

Parish established in 1991 - Church blessed in October, 1997

OUR LADY OF WISDOM BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

2120 Lindell Road, Las Vegas, NV 89146 – (702) 873-5101

E-mail: OLOWIS@embarqmail.com – Website: www.OurLadyOfWisdom.net

Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00am - 4:30pm

February 15th & 16th, 2014

Parish Served By:

Rt. Rev. Archimadrite Francis M. Vivona, S.T.M., J.C.L., Pastor

Rev. Archdeacon Stephen E. Casmus, M.A.

Rev. Subdeacon Paul F. Kilroy

Rose Watkins, Christodoulah

Kehaulani Harker, Matriarch – William Griffith, Patriarch

Toni Ritchey, Secretary – Claire Lynott, Finance Officer

Donna Logan, Prayer Line Coordinator (873-2378)

Liturgies and Services:

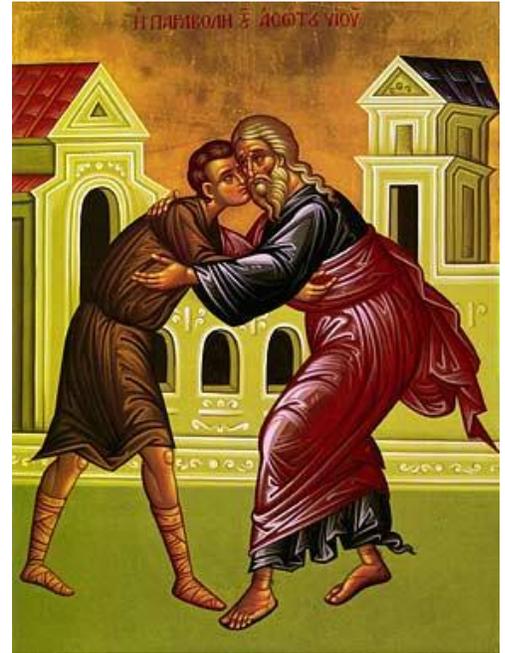
Vesper Divine Liturgy: Saturday, 5:00 PM

Third Hour – Sunday: 10:00 AM

Divine Liturgy – Sunday 10:30 AM

Third Hour – Monday-Friday: 9:00 AM

Confessions: 15 minutes before each Liturgy or by appointment



The Return of the Prodigal Son

Our Lady of Wisdom Mission Statement

Our mission is to foster a Catholic and Godly renewal with worship through the awe-inspiring Liturgy of the Byzantine Catholic Church; in order to bring the message of the Living Lord to the faithful and seekers of truth.

Parish Membership

The Family of Our Lady of Wisdom is open to any Catholic, and to anyone:

- who is interested in seeking the Lord Jesus Christ through His Word and Sacred Mysteries (Sacraments)
- who accepts the teachings of the Catholic Church
- who will help us form a community based on the Lord's love
- who is willing to grow as a Christian within the legitimate traditions of the Byzantine Catholic Church
- who acknowledges the authority of the Pope, Bishop and Pastor
- who will attend Liturgical Services on Saturday or Sunday, and on the Great Holy Days
- who is willing to support the growth of the Church by sharing their Time, Talent and Treasure (financial support)
- who will participate in the yearly Bishop's Appeal

For registration information, please contact the Parish Office.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, February 15 – St. Onesimus, Apostle

9:00am - Third Hour

5:00pm - Vesper Liturgy +Chase Lopez

Readings: 2 Tim 3:1-9; Lk 20:46-21:4

Sunday, February 16 – Sunday of the Prodigal Son

10:00am - Third Hour

10:30am - Divine Liturgy +Pat Dan

Readings: 1 Cor 6:12-20; Lk 15:11-32

Monday, February 17 - Theodore the Recruit, Great Martyr

9:00am - Third Hour

Readings: 1 Jn 2:18-3:10; Mk 11:1-11

Tuesday, February 18 – Leo the Great, Pope

9:00am - Third Hour

Readings: 1 3:10-20; Mk 14:10-42

Wednesday, February 19 – St. Archippus, Apostle

9:00am - Third Hour

7:00pm - Vigil Liturgy +Sal and Anna Iacono

Readings: 1 Jn 3:21-4:6; Mk 14:43-15:1

Thursday, February 20 – Leo of Catania, Bishop

9:00am - Third Hour

Readings: 1 Jn 4:20-5:21; Mk 15:1-15

Friday, February 21 – St. Timothy, Venerable

9:00am - Third Hour

11:00am - Divine Liturgy +Harvey Terry

Readings: 2 Jn 1-13; Mk 15:2-25.33-41

Saturday, February 22 – 1st All Souls Saturday

9:00am - Third Hour

11:00am - All Souls Liturgy +Audrey Prissel

Readings: 1 Thes 4:13-17; Jn 5:24-30

5:00pm - Vesper Liturgy +Daria Dreschler

Readings: 1 Cor 10:23-28; Lk 21:8-9.25-27.33-36

Sunday, February 23 – Sunday of Meat Fare

10:00am - Third Hour

10:30am - Divine Liturgy +Paul and Agatha Franta

Readings: 1 Cor 8:8-9:2; Mt 25:31-46

St. Onesimus, Apostle, was a slave of Filemon, later a disciple of the Apostle Paul. He became Bishop of Ephesus after St. Timothy and died a martyr at Rome. **Paphnutius**, Venerable-Hermit in Egypt and his daughter, **Euphrosyne**.

SS. Pamphilius, Valentine, Paul, Seleucus, Porphyry, Julian, Theodulus, and the five Martyrs of Egypt, **Elias, Jeremias, Isaias, Samuel, and Daniel**, suffered martyrdom during the reign of Diocletian. Our Venerable Father, **Flavianus**, Archbishop of Constantinople, died of ill treatment A.D. 450 and already the Fathers of Chalcedon proclaimed his Sanctity A.D. 451.

St. Theodore of Tyre, the Great Martyr, was burned to death A.D. 306, during the reign of Emperor Maximian Herculeus. Memory of **St. Mariamna**, sister of Philip, the Apostle.

Our Holy Father, **Leo the Great**, Pope of Rome, opposed the Nestorians and taught, like St. Cyril of Alexandria, the unity of person in Christ. He saved Rome from the invasion of Attila and died A.D. 461 during the reign of Emperor Leo the Great.

St. Archippus, Apostle, a co-worker with St. Paul, first Bishop of the Colossians. Tradition says he was stoned to death during the reign of Emperor Nero. **SS. Maxim, Theodot, Isychus, and Asklepiodotus**, Martyrs.

Our Venerable Father, **Leo**, Bishop of Catania, in Sicily. By his miracles he acquired the name "Wonder-Worker." He lived near Mt. Etna, the first of which consumed Iliodorus, the sorcerer. He died about A.D. 780, during the reign of Leo IV and Constantine. **St. Sadok**, Priest-Martyr and, with him, 128 fellow Christians put to death by King Sapor of Persia A.D. 345. **St. Agatho**, Venerable, Pope of Rome, died A.D. 682.

Our Venerable Father, **Timothy**, Hermit. Our Holy Father, **Eustacius**, Archbishop of Antioch, assisted at the Ecumenical Council of Nicea. He contended against the Arians by word and pen. He died about A.D. 337, during the reign of emperor Constantine the Great.

Finding of the Venerable Relics of SS. Martyrs at Eugenia. Venerable **Peter**, Monk, and **Athanasius**, suffered martyrdom at the hands of Iconoclasts A.D. 735, during the reign of Leo III, the Isaurian, Emperor.

ST. LEO THE GREAT, POPE OF ROME (+461)

St. Leo the Great, Pope of Rome, was born in Rome, of devout parents. At first, he served as Archdeacon under Pope Sixtus III. Following the death of Sixtus, he was elevated, against his will, to the See of Rome. When Attila, with his Huns, drew near to Rome, and was preparing to destroy and to set fire to the city, St. Leo came out before him in the Episcopal vestments, mitigated the wrath of the leader of the Huns, and averted the destruction of Rome. Attila was also terrified by a vision of the Apostles Peter and Paul, who stood alongside St. Leo and, with flaming swords, threatened him.

St. Leo also did much to save Orthodoxy from the heresy of Eutyches and Dioscorus. This heresy consisted in the merging of the Divine and Human Natures of Christ into one and, consequently, the denial of the Two Wills in the person of the Lord Savior. Because of this, the 4th Ecumenical Council (451) was convened, at which the Epistle of St. Leo was read.

Before his death, St. Leo spent 40 days in fasting and prayer at the tomb of St. Peter, beseeching him to tell him whether his sins were forgiven. The Apostle Peter appeared to him and said that all of his sins are forgiven, except the sin of ordaining unworthy Priests, when it is evident how grave a sin it is to ordain one who is unworthy. After a further 40 days spent in fasting and prayer, it was revealed to him that all sins had been forgiven. He reposed peacefully in 461.

Parish Information and Important Dates ++++

PARISH OFFICES will be closed on Monday, February 17th.

IRISH FOLK NIGHT is set for Friday, February 21st, at 7:00pm. Tickets are \$25.00 per person. Drinks are not included. An Irish folk singer will be here, providing wonderful entertainment.

ALL SOULS DIVINE LITURGYS begin on Saturday, February 22nd, at 11:00am. Please fill in the names on the All Souls Envelopes and place them in the plate in front of the Holy Cross in the church.

BISHOP'S APPEAL has begun!!! This year's parish goal is \$14, 800.00. The Eparchy is asking for a sacrificial offering of \$200.00 per household. The parish will receive a percentage of all the monies collected over our parish goal. This money will become part of our new ECF building fund. It is also our parish goal to obtain 100% from our parishioners. The Bishop's Appeal ends on May 31, 2014. May God bless your generous sacrifice.

The Prodigal Son

Then He said: "A certain man had two sons. And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So he divided to them his livelihood. And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there, wasted his possessions with prodigal living. But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land and he began to be in want. Then, he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country and he sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his stomach 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, and I perish 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 and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants."'"

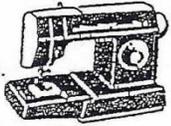
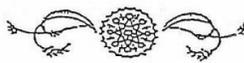
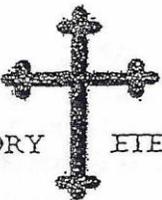
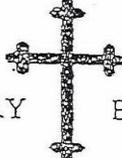
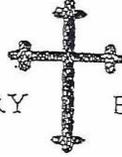
"And he arose and came to his father. But, when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him. And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.' But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet. And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry; for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry."

"Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. So he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant. And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.' But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore, his father came out and pleaded with him. So he answered and said to his father, 'Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat that I might make merry with my friends. But, as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.' And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours. I was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.'"

This beautiful parable tells the story of the sins of a son and the unconditional love of a father. God is our Father who loves us unconditionally. Like the prodigal, we so often turn from our Father and we too must come home through humble repentance. Repentance is a turning from sin and turning toward God. It comes from seeing ourselves as we are. Our Heavenly Father is eagerly waiting with Open Arms for us to see and turn from our sins and come home to Him.

Much is often said about the prodigal son and his father in the parable, but an equally important character is the brother. He is much like the Pharisee we read of last week, trying to measure himself by the sins of his brother. This is an easy trap to fall into with all the evil in the world. We say to ourselves, "I am not as bad as this person," or "At least, I do this." But as a Father, God loves us all; He knows our hearts and what has been given to us. Therefore, He deals with each of us, individually.



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