



St. Nicholas

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Orthodox Church

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February 4, 2018

Sunday of the Prodigal Son

Commemoration of the Holy Apostle Timothy of the 70

FRIDAY – 6:30 p.m. All Souls'
Parastas

All Souls We pray for all the faithful departed on 5 Saturdays during the Lent and Pascha season.

We gather on Friday evening for the Parastas the reading of the names of our loved ones.

Please see the list on the bulletin board and please make any additions or corrections.



The Prodigal Son

Easter candy Please support this project of our Jr. ACRY.

Our Sympathy is expressed to the family of ***Mary Pollock*** who fell asleep in the Lord this past Wednesday. *Vicnaja jej pamjat! Eternal memory!*



**Our annual Parish Meeting &
The Great Chili Cook-off!**

Dear Baba: We are having Saturday of Souls liturgies on the first two Saturdays of March. I am a recent convert and this is all new to me. What should I expect and what should I do? - Confused Soul

My dear confused soul: First of all, the most important thing you can do is to attend these prayer services. Do not allow the busy world to pull you away from these beautiful services. Stop for just a little to remember those who have gone before us to their rest. One day we each will welcome the prayers of the living and the departed when we too have fallen asleep in the Lord.

We Orthodox are very serious that our Lord and Savior rose from the dead and trampled down death by death. The church militant (here on earth) and the church triumphant

are joined together in worship of the Most Holy Trinity. Not only do we remember the departed by name in our own personal prayers but we as the Body of Christ remember them formally several times during the liturgy. We commemorate the saints on the day of their repose. I am always surprised by the look I get from people when they realize that St. Patrick's Day is the commemoration of the day the great Saint fell asleep in the Lord. It makes the green beer, leprechauns, and riotous behavior a little silly doesn't it? But how do we remember those of the faithful who are not commemorated as saints on specific days? We do so with a Parastas and a Saturday of Souls Liturgy.

Saturday has traditionally been the day to remember the departed as it is the day the Lord descended into Hades. We do so in the faith and understanding that the prayers of the faithful living and departed have benefit all the way up to the Final Judgment. We intercede for one another. The final judgment of all people has not yet taken place so our prayer for them is simple: Lord have mercy on them!

Prepare a list of the departed to give to the priest. Be sure and use full baptismal names and not nicknames. – The church will also commemorate those whose names we do not know. The Lord knows them all by name. We, while not able to remember them by name, do remember them and pray for them. That to me, my dear, is so important. Don't you think? No life should be drubbed out and forgotten.

