

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT ELIZABETH THE NEW-MARTYR

Volume XVII

Number 31

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT: ST MARY OF EGYPT (*Tone 5*)

THIS WEEK AT ST ELIZABETH'S

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

St Mary of Egypt

Saturday, 16 April (3 April o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service; Confessions

Sunday, 17 April (4 April o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Trapeza (coffee hour)

12:30 PM Adult Study

Wednesday of the Fifth Week of Great Lent

Wednesday, 20 April (7 April o.s.)

4:45 PM Lenten Hours & Typika

6:00 PM Presanctified Liturgy

Friday of the Fifth Week of Great Lent

Friday, 22 April (9 April o.s.)

8:15 AM Lenten Hours & Typika

9:30 AM Presanctified Liturgy

LAZARUS SATURDAY

Friday, 22 April (9 April o.s.)

6:00 PM Matins; Confessions

Saturday, 23 April (10 April o.s.)

8:30 AM Baptism of Justin Neidig

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Trapeza in honor of Justin Neidig

PALM SUNDAY

Saturday, 23 April (10 April o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service; Confessions

Sunday, 24 April (11 April o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Trapeza (coffee hour)

6:00 PM Bridegroom Matins, First Hour

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 is Lazarus Saturday and caviar is permitted, in addition to wine and oil. Next Sunday is Palm Sunday, and fish, wine, and oil are allowed.

SCRIPTURE READINGS THIS WEEK

| 5th Sunday of Great Lent: St Mary of Egypt | | |
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| 5 th Sunday | 2nd Matins Gospel: Mark §70 (16:1-8) | |
| | Heb. §321a (9:11-14) | Mark §47 (10:32b-45) |
| St Mary | Gal. §208 (3:23-29) | Luke §33 (7:36-50) |
| SIXTH WEEK OF THE GREAT FAST | | |
| 5 th Monday of Great Lent | Sixth Hour: Isaiah 48:17-49:4 | |
| | Vespers: Genesis 27:1-41 • Proverbs 19:16-25 | |
| 5 th Tuesday of Great Lent | Sixth Hour: Isaiah 49:6-10 | |
| | Vespers: Genesis 31:3-16 • Proverbs 21:3-21 | |
| 5 th Wednesday of Great Lent | Sixth Hour: Isaiah 58:1-11 | |
| | Vespers: Gen 43:26-31; 45:1-16 • Proverbs 21:23-22:4 | |
| 5 th Thursday of Great Lent | Sixth Hour: Isaiah 65:8-16 | |
| | Vespers: Genesis 46:1-7 • Proverbs 23:15-24:5 | |
| 5 th Friday of Great Lent | Sixth Hour: Isaiah 66:10-24 | |
| | Vespers: Genesis 49:33-50:26 • Proverbs 31:8-32 | |
| GREAT AND HOLY WEEK | | |
| Lazarus Saturday | Heb. §333a (12:28-13:8) | John §39 (11:1-45) |
| | Palm Sunday | |
| Palm Sunday | Genesis 49:1-2, 8-12 • Zephaniah 3:14-19 • Zachariah 9:9-15 | |
| | Matins Gospel: Matt. §83 (21:1-11, 15-17) | |
| | Phil. §247 (4:4-9) | John §41 (12:1-18) |

NAMEDAYS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

LAST WEEK

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.

THIS WEEK

Birthdays – 22nd: Katya Darenkov.

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

THE REST OF APRIL

Birthdays – 24th: Cliff Paul Brangwynne, Reader Gregory Maxey; 25th: Carolyn O'Brien; 26th: Daniel Yanovsky; 30th: Colman (Hugh) O'Beirne.

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

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

St Elizabeth's Annual Meeting was held last Sunday. The Rector, Church Warden, Treasurer, Auditing Committee, and Building Committee presented year-in-review reports for the past year. The following parishioners were elected to the Parish Council for this year: Patrick Brien, Rdr Philip Hotz, Jennifer Hotz, Matushka Anna Komleski, Sbdcn Daniel Lieuwen, Rdr Gregory Maxey, and Andrew O'Brien.

Next Sunday is the last Sunday we will be appealing for our annual special collection for the Russian Ecclesiastical Mission in the Holy Land. What we collect will be sent to the Synod of Bishops for the R.E.M. at Palm Sunday. Thank you for giving generously to this appeal.

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

Great Lent ends on Friday? Yes, it does! Great Lent is a period of 40 days from Pure Monday through the Friday before Lazarus Saturday. The Great and Holy Week begins with Lazarus Saturday and ends on Holy Saturday. Holy Week is a separate Fast. This is good news. Those of us who have been lax in our observance of the Great Fast, have a new opportunity to begin again!

This Saturday is Lazarus. Saturday This Feast commemorates Christ's raising his friend Lazarus from the dead as a confirmation of the general resurrection on the Last Day. This feast is a joyful foretaste of Pascha. Matins for Lazarus Saturday will be served at 6 o'clock on Friday evening and the Divine Liturgy of the Feast will be served at 9:30 on Saturday morning.

Justin Neidig will be received into the Orthodox through the Mysteries of Holy Baptism and Chrismation on Lazarus Saturday at 8:30 a.m. All St Elizabeth's parishioners are welcome to attend the Baptism.

LOOKING AHEAD

The Blessing of Palms and Pussy Willows will place at the Vigil Service next Saturday evening, the eve of Palm Sunday, after the reading of the Matins Gospel. It is important for the faithful to be at this Vigil Service so that they can receive their blessed palms and pussy willows at the proper time.

It is our established practice that those who receive the Mystery of Confession during Holy Week (from the Eve of Lazarus Saturday onwards) are *not* required to go to Confession again in order to receive Holy Communion at the Liturgies of Holy Week, Pascha, and Bright Week. Should a grave sin be committed, however, Confession would of course be necessary before communing.

Those desiring to make their Confessions during Holy Week should go as early in the Week as possible. There will be times during or after the Holy Week services for Confession. Please note that after the beginning of the Paschal Vigil there will be no more Confessions.

Orthodox Christians should attend as many Holy Week services as possible. The Services from Holy Thursday morning through Holy Saturday morning are certainly the most essential. Because of the solemnity of these Holy Days, Orthodox Christians should take these days off from work or school. If it is impossible to take two weekdays off, then at least Holy Friday should be taken off.

NEEDS FOR HOLY WEEK AND PASCHA:

- **People willing to help clean the church** after the services of Holy Week.
- **Twelve dozen red eggs** for the Paschal Liturgy. Please let Father know how many dozen red eggs you plan to provide and bring the eggs with you to the Midnight Paschal Liturgy.
- **Paschal Foods for our Agape Meal** after the Holy Liturgy on the night of Pascha. Each family in the Parish is asked to bring a dish to share at this Festal Meal.
- **People willing to remain to the end** of the Paschal Meal to help clean up.
- **Five Families or Individuals willing to fill** 24 plastic eggs each with chocolates and other soft candy for the Egg Hunt, which will be held after Agape Vespers on Pascha. Please see Matushka Faith for your two dozen plastic eggs and plan to bring the filled eggs to church no later than Holy Saturday morning.

The Paschal Meal following the Midnight Paschal Liturgy will be held this year downstairs in the church basement. Each family in the Parish is asked to bring a dish to share at this Festal Meal. We ask that *everyone* take any food or dish they have brought with them when they leave the meal. This will greatly assist those who remain to clean up.