



NATIVITY OF THE VIRGIN MARY ORTHODOX CHURCH A PARISH OF THE DIOCESE OF THE MIDWEST



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WEEKLY BULLETIN 2/22/2026

Cheesefare Sunday and the of the Expulsion of Adam and Eve ([learn more](#))

Regular Schedule

- ◇ **Fr. Peter's Office Hours:** Tue-Thur 10-3 (parish office) or by appointment
- ◇ **Saturdays:** Great Vespers 5pm followed by confession
- ◇ **Sundays:** Hours & Divine Liturgy 9:30am followed by fellowship at the parish center. All are welcome.
- ◇ **Book study** every Tuesday 7pm (online only)

Announcements, Etc.

- "Missions Sunday" is this Sunday. Bring donations!
- Click [here](#) to sign up to volunteer to help serve a FOCUS breakfast to the needy on Wednesdays.
- 2026 coffee hour sign up sheet in parish hall.

Father's Wishlist

Please consider supporting the projects listed in the narthex. The list includes iconography for the temple!

Luke 24:1-12

Now on the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain other women with them, came to the tomb bringing the spices which they had prepared. But they found the stone rolled away from the tomb. Then they went in and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. And it happened, as they were greatly perplexed about this, that behold, two men stood by them in shining garments. Then, as they were afraid and bowed their faces to the earth, they said to them, "Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, saying, 'The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.'" And they remembered His words. Then they returned from the tomb and told all these things to the eleven and to all the rest. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them, who told these things to the apostles. And their words seemed to them like idle tales, and they did not believe them. But Peter arose and ran to the tomb; and stooping down, he saw the linen cloths lying by themselves; and he departed, marveling to himself at what had happened.

let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts. Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over doubtful things. For one believes he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who does not eat, and let not him who does not eat judge him who eats; for God has received him. Who are you to judge another's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. Indeed, he will be made to stand, for God is able to make him stand.

Romans 13:11-14:4

And do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and

Matthew 6:14-21

For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust de-

stroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

Great Vespers Sunday of the expulsion of Adam and Eve from Paradise

Lord I call Stichera

O Paradise, garden of delight and beauty,
dwelling-place made perfect by God,
unending gladness and eternal joy,
the hope of the prophets and the home of the saints,
by the music of thy rustling leaves beseech the Creator of all
to open the gates which my sins have closed,
that I may partake of the Tree of Life and Grace//
which was given to me in the beginning!
Heaven.

This is what it means not to judge. Do not have hostile feelings towards anyone and do not let dislike dominate your heart; do not hate him who hates his neighbor.—Abba Moses the Black. From the Sayings of the Desert Fathers

Abba Poemen also said this about Abba Isidore that whenever he addressed the brothers in church he said only one thing, 'Forgive your brother, so that you also may be forgiven.' From the Sayings of the Desert Fathers

If you reprove someone, you yourself get carried away by anger and you are satisfying your own passion; do not lose yourself, therefore, in order to save another. - Abba Macarius the Great. From the Sayings of the Desert Fathers

A brother questioned Abba Poemen saying, "If I see my brother committing a sin, is it right to conceal it?" The old man said to him, "At the very moment when we hide our brother's fault, God hides our own and at the moment when we reveal our brother's fault, God reveals ours too." From the Sayings of the Desert Fathers

St. Nikolai Velimirovich: "That God may forgive us, let us forgive men. Prolonged fasting and prayer is in vain without forgiveness and true mercy".

Don't forget to attend Forgiveness Sunday Vespers with the rite of mutual forgiveness after coffee hour Sunday.