

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT ELIZABETH THE NEW-MARTYR

Volume XVIII

Number 28

13 / 26 March 2017

FOURTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT: ST JOHN OF THE LADDER

SERVICES THIS WEEK

4TH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT (*Tone 7*)

Commemoration of St John Climacus

Saturday, 25 March (12 March, o.s.)

5:30 PM 40th Day Pannykhida for Patrick Brien
6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 26 March (13 March, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Trapeza (coffee hour)
12:30 PM Adult Study

Thursday of the Fifth Week of the Fast

Wednesday, 29 March (16 March, o.s.)

6:00 PM Service of the Great Canon;
Confessions

Thursday, 30 March (17 March, o.s.)

8:15 AM Lenten Hours & Typika
9:30 AM Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Friday of the Fifth Week of the Fast

Friday, 30 March (18 March, o.s.)

8:15 AM Lenten Hours & Typika
9:30 AM Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Saturday of the Fifth Week of the Fast

Friday, 30 March (18 March, o.s.)

6:00 PM Matins of the Akathist Hymn;
Confessions

5TH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT (*Tone 8*)

Commemoration of St Mary of Egypt

Saturday, 1 April (19 March, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 2 April (20 March, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Trapeza (coffee hour)
12:30 PM Adult Study

NAMEDAYS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Week of 19 March

Namedays – 20th (Martyr Eugene of Cherson): Evgeny Efuni; 23rd (Martyr Vasilissa): Vasilissa Seneko.

Birthdays – 21st: Zydrune Ann Mladineo; 25th: Sergey Efuni, Sr.

Week of 26 March

Namedays – 30th (St Patrick of Ireland): Patrick Hinds; April 1st (Martyr Daria): Daria Smirnov.

Birthdays – 31st: Deacon Steven Barker.

Fallen Asleep in the Lord – 28th: Madeleine & Margaret Hotz.

FASTING DAYS THIS WEEK

We are in the midst of the Great Lent. Therefore all the days of this week are fast days. Monday and Tuesday are normal fast days, with no fish, wine, or oil permitted. On the rest of the days of the week the fast is mitigated, with wine and oil being permitted: on Wednesday and Thursday because of the Vigil of the Great Canon, and on Friday because of the Vigil of the Akathist Hymn. Next Saturday and Sunday, as on all weekends of Great Lent, wine and oil are also allowed.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Week of 26 March

4th Sunday of Great Lent: St John Climacus		
4 th Sunday	<i>Matins Gospel:</i>	
	Heb. §314 (6:13-20)	Mark §40 (9:17-31)
<i>St John</i>	Eph. §229 (5:8b-19)	Matt. §10 (4:25-5:12a)
FIFTH WEEK OF THE GREAT FAST		
5 th Monday of Great Lent	<i>Sixth Hour:</i> Isaiah 37:33-38:6	
	<i>Vespers:</i> Genesis 13:12-18 • Proverbs 14:27-15:4	
5 th Tuesday of Great Lent	<i>Sixth Hour:</i> Isaiah 40:18-31	
	<i>Vespers:</i> Genesis 15:1-15 • Proverbs 15:7-19	
5 th Wed. of Great Lent	<i>Sixth Hour:</i> Isaiah 41:4-14	
	<i>Vespers:</i> Genesis 17:1-9 • Proverbs 15:20-16:9	
5 th Thursday of Great Lent	<i>Sixth Hour:</i> Isaiah 42:5-16	
	<i>Vespers:</i> Genesis 18:20-33 • Proverb 16:17-17:17	
5 th Friday of Great Lent	<i>Sixth Hour:</i> Isaiah 45:11-17	
	<i>Vespers:</i> Genesis 22:1-18 • Proverbs 17:17-18:5	
5th Saturday of the Great Fast: Saturday of the Akathist		
5 th Saturday	Heb. §322 (9:24-28)	
	Mark §35 (8:27-31)	
<i>Akathist</i>	Heb. §320 (9:1-7)	Luke §54 (10:38-42; 11:27-28)
5th Sunday of Great Lent: St Mary of Egypt		
5 th Sunday	<i>Matins Gospel:</i>	
	Heb. §321a (9:11-14)	Mark §47 (10:32b-45)
<i>St Mary</i>	Gal. §208 (3:23-29)	Luke §33 (7:36-50)

NAMEDAYS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

APRIL

Namedays – 1st (Martyr Daria): Daria Smirnov; 8th (Archangel Gabriel): Gabrielle Komleski; 13th (St Innocent of Moscow): Innokenty (Ken) Yanovsky; 14th (St Mary of Egypt): Maria Asoyan, Jennifer Mary Hotz.

Birthdays – 2nd: Vasily Yanovsky; 4th: Sbdcn Daniel Lieuwen; 12th: Angelina Schidlovsky; 14th: Maria Asoyan, Valentina Golikova; 17th: Anna Morin-Szydowski; 22nd: Katya Darenkov; 24th: Cliff Paul Brangwynne, Reader Gregory Maxey; 25th: Carolyn O'Brien; 26th: Daniel Yanovsky; 30th: Colman (Hugh) O'Beirne.

Ordination Anniversaries – 13th: Father David Straut (Holy Diaconate, 1986).

Baptism Anniversaries – 2nd: Paul Schidlovsky (2009); 11th: Johan Mladineo (2009).

Wedding Anniversaries – 18th: Andrew & Carolyn O'Brien (2004).

Fallen Asleep in the Lord – 7th: Nicolas Valcoff (+2015); 9th: Peter Mladineo (+2015); 28th: Oksana Stryzak (+2001).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The annual special collection for the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission in the Holy Land will be taken at the Sunday Liturgies at St Elizabeth's during the month of March. What we collect will be sent to the Synod of Bishops for the R.E.M. at Palm Sunday. This Palm Sunday collection is a major source of funding for our mission in the Holy Land, and some of us have had occasion to receive their hospitality. Please give generously.

Many thanks to the Servants of God who have made *Kolyva* (sweetened boiled wheat) and given it to the church for the Memorial Services for the Soul Saturdays we have celebrated during this period of the Lenten Triodion. The next Soul Saturday will be the Saturday before Pentecost.

The Service of the Great Canon will be served this Wednesday, the fifth Wednesday evening of Great Lent, at 6 o'clock. This is the same Great Canon that was sung during the first week of the Fast, except that the entire Canon is chanted on this night, rather than a quarter of it, as on each of the first four weekday evenings of Lent. St Andrew of Crete, an Archbishop and hymnographer who died in the 8th Century, composed this Great Canon of Repentance. It is a masterpiece of Orthodox hymnography, recounting incidents and personalities throughout the whole of Biblical history, weaving the theme of repentance throughout. Another feature of this service is the reading of the memorable Life of St Mary of Egypt written by St Sophronius, Patriarch of Jerusalem. Participating in this moving service will strengthen us to complete the Fast with compunction.

The Presanctified Liturgy will be served this week on *Thursday* and Friday morning at 9:30 AM. The Lenten Services of the Third, Sixth, and Ninth Hours and the Typika, which precede the Liturgy, will begin at 8:15 AM.

The Fifth Saturday of Great Lent is the Saturday of the Akathist. Matins will be served at St Elizabeth's on Friday evening at 6 o'clock. During Matins the canon to the Theotokos and the entire Akathist Hymn to the Most-Holy Mother of God will be sung. (*There will be no the Divine Liturgy this year on Saturday morning at St Elizabeth's.*) Come sing the praises of the All Pure Mother of God at this beautiful service!

We need donations for flowers to adorn the church on Holy Friday and Pascha. If you would like to make a donation for this, please give it to either Father David or to our Church Warden, Patrick Brien. You may include a Commemoration List with your donation.

LOOKING AHEAD

The Feast of the Annunciation of the Theotokos (25 March / 7 April) is one of the Twelve Great Feasts of the Church. It commemorates the Annunciation of the Archangel Gabriel to the All-Holy One the good news that God had chosen her to become the Mother of God. It is also the day on which we commemorate our Saviour's holy conception. All the faithful should attend as many of the services for the Feast as they are able.

The schedule of services for the Feast of the Annunciation differs from that of other Great Feasts because this Great Feast falls on a weekday of Great Lent and the Festal elements of the service are mixed with Lenten elements. The services are as follows:

The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (the Vespers of the Feast) on the morning of the Eve, 6 April, at 9:30.

The Vigil Service (Great Compline, Matins, and First Hour) on the Eve of the Feast, 6 April, at 6 o'clock,

The Third, Sixth, and Ninth Hours, with the Typika on the morning of the Feast, 7 April, at 8:15;

The Vesperal Liturgy of St John Chrysostom on the morning of the Feast, 7 April, at 9:30.

Father can provide written excuses for absence or lateness for students attending Liturgy for a Great Feast. Just let him know you need it in advance.

Due to the Feast of the Annunciation, fasting is mitigated on three days this week. On the Forefeast of the Annunciation (24 March / 6 April) wine and oil are permitted. On the Feast of the Annunciation itself (25 March / 7 April), fish, wine, and oil may be eaten. On the day after the Feast (26 March / 8 April), the Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel, wine (and according to some authorities oil) is allowed.