



FROM THE AMBIVON

ST MICHAEL ORTHODOX CHURCH

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT — Tone 5. St Mary of Egypt. Hieromartyr Januarius, Bishop of Benevento, and his companions: Festus, Proculus, and Sosius—Deacons, Desiderius—Reader, and Eutychius and Acutius—laymen, at Pozzuoli (ca. 305). Hieromartyr Theodore of Perge in Pamphylia, his mother, Philippa, and Martyrs Dioscorus, Socrates, and Dionysius (2nd c.). Martyrs Isaac, Apollos, and Quadratus, of Nicomedia (303). St. Maximian, Patriarch of Constantinople (434). The Recovery of the Relics of Saint Theodore of Sanaxar (1791).

Birthdays & Anniversaries for April

Birthdays: Rodion Shepherd (04/06); Maximus Shepherd (04/08); +John Snopek (04/13); Philip Pecuch Jr. (04/17);

Nameday: Marie Pasternak (04/01);

Anniversary:

Baptism:

Travelers:

Prospora Schedule: HELP! We need families to start baking prospora at home. Please sign up. *The Church has a prospora kit if you would like to borrow it. We will need more prospora during Great Lent for the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts on Wednesdays.* Thank you all for your offering “for the people by the people.”

April 28th

May 5th - PASCHA

Counting: HELP! Please sign up to help us count weekly donations!"

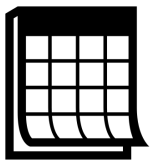
April 28th

May 5th - PASCHA

Visitors: PLEASE JOIN US DOWNSTAIRS for an Agape Meal. Thank you to everyone who donated. Please donate what you would spend for lunch at the agape meal to replenish our supplies.

PLEASE SING ALONG! Singing the hymns and responses to the litanies throughout the services is encouraged!

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 themselves by prayer, fasting, and a recent (monthly) confession. If you have questions please ask Fr Michael! Visitors, if you did not introduce yourself to Fr Michael at Vespers, please refrain from Holy Communion.*



Service Schedule

(Please refer to Calendar)

SUN, Apr 21st: @ 4:00PM Mission Vespers at St Nicholas Olyphant

WED, Apr 24th: @ 5:00PM Presanctified Liturgy

FRI, Apr 26th: @ 5:00PM Little Compline with the Canon of the Raising of Lazarus

SAT, Apr 27th: 9:00AM Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom for Lazarus Saturday

(Please stay to help decorate the church and make crosses with palms)

4:50PM Great Vespers & Matins w/confessions

SUN, Apr 28st: @ 9:10 AM - Hours and Divine Liturgy

ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM. Palm Sunday.



Words of Wisdom

From the Saints & Teachers

Today Readings

Epistles: (321-ctr) Hebrews 9:11-14

(208) Galatians 3:23-29 (Ven. Mary of Egypt)

Gospels: (47) Mark 10:32-45

(33) Luke 7:36-50 (Ven. Mary of Egypt)

EPISTLES

Deacon: Let us attend!

Priest: Peace be unto all!

Reader: And to thy spirit.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Prokeimenon in the 5th Tone, a Psalm of David: Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this generation forever.

Choir: Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this generation forever.

Reader: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly.

Choir: Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this generation forever.

Reader: In the 4th Tone: God is wonderful in His saints the God of Israel.

Choir: God is wonderful in His saints the God of Israel.

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Hebrews.

Deacon: Let us attend!

[(321-ctr) Hebrews 9:11-14] Brethren: When Christ appeared as a High Priest of the good things to come, then through the greater and more perfect tabernacle (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) * He entered once for all into the Holy Place, through not the blood of goats and calves but His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. * For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, * how much more shall the blood of Christ, Who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

[(208) Galatians 3:23-29] Brethren: Before faith came, we were confined under the law, kept under restraint until faith should be revealed. * So that the law was our custodian until Christ came, that we might be justified by faith. * But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a custodian; * for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. * For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. * There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. * And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise.

Priest: Peace be unto thee, Reader.

Reader: And to thy spirit.

ALLELUIA

Deacon: Wisdom!

Reader: The Alleluia in the 5th Tone: I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Thy truth from generation to generation.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Reader: For Thou hast said: Mercy shall be established forever; Thy truth shall be prepared in the heavens.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

Reader: In the 1st Tone: I waited patiently for the Lord; He inclined to me and heard my prayer.

Choir: Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

GOSPELS

[(47) Mark 10:32-45] At that time, taking the twelve, Jesus began to tell them what was to happen to Him, * saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem; and the Son of Man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, and deliver Him to the Gentiles; * and they will mock Him, and spit upon Him, and scourge Him, and kill Him; and after three days He will rise." * And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Him, and said to Him, "Teacher, we want Thee to do for us whatever we ask of Thee." * And He said to them, "What do ye want Me to do for you?" * And they said to Him, "Grant us to sit, one at Thy right hand and one at Thy left, in Thy glory." * But Jesus said to them, "Ye do not know what ye are asking. Are ye able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" * And they said to Him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink ye will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, ye will be baptized; * but to sit at My right hand or at My left is not Mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." * And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. * And Jesus called them to Him and said to them, "Ye know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. * But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, * and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. * For the Son of Man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

[(33) Luke 7:36-50] At that time, one of the Pharisees asked Jesus to eat with him, and He went into the Pharisee's house, and took His place at table. * And behold, a woman of the city, who was a sinner, when she learned that He was at table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of ointment, * and standing behind Him at His feet, weeping, she began to wet His feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head, and kissed His feet, and anointed them with the ointment. * Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw it, he said to himself, "If this Man were a prophet, He would have known who and what sort of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner." * And Jesus answering said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to thee." And he answered, "What is it, Teacher?" * "A certain creditor had two debtors; one owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. * When they could not pay, he forgave them both. Now which of them will love him more?" * Simon answered, "The one, I suppose, to whom he forgave more." And He said to him, "Thou hast judged rightly." * Then turning toward the woman He said to Simon, "Seest thou this woman? I entered thy house, thou gavest me no water for My feet, but she has wet My feet with her tears and wiped them with her hair. * Thou gavest Me no kiss, but from the time I came in she has not ceased to kiss My feet. * Thou didst not anoint My head with oil, but she has anointed My feet with ointment. * Therefore I tell thee, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much; but he who is forgiven little, loves little." * And He said to her, "Thy sins are forgiven." * Then those who were at table with Him began to say among themselves, "Who is this, Who even forgives sins?" * And He said to the woman, "Thy faith has saved thee; go in peace."

Hebrews 9:11 The Body as Tabernacle Veil in Heaven. St John Chrysostom: Well did he say, "greater and more perfect tent," since God the Word and all the power of the Spirit dwells therein, "for it is not by measure that he gives the Spirit." "More perfect," as being both without blame and setting right greater things. "That is, not of this creation"—see how it was greater, for it would not have been "of the Spirit," if humankind had constructed it. Nor yet is it "of this creation," that is, not of these created things, but spiritual, of the Holy Spirit.

See how he calls the body tent and curtain and heaven: "Through the greater and more perfect tent." "Through the curtain, that is, through his flesh." And again, "into the inner shrine behind the curtain." And again, "entering into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God." Why then does he say this? In accordance

with whether one thing or another is signified. I mean, for instance, the heaven is a curtain, for as a curtain it walls off the Holy of Holies; the flesh is a curtain hiding the Godhead; and the tent likewise holds the Godhead. Again, heaven is a tent, for the priest is there within. **On the Epistle to the Hebrews 15.4.**

Luke 7:37–38: Symbols of the Lord’s Teaching. St Clement of Alexandria: That woman had not yet entered communion with the Word, because she was still a sinner. She paid the Master honor with what she considered the most precious thing she had, her perfume. She wiped off the remainder of the perfume with the garland of her head, her hair. She poured out upon the Lord her tears of repentance. Therefore her sins were forgiven her.

This is a symbol of the Lord’s teachings and of his sufferings. The anointing of his feet with sweet-smelling myrrh suggests the divine teaching whose good smell and fame has spread to the ends of the earth. “Their sound has gone forth to the ends of the earth.” Moreover, those anointed feet of the Lord (not to be too subtle) are the apostles. The sweet odor of the myrrh prefigures their reception of the Holy Spirit. I mean that the figure of the Lord’s feet is to be understood of the apostles, who journeyed about the whole world preaching the gospel. **Christ the Educator 2.8.**

A Guide to the Triodion & Lent

10. Fifth Sunday of Great Lent - Sunday of Saint Mary of Egypt

On the fifth Sunday of Fast, we are enjoined to celebrate the memory of our Holy Mother Mary of Egypt.

The Church service for this Sunday is devoted to the memory and glorification of the spiritual efforts of Saint Mary of Egypt, who "has cut down with the sword of abstinence the desires of your soul and the passions of your flesh. You have choked your sinful thoughts with the silence of the ascetic life, and have watered all the wilderness with the streams of your tears, and caused the fruits of repentance to spring up for us" and "with works of Lenten fasting", "as sun she shines revealed as a guide to all who have sinned".

In her life the Holy Church pays attention to two contrasts: on the depth of her sinful falling and on the height of her graceful rising; it points out that true repentance wipes away the very heaviest sins, and can uplift the repenting trespasser to a high degree of spiritual perfection.

The story of Saint Mary's life was written down by Saint Sophronios, Patriarch of Jerusalem.

The Life of Saint Mary of Egypt is read during Great Lent along with the Great Canon of Saint Andrew, Archbishop of Crete.

Weekly	2%	4%	5%	10%
\$200	\$4	\$8	\$10	\$20
\$500	\$10	\$20	\$25	\$50
\$750	\$15	\$30	\$37	\$75
\$1000	\$20	\$40	\$50	\$100
\$1500	\$30	\$60	\$75	\$150

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.

How Much Is my tith

April Income: \$12,600.46

April Expense: \$6,407.51

Weekly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$3,740.85

Monthly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$14,963.58

As of Apr 19 2024 12 Month CD: \$153325.08

18 Month CD: \$102216.72

SAT, Apr 27th after Divine Liturgy please stay to help decorate the church and make crosses with palms for Palm Sunday!



Announcements - Upcoming Parish & Diocesan Events

Silent Prayers and Confession: Every Wednesday 11:00AM - 1:30PM or after vespers. You can make an appt for confession.

Catechumen/Inquirers/Continuing ED Class: Icon Class 3-4:30

Church Work Day: Every Friday is Church Maintenance day. Please come and help maintain the Church and its grounds. We need to start doing ground maintenance for Pascha.

Monthly Panikhida: No Panikhida.

Mother's Day & Blessing of the Graves: May 12 - All Men to cook for Agape Meal

Parish Council Meeting: 19 May - All are invited.

CONFESSION: It is important that every Orthodox Christian continues to receive the Mystery of Confession on a monthly basis and especially during the Lenten season. In the coming weeks, Fr. Michael will be available for Confession on Wednesdays, after the Liturgy of the Presanctified, after Great Vespers (Sat), or by appointment. If you wish to come before these services, please let him know ahead of time. Please, note that Friday, April 26th (the day before Lazarus Saturday) is the last day when Fr. Michael will hear Confessions before Pascha. When we enter Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, our focus must be exclusively on walking with our Lord through His passion.

Pascha Flowers: Donations towards adorning the church this Lenten season and Pascha are being accepted so that our parish will be beautifully adorned for all of the feasts. General Donations for Palm Sunday should be placed in the donation box. 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 in the donation box or mail them to the Church, OR drop it in the rectory mailbox attention "Treasurer." As always, your loved ones will be remembered in our services in prayer. Envelopes can be picked at the candle stand.

Take Out Chicken Barbeque: Hosted by Arcaro and Genells Saturday, June 22nd from 12PM-3PM. The price will be \$13 a ticket. Everyone will be given two tickets to sell (you can purchase more if you like). Sandy and Tammy will hand them out on April 14th.

Sign up Sheets: Please sign up for Tomb watch, the 12 Gospel readings, boil and dye a dozen of eggs, and Pascha Kulich

Parish Prayer List

Newly Departed: *Michael Brown (3/15)*

Departed: *Michael Marko (4/16); John Marko (4/18); Mary Marko (4/19); Sonia Schuster (4/24)*

Please remember in your prayers LIVING

Ill-afflicted Archpriests Michael Evans, John Nightingale, & Theodore Orzolek

All those caring for the sick and suffering at this time throughout the world, especially our families and friends: *David Lezinsky, John Pritchky, Christine Sevensky, Mike Jadick, Margaret Pregmon, Daniel Jones, Matushka Paula Soucek, Michael Sokol; Michael Krenitsky; The children of God Abigail and Nathan.*

Servants of God *Mark Bezhuly, David Barsigian, Patricia Jones, Anne Buday, Mary Krevko, Gregory Krevko, Emily Krenitsky, Gregory Krenitsky, Barbara Sevensky, Bernie & Beverly Elko, Sandra Condon, Marie Pasternak, Ann Tyrpak, Sandy & Danny Pregmon, Walter Pritchky, Michael & Euphemia Keklak, Justin & Elisabeth Kane, Maria & Vitaliy Rakovsky, Ekaterina & Anna, Joe & Kelly Cigna, George, Natasha, Rosa, & Lucia Coyoy, Paul & MaryAnn Newmeyer, Mat. Emilia, Blaise, Maximus, Rodion, Savina Shepherd, Joseph, Emilia, Judah, Nadezda, & Silas Hart, Eli & Paula Stavisky, Helen Wytovich, Tammy Wytovich, Sharissa & Debra, Nadia Macheska, Paulette Ezbiansky, Maura Elko*

Seekers - *Christopher, Eugene, Mike, Brayden, Barbara*

Catechumen - *JoAnne Snopek & Paul Dunay*

Preparing for Illumination - *Jason Vo, Santo Joseph Cerminaro, Mikayla Brown*

Show the light of thy countenance, O Master, upon those who are preparing for holy illumination and who desire to put away the defilement of sin. Enlighten their understanding. Establish them in the faith. Strengthen

them in hope. Perfect them in love. Make them honorable members of thy Christ, who gave himself for our souls. For thou art our Illumination, and unto thee we ascribe glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.