

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT ELIZABETH THE NEW-MARTYR

Volume XVIII

Number 26

27 February / 12 March 2017

SECOND SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT: ST GREGORY PALAMAS (Tone 5)

SERVICES THIS WEEK

2ND SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT (Tone 5)

Commemoration of St Gregory Palamas

Saturday, 11 March (26 February, o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 12 March (27 February, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Trapeza (coffee hour)
12:00 PM Young Adults' 'Lunch with Father'

Wednesday of the Third Week of the Fast

Wednesday, 15 March (2 March, o.s.)

4:45 PM Lenten Hours & Typika
6:00 PM Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Friday of the Third Week of the Fast

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

8:15 AM Lenten Hours & Typika
9:30 AM Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
6:00 PM Compline & Akathist to Theotokos
7:00 PM Soul Saturday Pannykhida

3RD SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT (Tone 6)

Veneration of the Precious Cross

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

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 19 March (6 March, o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Trapeza (coffee hour)
12:30 PM Parish Council 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, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday are normal fast days, with no fish, wine, or oil permitted. Next Saturday and Sunday, as on all weekends of Great Lent, wine and oil are also allowed.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Week of 12 March

2nd Sunday of the Great Fast: St Gregory Palamas		
2nd Sunday	5th Matins Gospel: Luke §113 (24:12-35)	
	Heb. §304 (1:10-2:3)	Mark §7 (2:1-12)
St Gregory	Heb. §318 (7:26-8:2)	John §36 (10:9-16)
THIRD WEEK OF THE GREAT FAST		
3rd Monday of Great Lent	Sixth Hour: Isaiah 8:13-9:7 Vespers: Genesis 6:9-22 • Proverbs 8:1-21	
3rd Tuesday of Great Lent	Sixth Hour: Isaiah 9:9-10:4 Vespers: Genesis 7:1-5 • Proverbs 8:32-9:11	
3rd Wednesday of Great Lent	Sixth Hour: Isaiah 10:12-20 Vespers: Genesis 7:6-9 • Proverbs 9:12-18	
3rd Thursday of Great Lent	Sixth Hour: Isaiah 11:10-12:2 Vespers: Genesis 7:11-8:3 • Proverbs 10:1-22	
3rd Friday of Great Lent	Sixth Hour: Isaiah 13:2-13 Vespers: Genesis 8:4-21 • Proverbs 10:31-11:12	
3rd Saturday of the Great Fast: Soul Saturday		
3rd Saturday	Heb. §325 (10:32-38a)	Mark §8 (2:14-17)
Soul Saturday	1 Cor. §163 (15:47-57)	John §16 (5:24-30)
3rd Sunday of the Great Fast: Veneration of the Cross		
3rd Sunday	6th Matins Gospel: Luke §114 (24:36-53)	
	Heb. §311 (4:14-5:6)	Mark §37 (8:34b-9:1)

NAMEDAYS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Week of 12 March

Namedays – 13th (St John Cassian): Cassian O'Beirne.

Birthdays – 13th: Sarah Brangwynne; 18th: Joseph Reitano.

Wedding Anniversaries – 16th: Father David & Matushka Faith Straut (1979).

THE REST OF MARCH

Namedays – 20th (Martyr Eugene of Cherson): Evgeny Efuni; 23rd (Martyr Vasilissa): Vasilissa Seneko; 30th (St Patrick of Ireland): Patrick Hinds.

Birthdays – 21st: Zydrune Ann Mladineo; 25th: Sergey Efuni, Sr.; 31st: Deacon Steven Barker.

Baptism Anniversaries – 20th: Matushka Faith Straut (1983).

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome back to Daylight Savings Time! Those of you who remembered to set your clocks ahead and arrived on time get a star in your crown!

Many thanks to Sarah Brangwynne who provided *kolyva* (sweetened boiled wheat) for the first of the three mid-lenten Soul Saturdays.

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.

There are many weekday services at St Elizabeth's during Great Lent. This means there are plenty of opportunities to increase our prayer while we are fasting. So please plan ahead and come to church more often this Lent!

The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts will be served this Wednesday evening at 6:00 PM. We hope that this evening Presanctified Liturgy will make it possible for those whose schedules do not permit them to be present at weekday morning services to be able to attend this most beautiful service. The Lenten Services of the Third, Sixth, and Ninth Hours and the Typika, which precede the Liturgy, will begin at 4:45PM.

Although the Eucharistic Fast for an evening Presanctified Liturgy ideally begins at Midnight the evening before the Liturgy, just like a Liturgy served in the morning, with no food or drink being taken from that time until the time one communes, many Orthodox Bishops (including some in our own Russian Orthodox Church) have recognized that this places a burden too heavy to bear on most of the Faithful today and nearly ensures that almost no one will be able to receive Holy Communion at an evening Presanctified Liturgy. Therefore Episcopal permission has been given for the Eucharistic Fast to begin at 10 o'clock in the morning after eating breakfast, or even at noon after an early lunch. If conditions exist which make an observance of the Eucharistic Fast from Midnight for an evening Liturgy impossible, such *economia* is appropriate.

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.

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 third of these beautiful services this Friday evening. Come sing the praises of the holy Theotokos this Friday evening!

The second of the three mid-lenten Soul Saturdays is this 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.

Only the names of Orthodox Christians are permitted to be commemorated at Memorial Services and at the Proskomedie. If you have included Non-Orthodox in your Commemoration Book or Commemoration Lists, please clearly indicate which persons named, if any, are Non-Orthodox.

The Prayer of St Ephraim the Syrian is said on weekdays of Great Lent at all services and in private prayer, from Sunday evening through Friday evening. The Prayer is a striking characteristic of the Lenten services. From Monday morning through Friday morning, it is said twice with three prostrations to the ground, twelve bows, and a final prostration. On Sunday and Friday evenings, it is said only once with three prostrations to the ground. The Prayer of St Ephraim is an excellent summary of what we all ought to be striving for in our spiritual life. It should be added to the end of our Morning and our Evening prayer rules.

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.

St Elizabeth's Annual Meeting was scheduled to be held on the third Sunday of March. As we are changing Treasurers, our parish finances are in a state of transition right now, and so the Annual Meeting must be postponed until after Pascha. The new date will be the last Sunday of next month: 30 April 2017

The Parish Council will meet next Sunday during coffee hour. The meeting will deal primarily with our upcoming Annual Meeting. All parish council members are asked to attend.

We need donations for flowers to adorn the Cross and church on the Third Sunday of Great Lent. If you would like to make a donation for this, please place it in the collection basket, marked 'flowers.' You may include a Commemoration List with your donation.