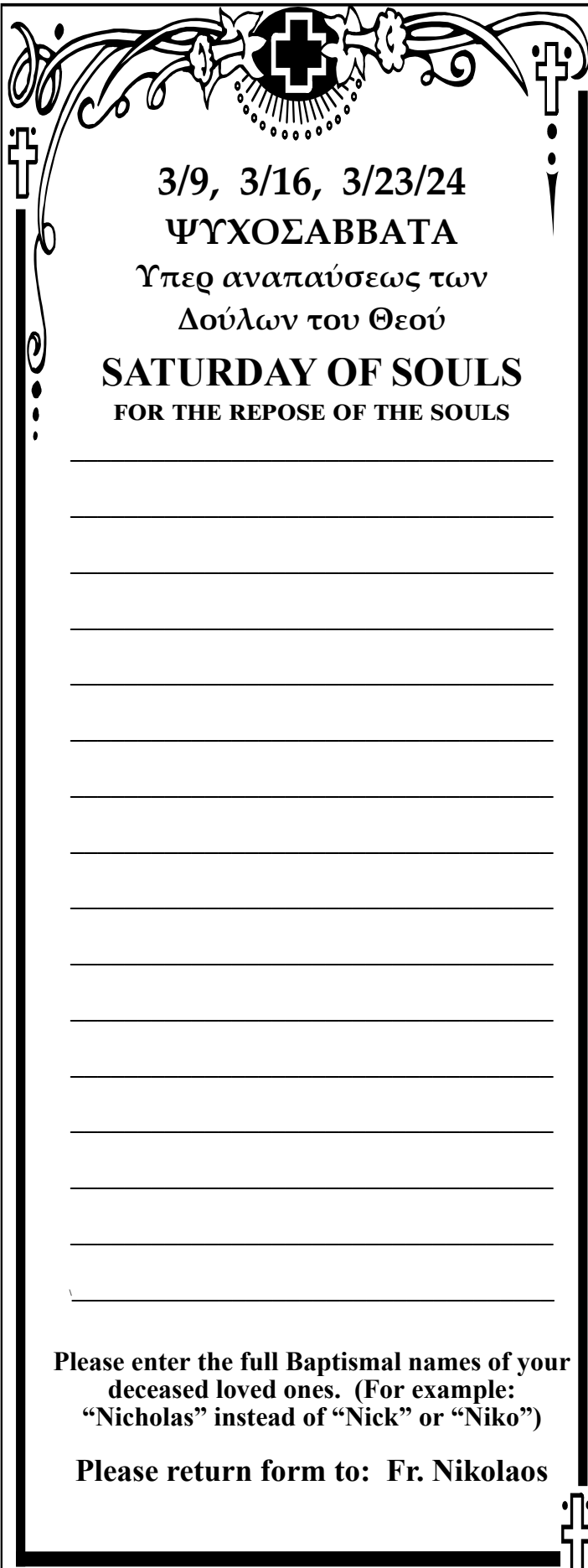


## SATURDAY OF SOULS

Prior to Great Lent, the Church offers the Divine Liturgy to pray for the souls of its departed servants. These three "Saturday of the Souls" (March 9, 16 & 23rd) follow the ancient practice of praying for those who have taken their repose in the Lord. Orthodox Christianity has always taught that those who have fallen asleep are not dead but still alive in Jesus Christ! What a beautiful belief. In its very essence, prayer for the dead is a proclamation of the Resurrection of Christ - a gift that in turn is shared to all believers. It is therefore imperative for us, the living, to remember our loved ones who have passed on and to pray that the Lord accept them into His Heavenly Kingdom.

The death of a loved one brings separation which is sorrowful and tragic. Unfortunately, this is the reality of the fallen world and no one can escape this somber incident. When death occurs, the bereaved focus their energy and thoughts on the deceased in order to maintain some type of connection. For weeks, months and even years the bereaved will think of and remember their beloved. The Church understands that there exists a need for us to have a continued connection with a departed loved one. Hence, we remember them in various facets of our life, including prayer. Prayers for the dead do in fact maintain a link while also providing a means of intercession asking the Lord to bring salvation. The prayers of the Church help comfort us in our moment of loss and frailty. Simply stated, the prayers heard during the Saturday of Souls are both for the living and the dead bringing us one step closer to the realization of eternal life in Christ.

*Please plan to attend the Liturgies and Memorial, and DO NOT simply give the names to Father without being present praying for your loves ones with the entire Church.*



**3/9, 3/16, 3/23/24**  
**ΨΥΧΟΣΑΒΒΑΤΑ**  
 ΥΠΕΡ αναπαύσεως των  
 Δούλων του Θεού  
**SATURDAY OF SOULS**  
**FOR THE REPOSE OF THE SOULS**

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**Please enter the full Baptismal names of your  
deceased loved ones. (For example:  
"Nicholas" instead of "Nick" or "Niko")**

**Please return form to: Fr. Nikolaos**