

Parish established on January 29, 1993 - Church blessed in October 4, 2007

# OUR LADY OF WISDOM

## ITALO-GREEK BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

E-mail: [OLOWIS@embarqmail.com](mailto:OLOWIS@embarqmail.com) – Website: [www.OurLadyOfWisdom.net](http://www.OurLadyOfWisdom.net)

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

# February 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, 2017

### **PARISH SERVED BY:**

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

Rev. Fr. Stephen E. Casmus, M.A.T., Parochial Vicar

Subdeacon Paul F. Kilroy (Contact for Parish Safe Environment Program)

Rose Watkins, Christodoulah

Toni Ritchey, Secretary – Claire Lynott, Finance Officer

Mary Weishaar, ECF Director

William St. George, Prayer Line Director (702-379-5268 / Bill@lvac.com)

### **LITURGIES AND SERVICES:**

Vesper Divine Liturgy: Saturday, 5:00 PM

Third Hour – Sunday: 10:00 AM

Divine Liturgy – Sunday 10:30 AM

Third Hour and Communion – Mon, Tues, Thurs, and Fri: 9:00 AM

Confessions: 15 minutes before each Liturgy or by appointment

Supplicatsia: [Prayer of Supplication]

Last Thursday of every month: all day adoration 9AM-7PM

Closing with Divine Liturgy and Moleben to Saint Jude

Myrrh-Bearers: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month: 7PM



Publican and Pharisee

### **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.**

# CHRIST IS AMONG US! HE IS AND ALWAYS WILL BE!

## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FOR THE WEEK

**Saturday, February 4 – Isidore, Venerable**

**5:00pm – Vesper Liturgy: +Kenneth W. Kelso**

Readings: 2 Tim 2:11-19; Lk 18:2-8

**Sunday, February 5 – Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee**

**10:00am – Third Hour**

**10:30am – Divine Liturgy: +Deceased members of Olender Family**

Readings: 2 Tim 3:10-15; Lk 18:10-14

**Teaching: Mt Ch 8 & 9 (Miracles) – Father Francis**

**Monday, February 6 – Bucolus, Bishop**

**9:00am – Third Hour and Communion**

Readings: 2 Peter 1:20-2:9; Mk 13:9-13

**Tuesday, February 7 – Parthenius, Bishop**

**9:00am – Third Hour and Communion**

Readings: 2 Peter 2:9-22; Mk 13:14-23

**Wednesday, February 8 – Theodore, Great Martyr**

**11:00am – Divine Liturgy: +Antoinette Corona**

Readings: 2 Peter 3:1-18; Mk 13:24-31

Readings for the Martyr: 2 Tim 2:1-10; Mt 10:16-22

**6:00pm – Teaching: Mt Ch 10 & 11 (Mission of the Twelve) – Rose Watkins**

**Thursday, February 9 – Nicephor, Martyr**

**9:00am – Third Hour and Communion**

Readings: 1 Jn 1:8-2:6; Mk 13:31-14:2

**Friday, February 10 – Charalampus, Martyr**

**9:00am – Third Hour and Communion**

Readings: 1 Jn 12:7-17; Mk 14:3-9

**Saturday, February 11 – St. Blasé, Bishop-Martyr**

**11:00am – Divine Liturgy and Blessing of Throats:**

**+Deceased members of the Sirgo Family**

**5:00pm – Divine Liturgy:**

**+Deceased members of the Maranzo Family**

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

**Sunday, February 12 – Sunday of the Prodigal Son**

**10:00am – Third Hour**

**10:30am – Divine Liturgy: +Angelina Maranzo**

**Panahida - +Margaret Lynott**

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

**Teaching: Mt Ch 12 & 13 (Parables) – Father Stephen**

4<sup>th</sup> – Our Venerable Father, **Isidore** of Pelusium, founder of a monastery at Pelusium, and was held in great esteem as a theologian and guide of souls. Died about A.D. 450. **St. Jador**, Martyr, was put to death by Numerius, during the reign of the Emperor Decius.

5<sup>th</sup> – **St. Agatha**, Martyr, suffered death in prison A.D. 250 under the leadership of Quintinianus, during the reign of Emperor Decius.

6<sup>th</sup> – Our Venerable Father, **Bucolus**, Bishop of Smyrna. He lived in the days of St. John the Evangelist, by whom he was appointed Bishop before Polycarp, Martyr.

7<sup>th</sup> – Our Venerable Father, **Parthenius**, Bishop of Lampsachia, died A.D. 318, during the reign of Emperor Constantine the Great — Our Venerable Father, Luke, who was in Helladia of Syria.

8<sup>th</sup> – **St. Theodore**, the great Martyr, was a general in the army of the Emperor Licinius. He suffered death at Heraclea in Thrace A.D. 318. **St. Zacharias**, the Prophet, was one of the tribe of Levi 520 B.C.

9<sup>th</sup> – **St. Nicephorus**, Martyr, a Syrian Christian, took the place of Sapphirus, who apostatized before a heathen judge and was put to death A.D. 260, during the reign of Emperor Valerian.

10<sup>th</sup> – **St. Charalampus**, Martyr, endured death by the sword A.D. 203, at Magnesia in Asia Minor, in the hegemony of Lucianus, in the reign of Emperor Septimius Severus.

11<sup>th</sup> – **St. Blasé**, Bishop-Martyr, suffered martyrdom A.D. 316, at Sebaste. He was beheading during the hegemony of Licinius, in the reign of Constantine the Great, Emperor.

12<sup>th</sup> – Our Holy Father, **Meletius**, Archbishop of Great Antioch, was elected to the Patriarchal See in A.D. 360, but within a month, he was sent into exile by the Emperor Constantius. Reinstated in 378, he held a council of 150 Bishops and took prominent part in the Council of Constantinople A.D. 38, in the reign of Theodosius the Great. **St. Marina**, Virgin, in male attire, lived in the monastery to the year A.D. 440.

## ST. DIONYSIUS OF MT. OLYMPUS, GREECE

St. Dionysius was born into a family of poor parents in Phanarion Diocese (central Greece). From his youth, he was fond of reading the divine books and of prayer. Upon the death of his parents, he decided to accept monasticism and, with this aim, he set out for Holy Mount Athos. There he settled with the pious Elder Seraphim and, under his guidance, began to lead an ascetic life, in particular practicing strict fasting. Soon he was ordained Deacon and Presbyter, and was elected Abbot of Philotheou Monastery. After some time, since he valued peace and love above all things, he withdrew to the Skete of Verria and then to Mt. Olympus. There he founded a famous Monastery (which was blown up by the Germans in World War II). Having attained the spiritual heights, he worked many miracles. He compiled a Rule for the monastic life, himself being an exemplar of monastic activity.

He died in old age and was buried in his Monastery. Today, his Head is situated in Dochiariou Monastery, Mt. Athos, and his jaw and right hand in the new Monastery in honour of his name at Litohoro, Pieria, Greece.

# +++ **PARISH INFORMATION AND IMPORTANT DATES** +++

**BLESSING OF THROATS** will be during the 11:00am Divine Liturgy on Saturday, February 11<sup>th</sup>.

**ALL SOULS LITURGY** – The first All Souls Liturgy will be on Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00am. Please return the envelopes with the names of those beloved who have fallen asleep before Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup>.

**BISHOP'S APPEAL HAS BEGUN!!** As is done each year, we are asked to participate in the Bishop's Appeal. I ask that you prayerfully consider the pledge that you give to the Bishop for the Work of the Eparchy. Please remember that this is a parishioner obligation and the recommended sacrificial pledge is \$200.00 per household, which can be paid in monthly installments until May 31, 2017. God Bless You!

## **SUNDAY OF THE PUBLICAN AND THE PHARISEE**

biblical story

The name for this Sunday is taken from the parable of our Lord Jesus Christ found in *Luke 18:10-14*. This is the story of two men, one a Pharisee, a member of a Jewish sect known for its diligent observance of the Law, and the other a Publican, a government official charged with the responsibility of collecting taxes.

Both men enter the temple and the Pharisee stands openly and prays, thanking God that he is not like other men, specifically extortioners, the unjust, adulterers, "or even this tax collector" (v. 11). He then begins to list his religious accomplishments by stating, "I fast twice a week and I give tithes of all that I possess" (v. 12).

In direct contrast to the pride of the Pharisee, the Publican goes to a place where he will not be noticed by others and beats his breast saying, "God, be merciful to me a sinner!" (v. 13).

Having told this story, Jesus affirms that it was the Publican who returned home justified and forgiven rather than the Pharisee. He states, "Everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted" (v. 14).

The theme of this parable is repentance. Repentance is the door through which we enter Lent, the starting-point of the journey to Pascha. To repent signifies far more than self-pity or futile regret over things done in the past. The Greek term metanoia means "change of mind." To repent is to be renewed, to be transformed in our inward viewpoint, to attain a fresh way of looking at our relationship with God and with others. The fault of the Pharisee is that he has no desire to change his outlook; he is complacent, self-satisfied, and so he allows no place for God to act within him. The Gospel depicts him as a man that is pleased only with himself, who thinks that he has complied with all of the requirements of religion. But in his pride, he has falsified the meaning of true religion and faith. He has reduced these to external observations, measuring his piety by the amount of money he gives.

The Publican, on the other hand, truly longs for a "change of mind." He humbles himself and his humility justifies him before God. He becomes, in the words of the Sermon on the Mount (*Matthew 5:3*), "poor in spirit." He acknowledges that he is a sinner and he knows that salvation is only found in the mercy of God. Here we find an example of true humility; an essential aspect of repentance. A "change of mind" and the transformation of our lives can only happen when we humble ourselves before God, acknowledge our willingness to turn from sin, and receive His grace into our lives.

Our preparation for Lent thus begins with a prayer for humility, the beginning of true repentance. Through repentance, we can find and return to the true order of things, a restoration of our spiritual vision that will guide us in a very difficult and challenging world. By entering Great Lent in humility and repentance, we can attain deeper communion with God as we receive His forgiveness and He blesses by guiding us to greater spiritual heights.



