

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT ELIZABETH THE NEW-MARTYR

Volume XIX

Number 27

5 / 18 March 2018

FOURTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT:

Commemoration of our Venerable Father John of the Ladder (Tone 8)

SERVICES THIS WEEK

4TH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT (Tone 8)

Commemoration of St John Climacus

Saturday, 17 March (4 March, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 18 March (5 March, o.s.)

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

Fifth Thursday of Great Lent

Wednesday, 21 March (8 March, o.s.)

6:00 PM Service of the Great Canon

Thursday, 22 March (9 March, o.s.)

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

Fifth Friday of Great Lent

Friday, 23 March (10 March, o.s.)

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

Saturday of the Akathist

Friday, 23 March (10 March, o.s.)

6:00 PM Service of the Akathist Hymn

5TH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT (Tone 1)

Commemoration of St Mary of Egypt

Saturday, 24 March (11 March, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 25 March (12 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

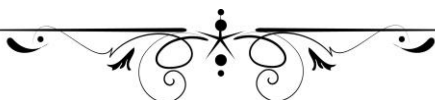
Week of 18 March

Day of Week	Date	Commemoration and Type of Fast
<i>Sunday</i>	18 March (5 Mar, o.s.)	Martyr Conan of Isauria Fast: wine, & oil permitted
<i>Monday</i>	19 March (6 Mar, o.s.)	42 Martyrs of Amorium Normal Fast Day (<i>No oil</i>)
<i>Tuesday</i>	20 March (7 Mar, o.s.)	Holy Forty Martyrs of Sebaste Fast: wine, & oil permitted
<i>Wednesday</i>	21 Mar (8 Mar, o.s.)	St Theophylactus the Confessor Fast: wine, & oil permitted
<i>Thursday</i>	22 March (9 Mar, o.s.)	Thursday of the Great Canon Fast: wine, & oil permitted
<i>Friday</i>	23 March (10 Mar, o.s.)	Martyr Quadratus and Companions Fast: wine permitted
<i>Saturday</i>	24 March (11 Mar, o.s.)	St Sophronius of Jerusalem Fast: wine, & oil permitted
<i>Sunday</i>	25 March (12 Mar, o.s.)	St Gregory the Dialogist Fast: wine, & oil permitted

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Week of 18 March

4th Sunday of Great Lent: St John Climacus		
<i>4th Sunday</i>	<i>8th Matins Gospel:</i> John §64 (20:11-18)	
	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		
<i>5th Monday of Great Lent</i>	<i>Sixth Hour:</i> Isaiah 37:33-38:6 <i>Vespers:</i> Genesis 13:12-18 • Proverbs 14:27-15:4	
<i>5th Tuesday of Great Lent</i>	<i>Sixth Hour:</i> Isaiah 40:18-31 <i>Vespers:</i> Genesis 15:1-15 • Proverbs 15:7-19	
<i>5th Wednesday of Great Lent</i>	<i>Sixth Hour:</i> Isaiah 41:4-14 <i>Vespers:</i> Genesis 17:1-9 • Proverbs 15:20-16:9	
<i>5th Thursday of Great Lent</i>	<i>Sixth Hour:</i> Isaiah 42:5-16 <i>Vespers:</i> Genesis 18:20-33 • Proverb 16:17-17:17	
<i>5th Friday of Great Lent</i>	<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		
<i>5th Saturday</i>	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		
<i>5th Sunday</i>	<i>9th Matins Gospel:</i> John §65 (20:19-31)	
	Heb. §321a (9:11-14)	Mark §47 (10:32b-45)
<i>St Mary</i>	Gal. §208 (3:23-29)	Luke §33 (7:36-50)



THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are overjoyed to report the safe arrival of a new daughter to Sarah and Cliff, and sister to Leanna and Audrey on Wednesday, 14 March 2018. They intend to name her Edith on the eighth day, 21 March. Congratulations and many years!

Many thanks to the servants of God who did work around the church property this past week: power washing the siding of the church and working on the collapsed dry well on the edge of the patio for the sacred sink.

Many thanks to the Darenkov family who provided *kolyva* (sweetened boiled wheat) for the second of the three mid-lenten Soul Saturdays.

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 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.

We have undertaken to help Bishop Nicholas by buying four sets of his gently used, beautiful priestly vestments in purple, black, white, and green. This will not only help Vladika, but will provide us with vestments when a second priest serves at St Elizabeth's. These vestments are smaller than Fr David's large vestments, and are useful to have for visiting priests. Each vestment set cost \$300. All four sets cost us \$1200.

Church cleaners are needed. Over the last few years, Elena Kasimova, often assisted by her husband Aleksey Vishnyakov, quietly worked to keep our little church clean. Now that they are back in Russia, we will need others to volunteer regularly to clean the church. Please speak to Father David, if you can help with church cleaning.

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 Fifth Saturday of Great Lent is the Saturday of the Akathist to the Theotokos. The Service of the Akathist Hymn will be served at St Elizabeth's on Friday evening at 6 o'clock. In this service, we chant the Akathist Canon with the Akathist Hymn to the Most-Holy Mother of God. Come sing the praises of the All Pure Mother of God at this beautiful service!

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.

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.

St Elizabeth's Annual Meeting will be held on the fourth Sunday of March. The Rector, Church Warden, and Treasurer will present year-in-review reports for the past year. Planning for the current year will also take place. Parishioner concerns will be heard. All voting members of the Parish are asked to attend.

Those attending the Annual Meeting are asked to bring a dish of food for the meal that will precede the Meeting. Please let Matushka Faith know what you plan to bring.

We have a few individuals and families who regularly attend services at St Elizabeth's, and even confess and commune, but have not yet sought to become formal members of the Parish. If you are one of these and would like to be a formal member of the Parish, please speak to Fr David about this.