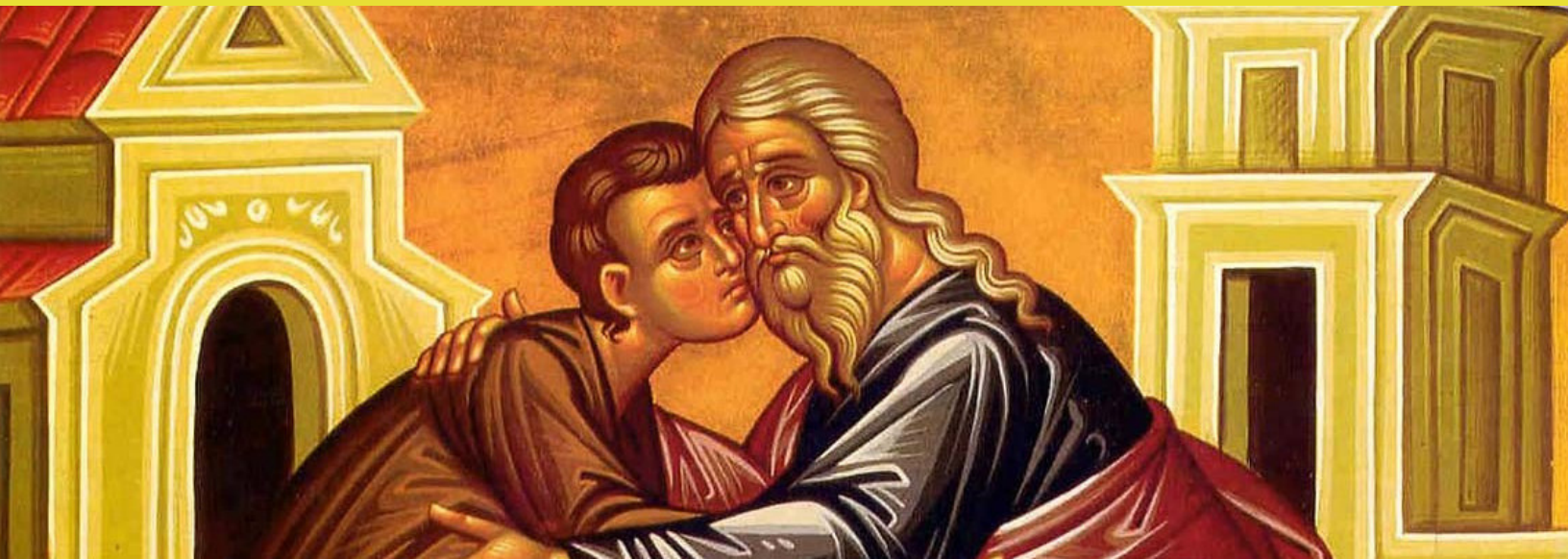


Matters of the Heart

Orthodox reflections on faith and life



10 Return to God

The parable of the prodigal son emphasises the forgiveness of our heavenly Father. For no matter how far we've strayed, or how much we've squandered our inheritance in prodigal living, we are assured that our return to God will be received with joy and gladness. For our God is merciful and compassionate, ready to welcome us home with open arms. We must only come to our senses and recognise that we are "in a far country", far from our loving Father. We must hasten to "arise and go", making our journey back home in repentance and confession, knowing too well that apart from God we are truly lost, and without His sustenance we are destined for death. And like the prodigal son, we must testify to the Father saying "I have sinned against heaven and before you, and I am no longer worthy to be called your son."

+ "I have sinned against
+ heaven and before you,
+ and I am no longer
+ worthy to be called your
+ son."

+ Luke 15:21

+ Also read:

+ Luke 15:11-24

+ *May God have
+ compassion upon us,
+ bless us, manifest His
+ face upon us and have
+ mercy upon us.*