

SAINT LUKE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH  
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA - ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON  
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[www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org) [www.wdcoca.org](http://www.wdcoca.org) [www.stlukemclean.org](http://www.stlukemclean.org)  
ARCHPRIEST JOHN VITKO – 925-667-6451 (c), 703-893-1759 (Church office)

FEBRUARY 28, 2021  
**SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON**  
SECOND SUNDAY OF THE LENTEN TRIODION

**Epistle Reading**  
I Corinthians 6:12-20

**Gospel Reading**  
Luke 15:11-32

*Christ is in our midst!  
He is and ever shall be!*

**Troparion** (Resurrection)

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, born for our salvation from the Virgin; for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, to endure death, and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

**Kontakion** (Triodion)

I have recklessly forgotten Thy glory, O Father; and among sinners I have scattered the riches which Thou gavest me. Therefore, I cry to Thee like the Prodigal: "I have sinned before Thee, O compassionate Father; receive me a penitent and make me as one of Thy hired servants."

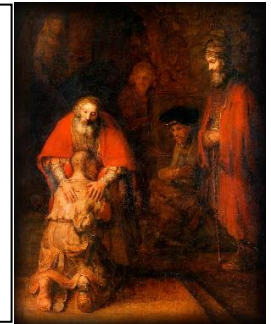
**Kontakion** (St. Luke)

Let us praise the godly Luke: he is the true preacher of piety, the orator of ineffable mysteries and the star of the Church; for the Word, Who alone knows the hearts of men, chose him, together with wise Paul, to be a teacher of the gentiles!

**The Lenten Spring and Pascha**

This Week	Fasting on Wednesday and Friday
Sunday, March 7	Meatfare Sunday (last day of meat)
Sunday, March 14	Forgiveness and Cheesefare Sunday (last day of dairy)
Monday, March 15	Great Lent begins
Sunday, May 2	Holy Pascha (Easter)

"When I went to St. Petersburg to see Rembrandt's *Return of the Prodigal Son*, I had little idea how much I would have to live what I saw ... (Rembrandt) led me from the kneeling, disheveled young son to the standing, bent-over father, from the place of being blessed to the place of blessing. As I look at my own aging hands, I know they have been given to me to stretch out toward all who suffer, to rest upon the shoulders of all who come, and to offer the blessing that emerges from the immensity of God's love." ~Henri Nouwen in "Return of the Prodigal Son" p. 139



**Welcome** to everyone praying with us today in person. Thank you for following our safety guidelines. May all who are in the Church and those livestreaming experience the great joy of the Divine Liturgy. Coffee Hour follows each gathering

**Orthodoxy 201 – Wednesday, March 3 – Online at 7PM**

Fr. John is leading the discussion of "Acquiring the Mind of Christ" by Abbott Sergius. He will email a Zoom invite and notes on "St. Augustine and Orthodoxy: In Light of the Eastern Church Fathers."

**Saturday Children's Liturgy and Church School – March 6 at 9AM**

Our Intermediate and Pre-school/Toddler classes will meet this coming Saturday. Please contact [Popadija Kitty](mailto:Popadija.Kitty@oca.org) to let her know your children will attend.

**Great Vespers – Saturday, March 6 at 5PM**

Vespers will be live-streamed on Saturday. Anyone planning to attend Vespers in-person is asked to email [Fr. John](mailto:Fr.John@oca.org) in advance.

**Advance Notice: St. Luke Annual Assembly - Sunday, March 28**

Parishioners are invited to attend the virtual annual meeting in March for discussion on current administrative matters, including the Church Building Project, and ministry programs. Fr. John will report on the spiritual life of our parish. Board President Ron Kecman will send out the Agenda and further details.

**God Grant You Many Years! Mnogaja Ljeta!**

God bless Kelly Pavela and 4-year-old George Minahan on their birthdays.

We extend special greetings to Fr. John and Popadija Kitty on the 12<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. We are grateful for his perseverance this past year in celebrating liturgical services, pastoral care and teaching. We are grateful for true friendship with both of them. God bless his priestly ministry. AXIOS!