THE ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT ELIZABETH THE NEW-MARTYR

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21 March / 3 April 2016

3RD SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT: VENERATION OF THE CROSS *(Tone 3)*

THIS WEEK AT ST ELIZABETH'S

3RD SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT *(Tone 3)*
Veneration of the Holy Cross
Saturday, 2 April (20 March o.s.)
6:00 PM Vigil Service; Confessions
Sunday, 3 April (21 March o.s.)
9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy; Trapeza (coffee hour)
12:30 PM Adult Study

ANNUNCIATION TO THE THEOTOKOS
Wednesday, 6 April (24 March o.s.)
8:15 AM Lenten Hours & Typika
9:30 AM Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
6:00 PM Vigil Service; Confessions
Thursday, 7 April (25 March o.s.)
8:15 AM Lenten Hours & Typika
9:30 AM Vesperal Divine Liturgy

Friday of the Fourth Week of the Fast
Friday, 8 April (26 March o.s.)
6:00 PM Compline & Akathist to Theotokos
7:00 PM Soul Saturday Pannykhida

4TH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT *(Tone 4)*
St John of the Ladder
Saturday, 9 April (27 March o.s.)
6:00 PM Vigil Service; Confessions
Sunday, 10 April (28 March o.s.)
9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy; Trapeza (coffee hour)
12:30 PM Annual Parish Meeting

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 oil permitted. On Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, the fast is relaxed due to the Great Feast of the Annunciation. On Wednesday, wine and oil are permitted; On Thursday: fish, wine & oil; and on Friday: wine alone. Next Saturday and Sunday, as on all weekends of Great Lent, wine and oil are also allowed.

SCRIPTURE READINGS THIS WEEK

3rd Sunday of the Great Fast: Veneration of the Cross		
3rd Sunday	*1st Matins Gospel:* Matt. §116 [28:16-20]	
	Heb. §311 (4:14-5:6)	Mark §37 (8:34b-9:1)
FOURTH WEEK OF THE GREAT FAST		
4th Monday of Great Lent	*Sixth Hour:* Isaiah 14:24-32	
	Vespers: Genesis 8:21-9:7 • Proverbs 11:19-12:6	
4th Tuesday of Great Lent	*Sixth Hour:* Isaiah 25:1-9	
	Vespers: Genesis 9:8-17 • Proverbs 12:8-22	
4th Wednesday of Great Lent	*Sixth Hour:* Isaiah 26:21-27:9	
	Vespers: Genesis 9:18-10:1 • Proverbs 12:23-13:9	
4th Thursday of Great Lent	**ANNUNCIATION TO THE THEOTOKOS**	
	Vespers Paramia: (1) Genesis 28:10-17 • (2) Ezekiel 43:27-44:4a • (3) Proverbs 9:1-11 • (4) Exodus 3:1-8 • (5) Proverbs 8:22-30	
	Matins Gospel: Luke §4 (1:39-49, 56)	
	Heb. §306 (2:11-18)	Luke §3 (1:24-38)
4th Friday of Great Lent	*Sixth Hour:* Isaiah 29:13-23	
	Vespers: Genesis 12:1-7 • Proverbs 14:15-26	
4th Saturday of the Great Fast: Soul Saturday		
4th Saturday	Heb. §313 (6:9-12)	Mark §31 (7:31-37)
Soul Saturday	1 Cor. §163 (15:47-57)	John §16 (5:24-30)
4th Sunday of Great Lent: St John Climacus		
4th Sunday	*Matins Gospel:*	
	Heb. §314 (6:13-20)	Mark §40 (9:17-31)
St John	Eph. §229 (5:8b-19)	Matt. §10 (4:25-5:12a)

NAMEDAYS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

LAST WEEK

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

Birthdays – March 31st: Deacon Steven Barker; April 2nd: Vasily Yanovsky.

Baptism Anniversaries – April 2nd: Paul Schidlovsky (2009)

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

THIS WEEK

Namedays – 8th (Archangel Gabriel): Gabrielle Komleski.

Birthdays – 4th: Sbdcn Daniel Lieuwen;.

Baptism Anniversaries – April 2nd: Paul Schidlovsky (2009)

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

THE REST OF APRIL

Namedays – 13th (St Innocent of Moscow): Innokenty (Ken) Yanovsky; 14th (St Mary of Egypt): Maria Asoyan, Jennifer Mary Hotz.

Birthdays – 12th: Angelina Schidlovsky; 14th: Maria Asoyan, Valentina Golikova; 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 – 11th: Johan Mladineo (2009).

Chrismation Anniversaries – 11th: Michael Carey (2009); Peter Mladineo (2009).

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

Fallen Asleep in the Lord – 28th: Oksana Stryzak (+2001).

THIS WEEK'S 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 Brangwynne family, who provided *kolyva* (sweetened boiled wheat) for the second of the three mid-lenten Soul Saturdays.

Today, the Third Sunday of Great Lent, is the Feast of the Veneration of the Precious Cross. Although prostrations, and kneeling in general, are forbidden by the holy canons of the Church on Sundays, we do make prostrations before the Holy Cross adorned with flowers in the midst of the temple on all the Feasts of the Cross, even when they fall on Sunday.

Many thanks to those who made donations for flowers to adorn the Holy Cross and the church today.

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.

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

It is our parish's practice that those who receive the Mystery of Confession before the Liturgy of one weekend are generally permitted to receive Holy Communion at the Liturgies of the following two weeks. Regular communicants will only have to go to Confession every other weekend. Should a grave sin be committed, Confession would, of course, be necessary before communing. A Spiritual Father may give a stricter or more relaxed rule for Confession. Always follow your Spiritual Father's guidance.

The Service of the Akathist to the Theotokos is served at St Elizabeth's on the first five Friday evenings of Great Lent at 6 o'clock. This is the Service of Small Compline with a canon and the Akathist chanted to the Most-Holy Mother of God. We will be serving the fourth of these beautiful services this Friday evening. Come sing the praises of the holy Theotokos this Friday evening!

The third and last of the mid-lenten Soul Saturdays is next Saturday. A General Pannykhida will be served on Friday evening at 7 o'clock. The names of the Departed in all the Commemoration Books kept at the church will be commemorated at these services. If you need to update your books, please do so as soon as possible.

If anyone is able to provide a donation of *kolyva* (sweetened boiled wheat) this Friday evening for the last mid-lenten Soul Saturday, please let Father know.

We need donations for flowers to adorn the church on Holy Friday, Holy Saturday, 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.