

Mercy and Forgiveness

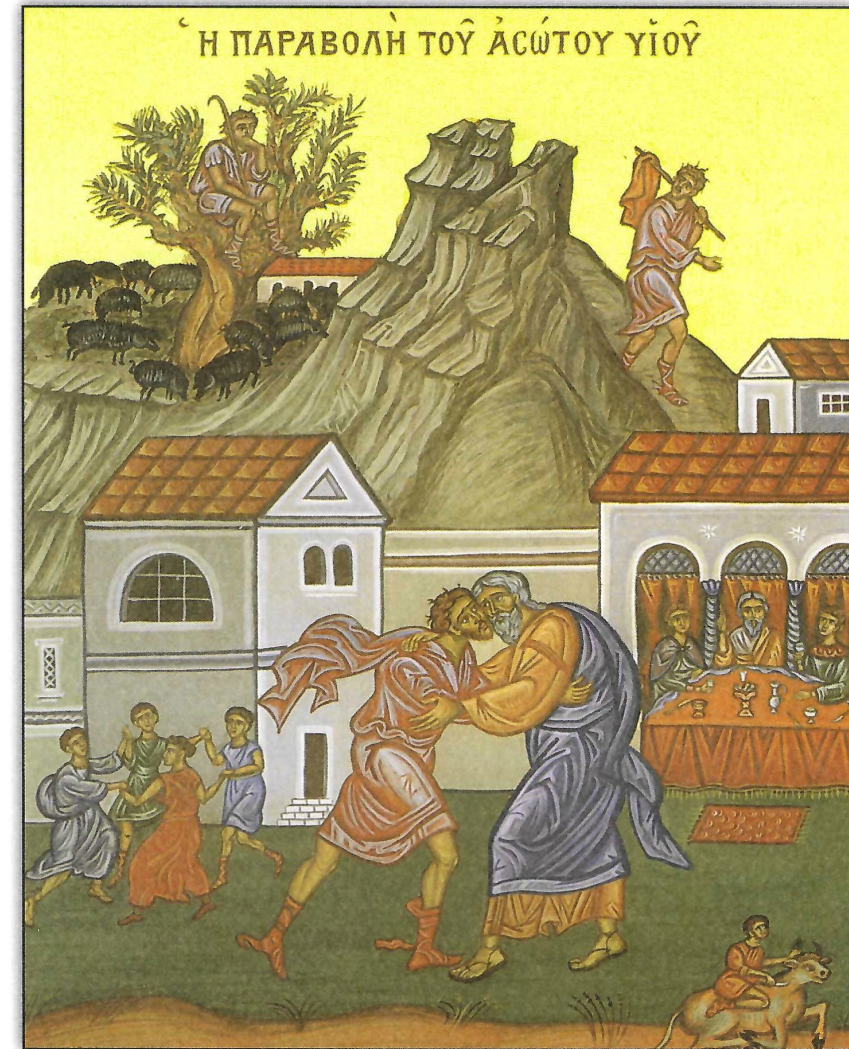
All that God looks for from us is the slightest opening and He forgives a multitude of sins. ... There were two brothers: they divided their father's goods between them and one stayed home, while the other went away to a foreign country, wasted all he had been given, and then could not bear the shame of his poverty. The son who went away represents those who fall after baptism. This is clear from the fact that he is called a son, since no one is called a son unless he is baptized. Also, he lived in his father's house and took a share of all his father's goods. Before baptism no one receives the Father's goods or enters upon the inheritance. We can therefore take all this as signifying the state of believers.

What does he say after falling into the depths of evil? I will return to my father. The reason the father let him go and did not prevent his departure for a foreign land was so that he might learn well by experience what good things are enjoyed by the one who stays at home. For when words would

not convince us God often leaves us to learn from the things that happen to us. When the dissolute returned after going to a foreign country and finding out by experience what a great sin it is to leave the father's house, the father did not remember past injuries but welcomed him with open arms. Why? Because he was a father and not a judge. And there were dances and festivities and banquets and the whole house was full of joy and gladness.

Are you asking: "Is this what he gets for his wickedness?" Not for his wickedness, but for his return home; not for sin, but for repentance; not for evil, but for being converted. What is more, when the elder son was angry at this the father gently won him over, saying: You were always with me, but he was lost and has been found; he was dead and has come back to life. "When someone who was lost has to be saved," says the father, "it is not the time for passing judgment or making minute inquiries, but only for mercy and forgiveness."

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON



Icon of the Prodigal Son (Luke 15:11-32)

ST. HARALAMBOS SUNDAY BULLETIN

February 8, 2026

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

Orthros 9:00 a.m.: Divine Liturgy immediately following the Orthros.

FEBRUARY

SUN FEB 8	†Sunday of the Prodigal Son Jr. GOYA Meeting GOYA Meeting Boys Basketball Practice	9:00 a.m.
MON FEB 9	†Great Vespers of St. Haralambos	6:30 p.m.
TUE FEB 10	†Feastday of St. Haralambos Philoptochos Luncheon Orthodox Book Study Greek School	9:00 a.m. 4:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.
WED FEB 11	Choir Rehearsal Boys Basketball Practice	6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.
THU FEB 12	Hellenic Beginner Dancers Hellenic Intermediate Dancers Hellenic Training Seniors Dancers Hellenic Senior Dancers Parish Council Meeting	4:30 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 5:45 p.m. 6:15 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
SAT FEB 14	†1st Saturday of Souls	9:00 a.m.
SUN FEB 15	†Judgement Sunday - Meatfare Sunday St. Haralambos Name Day Celebration Boys Basketball Practice	9:00 a.m.
TUE FEB 17	Father Nick's Bible Study Greek School	3:30 p.m. 5:30 p.m.
WED FEB 18	Boys Basketball Practice Greek Fest Committee Mtg.	6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.
THU FEB 19	Hellenic Beginner Dancers Hellenic Intermediate Dancers Hellenic Training Seniors Dancers Hellenic Senior Dancers	4:30 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 5:45 p.m. 6:15 p.m.
FRI FEB 20	Fish Fry - Dine-in & Drive Thru	4:00 p.m.
SAT FEB 21	†2nd Saturday of Souls	9:00 a.m.
SUN FEB 22	†Forgiveness (Cheesefare) Sunday	9:00 a.m.
MON FEB 23	†Clean Monday Great Compline	6:00 p.m.
TUE FEB 24	Orthodox Book Study Greek School	4:00 p.m. 5:30 p.m.
WED FEB 25	Choir Rehearsal †Pre-Sanctified Liturgy @ St. George - Massillon	6:00 p.m. 6:30 p.m.



ALTAR BOY SCHEDULE

February 8, 2026

TEAM A



TODAY'S MEMORIALS FEBRUARY 8, 2026

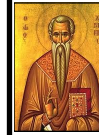
40-Day Memorial ~ Lisa Ferencz
1yr Memorial ~ Catherine Demos
3yr Memorial ~ Gust Contos
3yr Memorial ~ Rev. Fr. Constantine Shiepis
3yr Memorial ~ Eleni Manos
5yr Memorial ~ Presbyteria Panayiota Shiepis
5yr Memorial ~ Kali C. Stamaton
7yr Memorial ~ John Bahas
8yr Memorial ~ George Bahas
17yr Memorial ~ Katherin e Bahas
23yr Memorial ~ Evdokia Kakoules
25yr Memorial ~ William D. Stamaton
33yr Memorial ~ Eleni Shiepis
35yr Memorial ~ Haritine Christu
37yr Memorial ~ Kyriakos Christu
37yr Memorial ~ Georghios Shiepis
63yr Memorial ~ Peter Kakoules
72yr Memorial ~ Michael Kakoules
73yr Memorial ~ Asimina Kakoules

Today's coffee hour, Prosforo and wine are
sponsored by the families.



BIBLE STUDY WITH FATHER NICK

FEBRUARY 17, 2026
3:30 - 4:30 P.M.
TRI- ROOM



SAVE THE DATE!

113th ST. HARALAMBOS
NAME DAY CELEBRATION

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2026
After Divine Liturgy
Krassas Event Center

Deadline to Purchase tickets is this
Sunday, February 8th

Lamb Shank - \$25
Shrimp Skewers - \$25
Chicken Tenders (Child) - \$15



JR GOYA FRAPPE FUNDRAISER

TODAY!

FEBRUARY 8, 2026

58th Annual - Daughters of Penelope Debutante's Ball

Saturday, April 18, 2026

Doors Open - 7:30 pm
Presentation - 8:30 pm

Alex D. Krassas Event Center
251 25th Street NW
Canton, OH 44709

Tickets: \$25 each

Please contact Frances Pantelides at (330) 284-3929
Ticket Chairperson or
debsball@gmail.com
to purchase your tickets.



ORTHODOX BOOK STUDY GROUP

Join us for a spiritual book study
and fellowship.

Every 2nd & 4th Tuesday
in the Tri-Room
4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Discussion will be from "The St. John
Climacus, The Ladder of Divine Ascent"
and "Thirty Steps to Heaven".

ALL ARE WELCOME!

If you would like to participate, please
contact the church office @ 330-454-7278.



SAVE THE DATE!

CANTON GREEK FEST

JUNE 4, 5, 6, 2026

THE GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF
PITTSBURGH FAMILY MINISTRY
COMMITTEE PRESENTS:

LENTEN RETREAT
"Living in Community"

Saturday, March 21, 2026 ~ 10:00a.m. - 2:00p.m.

ST. NICHOLAS GOC
220 N. Walnut St., Youngstown, OH 44503

To register, Go to: <https://tinyurl.com/yww3sr7p>

SAVE THE DATES!

2025-26 Canton Greek Fish Fry

February 20th -Dine In & Drive Thru

March 20th - Dine In & Drive Thru

Interested in volunteering?

Contact Peter Volas @ 216-312-4255

February 8, 2026: Post-Presentation; The Prodigal Son; Theodore the Commander (Stratelates), Greatmartyr (+319); Zacharias the Prophet (515 B.C.); The Mothers of the Three Hierarchs: Emmeleia (Basil), Nona (Gregory), Anthousa (Chrysostom).

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Ἀπολυτίκιον Ἀναστάσιμον Ἦχος β΄
Ὅτε κατήλθες πρὸς τὸν θάνατον, ἡ ζωὴ ἡ ἀθάνατος, τότε τὸν ἄδην ἐνέκρωσας, τῇ ἀστραπῇ
τῆς θεότητος· ὅτε δὲ καὶ τοὺς τεθνεῶτας, ἐκ τῶν καταχθονίων ἀνέστησας, πᾶσαι αἱ
δυνάμεις τῶν ἐπουρανίων ἐκραύγαζον· Ζωοδότα Χριστέ, ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν δόξα σοι.

Ἀπολυτίκιον τῆς Ἑορτῆς Ἦχος α΄
Χαῖρε κεχαριτωμένη Θεοτόκε Παρθένε· ἐκ σοῦ γὰρ ἀνέτειλεν ὁ ἥλιος τῆς δικαιοσύνης,
Χριστὸς ὁ Θεὸς ἡμῶν, φωτίζων τοὺς ἐν σκότει. Εὐφραίνου καὶ σὺ Πρεσβύτα δίκαιε,
δεξάμενος ἐν ἀγκάλαις τὸν ἐλευθερωτὴν τῶν ψυχῶν ἡμῶν, χαριζόμενον ἡμῖν καὶ τὴν
Ἀνάστασιν.

Τοῦ Ναοῦ
Ὡς στῦλος ἀκλόνητος, τῆς Ἐκκλησίας Χριστοῦ, καὶ λύχνος ἀείφωτος, τῆς οἰκουμένης
σοφέ, ἐδείχθης Χαράλαμπες· ἔλαμψας ἐν τῷ κόσμῳ, διὰ τοῦ μαρτυρίου. ἔλυσας καὶ
εἰδώλων τὴν σκοτόμαιναν μάκαρ· διὸ ἐν παρρησίᾳ Χριστῷ. Πρέσβευε σωθῆναι ἡμᾶς.

Κοντάκιον Ἦχος α΄
Ὁ μήτραν παρθενικὴν ἀγίασας τῷ τόκῳ σου, καὶ χειρὰς τοῦ Συμεὼν εὐλόγησας ὡς ἔπρεπε,
προφθάσας καὶ νῦν ἔσωσας ἡμᾶς Χριστέ ὁ Θεός. Ἀλλ’ εἰρήνευσον ἐν πολέμοις τὸ
πολίτευμα, καὶ κραταίωσον Βασιλεῖς οὓς ἡγάπησας, ὁ μόνος φιλόανθρωπος.

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Resurrectional Apolytikion Mode 2
When You descended unto Death, O Lord, You who are immortal Life put Hades to
death, by the lightning of Your divinity. And when You raised the dead from the
netherworld, all the hosts of heaven sang aloud to You, “O Christ God, Giver of life,
glory to You!”

Apolytikion of the Feast Mode 1
Lady full of grace, rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, for Christ our God, the Sun of
righteousness has risen from you and He illumined those in darkness. And you, righteous
Elder, be glad in heart, receiving in your embraces the One who liberates our souls and
bestows on us the Resurrection.

Hymn of the Church
As a pillar unshaken of Christ’s holy Church, and lamp ever-burning to all the world you
emerged, O wise Haralambos; in all the world you shined, with the martyrdom you
suffered, you dispelled the dark night, of the idols, O blessed; whence, with courage do
intercede, to Christ that we may be saved.

Kontakion Mode 1
You sanctified the womb of the Virgin by Your birth, and by Your presentation You
blessed the hands of Symeon, when You came, and You saved us, O Christ our God.
Now we pray You give peace to Your world at war, and let love for Your people prevail
in all, O only benevolent Lord.



Epistle

The reading is from Paul’s First Letter to the Corinthians.

Brethren, “all things are permitted for me,” but not all things are helpful. “All things are permitted for me,” but I will not be enslaved by anything. “Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food” — and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is not meant for immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! Do you not know that he who joins himself to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, “The two shall become one flesh.” But he who is united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. Shun immorality. Every other sin which a man commits is outside the body; but the immoral man sins against his own body. Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God? You are not your own; you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body and in your spirit which belong to God.



Gospel

The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

The Lord said this parable: “There was a man who had two sons; and the younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that falls to me.’ And he divided his living between them. Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want. So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. And he would gladly have filled his belly with the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything. But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants.’ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to make merry. Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing. And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant. And he said to him, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.’ But he was angry and refused to go in. His father came out and entreated him, but he answered his father, ‘Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends. But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!’ And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”