

ST. ELIJAH SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Cheesefare Sunday (Forgiveness Sunday)

O Lord, we were estranged before from paradise, because of eating from the tree. Therefore, lead us into it again by Thy Cross and by Thy Passion, my Savior and my God. Fortify us therein that we may fulfill our fast with becoming purity, and worship Thy Divine Resurrection and Passover of salvation, by the intercessions of Thy Mother.

According to the Lenten Fast, Cheese-Fare Sunday is the last day on which eggs and dairy are eaten before Pascha.



On Cheese-Fare Sunday, we also commemorate the expulsion of Adam and Eve from Paradise, entering into the Lenten fast in remembrance of mankind's separation from God through disobeying his commandment to fast from the fruit of the tree. Furthermore, many faithful attend Forgiveness Vespers on Sunday evening, asking forgiveness from each other in accordance with the Lord's words: *If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your heavenly Father forgive you your trespasses* (Matt. 6:14).

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Epistle-Romans 13:11-14:4 Gospel-Matthew 6:14-21

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There were no visits nor home blessings this week, Fr. Branislav attended the fourth lecture series of the St. Sebastian and Mardarije Orthodox Institute Tuesday-Thursday, February 13-15, 2018 at St. George Serbian Orthodox Church in Clearwater, Florida thereafter, he attended our Annual Diocesan Assembly this past Friday and Saturday along with our church Vice-President Stephanie Kovacevich.

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In order to enrich our Liturgical experience and celebrate the **Triumph of Orthodoxy** which our Holy Orthodox Church celebrates annually on the First Sunday of Great and Holy Lent, we invite ALL children and their parents to take part in the procession on Sunday, February 25th - You are asked to bring an icon of your choice from your home and to carry it with you. " This procession is to take place around the interior or exterior of the church, led by the priest and altar servers, before "budi imja" the Troparion of the Triumph of Orthodoxy is to be sung while the procession takes place.

At the conclusion of the procession, when the priest, servers and children with icons have returned to the front of the church, they face the people and lead them in the reading of the Synodikon and Creed. The singing of "Budi imja" and the conclusion of the Liturgy will follow. "

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Beside the bulletin you will find the SCHEDULE OF LENTEN SERVICES for lent showing each week where VESPER SERVICES will be held you may pick up a copy today.

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ST. ELIJAH CHOIR NEWS- TODAY is the last day to place your orders for **SARRIS CANDY**, forms are located downstairs.

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CHEESEFARE SUNDAY. A light lunch will be available following the Divine Liturgy today prepared by Jovanovich Family. **Menu: Stuffed shells, vegetable, salad, garlic toast, cake and coffee.** Please join them downstairs following Divine Liturgy!



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LENTEN VESPER SERVICE: Today ST. SAVA MCKEESPORT 5:00 p.m. Lecturer: Fr. Rade Merick: Topic: "What's This All About Anyway?"

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KCC MEETING will be held TOMORROW in the CENTER at 6:00 p.m. all sisters are asked to attend. We hope to see you there. The back-Irwin Street door will be open so that you do not have to do any steps!

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CHOIR PRACTICE Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.