



VOLUME 17 ISSUE 2

## February 2017

FR. PETER DAY-PROISTAMENOS

# Priest's Message

ord and Master of my life! Take from me the spirit of sloth, faintheartedness, lust of power, and idle talk. But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to your servant. Yea, Lord and King! Grant me to see my own errors and not to judge my brother; for You are blessed to ages of ages. Amen.

### Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we prepare to enter Great Lent at the end of this month, the beautiful prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian reminds us of the roadmap that God sets before us in order to make our Lenten journey fruitful. We begin by affirming that God, as our Lord and Master, is with us to guide and nurture our lives, and to be our constant source of help. So we ask for His help in becoming the image of His goodness, through removing the tarnish and the residue of sin that we may have let accumulate on us. For the spirit of sloth, faintheartedness, lust of power, and idle talk easily cover and darken us, like the dust on our lampshades.

Let us shake off that dust so that our lamps may glow as they were created to glow, by asking God to give us the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love. These traits are the image of Christ that we hold in hearts, and the image that we are to acquire by imitating Him.

And lastly, we ask God for help in doing an honest assessment of ourselves and our relationship to others. We begin Triodion on February 5th on the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee, and the Gospel lesson shows



us examples of how we judge ourselves and one another. The Publican sees his own errors and in his humility can only praise God and ask for forgiveness: "God, be merciful to me a sinner!" On the other hand, the Pharisee, faint of heart and lusting power, can only see good in himself and bad in others.

So, this is a time for us to see the image of Christ in each and every one of God's children and to live the love of Christ in our hearts.

With love in Christ,

Fr. Peter

7. Patu

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Council Members President Jim Simones ..... Vice President Norman Rattey ..... Treasurer Michael Pelletier ..... Assistant Treasurer Doreen Cote ..... Secretary Stella Gammaitoni ......

Michael Coombs ..... Jack Clifford..... John Kroger..... John Kesaris ..... Peter Goranites..... Dina Medouris ..... Jaye Mendros-Goulet ... Roger Naous..... Food for fellowhip time after church February 5..... Mihalakis 12..... Aliki Karagiannis 19..... 26..... If you wish to host a

memorial or sponsor food for after church fellowship please sign up.



Commíttees

Building & Addition: John Stass, Mike Pelletier, & Jason Levesque **Cemetery:** Michael Pelletier Education: Chris Sirois **Festival:** Peter Mars & John Kesaris Finance & Endowment: Dorothy Moskovis, Duke Goranites, Hellenic Heritage: Georgia Chomas **Interior:** John Rozos Maintenace: Jim Simones, Harry Simones, Stella Gammaitoni Parish Historical Soceity: John Kesaris Spiritual Enrichment: Ann Robinson Stewardship: Ann Robinson Libraian: Tom Goodwin Ladies Society: Melissa Simones **Choir Directors:** John Rozos, Chris Gianopoulos Sunday School Director: Stella Gammaitoni Readers: George Simones, David LeGloahec, John Rozos, **Jave Goulet** Acolyte Guides: Roger Park, John Zimbis **Book Store Manger:** George Simones Visitation Committee: Margery Mars & Christine Sirois Other Members: Ann Pelletier, Rosemary Goranites, Deserée Tanquay, and John Rozos.

PARISH OF THE HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH Februrary 2017

BULLETIN OF THE

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Light of Life is the monthly publication of Holy Trinity Greek . Orthodox Church of Lewiston, Maine under the Metropolis of Boston of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America.

It is intended for the communication and edification of the community of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church and its friends.

Publication created using: Adobe® InDesign® CS-5, Adobe® Photoshop® C.S.5, Art Explosion® 750,000, Macromedia eehand® 9.0, IconGraphics™ Byzantine ClipArt on an Apple iMac. fonts used: Palatino, Papyrus & Optima

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# Church News

ho can figure out this winter. 40° one day and the deep freeze the next day. We have a new council. Let us give them our support as they help navigate through the 2017 waters.

Furniture designer/maker, artist ... John Stass has re-invented himself yet again! He will be teaching at The Senior College, University of Southern Maine (Lewiston-Auburn College) this Spring. His course is titled "Is It Art?" and explores modern and contemporary art during the past 100 years. The course will include short lectures, group discussions and exercises, leading to art making itself by each participant.

At the January 26 annual meeting and awards presentation of the L-A Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce, Simones' Hot Dog Stand received the Icon Award. Congratulations to Jimmy, Linda, and George!

From the Sun Journal is a picture at right of Christine Sirois and Linda Simones at the Awards Presentation Dinner where the Simone's won the Icon Award.

MISSY SIMONES, Policy Director in the Maine State Senate

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FEBRUARY 2017



You have church News:

Send your text, your pictures, your inspirations, whatever it is, send it to:

HTrinnews@gwi.net

## Church News Continued from pg. 3

President's Office, has been named to the committee advising President Trump on federal appointments to Maine jobs.

ALEX RIVET, a junior who plays for the Lewiston boys' hockey team, The Blue Devils, and two teammates, comprise one of the best forward lines in the State.

## RODANTHE

GAMMAITONI is a member of the Lost Valley Racing Club, and she recently took part in the 25th annual JP Parisienne Memorial Race, in memory of Jean Paul Parisienne who was killed by a drunk driver in 1992. Rodanthe was 1 of 200 competitors from all over New England.

Remember in your prayers - and with a cheery card of wishes:

NOREEN KESARIS, who fell recently, broke her leg, and underwent surgery at Maine General Hospital in Augusta. We hope that after rehab therapy she will get back home to enjoy her 106th birthday on February 17th.

**ANNA LAROCCA** (*D*-Youville Pavilion, Lewiston) and



ALEX PITARYS (Marshwood Nursing Home, Roger Street, Lewiston). They would love to hear from you or have a visit from you. JULIA ANGELIDES, BES-SIE HILDRETH, and FLO-RENTIA MENDROS, three of our homebound parishioners, would also

With Valentine's Day nearing, let us show our love to these special folk who have given so much to our church through the years!

love to be remembered.

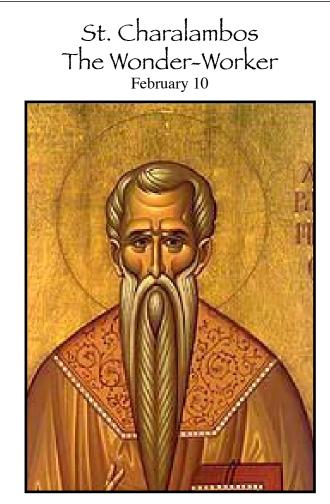
Listen for more information on the Oratorical Festival on Sunday, March 12 Please see Pres. Anthe if you would like to serve as a judge.

If you want names commemorated, please make sure your Prayer Card is up to date. Prayer Cards are available in the Narthex.



t. Charalambos was a priest in the city of Magnesia, near Smyrna in Asia Minor. About 198 AD, Sevirus, the Emperor of the Roman Empire had appointed Loucius to govern Asia Minor. Many Christians were persecuted under his reign. At this time Charalambos was in Magnesia and openly taught the Christian religion. When Loucius discovered this, he captured Charalambos for trial. Asked why he condemned the idols and disobeyed the laws of the Empire, Charalambos informed Loucius that he adhered to the laws of Jesus Christ and no others. He maintained that Christ offered eternal life to his followers. The governor commanded Charalambos to sacrifice to the gods and forsake Christ, or else undergo fierce tortures. The Saint refused to deny his beliefs.

Charalambos was stripped of his clothing and his body was ripped with iron claws. He withstood the torture with courage. One of the dukes became enraged that he took the iron claw and began to rip Charalambos' flesh with more fervour than his soldiers. At this point the first miracle occurred. The Duke's hands became paralyzed. Screaming, he asked Loucius to help him. Seeing the Duke's plight, the governor spat in the Saint's face. Immediately the pagan's head twisted in an awkward position, where it remained. The onlookers were terrified and begged the Saint to pray to Christ to save them. Charalambos beckoned them to pray and ask forgiveness for their sins. The Duke pleaded with Charalambos to pray to Christ to recover the use of his hands. When the Saint finished praying, the Duke's hands were healed. He was then baptized and became a devout Christian.



After these events, many people from Magnesia and other parts of Asia came to Charalambos, confessed their sins and were baptized. The Saint performed many miracles by curing the faithful of many illnesses. When Sevirus heard of this he was greatly angered and sent soldiers to Mangnesia to find the Saint, drive nails into his back, and then drag him from Magnesia to Antioch. The soldiers found Charalambos and carried out the order. They tied a rope to his beard and dragged him behind a horse, but a voice told them to leave this man alone for God was withhim. Frightened, they took Charalambos to Antioch without further torture.

Sevirus, informed of what had happened, sent another group of soldiers to torture the

## St. Charalambos from pg. 5

Saint. They tied a skewer to his chest and gathered wood so that they could burn him. He was turned on the skewer the fire burning him with for several hours. Through Divine Help the Saint was not hurt. Sevirus ordered that the Saint be brought before him. He asked the Saint what his age was and was told that he was 113 years old.

A young man had died in the city and Sevirus ordered the Saint to resurrect him to show the strength of his God. After praying several hours, God, through Charalambos, performed the miracle. Many pagans converted to Christianity when they saw however, an eparch this, named Crispos asked Sevirus to execute the Saint because he had performed this miracle through the use of magic. Sevirus asked Charalambos to sacrifice to the gods to save himself but he refused, therefore, Sevirus ordered his soldiers to hit the Saint's jaws with rocks and burn his face and beard with torches. The fire reflected off the Saint's face and burned the bystanders. Sevirus was amazed at this time and was curious to know

who Christ was. Crispos said to him that a harlot named Mary had borne Him. A man named Aristarchos warned Crispos not to blaspheme. A fit of madness overcame Sevirus and as he shot arrows towards the sky, he ordered Christ to come and fight him. Suddenly, the earth quaked and a fierce storm arose. Sevirus and Crispos begged the Saint to save them. Sevirus' daughter Galinee, came into the room and warned her father to believe in Christ. She asked the Saint to forgive her father and to pray to God to end this calamity. The Saint prayed and the acts of God stopped.

told Charalambos to sacrifice to the gods, but Charalambos refused. He then ordered that a bridle be placed in the Saint's mouth and that he be taken throughout the city in the same manner as a horse. Galinee begged her father these happenings and the to stop these tortures or else eparch advised Sevirus to have he would be condemned to Charalambos beheaded. The eternal damnation. Sevirus Saint was captured, but before was angered by his daughter's his execution, he prayed to words and ordered her to Christ. He died in peace before sacrifice to the gods. In the the soldiers could behead him. Temple of Zeus she told the Galinee took his body and priests that she cursed the placed it in a golden coffin. gods, then she prayed to the

true God. The statues of all the gods were destroyed. Sevirus ordered more statues to be made and placed in the temple so the people would not mock the gods. Once again, Galinee went to the temple, prayed to God and the statues were destroyed.

To insult Charalambos, he was driven to a widow to be guarded. When he arrived at her home, he leaned against a dry wooden beam. This beam was transformed into a tree. The woman was so frightened that she asked the Saint to leave her home since it was not worthy of his presence. He told her to have faith in After 30 days, Sevirus again God and she would have nothing to fear. The next day the neighbors saw the tree in her garden and upon asking, they learned of the miracle. They sat with the Saint and discovered Christianity. The pagans told Sevirus about

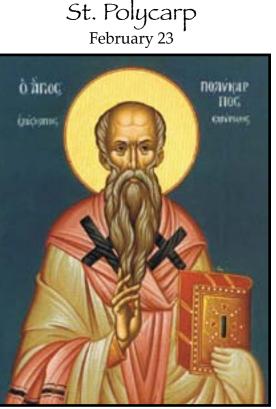
t. Polycarp was Bishop of Smyrna and one of the Apostolic Fathers. He was a student of the Apostle John the Theologian and was personally acquainted with 'others who had seen the Lord'. St. Polycarp served as a link between the Apostolic age and Orthodoxy of the latter part of the second century.

St. Polycarp was a new kind of Christian for his time. He was not a Jew and was not familiar with Old Testament Scriptures; instead he immersed himself in the Apostolic tradition. This is evident by his writings that weaved together phrases from a wide range of Apostolic writings.

Here is a quote from his letter to the Philippians, dated ca. 135AD, that seems appropriate for the Easter period, "Everyone who does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is an Antichrist; whoever does not confess the testimony of the cross, is of the devil; and whoever perverts the sayings of the Lord St. Polycarp was then beaten to death and his body, being confiscated by for his own desires, and says that there is neither resurrection nor judgment, such a one is the first-born a centurion, was burnt. His bones were of Satan. Let us therefore, leave the foolishness and the later collected and hidden by Christians. It is traditionally accepted that he was false-teaching of the crowd, and turn back to the word martyred on Saturday 23 February 155 AD. which was delivered to us in the beginning Let us, then, continue unceasingly in our hope and in the Pledge of our justification, that is, in Christ Jesus, who bore our sins in His own body on the tree, who did no sin, St. Charalambos from pg. 6 nor was guile found in His mouth; yet, for our sakes St. Charalambos guarded his people that we might live in Him, He endured everything"

much as a shepherd would guard his On the day of his death and once he finished his flock, therefore, he is considered to be prayers in which he remembered everyone he met, St the protector of shepherds and their Polycarp was seated on a donkey and led into the city flocks. The body of St. Charalambos (presumably Rome), where he was asked to slander is now in the Monastery of Saint Christ. St. Polycarp replied "Eighty-six years I have Stephen in the Meteora, Greece, where served Him, and He has never done me wrong. How, it performs miracles to this day. then, should I be able to blaspheme my King who has From Voice in the Wilderness a publication of the saved me?" This indicates that, even if he was baptized Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of Australia Church of St. George, South Brisbane, Qld as a child, he must have been born around 69AD.

FEBRUARY 2017



## KOSMOS NEWS

## Greetings in the Lord, **Oratorical Festival 2017**

🛞 ur youth are busy working on their topics for the parish presentations on March 12. Researching, writing, and re-writing their ideas are important elements in this preparation. We are still in need of judges, not only for the parish presentations, but also, for one's life. This kindness in turn gets the district presentations that we are hosting here at Holy Trinity this year on April 1.

## **KOSMOS** Gatherings #2 February 18 - following Saturday of Souls Service **Topic: Work**

What is work? Is it necessary? What was our first work experience, and how did it shape our faith, and our relationship to God? In addition, we will spend about an hour doing general clean-up – our work for the day.

Our inaugural gathering on January 21 brought out Kosmos represents the world in the Pentwo people to the discussion on Happiness - Relationships - and Gatherings. I myself was absent due to Apostles, having just received the Holy the flu. I know I missed a good time. Fr. Peter shared Spirit, would venture out in order to prothey enjoyed reminiscing about happier times, and their spending time together. This is the goal of these to teach the world gatherings - to spend time together.

**Generations Celebrations** Honoring our Leaders – 80 -106 years!!! - February 26, 2017

We hope you will be us, so we can say, "Thank you; and we love you."

We appreciate all our parishioners in their being with us, and showing us how to love one another. Each one of us has the capacity to make a difference in some-



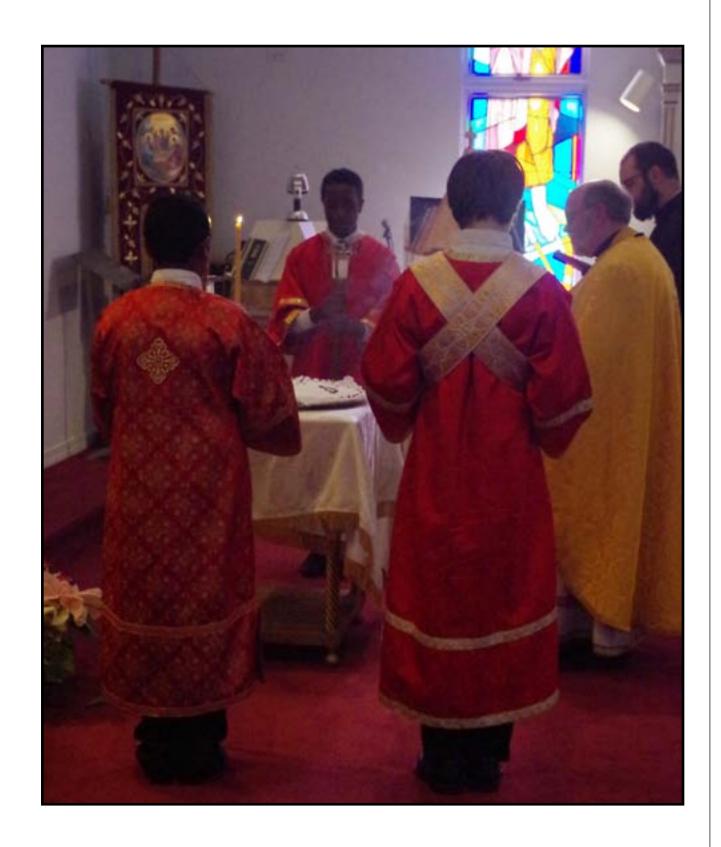
shared, and before long, we are a family. To show our love for you, our wonderful guides - 80 years old and older, we are celebrating you on February 26 during our fellowship hour. Please let us know if you have questions or comments. We look forward to wonderful times with all. Take care.

With love in Christ,

Presvytera Anthe

tecost icon; the world to which the Holy claim the Resurrection of our Lord, and

- us – about our salvation.



aint Theodore who was from Amasia of Pontus, contested during the reign of Maximian (286-305). He was called Tyro, from the Latin Tiro, because he was a newly enlisted recruit. When it was reported that he was a Christian, he boldly confessed Christ; the ruler, hoping that he would repent, gave him time to consider the matter more completely and then give answer. Theodore gave answer by setting fire to the temple of Cybele, the "mother of the gods," and for this he suffered a martyr's death by fire. See also the First Saturday of the Fast.

## Apolytikion of Great Martyr Theodore the Tyro in the Second Tone

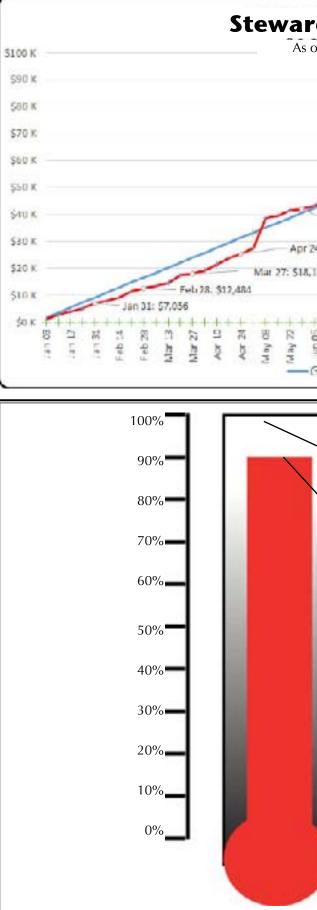
Great are the achievements of faith! In the fountain of flame, as by the water of rest, the holy Martyr Theodore rejoiced; for having been made a whole-burnt offering in the fire, he was offered as sweet bread unto the Trinity. By his prayers, O Christ God, save our souls.

## Kontakion of Great Martyr Theodore the Tyro in the Plagal of the Fourth Tone

Having received the Faith of Christ in thy heart as a breastplate, thou didst trample upon the enemy hosts, O much-suffering champion; and thou hast been crowned eternally with a heavenly crown, since thou art invincible. Saínt Theodore, Great Martyr February 17



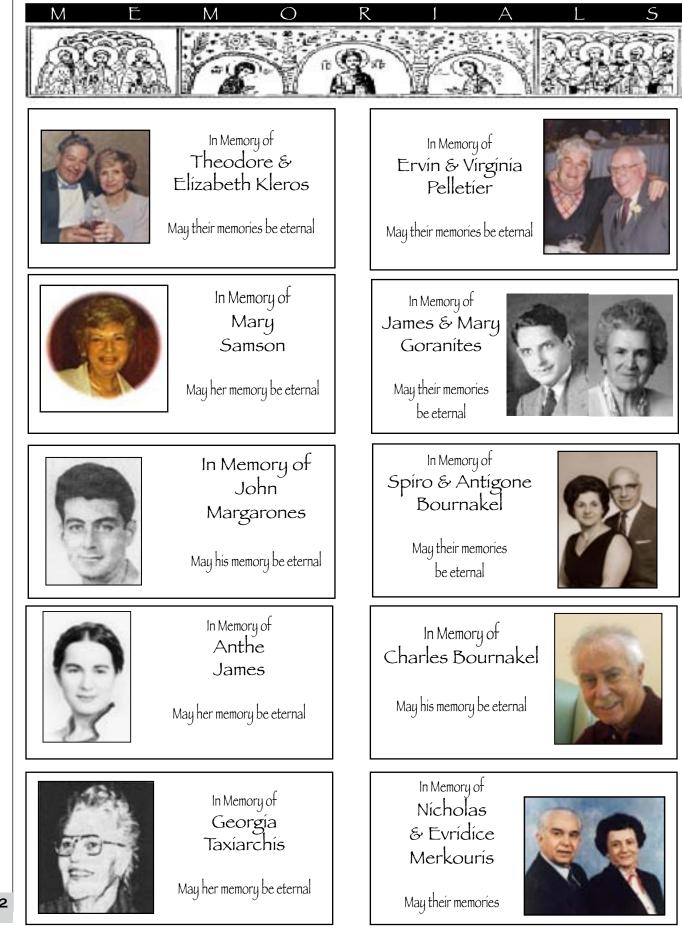




February 2017

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HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

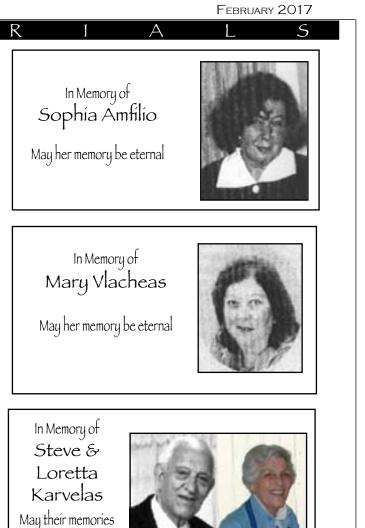




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Memorials

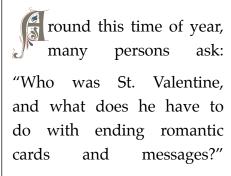
be eternal

If you wish to have a memorial in the bulletin, please see D. LeGloahec or eMail to:HTrinnews@gwi.net. Listed below is the name and the last bulletin.

Amfilio	
S. & A Bournakel	
Goranites	Perpetual
James	Perpetual
Karvelas	
Kesaris	Perpetual
Kleros	Perpetual
Margarones	Perpetual
Merkouis	Perpetual
Pelletier	Perpetual
Samson	Perpetual
Taxiarchis	Perpetual
Vlacheas (2)	

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

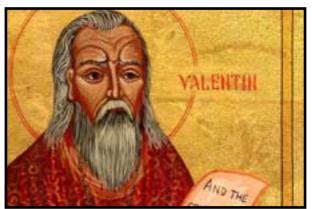
## Who is St. Valentine?



Valentine is a St. martyr from before 312, commemorated on the 14th of February. Probably he was martyred on that date,

but nothing else is known of him. (A Valentine, priest of Rome, and a Valentine, bishop of Ternia (Interamna), are both commemorated on 14 February, and now generally assumed

to be the same



the nesting season in midperson.) In many parts of February. Since our forebears Europe, it was once said that often spoke of a given day birds began to pair off for by naming a saint connected with it rather than by giving the month and the number of the day, we find them saying that birds choose their mates on St. Valentine's day. That is all. If a major earthquake took place on Columbus Day, it would probably be known to future generations as the Columbus Day earthquake, but it would be a mistake to try to connect it with Columbus.

> There are several stories making the rounds that try to explain the connection between valentines and Valentine. Every one that I have heard sounds like an explanation made up after the fact, probably by a Victorian clergyman lecturing to children. There are other explanations attempting to connect it with various pagan festivals of the early spring.

	February					
Sun	Mon	Tues	WED	THURS	Fri	SAT
			1 0	2 Presentation of Our Lord 8:00/9:00 AM Orthos/Liturgy	3 🗙	イ Men's Breakfast 7:30
5 Sunday of the Publican & the Pharisee Orthros 9:00 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM	6 Chanter's Work- shop 6:00 PM	7	8	9	10 St. Haralambos 8:00/9:00 AM Orthos/Liturgy	11
12 Sunday of the Prodigal Son Orthros 9:00 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM	13	14	15 🗙	16	17 🗙	18 1 <sup>st</sup> Saturday of Souls 8:00/9:00 <sub>AM</sub> Orthos/Liturgy
Judgment Sunday (Meatfare) Orthros 9:00 ам Liturgy 10:00 ам	20 Parish Council 6:30 PM	21 🗙	22 🗙	23 🗙	24 🗙	25 <sup>2nd</sup> Saturday of Souls 8:00/9:00 <sub>AM</sub> Orthos/Liturgy
26 Forgiveness Sunday (Cheesefare) Orthros 9:00 AM Liturgy 10:00 AM	27 🗙	28 🗙	1 March Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 8:00 AM	2 🗙	3 1 <sup>st</sup> Salutation to the Theotokos 6:30PM	4 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday of Souls 8:00/9:00 <sub>AM</sub> Orthos/Liturgy

## St. Valentine from pg. 14

Again, I am not impressed. That young men should send romantic messages in the springtime both in 90BC and in 1990AD does not require a



HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH



at the Saint Methodios Faith and Heritage Center. The program consists of multiple sessions, camp wide activities, and evening activities all geared towards providing our campers at MBC with their most memorable experience yet.

The weekend includes an offsite ski trip to Pat's Peak. A fun packed day - skiing, snowboarding, tubing, indoor games, as well as a dance in our reserved lodge.

Drop-Off and Registration at Camp opens Friday from 7-9 p.m. Campers should be picked up at 11:30 a.m. Monday, February 20th.







#### Recharge

Our Youth come to camp where they are offered the opportunity to recharge their spiruitual batteries and once again realize the importance of their realationship with Jesus Christ.

#### Reconnect

At MBC they reconect with new and old friends as well as learning about our rich faith and cultural heritage.

### Retreat

Campers and Staff retreat into the safe and loving embrace that MBC offers; a place where they have tons of fun, but also a place where they can find silence and retreat into their heart and speak to God.

#### FROM:

HOLY TRINITY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH P.O. BOX 1344 155 HOGAN ROAD LEWISTON, ME 04243-1344



To:

