

BLESSED NICHOLAS OF PSKOV, THE FOOL-FOR-CHRIST

Blessed Nicholas of Pskov lived the life of a holy fool for more than three decades. Long before his death he acquired the grace of the Holy Spirit and was granted the gifts of wonder-working and of prophecy. The Pskov people revered him as a saint.

In February 1570, after a devastating campaign against Novgorod, Tsar Ivan the Terrible moved against Pskov, suspecting the habitants of treason. On the first Saturday of Great Lent, the whole city prayed to be delivered from the Tsar's wrath. Hearing the peal of the bell for Matins in Pskov, the Tsar's heart was softened; he read the inscription on the 15th century wonderworking Liubyatov Tenderness Icon of the Mother of God in the Monastery of St. Nicholas and told his soldiers, "Be tender of heart. Blunt your swords upon the stones and let there be an end to killing."

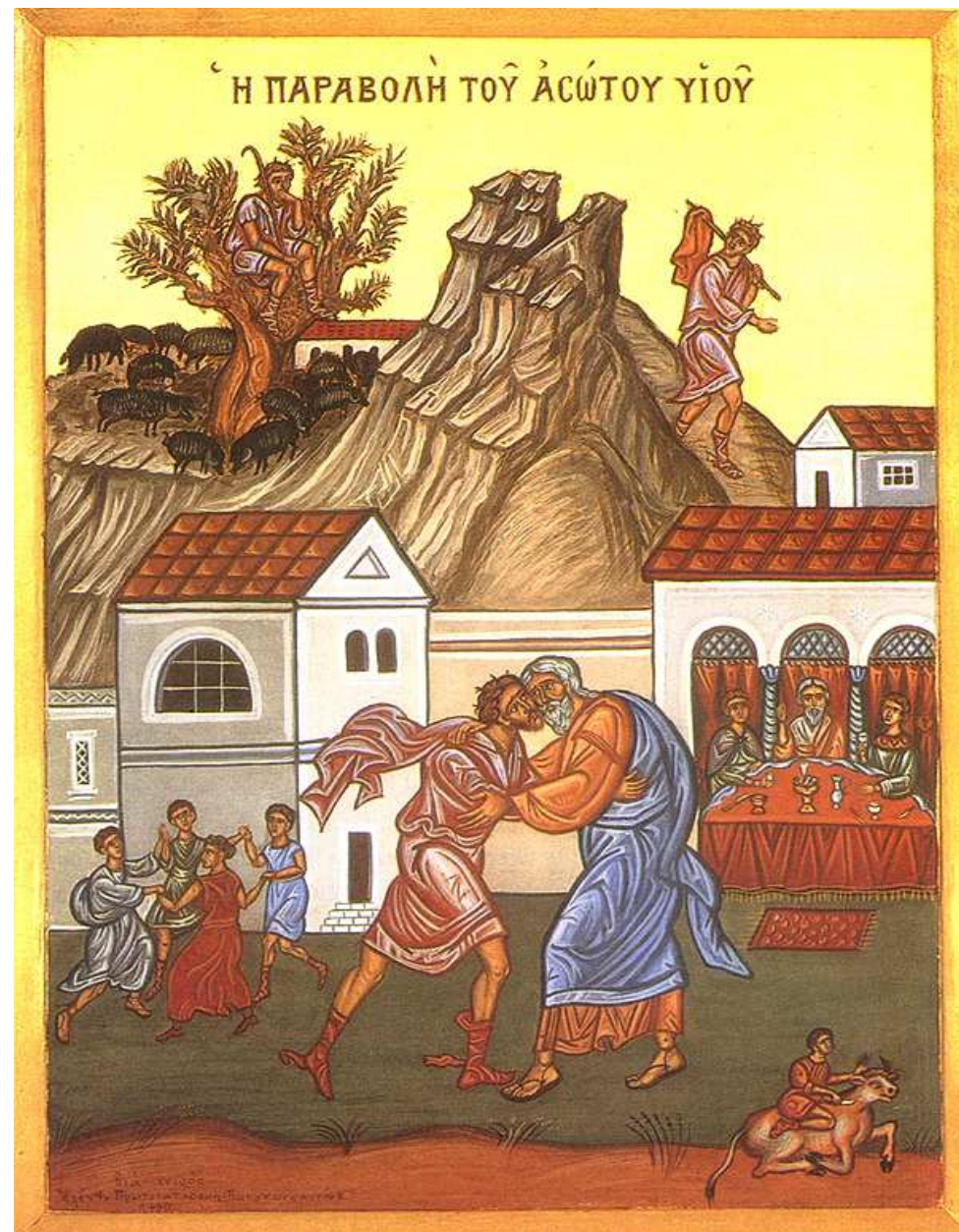
All the inhabitants came out upon the streets and each family knelt at the gate of their house, bearing bread and salt to the Tsar. Blessed Nicholas ran toward the Tsar astride a stick as though riding a horse and cried out: "Ivanushko, Ivanushko, eat our bread and salt, and not Christian blood." The Tsar tried to capture the holy fool, but he disappeared.

Though he had forbidden his men to kill, Ivan still intended to sack the city. He attended a Molieben at the Trinity cathedral, and he venerated the relics of holy Prince Vsevolod-Gabriel and expressed his wish to receive the blessing of the holy fool Nicholas. The saint instructed the Tsar to stop the killing and not to plunder the holy churches of God. But Ivan did not heed him and gave orders to remove the bell from the cathedral. As the saint had prophesied, the Tsar's finest horse fell dead.

The blessed one invited the Tsar to visit his cell under the bell tower. When the Tsar arrived, Nicholas said, "Hush, come in and have a drink of water from us; there is no reason you should shun it." Then the holy fool offered the Tsar a piece of raw meat. Ivan said to him, "I am a Christian and do not eat meat during Lent." The saint replied, "But you drink human blood."

Frightened by the fulfillment of the saint's prophecy and denounced for his wicked deeds, Ivan the Terrible ordered a stop to the looting and fled from the city.

Blessed Nicholas died on February 28, 1576, and was buried



THE PRODIGAL SON

***HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH
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THE TRINITARIAN

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V. REV. ALEXANDER GARKLAVS, PASTOR

Divine Liturgy at 9:00 A.M.
Church School Every Sunday at 10:45 A.M.
(During the Months of September thru May)

Vespers - Every Saturday - 5:00 P.M.
Choir Rehearsals Every Thursday at 7:30 P.M.
Michael N. Pilat, Choir Director

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BULLETIN 18 - VOLUME LVIII

TONE 5

FEBRUARY 28, 2021

THIRTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Ven. Basil the Confessor, Companion of Ven. Procopius at Decapolis
Hieromartyr Nestor, Bishop of Magydos in Pamphylia;
Ven. Marina, Cyra, and Domnica, of Syria;
Hieromartyr Proterius, Patriarch of Alexandria;
Bl. Nikolai, Fool-for-Christ at Pskov;
Ven. John Cassian the Roman

“We offer you the prayer of the prodigal, O Lord, for we have squandered Your gifts and sinned against You. Therefore, O Savior, receive us in repentance as You did the prodigal, and by the Theotokos, enlighten us and save us.”

Exapostilarion, Tone III

“Like an angel in the flesh you lived in the desert, O God-bearing father, Basil, and there you performed great wonders. Through fasting, watchfulness, and prayer, you obtained heavenly gifts, and with these you heal the souls of the needy who approach you in faith. Glory to Him who gave you this power. Glory to Him who crowned you. Glory to Him who heals us all through You.

Troparion, Tone I

HOLY WORSHIP THIS WEEK:

Friday, March 5	6:00 p.m. Memorial Vespers
Saturday, March 6	9:00 a.m. Memorial Divine Liturgy
	4:15 p.m. 40th Day Memorial Prayers for David Howe
	5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions

Daily Scripture Readings

Monday, March 1	I John 2:18-3:10	Mark 11:1-11
Tuesday, March 2	I John 3:10-20	Mark 14:10-42
Wednesday, March 3	I John 3:21-4:6	Mark 14:43-15:1
Thursday, March 4	I John 4:20-5:21	Mark 15:1-15
Friday, March 5	II John 1-13	Mark 15:22-25,33-41
Saturday, March 6	I Corinthians 10:23-28	Luke 21:8-9,25-27,33-36
(Departed)	I Thessalonians 4:13-17	John 5:24-30

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

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COMING EVENTS

MARCH:

12, Friday 8:00 p.m. "Virtual" Akathist on YouTube
13, Saturday 10:00 a.m. EOWG Memorial Service at St. Sava

<p><u>"VIRTUAL" SERVICE FOR GREAT LENT:</u> Hosted by St. Nicholas Church in Mogadore, the National Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America is holding a "virtual" service in preparation for Great Lent. It will be Friday, March 12, at 8:00 p.m. The Akathist Hymn of Repentance in Christ will be served by clergy in parishes across the country, with an address by His Eminence Archbishop Paul. Join via YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/c/StNicholasOrthodoxChurchMogadoreOH</p> <p><u>LA COUPOLE:</u> La Coupole is open! Stop by after the Divine Liturgy to browse the selection of books for adults and children to read during Great Lent. As always, unique</p>	<p><u>EASTERN ORTHODOX WOMEN'S GUILD:</u> The EOWG will meet Saturday, March 13, for the annual Memorial Service for deceased EOWG members. Please join us at St. Sava Serbia Cathedral, 6306 Broadview Rd. in Parma at 10:00 a.m. Following the service there will be a light Lenten luncheon and a presentation by Josephine Vuich; the topic is "Bible Prophecy of the Holy Passion of Christ." Guests are welcome.</p> <p><u>MEMORIAL PRAYERS:</u> There will be a 40th Day Memorial Prayer Service for David Howe this Saturday, March 5, at 4:15 p.m.</p> <p><u>TRINITARIAN COVERS:</u></p>
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If the fervor of faith in the heart is not sometimes stirred up,
then in time, through negligence,
faith may become entirely extinguished in us;
and Christianity with its Sacraments may entirely die for us.
The enemy takes pains to attain this end and tries to extinguish faith in our hearts
and to bury in oblivion all truths of Christianity.
That is why we see men who,
being Christians,
are only such in name,
while by their actions they are quite heathen.
St. John of Kronstadt

THE GIFTS WE OFFER TO THE LORD WE LOVE

REGULAR COLLECTION, 2/21/21	\$ 4038.00
CHURCH ADMINISTRATION ASSESSMENT	1250.00
BUILDING FUND	75.00
CANDLES	75.00
SPECIAL PROJECTS	150.00
IN MEMORY OF DAVID HOWE	125.00
IN MEMORY OF ANDREW VIROSTECK	75.00

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY

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FR. ALEXANDER SCHMEMANN - A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

This year marks the 100th year of the birth of Fr. Alexander Schmemann (1921-1983). We have featured excerpts from Fr. Alexander several times in the past years, but this centennial year offers us a special opportunity to offer in The Trinitarian selections from his works. These will only be the tip of the iceberg, but will convey the brilliance and beauty of the writings of this extraordinary theologian whose legacy is a treasure trove for our spiritual benefit.

Fr. Alexander Schmemann was born in Tallin, Estonia, where his parents had escaped to from Russia after the 1917 Communist Revolution. They moved to Paris, where young Alexander went to school. Between the two great wars, Paris was the center of a large body of Russian emigres, many being the “cream of the crop” – scholars, theologians, politicians, aristocrats and artists. Fr. Schmemann’s life and maturation in the atmosphere of the best of Russian culture certainly shaped his life. But he also loved his life in Paris, and its culture. The qualities of being both an “Easterner” and “Westerner” would perfectly suit him for pastoral work in America.

In 1940, just as World War II was heating up, he entered the St. Sergius Seminary. These were difficult, trying times; food, heat, and all comforts were extremely scarce. But there was a great blessing in the fact that the Seminary had an incredible faculty of great theologians and scholars. As all religious education in Communist Russia was curtailed, while in other parts of the free world Orthodox theological education was on an elementary level, St. Sergius Seminary was at that time the premier institution of Orthodox higher learning in the world. It was from that Seminary that Fr. Schmemann and other theologians would emigrate to the United States and end up teaching at St. Vladimir’s Seminary in New York.

Arriving in New York in 1951 with his wife and three children, Fr. Alexander began teaching almost immediately. He would remain associated with St. Vladimir’s Seminary as a professor, scholar, and Dean, until his death on December 13, 1983. Fr. Alexander came to American Orthodoxy at a critical time, as older immigrant clergy and people who arrived here at the turn of the 20th century were dying out. At the same time, their children who were born here, considered themselves contemporary Americans while being faithful to Orthodox traditions. To steer the Church of Ancient Traditions into the New World posed challenges; but with faith, wisdom and love, it became possible through no small effort of Fr. Alexander. Of course, there were others too, both clergy and laity - for example, some of the original founders of this parish. But with his combination of experience and diplomacy, Fr. Alexander became the main thinker and spokesman of a theological-pastoral vision that became the standard for Orthodox life in America. Working with the Synod of Bishops, with other Orthodox jurisdictions, in ecumenical settings, and speaking at parishes from coast to coast, he was involved in all branches of Church life, but remarkably was also accessible to the most common person. His role in defining and shaping the Orthodox Church in America is truly immeasurable!

Fr. Alexander Garklaus

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY
6822 BROADVIEW ROAD; PARMA, OHIO 44134
VERY REVEREND ALEXANDER GARKLAVS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5 6:00 p.m. Memorial Vespers	6 9:00 a.m. Memorial Divine Liturgy 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
7 Meatfare Sunday Sunday of the Last Judgment	8	9	10	11	12 8:00 p.m. Virtual Akathist Hymn of Repentance in Christ	13 10:00 a.m. EOWG service at St. Sava's 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers; Confessions
14 Cheesefare Sunday Forgiveness Sunday Expulsion of Adam from Paradise 5:00 p.m.	15 Beginning of Great Lent 9:00 a.m. Lenten Hours 6:00 p.m. Great Canon	16 9:00 a.m. Lenten Hours 6:00 p.m. Great Canon	17 9:00 a.m. Presanctified Liturgy 6:00 p.m. Great Canon	18 6:00 p.m. Great Canon	19 6:00 p.m. Presanctified Liturgy	20 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
21 1st Sunday of Great Lent Sunday of Orthodoxy	22	23	24 9:00 a.m. Presanctified Liturgy	25 Annunciation of the Theotokos 5:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy	26	27 5:00 p.m. Great Vespers
28 2nd Sunday of Great Lent St. Gregory Palamas	29	30	31			