



Orthodox Church in America (OCA), Diocese of the Midwest

We are a diverse and growing Orthodox Christian community of Central Ohio, bearing witness to the Faith through love, service, and commitment to our neighborhood and area college students.

2219 Summit Street
Columbus, OH 43201

www.stgregs.info

PO Box 14932

Columbus, OH 43214

Parish rector:

Fr. Stephen Frase

614-572-3942

frstephenfrase@yahoo.com

Attached clergy:

Deacon Paul Mitchell

330-647-3708

Deacon Joseph Shaluha

732-841-8831

Deacon Sampson Nash

614-264-2874

March 3rd, 2024

**Sunday of the
Prodigal Son**



Also commemorated on March 3rd:

Martyr Eutropius of Amasea, and with him Martyrs Cleonicus and Basiliscus (ca. 308). Saint Piamoun (337).
Ss. Zenon and Zoilus

Upcoming Schedule and Announcements

Saturday, 3/2

4:30 PM Orthodoxy 101
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, 3/3

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

9:10 AM 3rd and 6th Hours of Prayer
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy followed by post-Communion prayers, and coffee social

Saturday, 3/9

11:00 AM Memorial Prayers for Michael Simmons (Betty Vincent's son)
6:00 PM Vespers

Sunday, 3/10

Sunday of the Last Judgment / Meatfare Sunday

9:10 AM 3rd and 6th Hours of Prayer
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy followed by post-Communion prayers, coffee social

*Fasting from meat products begins on Monday, 3/11.
Dairy, fish, and eggs are able to be eaten throughout the week.*

Wednesday, 3/13

6:00 PM Parish Council meeting

Saturday, 3/16

4:30 PM Orthodoxy 101
6:00 PM Great Vespers

Sunday, 3/17

The Expulsion of Adam and Eve from Paradise / Cheesefare

9:10 AM 3rd and 6th Hours of Prayer
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy followed by post-Communion prayers, and coffee social
6:00 PM Forgiveness Vespers

Fasting from dairy products begins on Monday, 3/18.

To access the parish Google Calendar, click [here](#).

Streaming services: The majority of services are streamed on YouTube.

To access the changeable Hymns and Scripture readings, please click [here](#).

The Monthly Ministry Rotations can be found [here](#).

Orthodoxy 101 schedule is found [Here](#). Tentative schedule for the spring semester is now available.

Lenten Schedule *DRAFT* can found [HERE](#). Please let Fr. Stephen know if you have any questions or notice any errors.

Outreach Program Request: The Outreach Program is still looking for the following roles to be filled:

- Contact person who can also overlook the calendar
- People to pick up the Kroger donations Saturday mornings
- A shopper to buy once-a-month supplies

Volunteers can sign up to serve [here](#). Please see Debbie Seeds with questions or email her at tseeds@columbus.rr.com.

Junior O Club--Outreach Pantry Food Drive: The Junior O Club will be collecting monetary donations for St. Gregory's Outreach Food Pantry. There will be a special collection taken after liturgy on February 25. In addition, donations may be given directly to any Jr O Club officer (Madeline Meyer, David Mann, Caroline Nash and Meredith Nash) on February 25 or March 3. The Junior O Club will use the proceeds from the Food Drive to purchase canned and boxed foods at ALDI for our Outreach Food Pantry. Although the Parish has only one formal food drive each year, donations of food and money are also welcomed throughout the year. Thank you in advance for supporting the Junior O Club and their ministry!

Lenten collection for the Parish Outreach program: As mentioned after Divine Liturgy last Sunday, the parish outreach leadership team is asking each person to bring either a pair of socks, can of tuna, or a can of soup each week during Great Lent. The collection begins on Cheesefare Sunday, 3/17. Thank you for your ongoing generosity toward those in need!

Parish Game Night!!! For all of the game fans in the parish, we have a special announcement! On Friday, March 15th, the Sisterhood is sponsoring a game night at 6:30 p.m. in the upper room of the church. Everyone is invited! This includes any family members or friends that you think would enjoy playing with us! An assortment of board games and cards will be available from which to select and play. However, please feel free to bring any additional games that you would like to play! Pizza and snacks will be provided to all who attend. It would be helpful, but not necessary, if those who attend could bring a meat-free snack, dish, or dessert to share! It would also be helpful if those who plan to attend could let Lesley Mann, (614) 390-9683, know so that we can be sure to order enough pizza for everyone!

Hope to see you all there!!

The Sisterhood

Cap City O Club Annual Lenten Soup Swap During coffee hour, we will host our annual Lenten Soup Swap and Sale on Sunday, March 18, 2024. We invite you to make and bring Lenten soup to swap and a couple extra to sell. We will sell each quart for \$8. The proceeds will help pay for the cabana we rent for the Zoombezi Bay outing we will host for the Church later this year.

How it works:

1. Pick up containers from Mat. Kyra, Barb, or Tammy Sun. February 25 – Sun. March 10
2. Make a Lenten Soup, package it in the containers we are providing, and add a label of the kind of soup.
3. Bring the soup to Church on Sunday, March 17, and put it in the upper room.
4. During coffee hour, those who brought soup will select containers equal to the number they brought. (Ex. You brought six, you can select six containers to take home, or you can take three and donate 3 to sell after all who brought soup are done swapping)
5. After the swappers select the soups they want, we will sell the remaining containers for \$8 each.

We are praying for:

Blessed Repose: The Newly Departed Archpriest Moses (Berry), Michael, Alexei, Kalliope, Peggy, Leslie, Mark, Julius, Betty Jo, Terry, Tyrah, Peter, Bernard, Phillip, and Carmen; for those martyred for the Faith, and victims of violence.

For the Health and Well Being:

- The ill, infirm, and suffering: Archbishop Nathaniel, Priest John, Archpriest Miroljub, Matushka Elizabeth, Nick, Ferial, Robert, Fr. Gregory, Dn. Gregory, David, Alan, Jennifer, Kathy and Phil, Aiden, Tim, Eric, Gregory, Ron and Cheryl, Norma-Jean, Cathy, Lubomir, Photini, Will, Annie, Sharon, Simeon, Mary and David, Matthew, William, Dorothy, Carol, Mary, Anthony, Elaine, Michael, Betty, Nadine, Elanor, Ben, Alberta; the newborn Xenia Christine (Elliott) as well as her parents - Natelie and Andrew.
- Those families who are with child: Kristen and Michael, Margaret and Benjamin, Kathryn and Michael, Annie and Rowan, and Rachel and Nick
- Those who are preparing for Holy Matrimony: Theadora and Joshua, as well as Amara and Gideon
- Catechumens of our parish (Benjamin, Jonathan, Mason, Emma, Evan, Brittany, Paul, Kaiti, Colleen, Holly, and Nicole)

* All names listed above are remembered in the prayers offered before the start of the Divine Liturgy.

Many Years to: Alexandra Mustric (3/3), Maxim Joseph Norris (3/4), John Kosko (3/5), and Micheal Soroka (3/7) celebrating their birthdays this week!

* Please inform Kristen Mayberry (kristen.harman@gmail.com) of any missing birthdays / anniversaries or if any of the dates are incorrect. Thank you!

All our attention must be centered on the parable of the Prodigal Son. We all see ourselves in it as in a mirror. In a few words the Lord, the knower of hearts, has shown in the person of one man how the deceptive sweetness of sin separates us from the truly sweet life according to God. He knows how the burden of sin on the soul and body, experienced by us, impels us by the action of divine grace to return, and how it actually does turn many again to God, to a virtuous life.

+ St. John of Kronstadt, "Sermon on the Sunday of the Prodigal Son," originally printed in *Orthodox Life* Vol. 39 No. 1, January-February 1989

Celebrated each February 18th - From the Orthodox Church in America (OCA) website:

The holy virgin Piamoun (Πιαμούν) was from Egypt, and she lived during the IV century. Her Life is recorded by Palladius in his *Lausiac History*.

When the Saint was very young her father died, but her Christian mother raised her with discipline and admonition of the Lord (Ephesians 6:4). When she grew up, she and her mother engaged in works of mercy and compassion. They were not wealthy, but out of their meager income, they were able to help their poor and weak brethren.

Saint Piamoun would eat a little food in the evening, and at night she kept constant vigil. She also labored at weaving linen, and she was found worthy of the gift of foresight.

One day a certain village in Upper Egypt attacked another village because of a quarrel about sharing the waters of the Nile. They fought so violently that many men were killed. This village then moved stealthily against the Saint's village. Men marched with staves and spears, intending to kill the inhabitants.

An Angel of the Lord appeared to Saint Piamoun and warned her that her village would be attacked by the stronger villagers. Summoning the priests of her church, she said, "Go forth to meet the enemy, for they are coming against you, otherwise you and the village will perish. If you beg them not to attack, then perhaps they will spare the village."

The priests were afraid and told her, "We do not dare to face them, for we know their ferocity and their arrogance. However, if you wish to save the village and your own house, then you go out to meet them."

The holy virgin did not go forth, but instead she went up to her roof and stood all night long in prayer. She made many bows and prayed that God would immobilize the enemy where they stood, three miles from her village. Immediately they became paralyzed and were unable to move from that place. It was revealed to them that it was the prayers of Saint Piamoun which hindered them from moving. Therefore, they sent a message to the villagers that they wished to make peace. They also told them to give thanks to God, for it was the prayers of Saint Piamoun which had prevented them from attacking.

When her mother reposed, the venerable one continued the work of ministering to her suffering brothers and sisters by herself. She visited their homes, comforted them, and strengthened their faith.

When Saint Piamoun reposed in 337, there was widespread mourning in her village.

Sinners that repent are still saved; both publicans and fornicators cleansed by repentance enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.

The compassionate God still calls to Himself all that have turned away, and He awaits them and promises them mercy.

The loving Father still receives His prodigal sons come back from a far country and He opens the doors of His house and clothes them in the best robe, and gives them each a ring on their hand and shoes on their feet and commands all the saints to rejoice in them.

+ St. Tikhon of Zadonsk: Journey to Heaven, Part II: The Way of Salvation

Policies, Procedures, and Parish Life

General Parish Concerns can be brought to Fr. Stephen, Lay Vice-Chair – Barbara Gossman, as well as any other parish council member for discussion during council meetings. Council does not address issues of concern via email due to privacy issues, sensitivity of topics, and the potential for misunderstanding.

Items for the Parish Bulletin: Please submit announcements for the bulletin to Kristin Mayberry at kristen.harman@gmail.com (copy Fr. Stephen as well) by 6:00 PM each Wednesday. Bulletin submissions may be revised when necessity arises. In the email subject line, include: **For the bulletin on (insert date) - (Include a brief description of the announcement).**

Outreach Program: Meals are handed out from the Annex on Saturdays from 11:00 AM-12:00 PM and Sundays from 11:00-12:30 PM. A food pantry is also open whenever meals are taking place. Please contact Debbie Seeds with questions. Volunteers can sign up to serve [here](#).

Charitable Giving: Our charities fund supports needs in the parish, the community, and throughout the Church – both nationally and abroad. Please contact Barbara Gossman.

Do you know of someone who is sick, hospitalized or a shut-in? Please let Fr. Stephen know!

The Prayer Group offers prayer for those in need. Submit requests to Connie Wargo.

St. Elizabeth Group sends cards to parishioners and others who are seriously ill, hospitalized, or unable to leave the home. Please contact Kathy Johnson for information.

Youth Ministry and Christian Youth Education: Please refer questions and interest in becoming involved in these ministries to Joseph Mann and Cylas Conway.

College Students: We encourage you to make St. Gregory's your spiritual home away from home. Please contact OSU's Orthodox Christian Fellowship (OCF) spiritual advisor, Fr. Stephen.

Orthodoxy 101 sessions are led by Fr. Stephen. Sessions are ideal for those inquiring about Orthodoxy, new to the parish, as well as anyone who enjoys learning more about their faith! The current schedule can be found [here](#).

The Parish Choir: If interested in participating, please contact Kathy Johnson.

Confessions: Fr. Stephen hears confessions after Saturday Vespers or by appointment.

Parish Library and Bookstore: The small upstairs library is open for self-service at any time the church is open. Fill out the card with your name, email, and a date a month in the future and leave the card in the small box. A librarian is usually available to help in the upper room until noon on Sundays. For access to the main library in the Education Building, or bookmobile service, please contact Caren Stayer at 614-657-6259. The online library catalog is at: <https://cloud.collectorz.com/25424/>. The bookstore has Orthodox books and religious items in the Upper Room and is open after church services. For bookstore help or orders, please contact Mary Conroy at mobile 614-441-5794.

Memorial Prayers: May be offered one Saturday a month at 5:40 PM prior to the start of Vespers (unless there is a Memorial Liturgy offered that month). If there is an annual anniversary or 40th day Memorial requested, then a Google form will be shared to allow others to request prayers for the departed as well.'
