you have any suggestions for future inexpensive trips, please contact Nick or Melody Rozdelsky. Thank you!



Ancient faith radio

Veni, vidi, vici"

kind of a play on words for I came, I saw, I conquered

Julius Caesar

In this case the illustration says I **Converted**. Pretty hard to do if you have no idea what The Orthodox Faith is.

Perhaps you could invite a friend to church. Or if this is not possible suggest they listen to ancient faith radio to help them learn about the faith

ancientfaith.com

Mission Awareness!

As the OCMC Mission Ambassador representing our church, I wanted to make you aware of an upcoming opportunity: On February 11, Mission Team Chicago will be hosting their 2010 OCMC Benefit Banquet at St. John the Baptist Church in Des Plaines, IL.

The keynote speaker will be Father Hatfield. He served as Dean of St. Herman's Seminary in Kodiak, Alaska from 2002-2007 before becoming chancellor of St. Vladimir's Seminary.

Mission Team Chicago (est. 1996) is comprised of former OCMC mission team members and others interested in forwarding Orthodox Christian mission work at home and abroad.

I will be attending and strongly encourage anyone who would like to attend to let me know; we can arrange to carpool if necessary.

Cost for the dinner is \$30. Even though the drive is a bit far, I'm sure the evening will be spiritually uplifting. One never knows what doors Christ will open for us!

Submitted by: Monika Kostron

email bulletin items to

ptvmchurchgrowth@live.com