

Glory be to Jesus Christ! Glory be Forever!

January 13, 2019

Epistle Reading: Ephesians 4:7-13 **Gospel Reading:** Matthew 4:12-17

Next Week: Colossians 3:4-11 **Gospel Reading:** Luke 18:35-43

*Take time to read the scriptures to prepare your heart and mind for Sunday's Liturgy.

Services: Sat., Jan. 19th **Great Vespers**
(Holy Sacrament of Confession to follow) **7 pm**

Sun., Jan. 20th **St. Euthymius the Great**
Church School **9:15 am**
Hours **9:45 am**
Divine Liturgy **10 am**

Announcements:

The Greshes are in the process of preparing for the FINAL move from Ohio. However, there's no room at the Rectory in order to complete the move! Father has had some success in minimizing some of his stuff and Parish Council has approved the posting of additional parish pieces that will need a new home. Pictures of these items that need a new home will be made available. If you have any interest, just let Father Stephan know and give a donation to the Church.

House Blessings: It is that time of the year again for the house blessings. Father Stephan is working on a schedule. **Please let him know if there are any changes to your address and/or phone number.** He will contact you before he arrives. Don't worry about your mess, Father Stephan has had a lot of life experience with a house full of people and stuff. Traditionally one would want to have at least one clean spot with a clean white cloth that has a bowl of blessed water, an icon, candle, and a fresh herb that can be used for the blessing and later as seasoning.

A Ham/Turkey Dinner Coffee Hour is being planned for one and all! Bring a guest! We're setting up for 100! On **Sunday, January 20th**, HROC will be sponsoring a Ham/Turkey Dinner Coffee Hour with all the trimmings. While the cooks are fixin' the ham/turkey and sides, they are reaching out to fellow parishioners for assistance with a dessert to help finish this dinner with a bang! Do you have an awesome dessert that could help them out? There will be an RSVP sheet at the candlestand only to ensure that there's enough food for everyone. We are setting the table for 100 guests! Also, there will be another sheet for the awesome dessert donation. This Ham/Turkey Dinner Coffee Hour is a reminder at the start of this new year for all of us to count the *many blessings* we have to be thankful for and to reach out to the many around us who do not! A Free-Will Offering basket will be available.

Looking ahead: Please note these events on your calendars which will occur in ensuing month or so:

Pre-Lenten Retreat: Saturday, March 9th. The topic and speaker are in process. It will be an interactive experience to help prepare us for the Resurrection.

Parish Annual Meeting: Sunday, [TBD] after Divine Liturgy.

The *2019 Church Calendars* have arrived and are available in the vestibule today.

The winter season edging its way in! Use your judgment based on weather conditions. If the services are canceled, it will be announced on WPXI.

Collection: January 6th: 1,822

The Holy Martyrs Hermylus and Stratonicus

Hermylus was a deacon in the church in Singidunum (modern Belgrade) in the early fourth century. When the persecution ravaged the church there, the deacon was arrested and asked to renounce the Christian Faith. This he refused to do, answering his interrogators with such spirit that they slashed his cheeks before throwing him into the dungeon. When he was next interrogated, he was even more defiant. Six men beat him with rods, but he did not seem to feel the pain, being rapt in prayer and asking Christ that He would allow him to partake of His Passion.

The jailer, Stratonicus, observed all this and was won over to the Faith by the constancy and faith of Hermylus, though he did not dare to confess it. The next day, his captors led Hermylus from his cell, stretched him upon the ground, and beat him relentlessly with sharp rods while his entrails were gashed with eagle's claws. Stratonicus could bear it no longer. He was overcome by his crisis of faith and conscience and began to weep uncontrollably. When asked the reason, he finally confessed himself a Christian. For this he too was arrested and imprisoned.

At length the two martyrs, Hermylus and his new convert friend Stratonicus, were tied up in a net and thrown into the Danube River to be drowned. Filled with joy, they began singing, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace, goodwill to men!" They perished in the river, and their souls were received by the Most High God in the Kingdom. When their bodies were found washed up on the shore after a few days, the local Christians buried them with honor. The martyrs suffered and were glorified with Christ in the early fourth century.