

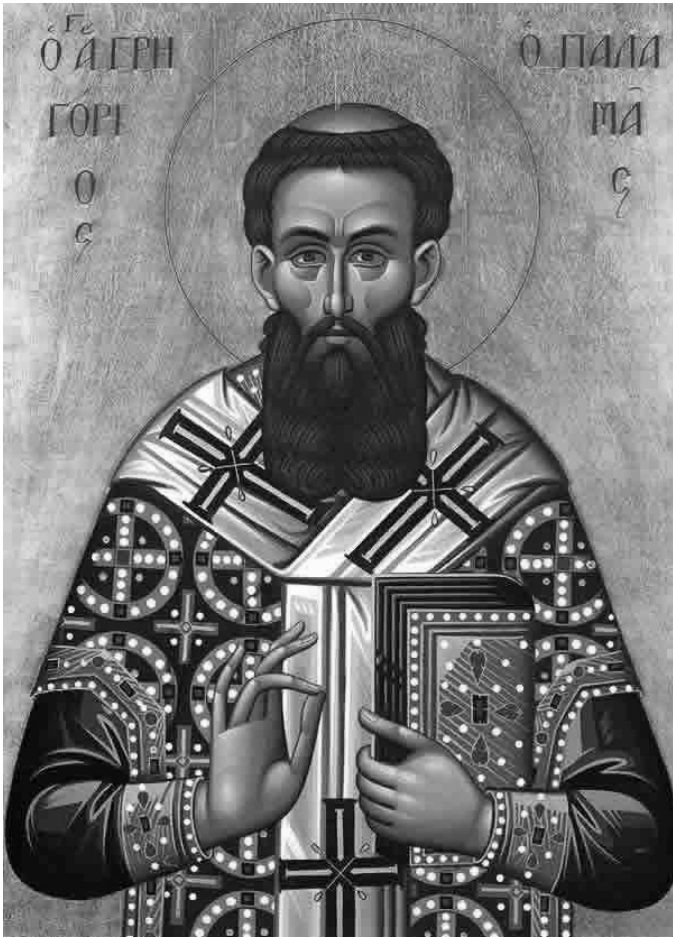


The Sunday Messenger

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH - WILKES BARRE, PA

+++ Sunday, March 20th, 2022 - The Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas - 2nd Sunday of Great Lent

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DYMNUS FOR Today's Service

The Angelic Powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure body. Thou didst capture hell not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead, glory to Thee.

O light of Orthodoxy, teacher of the Church, its confirmation, O ideal of monks and invincible champion of theologians, O wonderworking Gregory, glory of

Thessalonica and preacher of grace, always intercede before the Lord that our souls may be saved!

Holy and divine instrument of wisdom, joyful trumpet of theology, together we sing thy praises, O God-inspired Gregory. Since thou now standest before the Original Mind, guide our minds to Him, O Father, so that we may sing to thee: "Rejoice, preacher of grace!"

Now is the time for action! Judgment is at the doors! So let us rise and fast, offering alms with tears of compunction and crying: "Our sins are more in number than the sands of the sea; but forgive us, O Master of all, so that we may receive the incorruptible crowns!"

Epistle Reading: Hebrews 1:10-2:3

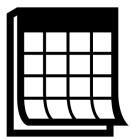
And: "You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You remain; and they will all grow old like a garment; like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed. But You are the same, and Your years will not fail." But to which of the angels has He ever said: "Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool"? Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation? Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him,

Gospel Reading: Mark 2:1-12

And again He entered Capernaum after some days, and it was heard that He was in the house. Immediately many

DEAR GUESTS AND FRIENDS: *A most sincere and heartfelt welcome to you from our community. According to the ancient traditions of the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is to be administered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared to receive the Holy Sacrament through prayer and fasting. If you have questions please let us know!*

gathered together, so that there was no longer room to receive them, not even near the door. And He preached the word to them. Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men. And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you." And some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts, "Why does this Man speak blasphemies like this? Who can forgive sins but God alone?" But immediately, when Jesus perceived in His spirit that they reasoned thus within themselves, He said to them, "Why do you reason about these things in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise, take up your bed and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins" – He said to the paralytic, "I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"



This Weeks Schedule Doly Trinity Orthodox Church

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+ **THIS WEEKEND - SUNDAY OF GREGORY PALAMAS**

SAT, March 19th: Great Vespers @ 5 PM, Parastas, Confessions, Movie & Popcorn - "Overcomer"

SUN, March 20th: Hours @ 8:40 AM, Divine Liturgy @ 9 AM, Coffee Hour, Church School, Adult Ed - 55 Maxims of Fr. Hopko @ 10:45 AM, Parish Council @ 11:30 AM

Parastas - Sat, March 19th after Vespers

**In Memory of Lynn Bankos, Robert Benczkowski,
Dennis Cardoni**

*Offered by Mary Krill, Elaine Benczkowski, Anna Cardoni
In Memory of Stephen Havrilak, Frank & Anna Broda
Offered by Marilyn Havrilak*

+ **THIS WEEK SCHEDULE FOR 3RD WEEK OF LENT**

March 20th - 26th

WED @ 11 AM: Private Prayer 11:00 AM-1:30 PM

WED @ 6 PM: Presanctified Liturgy / Lenten Potluck

FRI @ 6 PM: Vesperal Divine Liturgy- ANNUNCIATION

SAT @ 9 AM: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

SAT @ 3 PM: Orthodoxy 101

+ **NEXT WEEKEND - SUNDAY OF THE CROSS**

SAT, March 26th: Great Vespers @ 5 PM, Parastas, Confessions, Movie & Popcorn

SUN, March 27th: Hours @ 8:40 AM, Divine Liturgy @ 9 AM, Coffee Hour, Church School, Adult Ed - 55 Maxims of Fr. Hopko @ 10:45 AM



ANNOUNCEMENTS

& Upcoming Parish Events

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SATURDAYS: ORTHODOXY 101: Every Saturday @ 3:30 PM we will learn and discuss Orthodox fundamentals for those who are new to the faith, interested in the faith, or would like to renew their understanding of the faith. Join us weekly!

SATURDAYS: LENTEN MOVIE NIGHT: Beginning March 19th, Saturday evenings following Great Vespers in the basement of the church Sherry Huntzinger will be hosting a Christian movie night. Popcorn will be provided. This week showing "Overcomer".

SUNDAYS: LENTEN ADULT EDUCATION: This great Lent we will return to the study to focus on practical ways to live a Christian life during Great Lent. Our study is titled "How to live a Christian Life - 55 Maxims of Fr. Thomas Hopko". The class will be held Sundays throughout Great Lent following Divine Liturgy. Presented by SubDeacon Greg Polk.

THIS MONDAY: MAN OF GOD SHOWING AT CINEMARK MOOSIC MARCH 21ST @ 7 PM:

"Exiled unjustly, convicted without trial, slandered without cause. Man of God depicts the trials and tribulations of Saint Nektarios of Aegina, as he bears the unjust hatred of his enemies while preaching the Word of God." Join us for this excellent film about one of our own saints. Tickets can be purchased in advance online or at the door.

WEDNESDAYS: PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY w/ LENTEN POTLUCK: Beginning Wed, March 16th, we

will have Presanctified Liturgy followed by a Lenten Potluck (No meat or dairy). Until the Pandemic this Lenten meal was a longstanding Tradition of Holy Trinity. We are excited to bring it back this year. Please make this Liturgy and Community Meal a part of your Lenten Journey. Presanctified begins at 6 PM. **Please sign up and see ideas for what you can bring in Vestibule/Narthex.**

SIGNUP DEADLINE MARCH 25th: YES! LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITY FOR YOUTH IN OUR COMMUNITY: Holy Trinity is hosting a community service experience for our Wilkes-Barre area youth with **YES**, an Orthodox ministry focused on developing high school and college age Orthodox leaders. The event will be held all day Saturday, April 2nd - Meet for Liturgy at 9am. Wrap up at 6pm. Breakfast and lunch will be served. Learn more at yesnorthamerica.org or contact Catie DeCarlo - YES Trip Leader at cgolitzin2015@gmail.com



LENTEN & PASCHAL FLOWER DONATIONS

Donations towards adorning the church this Lenten season and Pascha are being collected so that our parish will be beautifully adorned for all of the feasts. General donations for flowers during lent are being accepted and will be used for the Feast of the Cross (flowers will adorn the cross) and Palm Sunday (Palms & Pussy Willows). Donations may be given to Deborah Mills. Please write "Flowers for Lent" in the memo.

We will also continue our tradition of **Paschal Flower Donations** in memory and for the health of loved ones. We will adorn the grave of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Good Friday with fresh Spring flowers as a reflection of our love. These flowers will also adorn the Church on Holy Pascha and throughout Bright Week. On Saint Thomas Sunday, those who donated flowers will be welcome to bring these flowers home to loved ones and shut-ins to brighten their day. If you would like to honor a loved one by making a donation for Holy Pascha flowers "In Memory of" or "For the Health of" a loved

one, please sign up in the Church Vestibule/Narthex. Please leave donations at the candle stand, mail them to the Church, OR drop it off in the rectory mailbox. The names of your loved ones will be listed in the Holy Pascha Church Bulletin and remembered in prayer. If you wish to have your offering listed in the Holy Pascha Bulletin, your loved ones name(s) and donation must be received by Palm Sunday.



AID FOR UKRAINE OPPORTUNITIES FOR GIVING

In this Lenten season especially we are called to give without hesitation to those who are in need. Please give generously so that we might be a coworker with our Lord in caring for our Ukrainian brothers and sisters.

UNWLA - Paula Holoviak will continue collecting weekly on behalf of the local Ukrainian community that will be shipping goods directly to those in need. Please see the revised list of what is needed on the bulletin board.

Uuarc.org - United Ukrainian American Relief Committee. With millions of potential victims in Ukraine, UUARC is fundraising to provide vital medical supplies to victims, care for the injured and refugees, as well as shelter and food to those affected. Visit uuarc.org to make a donation.

Air Force Base in Poland - Send items directly to the base. Sending is like mailing something within the continental US. These items can also be shipped directly from Amazon to the address below.

Mr. Cody B. Huffman
CMR 414 Box 1518
APO, AE 09173

If ordering on Amazon, people need to scroll through the states and will find APO at the end. **The following items are needed:** underwear, socks, raincoats, cosmetics, hygiene items, detergent, non-perishable food, instant coffee, sweets, flashlights, batteries, big bags of any sort

PARISH PRAYER LIST Living: Cynthia Dulsky, Theodore & Elenor Sovryda, Nadine Breisch, Sonja & Leanne Kay, Josie Bissett, Lisa & Scott Harvey, Daniel & Shannon Bissett, Delores Karas, Archpriest Daniel & Matushka Myra Kovalak, Violet Filipi, Catherine, Danny Gobish, Lorraine Pace, Peter Holoviak & Family, Evelyn Kosmiski, Joe Sloan, Matushka Elizabeth, Karen Maier, John Metz, Tim, Jeri Basarab, Fr. Theodore Orzolek, Bernie Elko, Delores Voda, Mary Ann Lepa, Eric, Mat. Delores Donlick, Archpriest Vladimir Fetchko, Dorothy Sysak, James Clark, Vasilli (Bill) Talpash, Melanie Bishop, Barbara, Jodi, Diane, David **Departed:** Dolores Karas, Tina, Alfred, Nathaniel

(they've come with nothing and have nothing to carry things in).

WEEKLY GIVING UPDATE: We thank you for your continued giving in gratitude for all that our loving God does for each of us, for His Holy Church, and all the blessings we receive through her.

Weekly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$2,840
Monthly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$12,305
Collections last Sunday: \$1482.02
Potato Pancake/Soup Sale: \$1734.69

Birthdays & Anniversaries

March Birthdays: Emma Lynn DiBatista (3/3), Abby Harvey (3/4), Lisa Marie Harvey (3/7), Michael Polk (3/12) Nadine Breisch (3/13), Lydia Homick (3/21), Joshua Leonori (3/22), Gerry Stankiewicz (3/27), Jean Ann Hutz (3/31)

This Week's Birthdays: Lydia Homick (3/21), Joshua Leonori (3/22)



Words of Wisdom From the Saints & Teachers

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The Sunday St. Gregory Palamas

Met Anthony Bloom

Today we remember the name of Saint Gregory Palamas, one of the great Saints of Orthodoxy, who against heresy and doubt, proclaimed, from within the experience of the ascetics and of all believers, proclaimed that the grace of God is not a created Gift - it is God Himself, communicating Himself to us so that we are pervaded by His presence, that we gradually, if we only receive Him, open ourselves to Him, become transparent or at least translucent to His light, that we become incipiently and ever increasingly partakers of the Divine nature.

This is not simply a promise; this is a certainty which we have because this has happened to thousands and thousands of those men and women whom we venerate as the Saints of God: they have become partakers of the

Divine nature, they are to us a revelation and certainty of what we are called to be and become.

And today one step more brings us into the joy, the glory of Easter. In a week's time we will sing the Cross - the Cross which was a terror for the criminals, and has become now a sign of victory and salvation, because it is to us the sign that God's love has no measure, no limits, is as deep as God is deep, all-embracing as God is all-embracing, and indeed, as tragically victorious as God is both tragic and victorious, awe-inspiring, and shining the quiet, joyful light which we sing in Vespers.

“St. Gregory Palamas proclaimed that the grace of God is not a created Gift - it is God Himself, communicating Himself to us so that we are pervaded by His presence...”

Let us then make ourselves ready to meet this event, the vision of the Cross, look at it, and see in it the sign of the Divine love, a new certainty of our possible salvation; and when the choir sings this time more loudly the canon of the Resurrection, let us realise that step by step God leads us into a victory which He has won, and which He wants to share with us.

And then we will move on; we will listen to the Saint who teaches us how to receive the grace which God is offering, how to become worthy of Him; and a step more - and we will see the victory of God in Saint Mary of Egypt and come to the threshold of Holy Week. But let us remember that we are now in the time of newness, a time when God's victory is being revealed to us, that we are called to be enfolded by it, to respond to it by gratitude, a gratitude that will make us into new people - and also with joy! And joy full of tears in response to the love of God, and a joy which is a responsible answer to the Divine love. Amen!