

March 13, 2016

Sunday of Cheesefare: Expulsion of Adam from Paradise

As we begin the Great Fast, the Church reminds us of Adam's expulsion from Paradise. God commanded Adam to fast (Gen. 2:16), but he did not obey. Because of their disobedience, Adam and Eve were cast out of Eden and lost the life of blessedness, knowledge of God, and communion with Him, for which they were created. Both they and their descendents became heirs of death and corruption.

Let us consider the benefits of fasting, the consequences of disobedience, and recall our fallen state. Today we are invited to cleanse ourselves of evil through fasting and obedience to God. Our fasting should not be a negative thing, a mere abstention from certain foods. It is an opportunity to free ourselves from the sinful desires and urges of our fallen nature, and to nourish our souls with prayer, repentance, to participate in church services, and partake of the life-giving Mysteries of Christ.

At Forgiveness Vespers we sing: "Let us begin the time of fasting in light, preparing ourselves for spiritual efforts. Let us purify our soul, let us purify our body. As we abstain from food, let us abstain from all passion and enjoy the virtues of the spirit...."

St. Mark Orthodox Church *"The Messenger"*

1517 Morgan-Johnson Road
Bradenton, FL 34208

Website: www.stmarkorthodox.org

Email: smoc3415@aol.com

Rev. Fr. John Chudik, Rector
Archpriest Stephen Plumlee, Attached
941.920.2708



The Expulsion of Adam and Eve from Paradise.

March 13, 2016

SUNDAY OF CHEESEFARE — Tone 8.

Today the Church Remembers:

The Expulsion of Adam and Eve from Paradise. Translation of the relics of St. Nicephorus, Patriarch of Constantinople (846). Martyr Sabinus (Abibus) of Egypt (287). Martyrs Africanus, Publius and Terence, of Carthage (3rd c.). Martyr Alexander of Macedonia (305-311). Martyr Christina of Persia (4th c.). Ven. Aninas of the Euphrates.

March 13, 2016

For the Peace and Health of: Christina Purdy

For the Eternal Memory of: John Purdy

Readings: Romans 13:11-14:4 (Epistle) / Matthew 6:14-21 (Gospel)

Romans 13:11-14:4 (Epistle)

And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts. Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over doubtful things. For one believes he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who does not eat, and let not him who does not eat judge him who eats; for God has received him. Who are you to judge another's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. Indeed, he will be made to stand, for God is able to make him stand.

Matthew 6:14-21 (Gospel)

For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

SERVICES

Gt. Vespers/Vigil – Saturdays at 5PM
Divine Liturgy – Sundays at 930AM

Confessions may be heard following Vespers/Vigil; Sunday morning by appointment

Church School – following Liturgy

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ If you would like to SPONSOR a weekly bulletin (\$25), please speak to Fr. John or Vera.

+ Bible Study offered by Dr. Ken Alonso on Wednesdays at 1000AM. Continuing to study the Letter of St. Paul to the Hebrews.

+ LENTEN PROJECT - We would like to complement our collection of altar cloths and altar server vestments. Currently we would like to upgrade our Green Sets (\$4850) that are used traditionally for Pentecost. The Altar Boy Vestments that we still need to complete all seasons, include Green, Red, and White. A Blue Set of altar boy vestments has already been promised. Each set of altar boy vestments costs \$2100. We thank everyone in advance for their assistance with this year's project.

+ SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY – The Tampa Bay Clergy Association will be hosting the Lenten Vespers service at 5PM at St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church in St. Petersburg. Weekly Lenten Vespers Services will be each Sunday at 5PM. A schedule of services will be provided.

+ 2016 STEWARDSHIP FORMS – If you have not submitted your yearly form, please do so before the end of the month as we need to report our Parish Census # to the Diocese.

+ Pastoral Visit of the Dean – Fr. Ted Pisarchuk will take place on the Feast of Annunciation, March 25th. We would like to see as many people as possible

Please Keep the Following in Your Prayers

Archbishop MARK
Fr. Peter/Mat. Sonja Tutko
Christina
Marina/Mark
Timothy
Daria
Helen/John
Katherine/Andrew & Cheyenne
Hunter Matthew
Alexandra
Frank/Marianne

Fr. Stephen Plumlee
Irina/Herman
Caitlin – catechumen
Daniel/Maria
Nancy
Cleo
Mark, child Jason
Kyra/Gregory/Irene
Helen
Cindy, child to be born & Thomas
Sofya, child to be born & Anton

Please Remember the Departed Servants of God

Soula Johnson (2/2)
Vera Troester (2/3)
Nick Birbilis (2/6)

Weekly Readings

Monday, 3/14 – Gen. 1:1-13 / Prov. 1:1-20
Tuesday, 3/15 – Gen. 1:14-23 / Prov. 1:20-33
Wednesday, 3/16 – Gen. 1:24-2:3 / Prov. 2:1-22
Thursday, 3/17 – Gen. 2:4-19 / Prov. 3:1-18
Friday, 3/18 – Gen. 2:20-3:20 / Prov. 3:19-34
Saturday, 3/19 – Heb. 1:1-12 / Mark 2:23-3:5