



The Sunday Messenger

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH - WILKES BARRE, PA

+ Sun, April 10th, 2022 - The Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt - 5th Sunday of Great Lent +



Hymns for Today's Service

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: "Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Thy Kingdom! Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou Who lovest mankind!"

The image of God was truly preserved in thee, O Mother, for thou didst take up the Cross and followed Christ. By so doing, thou taughtest us to disregard the flesh for it passeth away; but to care instead for the soul, for it is immortal. Therefore thy spirit, O holy Mother Mary, rejoiceth with the angels.

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, raising the world with Thyself. Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished. Adam exults, O Master! Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee: "Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!"

Having been a sinful woman, thou becamest through repentance a bride of Christ. Having attained angelic life, thou didst defeat demons with the weapon of the Cross.// Therefore, O most glorious Mary, thou art a bride of the Kingdom.

Epistle Reading - Hebrews 9:11-14

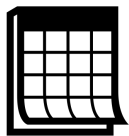
But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Gospel Reading - Mark 10:32-45

Now they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was going before them; and they were amazed. And as they followed they were afraid. Then He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them the things that would happen to Him: "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death and deliver Him to the Gentiles; and they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit on Him, and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again." Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Him, saying, "Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask." And He said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" They said to Him, "Grant us that we may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on Your left, in Your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They said to Him, "We are able." So Jesus said to them, "You will indeed drink the cup that I drink, and

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!*

with the baptism I am baptized with you will be baptized; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared.” And when the ten heard it, they began to be greatly displeased with James and John. But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”



This Weeks Schedule Doly TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

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+ **THIS WEEKEND - ST. MARY OF EGYPT** +

SAT, April 9th: Divine Liturgy @ 9 AM, Church Cleanup @ 10:30 AM, Orthodoxy 101 @ 3:30 PM, Confessions @ 4:30PM, Great Vespers @ 5 PM, Movie & Popcorn “*I Can Only Imagine*” @ 6 PM
SUN, April 10th: Hours @ 8:40 AM, Divine Liturgy @ 9 AM, Parastas, Coffee Hour/ Farewell for DeCarlos, Adult Ed - 55 Maxims @ 11:00 AM

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Parastas - Sunday, April 10th

In Memory of Nancy Valletta,
Elizabeth, Charles Rovinski
Offered by Clement & Nikol Valletta

In Memory of Nicholas & Julia Gurka,
John Gurka, Stephen & Apolonia Shilo
Offered by William & Mary Gurka

In Memory of Daniel Bissett
Offered by Josie Bissett

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Donation in Memory of Betty Serafin

\$50 - David & Diane Welgus

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+ **SCHEDULE FOR 6th WEEK OF LENT** *April 10th-16th*

WED @ 11 AM: Private Prayer 11 AM-1:30 PM
WED @ 6 PM: Presanctified Lit., Lenten Meal
FRI @ 6:30 PM: Lazarus Sat. Great Vespers
SAT @ 9 AM: Lazarus Sat. Divine Liturgy

+ **NEXT WEEKEND - PALM SUNDAY** +

Archpastoral visit from Archbishop Mark

SAT, April 16th: Lazarus Sat. Divine Liturgy @ 9 AM, Confessions @ 4:30PM, Great Vespers @ 5 PM - Archbishop Mark Presiding

SUN, April 17th: Hours @ 8:40 AM, Blessing of the Palms & Divine Liturgy @ 9 AM - Archbishop Mark Presiding, Brunch w/ Archbishop Mark



ANNOUNCEMENTS

& Upcoming Parish Events

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TODAY, APRIL 10th - BABY SHOWER &

FAREWELL FOR DECARLOS: As some of you may know, Catie & Dan DeCarlo are expecting a baby girl in June. They will also be moving to California immediately following Pascha. THIS Sunday, April 10th at coffee hour we invite you to express your love and best wishes to the DeCarlo's as they begin their new family by bringing a “baby shower gift”. We will miss Dan and Catie dearly and wish them all the best in their new family adventure. May God grant them many years! Please join us!

NEXT WEEKEND: PALM SUNDAY VESPERS, DIVINE LITURGY & BRUNCH WITH ARCHBISHOP

MARK: Next weekend we welcome His Eminence Archbishop Mark for his annual Parish visit. He will be with us for Palm Sunday Vespers (Sat. Night), Divine Liturgy (Sun morn), and Brunch. Please make every effort to attend and welcome His Eminence. Your contribution to our Palm Sunday Brunch will also be most appreciated! Please see the tentative menu and signup sheet in the vestibule for suggested items and to offer additional items. Many thanks in advance and we look forward to another enjoyable meal together!

SCHEDULE CONFESSION BEFORE PASCHA

A friendly reminder to make a confession before Pascha to receive Holy Communion. Anyone wishing to receive should go to confession at least once during Great Lent. If you have been away from Holy Communion throughout the pandemic be sure to make a confession before receiving Holy Communion. Confession is available before and after services throughout Lent as time permits and also on Wednesdays during our time of

silent prayer. Please come or set up an appointment for a specific time with Fr. Innocent.

ORTHODOXY 101 – FINAL WEEK UNTIL AFTER

BRIGHT WEEK: This Saturday @ 3:30 PM we will continue discussing Orthodox fundamentals for those who are new to the faith, interested in the faith, or would like to renew their understanding of the faith. Following this week's session we will break until after bright week, resuming May 7th.

FINAL SATURDAY: LENTEN MOVIE NIGHT:

Saturday evenings following Great Vespers Sherry Huntzinger & Louie Gianuzzi are hosting a Christian movie night. Popcorn provided. This week's movie is "I Can Only Imagine".

FINAL SUNDAY: LENTEN ADULT EDUCATION:

Our study continues ... titled "How to live a Christian Life – 55 Maxims of Fr. Thomas Hopko". The week will be our final class. Presented by SubDn Greg Polk.

FINAL WEDNESDAY: PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY

w/ POTLUCK: Make this Liturgy and Meal a part of your Lenten Journey. Presanctified begins at 6 PM. This week will be our final Wed. Night Presanctified for Great Lent.

CARPET CLEANER:

Do you own, or would you be willing to rent a carpet cleaner for the church this week? We would love to clean the carpets in the vestibule and church for Palm Sunday. Please see Sandy Serafin.

 **LENTEN & PASCHAL
FLOWER DONATIONS**

Donations towards adorning the church this Lenten season and Pascha continue to be collected so that our parish will be beautifully adorned for all of the feasts. General Donations for Palm Sunday may be given to Deborah Mills. Please write "Flowers for Lent" in the memo. 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.

For details on ways you can give please see the bulletin board in the Vestibule / Narthex.

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: \$2,462.55

Birthdays & ANNIVERSARIES

April Birthdays: Miriam Clark (4/6), Marie Dutko (4/6), Pearl Tutko (4/8), Alec Breisch (4/9), Alex Holoviak (4/9), Vladimir Holoviak (4/19), Eli King (4/21), Jordan Dutko (4/23), Debbie Greenward **Anniversaries:** Fr. Innocent & Mat. Melanie Neal (4/22), Dave & Dolores Voda, Eva & Stephen Nealon (4/29)

This Week's Birthdays: Could it be yours? Let us know!

PARISH PRAYER LIST Living: Cynthia Dulsky, Theodore & Elenor Sovryda, Nadine Breisch, Sonja & Leanne Kay, Josie Bissett, Lisa & Scott Harvey, Daniel & Shannon Bissett, Catherine, Danny Gobish, Lorraine Pace, Peter Holoviak & Family, Evelyn Kosmiski, Mat. Elizabeth, Jeri Basarab, Fr. Theodore Orzolek, Delores Voda, Mary Ann Lepa, Eric, Mat. Delores Donlick, Fr. Vladimir Fetchko, Dorothy Sysak, Vasilli (Bill) Talpash, Barbara, Jodi, Diane, David, Erin Dougherty, Lauren Butruce, Ashlee Parlante, Maureen Metz and the Metz Family **Departed:** Tina, Alfred, Nathaniel

Holy Week & Pascha 2022

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

PALM SUNDAY April 17

+His Eminence Archbishop Mark Presiding+
Blessing of Palms & Divine Liturgy @ 9 AM
Bridegroom Matins @ 4 PM

HOLY MONDAY April 18

Bridegroom Matins @ 6:30 PM

HOLY TUESDAY April 19

Bridegroom Matins @ 6:30 PM

HOLY WEDNESDAY April 20

Matins w/ Holy Unction (Cathedral) @ 6 PM

HOLY THURSDAY April 21

Last Supper Vespers & Divine Liturgy @ 9:00 AM
12 Passion Gospels @ 6:30 PM

HOLY FRIDAY April 22

Vespers for the Burial of Our Lord @ 3:00 PM
Lamentations @ 6:30 PM

HOLY SATURDAY April 23

Vesperal Divine Liturgy @ 9:00 AM

HOLY PASCHA SERVICES

Beginning SAT NIGHT, April 23

Nocturns @ 9:30 PM
Paschal Matins w/ Procession @ 10:00 PM
Paschal Divine Liturgy @ 11:00 PM
Blessing of the Baskets @ 12:30 AM

SUN MORNING, April 24

Agape Vespers w/ Procession @ 11 AM
followed by Blessing of the Baskets



Words of Wisdom From the Saints & Teachers

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Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt

On this fifth Sunday of Great Lent, we focus on the life of St. Mary of Egypt. St. Mary was born in Egypt, left home at the age of 12, and spent the next 17 years taking advantage of men for her own physical pleasure. Not until she was on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem (for all the wrong reasons, but God works even through our wrong choices) did she begin to question the path she was taking. It was when she was unable to enter the church to venerate the Holy Cross that she realized something was wrong. The Theotokos herself helped Mary to understand

the severity of her sins, and she repented. She repented so completely that she spent the rest of her days in the desert, fighting against her own fleshly desires and sins. God was with her there in the desert, and he showed His presence to her by providing for her needs and helping her to learn the scriptures and the ways of the Church even without another human there to teach her about them. This allowed Mary to grow more and more holy.

A holy monk, Zosimas, was the lone person she saw, and she did not see him until 47 years after she fled to the desert. They had only two encounters, both of which encouraged each of them. Zosimas was able to learn of Mary's story, and Mary was able to receive Holy Communion at the hand of Zosimas right before she died. Each of these two people longed for holiness in their own life, and both were humbled by the other's presence on their journey.

This humility is an interesting contrast to Mark 10:32-45, the Gospel reading for this Sunday. This Gospel reading reminds us of the squabbling disciples, who are fighting for greatness in this passage. It is interesting that the Church has chosen to offer us the opportunity to study the life of St. Mary, who fought her pride and humbled herself in the desert for most of her life; and then contrast it with the disciples' desire to sit at Christ's right hand in His kingdom. It is as though the Church is saying to each of us, "Here are two approaches to life in the Kingdom of God. Who will you choose to be like?" We all know who we should emulate, but repenting and humbling ourselves as completely as St. Mary did is not easy by any stretch of the imagination. Yet here is her life, offered to us as we approach the end of Great Lent, encouraging us to continue to fight the good fight as she did; to abstain from our passions so completely that we learn from Christ Himself and find ourselves humbled when we are in the presence of even the humblest of fellow humans.

Holiness is not limited to those with a perfect background. Although God can certainly work in and through those who have always lived holy lives (as did Abba Zosimas), He also brings healing and holiness to those of us who repent completely and turn our focus away from the things of this earth and completely on Him (as He did in the life of St. Mary of Egypt). Glory to God who embraces us as we struggle and meets us in that place! **St. Mary of Egypt, please intercede for our salvation!**
