

Let My Prayer Arise

“What Have We Done?”

A Message from Fr. Gabriel

For the 40 days of Great Lent...the goal is for us to put aside our earthly cares, forget about all of the things that cause us to take our focus off of Christ, and make the strides to draw nearer to Him in everything that we do. But a little later on this month, as we approach Holy week, the Church teaches us that it is God who slowly begins His movements towards us.

Holy Week begins on March 31st, where in the Divine Liturgy, we will read the Gospel account of the rising of Lazarus from the dead, which prefigures the events that would soon follow with our Lord and the

Cross. St. Innocent of Kherson refers to Lazarus Saturday as the “Feast of Friendship”, because of our Lord’s actions during the time when his friend Lazarus lay dead in the tomb.

In what is the shortest sentence of the New Testament, we hear two words, which defines this day as the feast of friendship:

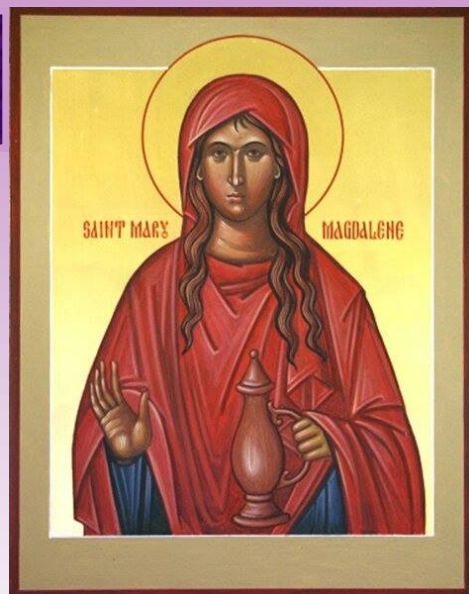
“Jesus Wept.”

Why would the Gospel take special care to point this out to us? Why would God incarnate, who did not shed a single tear at His own crucifixion, now stare at the tomb and weep over the death of

Continued Pg 3

February in Review:

- ◆ We had wonderful attendance for all of the services of the first week of Great Lent! What a blessing it was to see so many of our faithful parishioners take their spiritual lives seriously!
- ◆ On top of the regular schedule of services, several of our parishioners also had the opportunity to travel to Holy Dormition Monastery in Rives Junction, to celebrate the full cycle of Orthodox Worship Services with the nuns!
- ◆ We had a packed Church and a wonderful procession of icons for Orthodoxy Sunday! Thank you to all who participated!
- ◆ We received a donation for new table covers for our beautiful wooden ceremonial tables, as well as a new set of Lenten chalice covers! Thank you to our donors!



March 2018

Inside this Issue

- Prayer Life
- Monthly Forecast
- Holy Week Schedule
- Matthew 25
- Education

Important Dates to Remember

- 3/3 Pan Orthodox Retreat
- 3/12-14 St. Tikon's Pilgrimage
- 3/16 Altar Server Class
- 3/17 & 18 Archbishop Alexander Visit
- 3/17 Soul Saturday
- 3/21 Movie night
- 3/22 Choir Rehearsal
- 3/31 Lazarus Saturday



This Month's Scripture Readings

Sunday, March 4th:

Luke 24:36-53

Hebrews 7: 26:8:2

John 10: 9-16

Hebrews 1:10-2:3

Mark 1:10-2:3

Sunday, March 11th:

John 20: 1-10

Hebrews 4: 14-5:6

Mark 8: 34-9:1

Sunday, March 18th:

John 20: 1-10

Hebrews 4:14-5:6

Mark 8: 34-9:1

Sunday, March 25th:

John 20:1-10

Hebrews 4: 14-5:6

Mark 8: 34-9:1

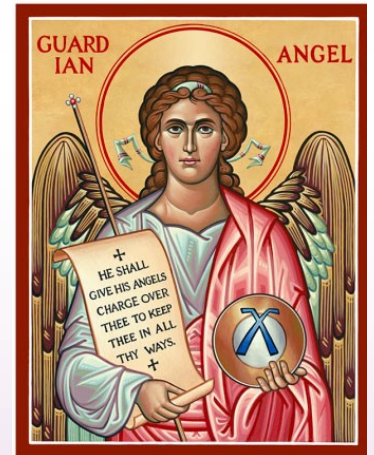
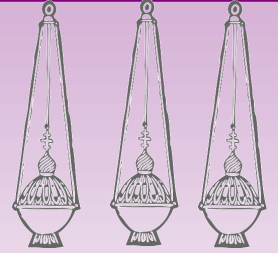


Prayer Life

Pray for our sick and suffering brothers and sisters.

His Beatitude Metropolitan
Theodosius
His Beatitude Metropolitan
Herman
Archpriest Dimitri Vincent
Susan
Vinnie
Autumn
Katherine
John
Anne
Katherine
Anastasia
Alex
Elaine
Solome
Bill
Carol
Anne
Carolyn
Barbara
Manuela
Frankie
John
Stacie

Bryan
Doug
Megan
Duncan
Eva
Perpetua
Pat
Jan
Kyle
Aiden



Armed Forces	Recently Departed this Life	Catechumens	Mother's Child
Matthew Beck - Air Force Michael Oginsky - U.S. Marines Patrick Tejkl - U.S. Marines Lindsey Cazatt - U.S. Navy Stephanie Bishop - U.S. Navy Jason Wilburn - Army Rangers Alex Suriano - Air National Guard Dallas Watson - U.S. Air Force Seraphim Lazar- Watson - U.S. Air Force	Barbara Theresa Lynn	Roland Drummond Lori Drummond Robert Forsyth	Christine Suriano Rachael Welch Ann Owens Kristen Jakubus Amanda Kothamdapani Shannon

"What have we done?" Cont.

his dear friend Lazarus? One of the common conclusions that people come to, is that this was our Lord's Humanity showing through. But these tears that Christ experienced were much different than the tears that we shed for our departed loved ones, as we mourn our separation from them in this life.

When Jesus stood there at the tomb of Lazarus, He knew full well that his friend was going to be brought back to life in just a few short moments. So why the anguish? Jesus wept not only for his friend Lazarus...but for all of us.

The All Knowing God wept when He saw his creation, who was made through Him to be filled with joy, life and light, now sealed up in a tomb and removed from the fullness of life with which it was created...decomposing in darkness, despair, and death.

How do we possibly, return that type of love? As Orthodox Christians, we live our lives attempting to be a worthy friend of Christ, but what does that mean?

If we were to go out today and ask the first person on the street: *"If you were God's friend...how do you think your life would play out?"*, the response would probably be deeply rooted in selfishness:

"God would give me all that I ever wanted and allow me to have a good and beautiful life!"

This is the message of Joel Olstein and those that believe in the Prosperity Gospel. It is an ideal that is steeped in pride and self satisfaction. This was the mentality of many of the Jews throughout the Old Testament: *"Good favor of God meant blessings in this life."*

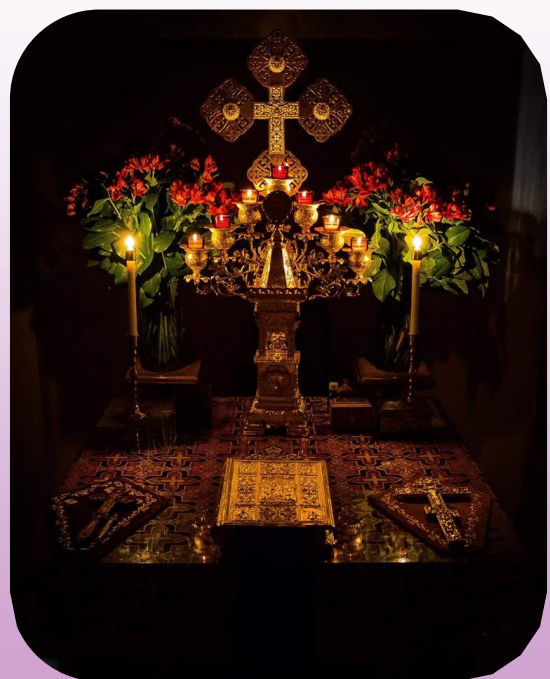
But when Christ came, He changed the meaning of what friendship meant. As an example, we can look at the first true friends of Christ, the Apostles, and see how God had them undergo many trials and tribulations. Their friend Christ, even after His Ascension, was there to guide and walk with them through the troubles of this world, and bring them to an un-

derstanding of His Divine Life. This is what true friendship is all about. We hear in the Gospels that Christ is *"The Way, The Truth, and The Life"*...and this statement is especially true when we watch our Lord's interactions with His creation.

In just a few short weeks, we will watch the entire world welcome Christ is the name of friendship into Jerusalem. We will then watch as He is betrayed by His own creation and put to death on the Cross. We will stand there on Holy Friday night, staring up at the tomb in awe, and with tears coming out of our eyes, we will see the scars of sins on our hands and ask ourselves...as so many of the Jews did that day...***"What have we done?"***

As we approach Holy Week, the one question that needs to remain on our minds is this: *"In what ways have we returned our Friendship to Christ? What have we sacrificed? And if we have sacrificed...has it been enough to make up for what Christ did for us?"*

Let us all strive this month, to learn what it means to be a worthy friend of Christ, Who holds his hands out and welcomes us to observe His sacrificial love for us...leading us to a life where there is no shedding of tears, but life everlasting!



Lazarus Saturday and Palm Sunday

The week following the Sunday of Saint Mary of Egypt is called Palm or Branch Week. At the Tuesday services of this week the Church recalls that Jesus' friend Lazarus has died and that the Lord is going to raise him from the dead (Jn 11). As the days continue toward Saturday, the Church, in its hymns and verses, continues to follow Christ towards Bethany to the tomb of Lazarus. On Friday evening, the eve of the celebration of the Resurrection of Lazarus, the "great and saving forty days" of Great Lent are formally brought to an end:

Having accomplished the forty days for the benefit of our souls, we pray to Thee, O Lover of Man, that we may see the holy week of Thy passion, that in it we may glorify Thy greatness and Thine unspeakable plan of salvation for our sake . . . (Vespers Hymn).

Lazarus Saturday is a paschal celebration. It is the only time in the entire Church Year that the resurrectional service of Sunday is celebrated on another day. At the liturgy of Lazarus Saturday, the Church glorifies Christ as "the Resurrection and the Life" who, by raising Lazarus, has confirmed the universal resurrection of mankind even before His own suffering and death.

By raising Lazarus from the dead before Thy passion, Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection, O Christ God! Like the children with the branches of victory, we cry out to Thee, O Vanquisher of Death: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord! (Troparion).

Christ—the Joy, the Truth and the Light of All, the Life of the world and its Resurrection—has appeared in his goodness to

those on earth. He has become the Image of our Resurrection, granting divine forgiveness to all (Kontakion).

At the Divine Liturgy of Lazarus Saturday the baptismal verse from Galatians: As many as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ (Gal 3.27) replaces the Thrice-holy Hymn thus indicating the resurrectional character of the celebration, and the fact that Lazarus Saturday was once among the few great baptismal days in the Orthodox Church Year.

Because of the resurrection of Lazarus from the dead, Christ was hailed by the masses as the long-expected Messiah-King of Israel. Thus, in fulfillment of the prophecies of the Old Testament, He entered Jerusalem, the City of the King, riding on the colt of an ass (Zech 9.9; Jn 12.12). The crowds greeted Him with branches in their hands and called out to Him with shouts of praise: Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! The Son of David! The King of Israel! Because of this glorification by the people, the priests and scribes were finally driven "to destroy Him, to put Him to death" (Lk 19.47; Jn 11.53, 12.10).

The feast of Christ's triumphal Entry into Jerusalem, Palm Sunday, is one of the twelve major feasts of the Church. The services of this Sunday follow directly from those of Lazarus Saturday. The church building continues to be vested in resurrectional splendor, filled with hymns which continually repeat the Hosanna offered to Christ as the Messiah-King who comes in the name of God the Father for the salvation of the world.

The main troparion of Palm Sunday is the same one sung on Lazarus Saturday. It is sung at all of the services, and is used at the Divine Liturgy as the third antiphon which follows the other special psalm verses which are sung as the liturgical antiphons in the place of those normally used. The second troparion of the feast, as well as the kontakion and the other verses and

hymns, all continue to glorify Christ's triumphal manifestation "six days before the Passover" when he will give himself at the Supper and on the Cross for the life of the world.

Today the grace of the Holy Spirit has gathered us together. Let us all take up Thy cross and say: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest! (First Verse of Vespers).

When we were buried with Thee in baptism, O Christ God, we were made worthy of eternal life by Thy resurrection. Now we praise Thee and sing: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord! (Second Troparion).

Sitting on Thy throne in heaven, and carried on a foal on earth, O Christ God, accept the praise of angels and the songs of children who sing: Blessed is he who comes to recall Adam! (Kontakion).

At the vigil of the feast of Palm Sunday the prophecies of the Old Testament about the Messiah-King are read together with the Gospel accounts of the entry of Christ into Jerusalem. At Matins branches are blessed which the people carry throughout the celebration as the sign of their own glorification of Jesus as Saviour and King. These branches are usually palms, or, in the Slavic churches, pussy willows which came to be customary because of their availability and their early blossoming in the springtime.

As the people carry their branches and sing their songs to the Lord on Palm Sunday, they are judged together with the Jerusalem crowd. For it was the very same voices which cried Hosanna to Christ, which, a few days later, cried Crucify Him! Thus in the liturgy of the Church the lives of men continue to be judged as they hail Christ with the "branches of victory" and enter together with Him into the days of His "voluntary passion."

Monthly Forecast

Pan-Orthodox Pre-Sanctified Liturgy:

It is important during our Lenten journeys to come together as one big Orthodox family. We will have several combined Pan-Orthodox Pre-Sanctified Liturgies. See the attached flyers for dates, times and locations.

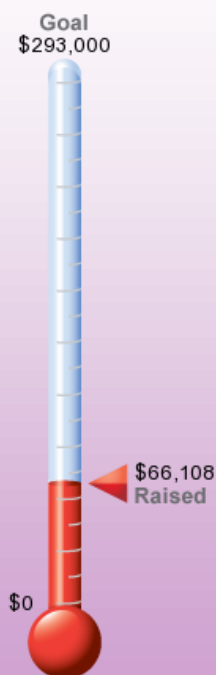
Lenten Retreat:

March 3rd we will have a Pan-Orthodox Lenten Retreat lead by Fr. Josiah Trenham. If you haven't RSVPed do so today.

Lazarus Saturday:

This year, St. Mary Magdalene will be hosting Lazarus Saturday Liturgy beginning at 9:30am. The Proskemeda service will be performed outside of the Altar for all of our communities to see. Please bring your children to witness this unique opportunity. See the Pan-Orthodox Flyer and Holy Week Schedule for more details

Mortgage Initiative



Pre-Sanctified Liturgies:

St. Mary Magdalene will have Pre-Sanctified Liturgy every Friday evening at 6:30pm followed by a Lenten Pot Luck and adult education.

Parish Monastery Pilgrimage:

Our Parish will be taking a Pilgrimage to St. Tikon's Monastery in South Cannan, PA with a quick Stop at Holy Transfiguration Monastery in Elwood City, PA from March 12-14th

Alter Server Practice:

There will be an altar server practice class for the upcoming visit of Archbishop Alexander following Presanctified Liturgy on Friday, March 16th.

Lenten Potluck:

There will be a Lenten Potluck with His Eminence Archbishop Alexander following Divine Liturgy on Sunday, March 18th

Archbishop Alexander and Memorial Saturday:

We will be visited by His Eminence Archbishop Alexander the weekend of March 17 & 18th. We will also be holding a memorial service at 3:45 prior to Vigil that Saturday, to pray for our departed loved ones. Please email your family's list to Fr. Gabriel by Friday, March 16th, and have your list separated by those who reposed within the Orthodox faith and those who reposed outside of the faith.

Lenten Parish Movie Night:

We will be having a movie night following Small Compline on Wednesday, March 21st at 6:30pm. We will be screening "Becoming Truly Human"

Choir Rehearsal:

There will be a mandatory Choir Rehearsal on Thursday, March 22nd at 7pm.



2018 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Friday, March 30:

Lazarus Saturday Vespers 7:00pm

Saturday, March 31:

Preparation of Gifts, Raising of Lazarus Divine Liturgy and Lenten Breakfast, combined at St. Mary Magdalene 9:30am

Palm Sunday Vespers immediately following pancake breakfast at St. Mary Magdalene

Sunday, April 1: PALM SUNDAY

Palm Sunday Divine Liturgy 9:50am

Bridegroom Matins 7pm

Monday, April 2: HOLY MONDAY

Bridegroom Matins 7pm

Tuesday, April 3: HOLY TUESDAY

Bridegroom Matins 7pm

Wednesday, April 4: HOLY WEDNESDAY

Holy Unction 7pm

Thursday, April 5: HOLY THURSDAY, INSTITUTION OF THE EUCHARIST

Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great 10am

Passions Gospels 7pm

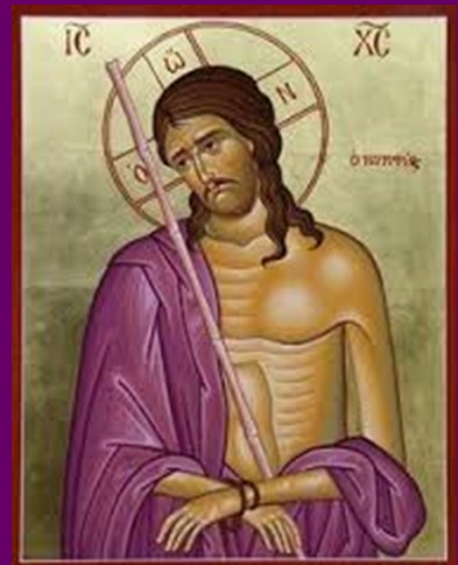
Friday, April 6: GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY

Holy Friday Vespers 3pm

Lamentations and Procession with the Shroud 7pm

Saturday, April 7: HOLY SATURDAY

Divine Liturgy of St. Basil with the Old Testament Readings 10am



THE PASCHA OF OUR LORD

Saturday, April 7: HOLY SATURDAY

Paschal Nocturnes, Matins, Divine Liturgy and Feast 11:30pm

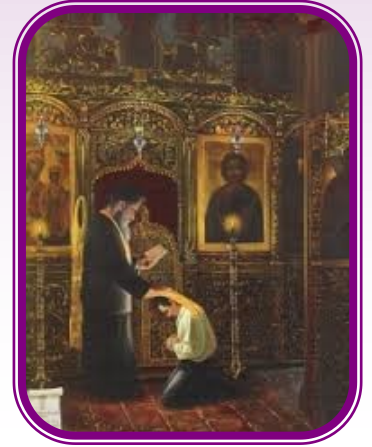
Sunday, April 8: HOLY PASCHA!!!

Agape Vespers 2pm

Holy Confession:

“Sin is a wound; repentance is a medicine. Just as there are for the body wounds and medicines, so for the soul are sins and repentance. However, sin has the shame and repentance possesses the courage”

St. John Chrysostom



Confession Schedule for Holy Week

Friday, March 30th: Following Lazarus Saturday Vespers

Palm Sunday, April 1st: After Bridegroom matins - 8:30 PM

Holy Monday, April 2nd: After Bridegroom Matins - 8:30 PM

Holy Tuesday, April 3rd: After Bridegroom Matins - 8:30 PM

Holy Wednesday, April 4th: After Unction to 9:00 PM**

Holy Friday, April 6th: Between 4pm and 6pm

**After Holy Wednesday Evening, Father Gabriel will be making preparations for Holy Pascha, and confessions will be difficult to schedule.

MATTHEW 25

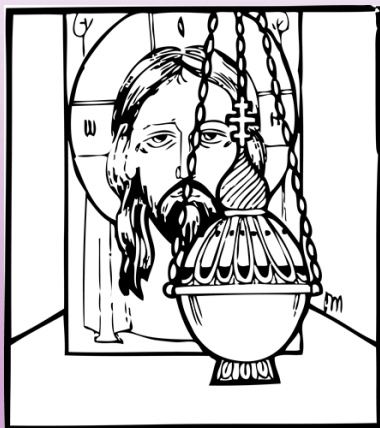
"For I was hungry and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and you gave me drink,
I was a stranger and you took me in,
I was in prison and you came to me,
I was sick and you visited me, I
was naked and you clothed me."

Compassion in Action—CiA

Do you want to learn how to share the love of Christ with a complete stranger by simply listening? Have you ever wondered how your mere presence can be a blessing to someone? If so, then the CiA is the group for you!

Calling everyone interested in participating in the Compassion in Action (CiA) ministry. I would like to have a meeting in the near future to talk about plans for another visit to the St. Michael's Warming Center, as well as other ministry opportunities. Please contact Dcn. Michael Schlaack if you are interested in participating in this ministry:

schlaackm@sbcglobal.net



Matthew 25

The Matthew 25 project has been extremely fruitful since it's inception in October. By giving our parish a way to focus their charitable efforts, we have been able to:

- Provide 500+ meals for needy children in Detroit.
- Create Lazarus Bags with gift cards, hand warmers, hats, gloves, hygiene projects, and snacks to give directly to the homeless on the streets.
- Make blankets for cancer and hospital patients who are undergoing various chemotherapy procedures.
- Provide gifts for seminarian families for Christmas
- Send Children's Christmas Cards to the orphanage attached to St. Elizabeth Convent in Minsk, Belarus.
- Send \$1,000 to the Fenton Area Resource Referral for their work in helping families with financial difficulties in our city.
- Provide blankets, socks, diapers, and wipes to help support the St. Gabriel project for new families, in conjunction with St. John's in Fenton.

Thank you to all who donated towards the Matthew 25 projects. In order to build up the charity fund, please consider giving a lenten donation this month to Matthew 25, to be used for next month's charity focus!



Important Church School

Dates to Remember:

April 6th: All Night Vigil for teens & families

April 8th: PASCHA

April 15th: Shortened Lesson & Easter egg hunt

May 6th: End of Year Celebration & Graduation

This month's topics:

March 4th: Elisha

March 11th: Jonah

March 18th: Isaiah

March 25th: Jeremiah



Thank you to everyone who helped to support our recent bake sale whether you baked or bought, we were able to raise \$175 for the church school!

If anyone is interested in teaching or helping out, please see Mat. Laura!



2017-18 Church School Volunteer Assignments

Coordinator: Jennie Otis

Ages 3-5: Mat. Laura, Tammy Arnes

Ages 6-9: David Welch, Chris Ballnik, Cindy Welch
(Back up) Renea Becklehamer (Fill-in)

Ages 10-12: Renee Auxier, Christine Auxier

Teen Group: Sbdn. Andrew Durand, Meghan Durand, Sharon Watson

Upper High School & OCF: Fr. Gabriel & Dn. Michael

Child Care: Tammy Arnes, Joyce Ballnik, Renea Becklehamer, Elaine Boucher, Terri Oginsky, Joe Suriano

ALL NIGHT VIGIL



Teens & Families
Friday, April 6th
following Lamentations

COLLEGE CORNER

Flint OCF:

The Flint OCF had a very fun, eventful month. On February 3rd, we volunteered at Carriage Town Ministries (CTM), a local homeless shelter in Flint. We did all kinds of tasks, including making sandwiches, cleaning, and organizing donations. CTM is a wonderful Christ-centered organization, so we were glad to help them in their ministry. Then, on February 16th, we all went to play paintball at CRU Paintball on Clio Rd. We had a fantastic turnout and everyone had a blast! Our next meeting will be March 1st with Fr. Gabriel as our guest speaker!

Prayers for our college students:

Greg Auxier
Nathaniel Auxier
Katherine Arnes
David Schutt
Katherine Schutt
Oliver Lazar Senter
Elena Bucciarelli
Emmanuel Watson
Zachary Wilkinson
Douglas Wilkinson
Laura Khoury
Rachael Hildreth



Prayer of a Student

Christ my Lord, the Giver of light and wisdom, who opened the eyes of the blind man and transformed the fishermen into wise heralds and teachers of the gospel through the coming of the Holy Spirit, shine also in my mind the light of the grace of the Holy Spirit. Grant me discernment, understanding and wisdom in learning. Enable me to complete my assignments and to abound in every good work, for to You I give honor and glory. Amen.

Prayers Before Study

Most blessed Lord, send the grace of Your Holy Spirit on me to strengthen me that I may learn well the subject I am about to study and by it become a better person for Your glory, the comfort of my family and the benefit of Your Church and our Nation. Amen

Christ, the true light, who enlightens and sanctifies every person coming into the world, let the light of Your countenance shine upon me (us) that I (we) may see Your unapproachable light; and guide my (our) steps in the way of Your commandments, through the intercessions of Your all-holy Mother and of all the Saints. Amen.

Prayer After Study

I thank You, Lord our God, that again on this occasion You have opened my eyes to the light of Your wisdom. You have gladdened my heart with the knowledge of truth. I entreat You, Lord, help me always to do Your will. Bless my soul and body, my words and deeds. Enable me to grow in grace, virtue and good habits, that Your name may be glorified, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Reminder there will be a college group discussion every Sunday following Divine Liturgy

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP (OCF) is the official campus ministry organization of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States of America.

Before electricity, the time of the setting of the sun played a more significant role in the daily life of mankind. For those of the Ancient Christian Faith, rather than relying on our phones to tell us when a new day begins, the setting of the sun also signified the beginning of the next Liturgical day in the life of the Church.

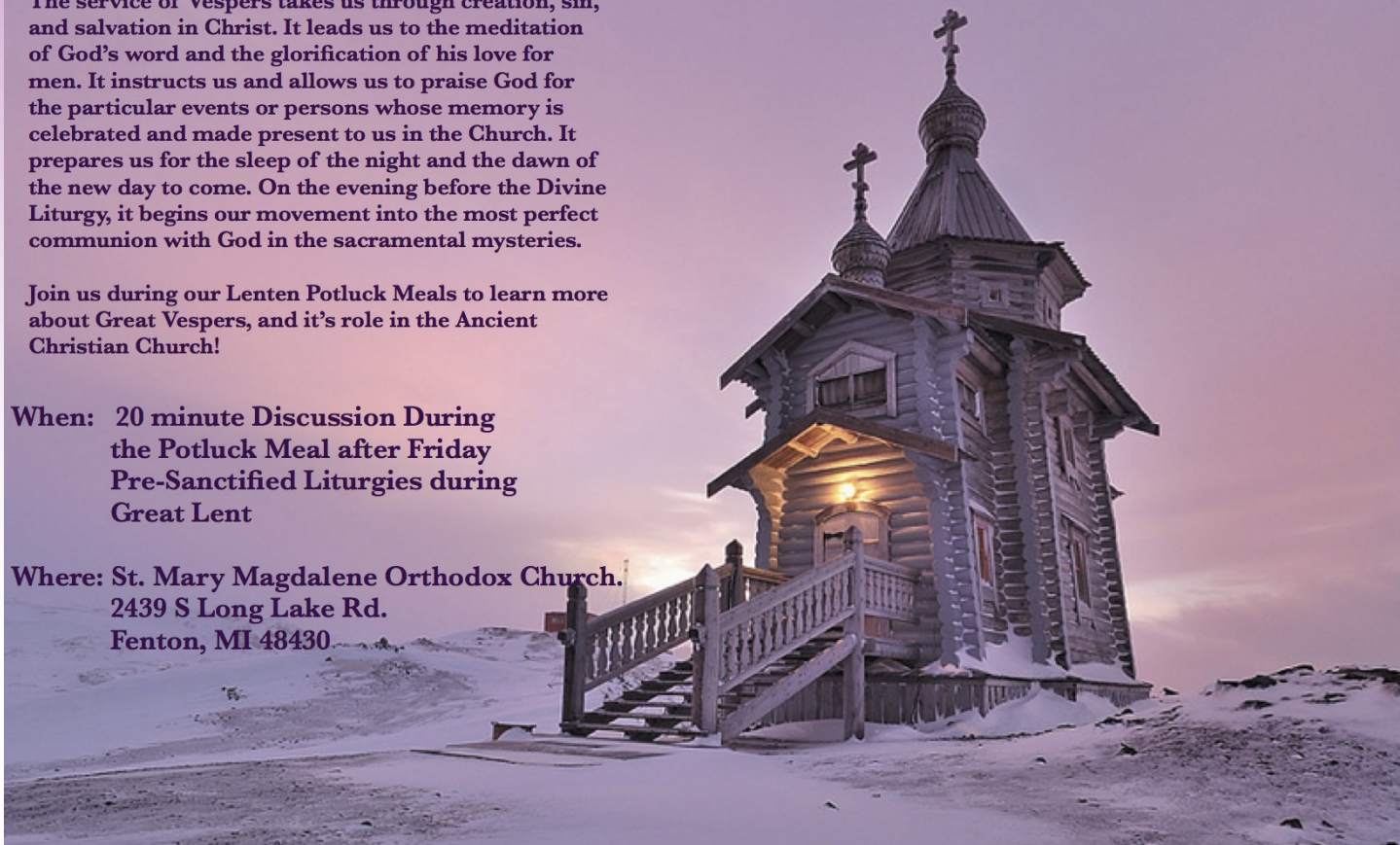
The service of Vespers takes us through creation, sin, and salvation in Christ. It leads us to the meditation of God's word and the glorification of his love for men. It instructs us and allows us to praise God for the particular events or persons whose memory is celebrated and made present to us in the Church. It prepares us for the sleep of the night and the dawn of the new day to come. On the evening before the Divine Liturgy, it begins our movement into the most perfect communion with God in the sacramental mysteries.

Join us during our Lenten Potluck Meals to learn more about Great Vespers, and it's role in the Ancient Christian Church!

When: 20 minute Discussion During the Potluck Meal after Friday Pre-Sanctified Liturgies during Great Lent

Where: St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church.
2439 S Long Lake Rd.
Fenton, MI 48430

*"LET MY PRAYER ARISE IN THY
SIGHT AS INCENSE"
A Short Study on the Evening Services
of the Orthodox Church*



Continued College Education!

Every Sunday there are college group discussion/classes following Divine Liturgy. Deacon Michael will be leading the discussion. During this time of preparation for the Pascha of our Lord please make every effort to attend.

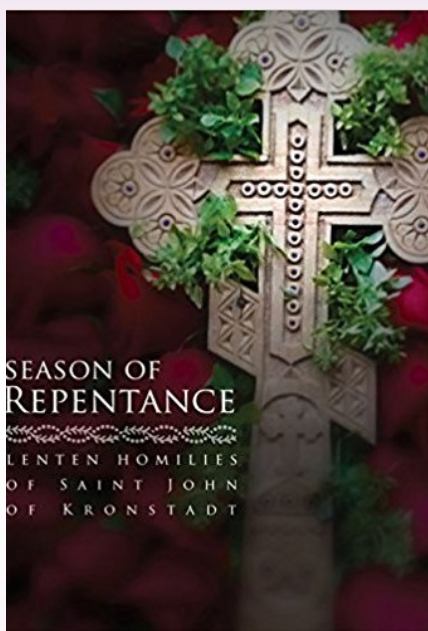
Adult Education

Recommended Reading



Season of Repentance: Lenten Homilies of St. John of Kronstadt

Each year the journey to the radiant feast of Pascha begins anew, entering the season of repentance known as Great Lent. The homilies presented in this modest volume, from one of the spiritual giants of the Orthodox Church of Russia, can both encourage and inform in this struggle of the Fast. For the first time, a selection of St. John's Lenten sermons is presented in English translation.



They follow the thematic structure of the Lenten season in the Orthodox Church, from the Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee through to Great and Holy Friday. A sermon for St. Thomas Sunday, which follows Holy Pascha, is offered as an epilogue.



**Our Library is growing!
Don't forget to
donate and checkout!**

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVE OUR COMMUNITY!

Coffee Hour Volunteers

March 4th: (Lenten)

John & Renee Auxier

March 11th: (Lenten)

Doug & Joyce Ballnik

March 18th: (Lenten)

Elaine Boucher

March 25th: (Lenten)

Chris & Robyn Ballnik

Parish Greeters

March 4th:

Elaine Boucher

March 11th:

David & Cindy Welch

March 18th:

Pat Smith

March 25th:

Steve & Sue Walton

Epistle Readers

March 4th: Rdr Chris Ballnik &

Sue Walton

March 11th: Janet Wiese &

Sbdn. Andrew Durand

March 18th: Rdr John Auxier

& Rdr Chris Ballnik

March 25th: Rdr Nathan Auxier

& Janet Wiese

Wishing you many blessed years!

Happy Birthday

- 7– Brianna Walton
- 12– Steve Kekel
- 18–Stephanie Onderchanin
- 20–John Auxier III
- 21–Joe Suriano
- 22–Katherine Jannakos
- 22–Doug Ballnik
- 24–George Naum
- 27–Larry Shipley
- 31–Andrew Ziats

Happy Anniversary

- No Anniversaries this month



The Orthodox Churches of Greater Flint

Assumption (Greek) 2245 Baldwin Road ❖ Grand Blanc, MI 48439 ❖ 810-771-4611
St. George (Antiochian) 5191 Lennon Road ❖ Flint, MI 48507 ❖ 810-732-0720
St. Mary Magdalene (OCA) 2439 S. Long Lake Road ❖ Fenton, MI 48430 ❖ 810-750-1401
St. Nicholas (OCA) 2143 South Center Road ❖ Burton, MI 48519 ❖ 810-744-0070



~ 2018 Great Fast ~ Pan-Orthodox Divine Services and Potluck Dinners

Great Compline (*Mondays, 6:30pm*) We will be celebrating the Great Compline service together every Monday night at St. George. This beautiful service allows us to experience the Great Fast more deeply. Confessions will be available from 6pm–6:30pm and after the service.

Lenten Hours (*Wednesdays, 10am*) St. Nicholas will celebrate the Lenten Hours every Wednesday.

Presanctified Divine Liturgy (*Wednesdays, 6pm*) We will celebrate the Presanctified Liturgy together according to the schedule below. Holy Communion is given at the Presanctified Liturgy. To partake of Holy Communion, please be prepared with prayer and fasting (not eating or drinking anything after 12 Noon). Confessions will only be available prior to the Liturgy from 5:30pm–6pm.

Potluck Dinners: A Lenten Dinner follows each Wednesday liturgy. Please bring a covered **Lenten Dish** (*no meat, poultry, eggs, dairy, fish, wine, olive oil or their by-products*) to the hall prior to the beginning of liturgy. If you have questions, call the church office where the combined service will be celebrated.

February 28th **Presanctified Liturgy Combined at St. Nicholas**

➤ March 2nd-3rd **Lenten Retreat** lead by Fr. Josiah Trenham (*separate flier*)

March 14th **Presanctified Liturgy Combined at Assumption**

March 28th **Presanctified Liturgy Combined at St. George**

March 31st **Preparation of Gifts, Raising of Lazarus Divine Liturgy, and
Lenten Breakfast Combined at St. Mary Magdalene 9:30am**

Assumption is located 1 ½ miles west of Holly Road on Baldwin Road.
St. George is located between Linden and Dye Roads on Lennon Road.
St. Mary Magdalene is located ¼ mile east of Torrey Road on South Long Lake.
St. Nicholas is located ½ mile south of Lippincott on Center Road.

*Member Churches of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in North America
A Vision of Orthodox Unity*

Lenten Visit of His Eminence, Archbishop Alexander



Weekend Schedule for His Eminence:

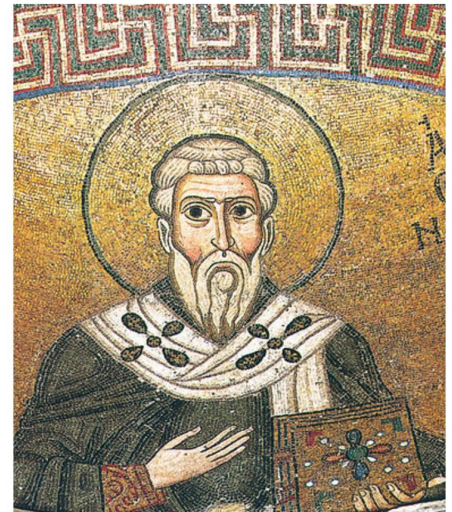
Friday, March 16th, Pre-Sanctified Liturgy with Altar Server Practice, 6:30 PM

Saturday, March 17th, Panaxida for All of the Departed of the Parish: 3:45 PM

Saturday, March 17th, Vigil with His Eminence, 4:00 PM

Sunday, March 18th, Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with Entrance Prayers and Vesting,
9:50 AM

After Divine Liturgy, there will be a Lenten Pot Luck Meal with the Archbishop! Please
bring a lenten dish or dessert to share!



St. Mary Magdalene Lenten Movie Night **Becoming Truly Human**



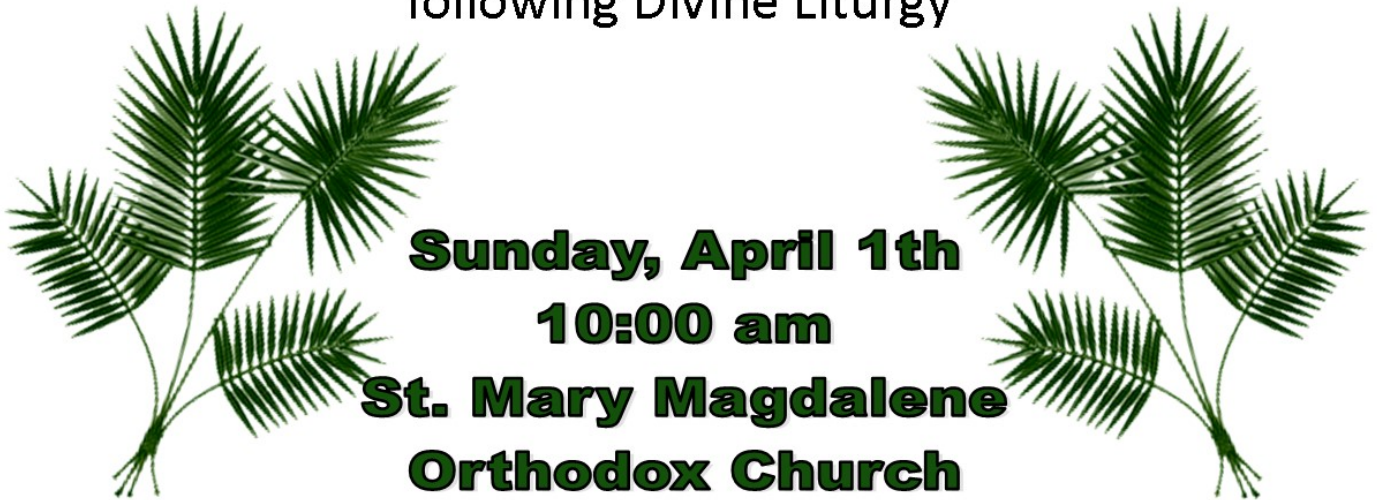
**Wednesday, March 21st, 6:30 PM
Parish Hall**

Join us for our second annual Lenten Movie Night and discussion! This year, we will be watching “Becoming Truly Human”, where we will meet a group of men and women who consider themselves “religiously unaffiliated.” Learn why they have rejected or at least have serious doubts about Christianity. Then meet Basil, who was also in that category, but discovered something that changed his entire perspective on living a Christian life...and rediscovering what it means to be “Truly Human”.



The Feast of Palms

Join us on Palm Sunday for our annual parish photo
following Divine Liturgy



Sunday, April 1th
10:00 am
St. Mary Magdalene
Orthodox Church

2439 S Long Lake Rd, Fenton, MI 48430

MAY
19



HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS AND SELF- DEFENSE COURSE

Offered by Colemine Muscle

St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church Saturday, May 19th 1:30-4:45 PM

In our state of Michigan, there unfortunately has been an increase in the Human Trafficking cases amongst Young Women and Children. On Saturday, May 19th at the Church Hall, we will be joined by Officer Thomas Cole and his wife Amy, as they lead a Women's Self Defense and Self Awareness Course. Please take the time to join us that afternoon, for a class that could save you and your families life one day.

Referral Program To Benefit The St. Mary Magdalene Mortgage Initiative



Conne Terova
Real Estate One
Cell: (248) 318-7342
Email:
cterova@gmail.com
teamterova.com

Know anyone who is looking to buy or sell a home in the state of Michigan? Conne Terova of Real Estate One is offering an incentive program to benefit the St. Mary Magdalene Mortgage Initiative, by offering a \$500.00 donation to the Church's Mortgage Balance for every referral that results in a closed transaction! The referral program runs from now until December 31, 2018!