



HOLY GHOST ORTHODOX CHURCH

BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

1510 East Main Street, Bridgeport, CT 06608 ·

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FEBRUARY 8, 2026 – SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON — Tone 2

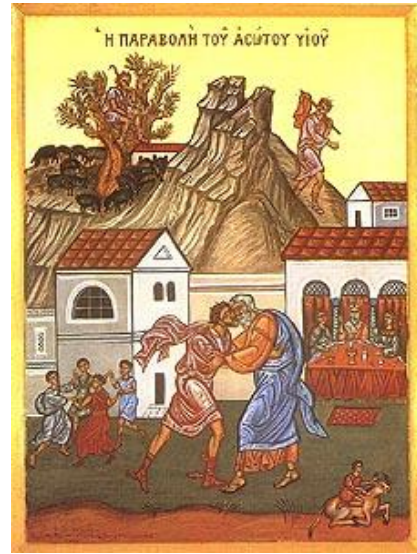
After-feast of the Meeting

<u>Scripture Readings</u>	<u>Services</u>
<p>MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9 1 John 2:18-3:10 Mark 11:1-11</p> <p>TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10 1 John 3:11-20 Mark 14:10-42</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11 1 John 3:21-4:6 Mark 14:43-15:1</p> <p>THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12 1 John 4:20-5:21 Mark 15:1-15</p> <p>FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13 2 John 1:1-13 Mark 15:22-25, 33:41</p> <p>SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14 Corinthians 10:23-28 Luke 21:8-9, 25-27, 33-36</p> <hr/> <p><i>All services will also be streamed online via Facebook Live as follows:</i> https://www.facebook.com/Holy-Ghost-Russian-Orthodox-Greek-Catholic-Church-681248091936330/</p> <p>Reminder: The schedule of services can be found on the front page of our website, https://holyghostbpt.com/ The schedule is recorded on the Google Calendar of the church's acct. You can add it to your own Google Calendar by clicking the + sign on the bottom right corner of the calendar window</p>	<p>WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4 Bible Study.....6:30 p.m.</p> <p>SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7 Great Vespers.....4:00 p.m. Panikhida for Betty Kost from her daughter, Carolyn (before Vespers)</p> <p>SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8 Divine Liturgy.....9:00 a.m. Sunday of the Prodigal Son After-feast of the Meeting “Second Sunday” during coffee fellowship “Ask the Priest” session (postponed from Jan. 25)</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11 Bible Study.....6:30 p.m.</p> <div data-bbox="1177 1417 1307 1543" data-label="Image"></div> <p>SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14 Great Vespers.....4:00 p.m.</p> <p>SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 15 Meatfare – Last Judgment Sunday Divine Liturgy.....9:00 a.m. Parish Council Meeting.....11:45 a.m.</p>

SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

The Sunday after the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee is the Sunday of the Prodigal Son. This parable of God's forgiveness calls us to "come to ourselves" as did the prodigal son, to see ourselves as being "in a far country" far from the Father's house, and to make the journey of return to God. We are given every assurance by the Master that our heavenly Father will receive us with joy and gladness. We must only "arise and go," confessing our self-inflicted and sinful separation from that "home" where we truly belong (Luke 15:11-24).

After the Polyeleion at Matins, we first hear the Lenten hymn "By the Waters of Babylon." It will be sung for the next two Sundays before Lent begins, and it serves to reinforce the theme of exile in today's Gospel.



Starting tomorrow, the weekday readings summarize the events of Holy Week. On Monday we read Saint Mark's account of the Entry into Jerusalem. On Tuesday we read how Judas went to the chief priests and offered to betray the Lord. On the night before His death Christ tells His disciples that one of them will betray Him. He also predicts that they will desert Him, and that Peter will deny Him three times. On Wednesday the Gospel describes how Judas betrayed the Savior with a kiss. Thursday's Gospel tells how Jesus was questioned by Pilate. On Friday we read the narrative of Christ's crucifixion and death.

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

(Epistle)

12

All things are lawful for me, but all things are not helpful. All things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.

13

Foods for the stomach and the stomach for foods, but God will destroy both it and them. Now the body is not for sexual immorality but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body.

14

And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power.

15

Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a harlot? Certainly not!

16

Or do you not know that he who is joined to a harlot is one body with her? For "the two," He says, "shall become one flesh."

17

But he who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with Him.

18

Flee sexual immorality. Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body.

19

Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?

20

For you were bought at a price; therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

Luke 15:11-32**(Gospel)**

11

Then He said: "A certain man had two sons.

12

And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the portion of goods that falls to me.' So, he divided to them his livelihood.

13

And not many days after, the younger son gathered all together, journeyed to a far country, and there wasted his possessions with prodigal living.

14

But when he had spent all, there arose a severe famine in that land, and he began to be in want.

15

Then he went and joined himself to a citizen of that country, and he sent him into his fields to feed swine.

16

And he would gladly have filled his stomach with the pods that the swine ate, and no one gave him anything.

17

But when he came to himself, he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger!

18

I will arise and go to my father, and will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you,

19

and I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Make me like one of your hired servants.'"

20

And he arose and came to his father. But when he was still a great way off, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and fell on his neck and kissed him.

21

And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and in your sight, and am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

22

But the father said to his servants, 'Bring out the best robe and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand and sandals on his feet.

23

And bring the fatted calf here and kill it, and let us eat and be merry;

24

for this my son was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.' And they began to be merry.

25

Now his older son was in the field. And as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing.

26

So, he called one of the servants and asked what these things meant.

27

And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and because he has received him safe and sound, your father has killed the fatted calf.'

28

But he was angry and would not go in. Therefore, his father came out and pleaded with him.

29

So, he answered and said to his father, 'Lo, these many years I have been serving you; I never transgressed your commandment at any time; and yet you never gave me a young goat, that I might make merry with my friends.

30

But as soon as this son of yours came, who has devoured your livelihood with harlots, you killed the fatted calf for him.'

Luke 15:11-32

(Gospel Cont'd.)

31

And he said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that I have is yours.

32

It was right that we should make merry and be glad, for your brother was dead and is alive again, and was lost and is found.'"

DONATIONS REQUESTED ... The church is in need for extra donations for snow removal and cost for heating the church. Thank you!

CANDLE DESK DUTY

February 8 – Daria Ploski-Slavin

February 15 – Carol Kirkman

If you cannot make your scheduled date, please switch with another member.

CANDLES / DONATIONS

- Donation to the General Fund in loving memory of Betty Kost, from her daughter, Carolyn, \$100.
- Lampatki over Royal Doors in loving memory of Betty Kost, from her friends.
- Iconastas Vigils in loving memory of Steven Tyler Smith, from mom.
- Altar Lampatki for the health & happiness of the newly-engaged Zachary Sheridan Smith and Beatrice Ellen Relucio, with love from mom, Abby, and grandma.

COFFEE-HOUR CLEAN-UP CREW ... This week's cleanup crew is Group P through Z. If this is your week to help, please see crew chief Daria Ploski-Slavin for instructions.

HOUSE BLESSINGS 2026 ... It is our tradition to have house blessings in the days and weeks following the great Feast of Theophany on January 6. Please sign up for a house blessing on the sheet provided at the candle desk, or respond to Fr Mark's email, sent on December 22.

LENTEN SOUP FUNDRAISER ... starts on February 22nd. Sue Maugeri is looking for cooks! A sign-up sheet is available in the basement. Please see Sue for soup containers. Thank you!

TAX DONATIONS ... If anyone needs a donation form for the 2025 tax season, please see Sue Maugeri or email her at suemaugeri@snet.net.

GIRL SCOUT COOKIES ... Zoey and Olivia McCormick are once again selling those irresistible Girl Scout cookies. Forms are located on the island downstairs.

THE NEXT SECOND SUNDAY IS TODAY!

Thanks to those who have signed up to prepare or donate potluck items!



ASK THE PRIEST



The “Ask *the Priest*” session is scheduled for **today**. Get your questions ready for Fr Mark! Postponed from January 25th.

SAVE THE DATE, FEBRUARY 7! ... St. John’s Orthodox Church on Mill Hill Avenue in Bridgeport has invited Holy Ghost and St. John’s from Broadbridge Avenue to join them for a roast beef dinner. See attached flyer for more information.

THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MTG ... is scheduled for **February 15**.

FEBRUARY 1, 2 – DIVINE LITURGY, MEETING OF THE LORD IN THE TEMPLE



Blessing of new Vestments



Swearing-in of Parish Council Members



*Blessing of Candles
Subdeacon Brian Sencio assisted Fr Mark*

PARISH METRICS (FEBRUARY 8 THRU FEBRUARY 14)

BIRTHDAYS

Aubreigh McGinnis, February 9th (11 years old)

God Grant her Many Years!

Многая лета!

ANNIVERSARIES

None listed

DEPARTED FROM THE PARISH METRICS

FEBRUARY 8 – Anna Cherveniak, 1908 (33); Michael Dziamba, 1920 (43); Nicholas Kurunsky, 1963 (86); Frank L. Demovick, 1991 (90)

FEBRUARY 9 – Anna Kosh, 1908 (2 months); Victor Fursk, 1922 (1); Michael Bychkovsky, 1928 (50); Robert Bayus, 1966 (37); Joseph Verostek, 1972 (81); Mary Chervenak Watkins, 1979 (69); Mary Kostic Smolko, 1981 (85); Nicholas Wallick, Jr., 1982 (61); Valentina (Kolton) Schmidt, 1998 (74); Walter Beloblosky, 2000 (65); Elizabeth (Betty) Marko Kost, 2021 (89)

FEBRUARY 10 – Evdokia Koliada, 1922 (6 months); Gregory Molchan, 1928 (3); Andrew Nubas, 1940 (51); Vassily Fecko, 1944 (18 days); Anna Yessis, 1967 (48); Michael Jankura, 1992; Helen Shemet Wickus, 1995 (74)

FEBRUARY 11 – John Mikita, 1917 (20); Leonty Shmigelsky, 1918 (1); Spiro Vessiel, 1918; John Guman, 1922; Andrew Duchak, 1931 (18); Anna Jankura Kasper, 1953 (72)

FEBRUARY 12 – Joseph Gorbach, 1918 (26); Mary Boldusoff, 1968 (52); Julius Babina, 1975 (84); Michael Popadic, Jr., 1976

FEBRUARY 13 – John Ilik, 1936 (75); Anna Kurimsky, 1972 (82); Anna Naiden Hukola, 1972 (77); John Mellish, Sr., 1975 (67); Alexandra Cymbalak Breyan, 1978 (85); James Choomak, 1987 (79); Catherine Samoilick, 1988 (87)

FEBRUARY 14 – Anna Jankura, 1908 (2 months); Nikita Shvaiko, 1919 (34); John Toby, 1927 (49); Anna Kasper, 1944 (34); Joseph Kuncevich, 1951 (62); Simeon Pisaretz, 1955 (66); Rosalie Tymniak, 1976 (79); Anna Bobko, 1979 (74)

Memory Eternal!

Вечная память!

1

Meeting of the Lord in the Temple, from ‘Old to New’
“The meeting of Christ by the elder Simeon and the prophetess Anna (Lk 2.22–36) is the main event of the feast of Christ’s presentation in the Temple. It was “revealed to Simeon by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ” (Lk 2.26) and, inspired by the same Spirit, he came to the Temple where he met the new-born Messiah, took Him in his arms and said the words which are now chanted each evening at the end of the Orthodox Vespers service:
Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word; for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation which Thou hast prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for the revelation to the Gentiles, and for glory to Thy people Israel (Lk 2.29–32).”



OCA