

St. Cyril Orthodox Church



Sunday of the Last Judgment
An explanation of this icon can be read [here](#).

+ For the Week of March 1 to 7, 2021 +

NOTE: Divine Liturgy for the first Saturday of each month is postponed until next weekend.

MEATFARE SUNDAY: This Sunday is Meatfare or

“Carnival,” the last Sunday for eating meat until Pascha (Easter). Beginning of Monday we enter Cheesefare Week, when dairy products, eggs, and fish are permitted all week, including on Wednesday and Friday. If you are unsure about fasting, speak to Fr. Benedict. Fasting is a powerful spiritual discipline, but the Church understands that each person has to adapt fasting to his own needs and situation. Let us offer with joy a fast that is pleasing to the Lord.

NEXT SUNDAY is Forgiveness Sunday. After the Divine Liturgy, we will celebrate the Vespers of Forgiveness, at the end of which we bow to one another and ask forgiveness. The Great Fast begins the following day.

Spring Fundraiser: Mulch and soil are available from the church for a \$10 suggested donation. These will be available tomorrow from 9 am to noon, and after Vespers, and on Sunday following Liturgy. These are available first come, first served. Cash or check only.

Recommended Introduction to Lent - Fr. Alexander Schmemmann wrote a short booklet that is an introduction to Orthodox Lent which we highly recommend, especially for those new to Orthodoxy. It will help you understand each element of the Lenten services so that you can get the most out of Lent. The booklet is available for free on Amazon for electronic devices such as the Kindle. Get your free copy [here](#).

Looking Ahead: Services for Next Week:

Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday - Great Canon of St. Andrew, 6 pm

Wednesday - First Presanctified Liturgy, 6 pm

Friday - Presanctified Liturgy, 9 am

CLASS FOR INQUIRERS on Tuesday at 7 pm via Zoom.

All are welcome to attend. This week's class will be on the topic of Church Councils and Church Fathers. Each class lasts about an hour and a half. Invitation link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3011562302?pwd=MTZ0MVNkbWtZVHFXUTNybG9aOFdsZz09>

TREASURER UPDATE: For March, we received \$11,376, including a grant of \$1900 from our diocese and the OCA grant of \$1,667. Our expenses for the month were \$10,838, so we had a positive cash flow of \$538. May God reward all our benefactors.

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Dear friends, let us all fear the demon of delay. He is the one who comes and - for each of our beautiful decisions for the glory of God, for the benefit of our neighbors - whispers: *'Tomorrow.'* Evil wretch! He promises us the uncertainty of tomorrow, and grabs the present — every minute of which has incalculable value for the salvation of our souls. Dear friends! Let us not fall into the snare of the Devil. Let's not forget what one wise man said, that the path to destruction is strewn with innumerable 'I

wills,' with beautiful intentions which were never fulfilled.
A watchword for Christian life and work should be:

'Immediately!'

- Metropolitan Augustinos of Florina, Greece

“For the sake of Thy love, Jesus, my sweet love, I will endure curses, disgraces, injustices, toils and all afflictions that I might encounter.”

"I thank Thee, my dear Christ, for all the good things which Thou hast given me, and for all the hardships that I suffer. Glory to Thee, O my God!"

- St. Joseph the Hesychast (+1959)

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Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy.

The merciful are those who have compassion for others, who with all their hearts pity those who have fallen into misfortune or unhappiness, and who try to help them with good works.

Works of mercy are both physical and spiritual.

Bodily works of mercy:

Feeding the hungry.

Giving drink to the thirsty.

Clothing the naked.

Visiting those in prison.

Visiting the sick and helping them recover or preparing them for a Christian death.

Inviting strangers, foreigners, and travelers into one's home and giving them rest.

Burying the dead.

Spiritual works of mercy:

By word and example to convert the sinner from the error of his way.

Teaching the ignorant truth and goodness.

Dispensing good and timely advice to neighbors who are in distress or danger.

Comforting the grieving.

Refraining from returning evil for evil.

Forgiving offenses with all one's heart.

Praying to God for everyone.

To the merciful, God promises in return that they will receive mercy. In the future judgment of Christ they will be shown the special mercy for the righteous. They will be delivered from eternal punishment for their sins to the degree to which they showed mercy to others on earth (See Matt: 25:31-46).

- *Fr. Seraphim Slobodskoy (+1971)*