

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 – Website: www.OurLadyOfWisdom.net

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

March 4th and 5th, 2017

PARISH SERVED BY:

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

Subdeacon Paul F. Kilroy

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



42 Martyrs of Ammorium

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, March 4 – Commemoration of Miracle of Great-Martyr Theodore

5:00pm – Vesper Liturgy: +Billy Jean Telles (Kutia after Liturgy)

Readings: Heb 1:1-12; Mk 2:23-3:5

Sunday, March 5 – 1st Sunday of the Great Fast/ Procession of the Icons (Bring Icons from home for procession)

10:00am – Third Hour

10:30am – Divine Liturgy: +Joseph Bartish

Readings: Heb 11:24-26.32-12:2; Jn 1:43-51

12:30 pm – Meatless Pot Luck (Bring meatless covered dish)

Teaching: Mt 24 & 25 (Doctrine of Last Things)

Monday, March 6 – 42 Martyrs of Ammorium

9:00am – Third Hour and Communion

5:00pm – Soup Suppers - Jeremiah

Reading: Gen 3:21-4:7; Prov 3:34-4:22

Tuesday, March 7 – Basil and Others, Bishop-Martyrs of Cherson

9:00am – Third Hour and Communion

Readings: Gen 4:8-15; Prov 5:1-15

Wednesday, March 8 – Theophylact, Bishop-Confessor

6:00pm – Teaching: Video – Jesus of Nazareth 1st Half

7:00pm – Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

+Sigmund and Pearl Micholsky

Readings: Gen 4:16-26; Prov 5:15-6:3

Thursday, March 9 – 40 Martyrs of Sebaste

9:00am – Third Hour and Communion

Readings: Gen 5:1-24; Prov 6:3-20

Readings for the Martyrs: Hebrews 12:1-10; Mt 20:1-16

Friday, March 10 – Codratus and Others, Martyrs

9:00am – Third Hour and Communion

Readings: Gen 5:32-6:8; Prov 6:20-7:1

Saturday, March 11 – 2nd All Souls Saturday

11:00am – All Souls Liturgy

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

5:00pm – Vesper Liturgy:

+Deceased members of the Dreschler and Spernack Families

Readings: Heb 3:12-16; Mk 1:35-44

Sunday, March 12 – 2nd Sunday of the Great Fast

10:00am – Third Hour

10:30am – Divine Liturgy: +Elizabeth Rock Robin

Readings: Heb 1:10-2:3; Mk 2:1-12

Teaching: Video – Jesus of Nazareth 2nd Half

4th – Our Venerable Father, **Gerasimus**, a Hermit, founded a monastery on the bank of the River Jordan. In his youth, a follower of the heretic Eutyches, he did severe penance the rest of his life. Died A.D. 475. — **SS. Paul and his sister Juliana**, Martyrs, sent to their reward A.D. 275, in the reign of Aurelian, Emperor.

5th – **St. Comon**, Martyr, a poor Christian gardener of Nazareth in Galilee, who in Pamphylia (Asia Minor), or on the Island of Cyprus, was martyred A.D. 250, by Governor Pomplius. With nails driven through his ankles, he was forced to run before a chariot till he fell dying to be crushed under its wheels.

6th – **Forty-Two Martyrs at Ammorium: Theodore, Constantine, Callistus, Theophil, and others with them**, died at the hands of the Saracens, about A.D. 840, in the reign of Theophilus, the Iconoclast.

7th – **SS. Priest-Martyrs at Chersonia: Basil, Ephrem, Capito, Eugene, Everius**, Missionary Bishops to the Crimea and South of Russia, **and four others with them**. Suffered A.D. 296. Venerable **Paul, the Simple**, in Egypt, a Solitary of wonderful patience and meekness. He passed away about A.D. 339, in the reign of Constantine II, Emperor.

8th – Our Venerable Father and Confessor, **Theophylact**, Bishop of Nicomedia, was a disciple of Tharadius. Bishop, defended the veneration of Icons and Statues of Saints. Died in 30 years exile A.D. 845, in the reign of Emperor Michael III.

9th – **SS. Forty Martyrs at Sebaste in Armenia**, were exposed naked on a frozen pond until death, by the power of Licinius, A.D. 320.

10th – **SS. Codratus** and companions: **Cyprian, Anectus, and Criscent**, died A.D. 257, after years in prison, under Valerian, Emperor.

11th – Our Holy Father, **Sophronius**, Patriarch of Jerusalem, died A.D. 638, in the reign of Heraclius the Emperor. He revised the prominent Church Book called the "Minea," and also composed the prayer for the solemn blessing of the water on the Feast of the Epiphany.

12th – Our Venerable Father and Confessor, **Theophane** of Syngria, was banished by the Emperor Leo the Armenian, for his stand against the Iconoclasts at the Second Council of Nicea, A.D. 787. Died in exile A.D. 818, bound and starved to death. — Our Holy Father, **Gregory the Great**, Dialogus, Pope of Rome, who probably composed the Liturgy of the Presanctified for the Eastern Churches. He died A.D. 604, in the reign of Emperor Phocas.

REFLECTION

“The Ten Commandments are our moral code given directly to us from God. Our Catholic beliefs, morals, and practices often come under attack from the secular society, but these clearly written morals are the anchor on which much of our behavior should be based. In fact, according to the noted author and philosopher C. S. Lewis, “There is a universal morality among all humankind. These principles represented in the Ten Commandments are implanted in the hearts and minds of all women and men.” That would seem to make it simple, but as we all know, nothing is ever simple. Nevertheless, during our Great Fast preparations for Easter, it is an excellent time for us to evaluate how we are doing in relation to these basic Commandments from God. Our sense of stewardship tells us that we are in need of God’s guidance and instructions. Too often in our society, we seem to rely upon what our “personal” feelings may be in relation to morals and how we live them out. When questioned about the Commandments, Jesus responded that the two most important were to “love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind,” as well as “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Our problem may be that we do not even fulfill those two Commandments, let alone the Ten Commandments. That should be our goal always, not just during Lent.”

+++ PARISH INFORMATION AND IMPORTANT DATES +++

PROCESSION OF THE ICONS is celebrated on Sunday, March 5th. Please bring an Icon from your home to carry in the procession.

MEATLESS POT LUCK – Please bring a meatless dish to share for the Meatless Pot Luck after Liturgy on Sunday, March 5th. **BAPTISM OF THE NEW ICONS IN THE CHURCH** will be after the Pot Luck at 2:00pm on Sunday, March 5th.

SOUP SUPPERS with Film Teachings will be held on Mondays during the Great Fast beginning March 6th, at 5:00pm. The Parish will provide the soup. Please remember to bring bread or crackers to share.

ALL SOULS LITURGY will be celebrated on Saturday, March 11th, at 11:00am.

Bishop's appeal will end on May 31, 2017. Please make your pledge A.S.A.P and full by May 31, 2017.

First Sunday of Great Lent – Sunday of Orthodoxy

On the first Sunday of Great Lent, the church commemorates the **Restoration of the Holy Icons** and the triumph of the Orthodox Faith against heresies.

The Iconoclastic Heresy was begun by the Byzantine Emperor Leo III the Isaurian (717-741) and continued by his son, Constantine V Copronymus (741-775), and by his grandson, Leo IV the Khazar (775-780). In 787, the 7th Ecumenical Council was convoked during the reign of the Emperor Constantine VI (780-797) and his mother Irene (797-802), under the presidency of **St. Tarasius Patriarch of Constantinople**. With this council, the church closed the theme of the veneration or not of the Holy Icons, accepting that we venerate the person depicted in the Icon and not the actual material of the icon.

After a short period of peace – during the reign of the Orthodox Emperors Nicephorus (802-811), Stauracius (811) and Michael I Rangabe (811-813), - the heretic Emperor Leo V the Armenian (813-820) restored the Iconoclastic heresy. The same policy was followed by the next Emperors Michael II (820-829) and Theophilus (829-842).

In 842, Theophilus died and his wife, the **Holy Empress Theodora**, restored the Orthodox Faith in the Holy Icons and **St. Methodius** was elected as Patriarch of Constantinople. The Restoration of the Holy Icons took place in the Byzantine Capital on the First Sunday of Great Lent in the year 842, in the presence of many Confessors of Orthodoxy, such as Sts. Joannicius the Great, Arsacius and **Naucratius, Theophanes and Theodore the Branded**, and others.

About the spiritual meaning of the first week of the Great Lent, St. John of Kronstadt writes: *“I congratulate myself and many of you, on the ineffable mercy of God, on the spiritual renewal received through the struggle of preparation, prayer, fasting and repentance, especially through partaking of the most pure and life-creating Mysteries of the Body and Blood of the Lord. In this short time, we were able to ascertain in ourselves the benefit of fasting and prayer, not to mention the benefit of preparation, confession, and communion – if, it goes without saying, we sincerely used this time for our salvation and sincerely fulfilled the conditions of fasting and preparation for communion; if we refrained from excess of food and drink, sincerely prayed, humbled ourselves before God and our neighbors, if we were merciful, if we recognized the multitude of our iniquities and transgressions and deeply regretted them, having a firm intention not to repeat them, and finally, sincerely acknowledged them and received absolution and remission of them, and were vouchsafed to taste the life-creating Food.*

But have we all received actual benefit from the past week? Have our hearts become closer to God, to the most pure Mother of Life, to the Church, to our Holy Guardian Angel and to the Saints of God?”

**Through the prayers of Thy Holy Confessors,
O Lord Jesus Christ, have mercy on us!
Amen.**



