

"The Fruit of the Spirit..." Galatians 5:22

The Fruit Basket



Love • Joy • Peace • Goodness • Kindness • Faith • Patience • Temperance • Gentleness

Volume III, Number 2

A friendly Orthodox Christian 'Zine

FEBRUARY 2008

THE FEAST OF THE MEETING OF THE LORD—FEBRUARY 2

Today the Church commemorates an important event in the earthly life of our Lord Jesus Christ (Luke 2:22-40). Forty days after His birth the God-Infant was taken to the Jerusalem Temple, the center of the nation's religious life. According to the Law of Moses (Lev. 12:2-8), a woman who gave birth to a male child was forbidden to enter the Temple of God for forty days. At the end of this time the mother came to the Temple with the child, to offer a young lamb or pigeon to the Lord as a purification sacrifice. The Most Holy Virgin, the Mother of God, had no need of purification, since she had given birth to the Source of purity and sanctity without defilement. However, she humbly fulfilled the requirements of the Law.

At this time the righteous Elder Simeon was living in Jerusalem. It had been revealed to him that he would not die until he should behold the promised Messiah. By inspiration from above, St Simeon went to the Temple at the very moment when the Most Holy Theotokos and St Joseph had brought the Infant Jesus to fulfill the Law.

The God-Receiver Simeon took the divine Child in his arms, and giving thanks to God, he spoke the words repeated by the Church each evening at Vespers: "Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace, according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to enlighten the Gentiles, and the glory of Thy people Israel" (Luke 2:29-32). St. Simeon said to the Most Holy Virgin: "Behold, this child is set for the fall and rising again of many in Israel, and for a sign which shall be spoken against. Yea, a sword shall pierce through your own soul also, that the thoughts of many hearts may be revealed" (Luke 2:34-35).

At the Temple was the 84-year-old widow Anna the Prophetess, daughter of Phanuel (February 3), "who did not leave the temple, but served God with fasting and prayers night and day. She arrived just when St Simeon met the divine Child. She also gave thanks to the Lord and spoke of Him to all those who were looking for redemption in Jerusalem" (Luke 2:37-38). In the icon of the Feast she holds a scroll which reads: "This Child has established Heaven and earth."



Before Christ was born, righteous men and women lived by faith in the promised Messiah, and awaited His coming. The Righteous Simeon and the Prophetess Anna, the last righteous people of the Old Testament, were deemed worthy to meet the Savior in the Temple.

The Feast of the Meeting of the Lord is among the most ancient feasts of the Christian Church. We have sermons on the Feast by the holy bishops Methodius of Patara (+ 312), Cyril of Jerusalem (+ 360), Gregory the Theologian (+ 389), Amphilocius of Iconium (+ 394), Gregory of Nyssa (+ 400), and John Chrysostom (+ 407). Despite its early origin, this Feast was not celebrated so splendidly until the sixth century.

In 528, during the reign of Justinian, an earthquake killed many people in Antioch. Other misfortunes followed this one. In 541 a terrible plague broke out in Constantinople, carrying off several thousand people each day. During this time of widespread suffering, a solemn prayer service (Litia) for deliverance from evils was celebrated on the Feast of the Meeting of the Lord, and the plague ceased. In thanksgiving to God, the Church established a more solemn celebration of this Feast.

The icon "Simeon's Prophecy" symbolizes the fulfillment of the prophecy of the righteous Elder Simeon: "a sword shall pierce through your own soul" (Luke 2:35). ♥

Taken from the Orthodox Church of America web site: <http://www.oca.org/FSlives.asp>

THE FRUIT BASKET

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The goal of this publication is to provide a friendly, light, Orthodox Christian 'Zine (a mini-magazine) that contains a blend of "something to exercise our minds, something to make us laugh, and something to make us meditate on spiritual matters." It is also a venue for sharing our insights and interests.

Articles or comments from our readers are welcome. We reserve the right to edit for suitability, clarity and space. Printing of items does not imply endorsement by the church or the priest or even the editor of this publication.

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MEDITATION

Do not pray only with outward forms and gestures, but with reverence and awe try to make your intellect conscious of spiritual prayer.

—*Evagrios the Solitary*
1, *On Prayer, Sec. 28*



We Get comments...

I really like the way you do the answers for the Bible Quiz. When I have to look up the passage to find the answer I often read what came before and what comes after.

Marie M. of Parma

Thanks, Marie. That kind of feedback is what really helps me to print what you folks like.

The Editor

Dear Folks,

We would love to hear from you. **1.** Please **send in** (a) short items of interest, inspirational or otherwise; jokes, puzzles, other, traditional holiday custom or recipe, or what have you.

(b) **Original writing** that could be an encouragement to the rest of us in our Orthodox Christian walk—gleaned from reflection, or experience during your life as a practicing Orthodox Christian. It could be a passage from the Bible or from a sermon, and tell why it is meaningful to you.

2. Typed or handwritten is fine. Don't worry about spelling, grammar or punctuation—all material is proofed before printing.

3. If your submission has already been printed someplace, please include the **source of your material**, if possible..

4. The whole name of the person submitting material will be printed unless you request otherwise.

We can, of course, find many items to print from the many sources available, but a publication like this needs the heartbeat of the people—your wisdom, insight, humor, etc.—to make it come alive. Together we can make this truly a "Fruit Basket" of goodies to send to others. I am looking forward to hearing from you and serving you.



The Editor

BIBLE BRAIN WORKOUT

51. Before which mountain were flocks and herds forbidden to graze?
52. When did thunder win a battle for a discouraged army?
53. Where do we read that a father and his son were both embalmed?
54. Where does the Bible mention sheriffs?
55. When did 185,000 soldiers die in a single night?
56. When did postmen ride on horses, mules, camels, and dromedaries?
57. Who mourned when his child was sick, but not after the child had died?
58. Who was the first man of whom it is recorded that he hanged himself?
59. Who slew himself in order to slay his enemies?
60. Who set out on a journey with troughs on their shoulders? *Answers on page 9.*

How did you score? 5 or more Correct A+, Bible Scholar; 4 Very Good A; 3 Pretty good, B+; 2 or 1 Fair C;

YOUR HEART—SO VERY IMPORTANT

“My Son, give me your heart.” (Proverbs 23:26)

Stand guard, then, over your HEART and keep watch on your senses; and if the remembrance of God dwells peaceably within you, you will catch the thieves when they try to deprive you of it. When a man has an exact knowledge about the nature of thoughts, he recognizes those that are about to enter and defile him, troubling the intellect with distractions and making it lazy. Those who recognize these evil thoughts for what they are remain undisturbed and continue in prayer to God.

ST. ISAIAH THE SOLITARY

I, ON GUARDING THE INTELLECT, SEC. 12

Once you have begun to seek God with true devotion and with all your HEART, then you cannot possibly imagine that you already conform to His will. As long as your conscience reproves you for anything that you have done contrary to nature, you are not set free; the reproof means that you are still under trial and have not yet been acquitted. But if you find when you are praying that nothing at all accuses you, then you are free and by God’s will have entered into His peace.

ST. ISAIAH THE SOLITARY

I, ON GUARDING THE INTELLECT, SEC. 18.

“For what is prayer? Prayer is the raising of the mind and HEART to God—for praise and thanksgiving and beseeching him for the good things necessary for soul and body. The essence of prayer, then, is the mental ascent to God from the HEART. The mind stands in the HEART consciously before the face of God and, filled with proper and necessary reverence, it begins to pour out its HEART before him. This is prayer of the HEART! And this should be true of all prayer.”

—Theophan the Recluse,

The Duty Also of Those Living in the World



If a man’s HEART does not condemn him (I John 3:21) for having rejected a commandment of God, or for negligence, or for accepting a hostile thought, then he is pure of HEART and worth to have Christ say to him, “Blessed are the pure in HEAR, for they shall see God (Matthew 5:8).

ST. THEODOROS THE GREAT ASCETIC

II, A CENTURY OF SPIRITUAL TEXTS, SEC. 86

If, as St. Paul says, Christ dwells in our HEARTS through faith (Ephesians 3:17), and all the treasures of wisdom and spiritual knowledge are hidden in Him (Colossians 2:3), then all the treasures of wisdom and spiritual knowledge are hidden in our HEARTS. They are revealed to the HEART in proportion to our purification by means of the commandments.

ST. MAXIMOS THE CONFESSOR

II, FOURTH CENTURY ON LOVE, SEC. 70

A good spring does not produce turbid, foul-smelling water, redolent of worldly matter; nor can a HEART that is outside the kingdom of heaven gush with streams of divine life, giving out the sweet savor of spiritual myrrh.

NIKITAS STITHATOS

IV, ON THE PRACTICE OF THE VIRTUES: ON HUNDRED TEXTS, SEC. 99

The passages above were taken from the Philokalia described below in an excerpt from the Introduction.

“For the Eastern Orthodox Churches, the principal spiritual text has come to be the *Philokalia*, an anthology of older texts edited by Nikodimos of the Holy Mountain (1749-1809) and Makarios of Corinth (1731-1805) and published in 1782. These monks of the Greek Orthodox Church collected sayings on prayer and spirituality from Eastern, mostly monastic writers that span more than a millennium, from the fourth to the fifteenth centuries. The *Philokallia*, more than any other text, reflects the Eastern Church’s interpretation of the Bible’s meaning.”

Philokalia, the Eastern Christian Spiritual Texts translation by Palmer, Sherrard and Kallistos Ware

(Note: This is not the only work titled *Philokalia*.)

When you are finished with *The Fruit Basket* pass it on!

CRYPTOGRAM CHALLENGE FOR FEBRUARY

Here is another cryptogram for your enjoyment since nobody complained about the other ones. This one contains three short common quotations about our theme for the month, Love, followed by one longer partial quotation. The clue letters apply to all of the quotations. Look at the January 2008 issue for directions if needed.

1. G H ' F R D H H D Y H Q M J Z D S Q Z D U J A U S Q F H

H M J A A D Z D Y H Q M J Z D S Q Z D U J H J S S .

2. S Q Z D W J X D F H M D K Q Y S U P Q J Y Q I A U .

3. S Q Z D G F J W J A C F L S D A U Q Y D U H M G A P .

4. P Q U F Q S Q Z D U H M D K Q Y S U H M J H M D P J Z D

M G F Q A S C R D P Q H H D A F Q A . . .

Real letters A E I O U Y S D

Clue letters J D G Q I C F U

Note: Oops! An error in the second puzzle in January was pointed out to me by a sharp lady, Marie M. Thanks for calling, Marie. I will try hard to make sure it doesn't happen again. The Editor

Today's MESSAGE OF THE DAY is:

Life is short, Break the rules, Forgive quickly,

Kiss slowly, Love Truly, Laugh uncontrollably,

And never regret anything that made you Smile

Life may not be the party we hoped for, but while
we're here we should Dance . . .



VALENTINE KISSES—RUSSIAN STYLE



We do everything in threes!

Aww . . .

An old, tired-looking dog wandered into the yard. I could tell from his collar and well-fed belly that he had a home.

He followed me into the house, down the hall, and fell asleep in a corner. An hour later, he went to the door, and I let him out.

The next day he was back, resumed his position in the hall, and slept for an hour. This continued for several weeks.

Curious, I pinned a note to his collar: "Every afternoon your dog comes to my house for a nap." The next day he arrived with a different note pinned to his collar:

"He lives in a home with ten children—he's trying to catch up on his sleep. Can I come with him tomorrow?"

Submitted by Walter L.

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

The following memory sketch describes the role of a good spring in the lives of immigrants living on an isolated farm in western Pennsylvania c. 1935. Most farmhouses were built near natural springs. Unfortunately, the spring was lost due to coal mining in the area around 1938.

THE SPRING SHANTY by Julie R.

The one landmark at the farm that I remember only vaguely was the old spring shanty. This was a long wooden structure about 10 x 20 feet built next to the spring which was located in a rather large gully, right next to the house. The front part (at one end) was an open porch with the roof extending over the spring.

The spring was situated at the foot of the bank right under where the lilacs still grow 60 years later. It was covered by a little roof and walls around three sides to keep out leaves and debris. There were two large moss covered stones, one on each side of the spring. The water was crystal clear, very sweet, and icy cold even in the summer. Winter and summer, its blessing flowed from the earth, refreshing us all, people and animals alike.

The spring water would run in a stream right through the spring shanty and out the other end, down the gully, through several troughs made from hollowed out logs, and ended up in the large watering trough where the farm animals were watered. This watering trough was also made from a hollowed out piece of a tree trunk.

The little stream that ran from the spring, through the shanty and on out served many purposes. Perhaps the most important use was for refrigeration. The stream bed was lined with pebbles. Here Mama would put the fresh milk, cream, butter, and anything else that needed to be kept cool.

The water would run around the crocks and thus keep the product inside cool.

After the water ran past the crocks, and out of the shanty, it provided fresh water for the chickens as their coops were just at the top of the gully about 50 feet away. Then about two

troughs down from the shanty, a piece of pipe was put into the trough with the end extending out to the side. This diverted some of the water which then flowed out of the pipe and was caught for various washing purposes. One thing in particular that always got filled with water was the chamber pot, or as we dubbed it, the Shara Bell, which had to be rinsed out and filled with water every morning when we got up.

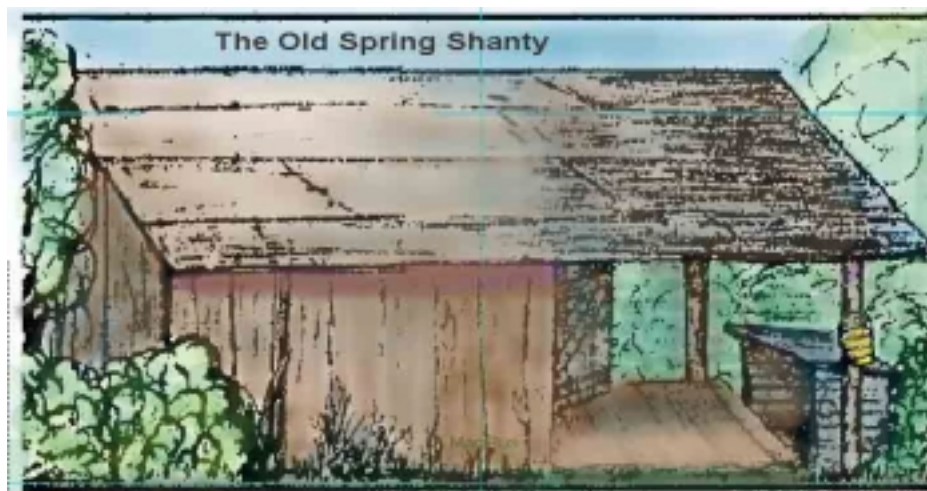
The tabby weave rag carpets were also rinsed here as it wasn't very far from the back porch where the carpets were scrubbed with a scrub brush and hot soapy water on a thick wooden plank.

The shanty included an insulated room to preserve ice for summer use. Large blocks of ice were cut in the winter and placed in the special compartment which was insulated by sawdust filling a space between the walls. The blocks were also covered with lots of sawdust. Our family did not preserve ice.

We kids also spent many an hour playing in the little stream that ran alongside the troughs, making little dams, water wheels, floating "boats" and getting our feet deliciously chilled on hot summer days.

Then as the water went on farther down the trough and overflowed the watering trough, it formed a small pond which extended back toward the house on this side of the pasture fence. Here the geese would do their swimming and paddling. Here in this swampy area grew hundreds of blue flags. I brought some from the farm and planted them by my house in town. Every time I look out and see them it brings back memories of the farm and Mama and Papa and the warm security my siblings and I felt there during our growing up years.

Taken from Return to East Branch



When you are finished with *The Fruit Basket* pass it on!

DON'T PUT OFF UNTIL TOMORROW...

This was written by an 83-year-old woman to her friend.

Dear Josie,

I'm reading more and dusting less. I'm sitting in the yard and admiring the view without fussing about the weeds in the garden. I'm spending more time with my family and friends and less time working.

I'm not "saving" anything; we use our good china and crystal for every special event such as losing a pound, getting the sink unstopped, or the first Amaryllis blossom.

I wear my good blazer to the market. I'm not saving my good perfume for special parties, but wearing it for clerks in the hardware store and tellers at the bank.

"Someday" and "one of these days" are losing their grip on my vocabulary. If it's worth seeing or hearing or doing, I want to see and hear and do it now

It's those little things left undone that would make me angry if I knew my hours were limited. Angry because I hadn't written certain letters that I intended to write one of these days. Angry and sorry that I didn't tell my husband and parents often enough how much I truly love them. I'm trying very hard not to put off, hold back, or save anything that would add laughter and luster to our lives.

Whenever possible, life should be a pattern of experiences to savor, not to endure. I'm trying to recognize these moments now and cherish them.

And every morning when I open my eyes, I tell myself that it is special.

Every day, every minute, every breath truly is a gift from God. ♥



The Riddles are from
a book, *Wit and
Witicism*, given by
Helen Chwalyk.

WHAT IS LOVE?

Based on 1 Corinthians 13

How do we know we are acting with **love** (v. 4)? This passage gives specific characteristics of love:

- (1) it **suffers long**, is patient (1 Thess. 5:14);
- (2) it is **kind**, gentle, especially with those who hurt (Eph.4:32);
- (3) it **does not envy**, is not jealous of what others have (Prov. 23:17)
- (4) it **does not parade itself**, put itself on display (John 3:30);
- (5) it is **not puffed up**, arrogant, proud (Gal. 6:3)
- (6) it **does not act rudely**, brashly, mean-spiritedly, insulting others (Eccl. 5:2)
- (7) it **does not seek its own way**, act pushy (10:24)
- (8) it is **not provoked** or angered (Prov. 19:11);
- (9) it **thinks no evil**, does not keep score on others (Heb.10:17);
- (10) it rejoices not **in iniquity**, takes no pleasure when others fall into sin (Mark 3:5);
- (11) it **rejoices in the truth**, is joyful when righteousness prevails (2 John 4);
- (12) it **bears all things**, handles the burdensome (Gal.6:2);
- (13) it **believes all things**, trusts in God no matter what (Prov. 3:5);
- (14) it **hopes all things**, keeps looking up, does not despair (Phil. 3:13);
- (15) it **endures all things**, "puts up with everything" (St. John Chrysostom), does not wear out (Gal. 6:9);
- (16) it **never fails**. The only thing love cannot do is fail (16:14)

Taken from p. 397 in The Orthodox Study Bible, NKJV

RIDDLES

These riddles have logical (well, sorta) answers. Try to make the connection for the answer before looking. Numbers 1, 3, 7, and 8 should be pretty easy if you can think outside the lines.

1. How will you feel after surgery?
2. How do you mend a broken heart?
3. What two letters are your teeth afraid of?
4. Why do they build fences around cemeteries?
5. Why was six afraid of seven?
6. Why was there no card playing on Noah's ark?
7. What driver never gets arrested for speeding?
8. How can you identify a dogwood tree?

SPRING WILL SOON BE HERE

February marks the beginning of the end of winter.

No kidding! Just look at the following evidence of what is happening outdoors besides lots of snow, sleet and ice. If you maintain a bird feeder or can watch one maintained by the managers or your building, look for the following birds to appear and some to sing.

First week: Chickadees begin to sing their spring song in earnest as the hours of daylight grow longer.



Second week:

Song sparrows with their new brown coats with streaked breasts and central brown spot begin to appear at bird feeders. They will begin to sing their song of trills in another two or so weeks.



Third week: Red-winged blackbirds begin to appear at bird feeders. They are the black birds with red shoulder caps trimmed in yellow. They are one of the first and surest signs of Spring—the first of our summer birds to appear.



In your yard the tiny miniature iris and snowdrops will be coming up soon if not already up. Adapted From Emerald Necklace, Feb. '96 Vol. 45, No. 2

TO THE GIRLS !!

Thanks, June K.

Inside every older person is a younger person --
wondering what on earth happened.

—Cora Harvey Armstrong-

Inside me lives a skinny woman crying to get out. But
I can usually shut her up with cookies. (*Unknown*)
I refuse to think of them as chin hairs. I think of them
as stray eyebrows. —Janette Barber

A male gynecologist is like an auto mechanic who
never owned a car —Carrie Snow

Old age ain't no place for sissies.—Bette Davis

Whatever women must do they must do twice as well
as men to be thought half as good. Luckily, this is not
difficult.—Charlotte Whitton

If you can't be a good example — then you'll just have
to be a horrible warning. —Catherine

If high heels were so wonderful, men would still be
wearing them.—Sue Grafton

I'm not going to vacuum 'til Sears makes one you can
ride on. —Roseanne Barr

Behind every successful man is a surprised woman.

—Maryon Pearson

I have yet to hear a man ask for advice on how to
combine marriage and a career. —Gloria Steinem

I am a marvelous housekeeper. Every time I leave a
man, I keep his house. —Zsa Zsa Gabor



Submitted by June K

GOD PROVIDES

It's sometimes very difficult
for us to understand
the wisdom and the love behind
the things that God has planned.
But we wouldn't have the rainbow
If we didn't have the rain;
We wouldn't know the pleasure
If we never tasted pain.
We wouldn't love the sunrise
If we hadn't felt the night;
And we wouldn't know our weakness
If we hadn't sensed God's might.

We wouldn't love the springtime
or the yellow daffodil
if we hadn't experienced
the winter's frosty chill.

So God's given us a balance:
Enough joys to keep us glad,
Enough tears to keep us humble,
Enough good to balance bad.

And if you'll trust in Him you'll see
Though yesterday brought sorrow,
The clouds will part and dawn will bring
A happier tomorrow.

submitted by Scott Morris

ST RAPHAEL, BISHOP OF BROOKLYN (+ 1915)

Commemorated on February 27

Proclamation on the Glorification of Our Holy Father Bishop RAPHAEL (30-Apr-2000).

Our holy Father Raphael was born in Syria in 1860 to pious Orthodox parents.

On the Feast of Theophany in 1861, he was baptized with the name Rafla. The child attended elementary school, where he did very well,

On March 28, 1879 he was tonsured as a monk by Patriarch Hierotheus.

On December 8, 1885 he was ordained to the diaconate. In July of 1886 the young deacon received his Certificate of Theology.

Archimandrite Raphael arrived in New York on November 2, 1895, and was welcomed by a delegation of Arab Christians who were awaiting their leader from Russia.

Although he was not opposed to dialogue with non-Orthodox Christians, nor to friendly relations based on shared beliefs, Saint Raphael never lost sight of the clear line of distinction that exists between the Orthodox and the heterodox. He always insisted that any church unity must be based on the teachings of the seven Ecumenical Councils.

The Orthodoxy of Saint Raphael's life and teaching was demonstrated over and over again by his words and his actions. He always upheld and defended the spotless Faith which was "delivered to the saints" (Jude 3). Although at first he did not understand the teachings of the heterodox, he later discovered how far removed they were from Orthodox doctrine. When he realized this, he took steps to protect his flock from harmful influences.

In the summer of 1896, Saint Raphael undertook the first of several pastoral journeys across the continent. He visited thirty cities between New York and San Francisco, seeking out the Master's lost sheep in cities, towns, and on isolated farms. He zealously fulfilled his ministry as a preacher of the Gospel, enduring many hardships and afflictions, and he was watchful in all things concerning the care of his flock (2 Tim 4:5).

In 1904, Saint Raphael became the first Orthodox bishop to be consecrated on American soil.

Taking heed of St Paul's words to pray in a language that people understood (1 Cor. 14:15-19), St Raphael recommended the use of the Service Book of the Holy Orthodox Catholic Apostolic Church (translated by Isabel Hapgood) in all of his parishes.

Toward the end of 1912, Bishop Raphael became ill while working in his office. Doctors diagnosed him with a heart ailment that eventually caused his death. After two weeks he felt strong enough to celebrate the Liturgy in his cathedral.

In 1913-1914 this missionary bishop continued to make pastoral visitations to various cities. In 1915 he fell ill again and spent two months at home, bearing his illness with patience. At 12:40 AM on February 14/27 he rested from his labors.



From his youth, Saint Raphael's greatest joy was to serve the Church. When he came to America, he found his people scattered abroad, and he called them to unity. He never neglected his flock, but traveled throughout America, Canada, and Mexico in search of them so that he might care for them. He kept them from straying into strange pastures, and he protected them from spiritual harm. During twenty years of faithful ministry he nurtured them and helped them to grow. At the time of his death, the Syro-Arab Mission had thirty parishes with 25,000 faithful.

He was also a scholar, and the author of several books. He served his own Arabic community, and also reached out to Greeks and Russians, speaking to them in their own language. He became fluent in English, and encouraged its use in church services and educational programs.

St Raphael came into contact with all sorts of people, and was a gentle father to them. He gained their love and respect by first loving them, and also through his charming personality and excellent character. He was always kind, merciful, and condescending with others, but was strict with himself. He accomplished many good things during his earthly life, and now he joins the holy angels in offering ceaseless prayer and praise to God.



Condensed from *Lives of Saints* at
www.oca.org/fslives.asp

WORD SEARCH FOR FEBRUARY

Theme: Love Includes Saints, feast days, related February words

Ans. to Bible Brain Workout

- 51. Ex. 34:2-3
- 52. I Sam. 7:7-11
- 53. Gen. 50:2, 26
- 54. Dan. 3:2-3
- 55. 2 Kings 19:35
- 56. Est. 8:10
- 57. 2 Sam. 12:16-30
- 58. 2 Sam. 17-23
- 59. Judg. 16:30
- 60. Ex. 12:34

Riddle Ans.

- 1. Just sew-sew.
- 2. With ticker tape.
- 3. D-K
- 4. People are just dying to get in.
- 5. Because seven eight nine.
- 6. Because Noah was sitting on the deck.
- 7. A screwdriver
- 8. By its bark

N V X H R M M K M N R K R N M N G G X L W N R Z R A B R Z
 K K R O S S E F N O C E H T L I S A B N E V N K P C H Z N
 N V K F H R C N C Z W W T N D T H Z L H L B P O Y I T N H
 O A P C M Y R Q K L K W M M N T R F D X S F S M E K Y Y Q
 T L R W M Q N J H R Y J C W H G V N J P B T X R F B M L F
 G E E F R Z J L T R Q A P E N R N B R C L Z O K P Z H K H
 N N S V E P K R O C M P D O M N N I N E M M Y N H F L O V
 I T I G P M R Z K C Q A E N R I N W O M A R H K V N N O T
 H I D M O X K P A H N M R B U G T N Z R W T P N X X K R U
 S N E L S B Y Q K C I I K T C S E R T M U R X M K M R B O
 A E N J E R G F K S C X L O Y S N Y A O N X M L N H K F R
 W S T R O K B R S Z P H M M I R R O R G M T F J R P Z O P
 E D S J F P C U O T J E A M A P A P S Q U T B B G P M L S
 G A D Z S P O M J U S Z U E O H S G K L C S T C B K V E S
 R Y A Z T E H G F S N S H L U S A Z A Q A R E T M N L A L
 O B Y T T B K N O Z R D Y R E S Z R R T P G X L V M K H I
 E R B H H G N O G R K C H S M Z S A B C H M I H P N V P D
 G X G Z E P N L B V A H I O Q G E U V A K A N D H A R A O
 F I B K O X R P H R G R H B G Y R K N K T Z Q K O J M R F
 R B V B D T C J P T I E L C P D B V Q D D F H H B R P T F
 R B Y L O H R B M I Q V N A W F A L G B A W X V M Q P S A
 L M K J S R D W N M X O E Q X R L Y R N C Y K G H T K M D
 R H N G I R J I F Q Z L H R M T T M J W W N F K C T N T I
 T M B C U Z M B N L F A N N A T H E P R O P H E T E S S N
 Y H N P S D A Y S G E T T I N G L O N G E R F D V K R Y I
 T M L E N T E N T R I O D I O N H Y K L L B B T T R Z N M
 K T K H Q T M L E L P M E T E H T N I T S I R H C T C G M
 F C X T H L M F B I R D S B E G I N S P R I N G S O N G S
 P Y A D N U S E E S I R A H P D N A N A C I L B U P R X K

Love

Leap Year

Groundhog Day

Presidents Day

Valentines Day

Lenten Tridion

Martyr Agatha

Maple Sugar time

Spring comes soon

Days getting longer

Mini daffodils sprout

Abraham Lincoln

Mini Irises sprout

Righteous Simeon

Anna the Prophetess

Zacchaeus Sunday

Apostle Onesimus

Prodigal Son Sunday

Hieromartyr Polycarp

Christ in the Temple

George Washington

Publican and Pharisee Sunday

Birds begin spring songs

Repose of St Theodosius

Ven Basil the Confessor

St Raphael of Brooklyn

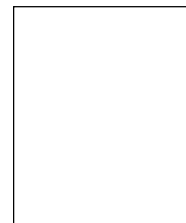
When you are finished with *The Fruit Basket* pass it on!

THE FRUIT BASKET

18893 Howe Road
Strongsville, OH 44136



Sunshine Greetings from
St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral



CALENDAR for February 2008

Feb. 2 Meeting of Christ in the Temple

Feb. 10 Zacchaeus Sunday

Feb. 14 Valentine's Day

Feb. 17 Publican and Pharisee Sunday

Lenten Triodion begins—
fast-free week

Feb. 24 Prodigal Son Sunday

Feb. 27 Feast of St. Raphael

March 2 Meatfare Sunday

March 9 Cheesefare Sunday

March 10 Great fast begins

April 27 Holy Pascha

Addressee



PSALM 46

God dwells Within His People

God is our refuge and strength,
A very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear,
Even though the earth be removed,
And though the mountains be carried
into the midst of the sea;
Though its waters roar and be
troubled,
Though the mountains shake with its
swelling.
There is a river whose streams shall
make glad the city of God,
The holy place of the tabernacle
of the Most High.
God is in the midst of her,
she shall not be moved;
God shall help her,
just at the break of dawn.
The nations raged,
the kingdoms were moved;

He uttered His voice,
the earth melted.
The Lord of hosts is with us;
The God of Jacob is our refuge.
Come, behold the works
of the LORD,
Who has made desolations
in the earth.
He makes wars cease
to the end of the earth;
He breaks the bow
and cuts the spear in two;
He burns the chariot in the fire.
Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!
The Lord of hosts is with us;
The God of Jacob is our refuge.



from Orthodox Study Bible NKJV