



**St. Nicholas**

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**Orthodox Church**

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**February 28, 2021**

*Sunday of the Prodigal Son*

*Commemoration of the Holy Apostles Onesimus of the 70 Apostles*



**FRIDAY**

6:30 p.m. All Souls' Parastas

**Welcome!** to Rev. Dr. Marc Wisnosky who is celebrating the Liturgy with us today.

*"I am the Good Shepherd,  
the Good Shepherd lays down  
His life for the sheep."*

**Notes from last Sunday's  
sermon series:**

Does Father have a current list of your departed loved ones for the All Souls' Saturdays? See the list on the bulletin board.

- The Lord as our "shepherd" is the most popular way to imagine what God is like.

He is described this way over 80 times in the Bible. The oldest depiction of Jesus is found in the Roman catacombs depicting Him as a shepherd with a lamb on His shoulders.

- Psalm 23 (or Psalm 22 in the Orthodox Bible) explains how it is that the Lord is our shepherd.
- Verse 1: He provides for all that I need; not all that I think I need.
- Verse 4: He does not promise to spare us from “the valley” but promises to go with us.
- Verse 5: All of the early Christians saw this as a reference to the Holy Eucharist. Whatever “enemies” we faced this week (fear, anxiety, stress, sinful temptations...) a table is prepared and Jesus feeds us with His own life.
- Verse 6: The Lord’s deepest desire for us is not to be “healthy, wealthy and wise” but to be in His House forever.

- In the Parable of the Lost Sheep (Luke 15) the shepherd leaves the 99 sheep to search for one missing. Each person is unique, precious and loved by Jesus.
- Psalms 23 (or 22) is one of the Psalms we pray in preparation to receive Holy Communion.



**LENT BEGINS**  
Forgiveness Vespers  
6:00 p.m.  
Sunday, March 14

**HOMELESS LUNCHES**  
Saturday, April 3

**DIOCESAN LENTEN  
RETREAT**  
Saturday April 3  
(online)

**DIOCESAN CHILDRENS’  
RETREAT**  
Sunday, April 11

