

SAINT LUKE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA - ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON
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MARCH 2, 2025

CHEESEFARE SUNDAY - FORGIVENESS SUNDAY
EXPULSION OF ADAM FROM PARADISE;
GREAT MARTYR THEODORE THE RECRUIT

Epistle Reading

Romans 13:11-14:4

Gospel Reading

Matthew 6:14-21

Troparion (Resurrection)

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. He has trampled down death by death. He has become the first born of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted to the world great mercy.

Troparion (Theodore the Recruit)

Great are the accomplishments of faith, for the Holy Martyr Theodore rejoiced in the fount of flames as though at the waters of rest; for having been made a whole burnt offering in the fire, he was offered as a sweet bread to the Trinity. By his entreaties, O Christ God, save our souls!

Kontakion (Theodore the Recruit)

Having received the faith of Christ in your heart as a breastplate, you trampled upon inimical forces, O much-suffering champion, and you have been crowned eternally with a heavenly crown, as one invincible.

Kontakion (Forgiveness Sunday)

Master, Teacher of wisdom, Bestower of virtue, you teach the thoughtless and protect the poor: Strengthen and enlighten my heart. Word of the Father, let me not restrain my mouth from crying to you: Have mercy on me, a transgressor, O merciful Lord!

Memory Eternal + Večnaja Pamjat +

Grant rest eternal to the souls of Robert Trbovich on the 6th anniversary since his repose and Alfifeh Mousavi on her 40th day.

Forgiveness Sunday Vespers and the Beginning of Great Lent

Vespers begins at 1pm today. It is a time for prayer, reflection and mutual forgiveness. **"Forgive me." "God forgives; I forgive."** As Vespers ends our Lenten journey begins.

Welcome to all guests via livestream and those in person with us today. We invite you to join us for Coffee Hour. If you are interested in learning about the Orthodox Faith and St. Luke parish life, feel free to talk with Fr. John and Deacon Stefan.

Today is the last day for eating dairy products until Pascha. Fr. John has printed Lenten Guidelines for us and will answer questions on our personal fasting disciplines.

Thank You for Giving to the "First Sunday" Potluck and Charity Food Drive.

Assembly of Bishops Designates March 2 as Mission Sunday

Today we honor and pray for Orthodox missionaries as they serve around the world to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ. See the many ways to support the Orthodox Christian Mission Center: <https://www.ocmc.org/serve-from-home/give> and their [Facebook](#) page.

† Select the Name of Your "Lenten Prayer Partner" from the Basket Today †

Service Schedule for the First Week of Great Lent – March 3-7 at 7pm

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 7pm Canon of St. Andrew of Crete
Wednesday 7pm Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts (Fast from noon)
Followed by a Lenten Potluck Supper

Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 9 ~ Set clocks *forward* one hour.

Sunday of Orthodoxy – March 9

Church School Icon Procession – "On Sunday, March 9, the youth of St. Luke will celebrate the restoration of icons in 843 with a procession of icons into the church at the conclusion of Divine Liturgy. All children are encouraged to bring an icon of their patron saint or other favorite icon to participate in the procession." -- John Minahan

Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers at 5PM – Bishops, Clergy and Laity from Washington DC area churches will gather at St. Katherine's Greek Orthodox Church, [3149 Glen Carlyn Road, Falls Church, VA for the Triumph of Orthodoxy](#). Come see the great icon procession. His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon will give the homily. A reception will follow.

OCPM Prison Ministry Retreat – Saturday, March 22 – Vespers at 5pm

V. Rev John Kowalczyk from OCPM will be with us for a presentation on the inspiring Orthodox spiritual care of those in prison. Come and hear about this growing ministry.

Save the Date: 2025 St. Luke Annual Assembly – Sunday, March 30 at 1pm

The Board of trustees invites all parishioners to the annual meeting. They also invite us to consider donating towards the purchase 12 Feastday icons to beautify our new church. Vice President Hunter Whitestone can provide information on this special opportunity.

God Grant You Many Years!

God bless George Minahan (8th), Jonah Smith (1st), Diana Kinker, Jeremy Klein, Nathan Peña, Rob Pyott and Irena Whitestone on their birthdays. God bless Fr. John and Popadija Kitty on the 16th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. AXIOS!