



St. MARY MAGDALENE ORTHODOX ✝ CHURCH

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April 2020

*"Keep Calm
my dear ones...
Pascha is coming!"*





St. MARY MAGDALENE ORTHODOX CHURCH



MONTHLY BULLETIN

APRIL 2020

From Unimaginable Evil to Indescribable Glory

A message from Fr. Gabriel

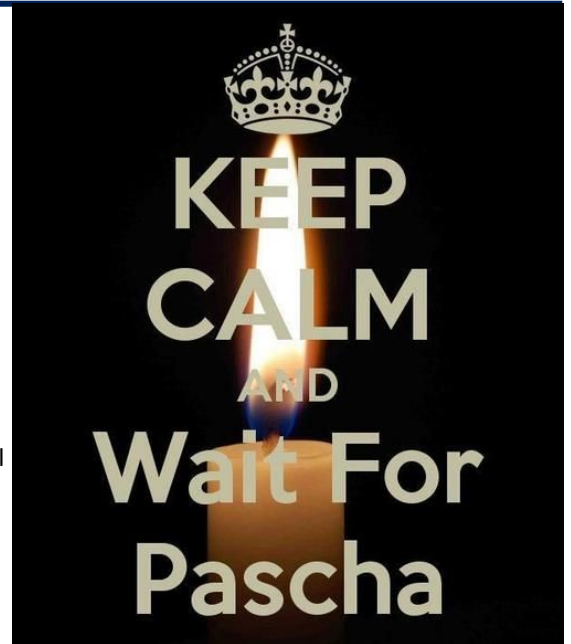
Later this month, whether we will be celebrating together in the Church or separately in our own homes, the entire world will be a witness to an **unimaginable evil**, followed by an **indescribable triumph of Glory!** It is during the most sacred time of the year, Holy Week, where we all will journey with our Lord towards Golgotha and witness The Creator of all endure betrayal, torture, and crucifixion out of His love for mankind. Then, after three days in the tomb, the darkness turns to light, as we celebrate the Glory of the Resurrection on Great and Holy Pascha!

When we take a step back and look at Holy Week, we see this reoccurring theme that has manifested itself in our own day and age. **Glory, no matter how much evil is brought into its midst...always Triumphs.** We don't need to look far to see proof of this reality!

Three years ago on Palm Sunday, as joy was reigning through a Coptic Church in Egypt, we watched in horror as a suicide bomber brought death and unbelievable sorrow which shook the Christian World. The images and the stories were enough to drag someone down to their lowest low. Yet despite the evil...despite all of the threats against the lives of the Christians who were living there...Holy Week and Pascha that year had **record attendance** in Egypt. On Pascha Night, they shouted with loud shouts of joy, that despite the darkness was brought against them: **Glory Triumphs and Christ is Risen!**

Last year, during Holy Week for our brothers and sisters in the West, the world witnessed the tragedy of one of the oldest Catholic Churches in the world smoldering in the midst of Paris. Notre Dame, that beautiful Cathedral that holds so much history and is home to incredible relics (including the crown of thorns that Christ wore on His way to Golgotha), was seen burning to the ground. Anyone who followed this tragedy on the news or on the internet saw the evil come out of the woodwork. Numerous comments from our brothers and sisters who lead lives shrouded in the midst of darkness, jeering at the weeping Parisians, and asking the same question that the Jews asked when they saw Christ on the Cross: *"Where is Your God now?"*

It was only a short time after that we began to see the answer to that very question, as footage began to come out of the thousands of faithful throughout the entire city of Paris, with the cathedral burning to the ground, singing with incredible beauty *"Ave Maria"*, and asking our Mother to protect not just the building of the Cathedral, but to also look after the Living Body of the Church.



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Today, we face a new kind of evil, one that has manifested itself in the form of a virus that has spread throughout the world. Every one of us has faced some sort of internal persecution that has come from either taking care of the sick, dealing with the “new normal” of social distancing, and not being able to regularly receive the life-giving sacraments. Unlike the tragedies that have befallen Christians during the last three years of Holy Weeks, we do not yet know all of the triumphs and glories that will come from this tremendous trial. But, we remember how our Lord, while He was still walking amidst the world, said these prophetic words which still reign true today: *“In the world, you will have tribulation...but be of good cheer...I **am overcome the world**”*.

Brothers and Sisters in Christ, once again, we are going to see Glory Triumph in the midst of evil later on this month. On Palm Sunday, the joys of Jerusalem will reign! Sunday night, the lights go out, and we all begin our journey with Christ as He is led to Golgotha. After His crucifixion, the world will shake their heads, cast lots for His possessions, and ask that question that we hear so often from the unbelievers in the midst of this pandemic: *“Where is your God now? If He was all powerful...let Him come down from the Cross!”* But, despite all of the wickedness, despite the hate, despite the internal persecution, we take heart and are filled with the sure hope of the **joy and triumph that is to come**.

Keep Calm my dear ones...Pascha is coming!





St. MARY MAGDALENE ORTHODOX ✝ CHURCH

2020 Digital Holy Week and Pascha Access Guide

Saturday, April 11th Lazarus Saturday	9:30am Live Streamed on Holy Assumption's Facebook Page
Sunday, April 12th Entry of our Lord into Jerusalem Palm Sunday	9:50am Live Streamed on St. Mary Magdalene's YouTube
Tuesday, April 14th Bridegroom Matins	6:00pm Live Streamed on St. Mary Magdalene's YouTube
Thursday, April 16th Divine Liturgy for the institution of the Eucharist	10am Live Streamed on St. Mary Magdalene's YouTube
Friday, April 17th. Holy Friday Vespers and Lamentations	6:00pm Live Streamed on St. Mary Magdalene's YouTube
Saturday, April 18th, Divine Liturgy of St. Basil with three Old Testament Readings	6:00pm Live Streamed on St. Mary Magdalene's YouTube
Sunday, April 19th GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA	9:50am Live Streamed on St. Mary Magdalene's YouTube
At Home Holy Week Kit Pick-up Dates and Times	Palm Sunday , April 12th 11:30 am—1pm Monday, April 13th 11am— 2pm Tuesday, April 14th 2pm—5pm

YouTube Channels to utilize when we are not streaming at St. Mary Magdalene

Holy Transfiguration Monastery— Ellwood City, PA

Holy Cross Monastery—Wayne, WV



If you have any questions regarding the schedule or how to access a live steam please email.
smmocafernton@gmail.com



Saint Mary Magdalene

<http://www.youtube.com/c/SaintMaryMagdalene>

WISHING YOU MANY BLESSED YEARS!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- ✝ 4– Elizabeth Ziats & Rachael Hildreth
- ✝ 13– Inna Bondira
- ✝ 14– Jonathan Wilkinson
- ✝ 16– John Wold & Mia Jonascu
- ✝ 17– Tina Shepherd
- ✝ 22– Brian Arnes
- ✝ 25– John Tyrell
- ✝ 26– Sbdn. Robert Lanterman & George Jonascu
- ✝ 27– Inna Walls
- ✝ 30– Adelaide Lantman

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- ✝ 12– William & Sharon Watson
- ✝ 16– Alex & Anastasia Branoff
- ✝ 16– Richard & Liz Zlats



LENTEN PRAYER OF ST. EPHREM

O LORD AND MASTER OF MY LIFE, TAKE FROM ME THE SPIRIT OF SLOTH, DESPAIR, LUST OF POWER, AND IDLE TALK.

BUT GIVE RATHER THE SPIRIT OF CHASTITY, HUMILITY, PATIENCE, AND LOVE TO THY SERVANT.

YEA, O LORD AND KING, GRANT ME TO SEE MY OWN TRANSGRESSIONS, AND NOT TO JUDGE MY BROTHER, FOR BLESSED ART THOU, UNTO AGES OF AGES. AMEN.

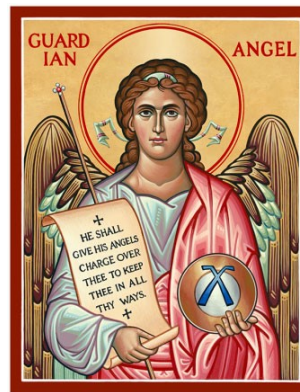
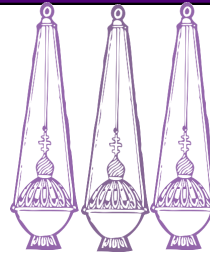
SAINT MARY MAGDALENE ORTHODOX CHURCH—FENTON, MI

Prayer Life

Pray for our sick and suffering brothers and sisters

Metropolitan Theodosius	Elnora
Metropolitan Herman	Peter
Archpriest Stephen	Calvin
Vinne	David
Anastasia	Michael
Alex	Jenna
Elaine	Carol
Perpetua	Melissa
Carol	Susan
Katelyn	Renee
Frankie	Josh
Thom	Paul
Damian	Shari
Stacie	William
Caolyn	Jessica
Megan	Kevin
Lon	Jennifer
Ella	Hannah
Noah	Ethan

Sharon
Sophia
Theresa
Kristen
David
Mia
Elizabeth
Andrew
Mat. Laura
Brion



This Month's Sunday Scripture Readings

April 5th: St. Mary of Egypt

John 20:13-31

Galatians 3:23-29

Luke 7:36-50

Hebrews 9:11-14

Mark 10:32-45

April 12th: Entry of our Lord into Jerusalem, Palm Sunday

Matthew 21:1-11, 15-17

Philippians 4:4-9

John 12:1-18

April 19th: GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA

Acts 1:1-9

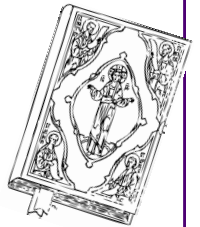
John 1:1-17

April: 26th: St. Thomas Sunday

Matthew 28:16-20

Acts 5:12-20

John 20:19-31



Armed Forces

Matthew Beck; Air Force
Michael Oginsky; U.S. Marines
Patrick Tejkl; U.S. Marines
Lindsey Cazatt; U.S. Navy
Stephany Bishop; U.S. Navy
Jason Wilburn; Army Rangers
Alex Suriano; Air National
Guard
Dallas Watson; Air Force
Bradley Grimes,
Seaphim Lazar-Watson; Air
Force

Recently Departed

Grace

Catechumens

John
Karem
Asher
Miriam
Elliott
Alyssa
William
Anthony

Mother's With Child

Christine
Renee

Our Thoughts Determine Our Lives: The Life and Teachings of Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica

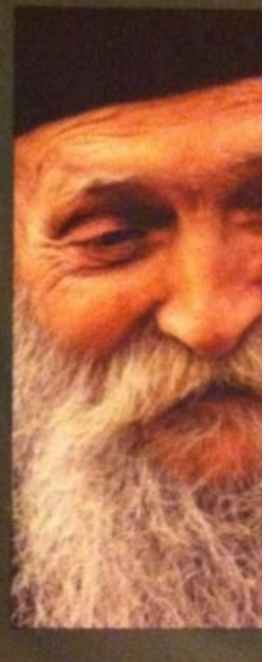


Elder Thaddeus of Vitovnica was one of the most renowned spiritual guides of Serbia in the twentieth century. As a novice he lived in obedience to Elder Ambrose of Miljkovo Monastery, a disciple of the Optina Elders. From him Fr. Thaddeus learned the Prayer of the Heart and the selfless love that came to characterize his whole ministry to the suffering Serbian people. Born in 1914, Elder Thaddeus lived through all the suffering endured by Serbia in the twentieth century. Over the course of two World Wars, during the Communist takeover, and through the NATO bombings of 1999, he co-suffered with his people. He taught, counseled, and prayed for all who came to him in pain and sorrow. His words of love and hope provided spiritual balm for people from all classes of society. In 2002 Elder Thaddeus reposed, leaving behind a large collection of his teachings, preserved by his faithful spiritual children. His life, teachings, and spiritual conversations are here presented for the first time in



"We must bear everything patiently and forgive all. If we have good thoughts and desires, these thoughts will give us peace and joy in this life and even more so in eternity. Then we will see that there is no death, that the Lord has vanquished death, and that He has given us eternal life."

—Elder Thaddeus



Sunday of the Cross 2020

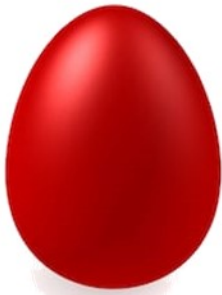


Before Thy Cross, we bow down in worship,
O Master,
and Thy holy Resurrection, we glorify.

St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church—Fenton, MI

Christ is Risen!

Indeed HE is Risen!



The Great and Holy Myrrh-bearer **Mary Magdalene**, equal to the apostles, and the patroness and protectress of our parish was a disciple of Jesus.

She was Mary for Magdala, a town in Galilee. She was present at the crucifixion and the burial of Christ. She was one of the first to see Him risen from the Dead.

(Matthew 27:55-61, Mark 16:1-10)



In her icon, St. Mary Magdalene is depicted holding a red egg telling the story of her attending the Emperor's banquet. She is holding a vessel, this tells the story of her as one of the Myrrh-bearing women. Lastly it shows her holding a cross which tells of her martyr death.



According to a pious tradition of the Church, St. Mary Magdalene, following the death and resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, attended a banquet given by Emperor Tiberius. At the banquet she met the Emperor, and while holding a plain egg in her hand she exclaimed loudly, "**CHRIST IS RISEN!**" The Emperor laughed, and said that Christ rising from the dead was as likely as the egg in her hand turning red while she held it. Before Emperor Tiberius finished speaking the egg in her hand turned a bright red, and she continued to proclaim the Gospel to the entire imperial house.

Crack your eggs together to celebrate the shattering of Hades by the victorious Christ!

St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church—Fenton, MI



St John Chrysostom's FASTING RECIPE



Let the hands fast
BY BEING FREE OF AVARICE



Let the feet fast
BY CEASING TO RUN AFTER SIN



Let the eyes fast
BY DISCIPLINING THEM NOT TO GLARE AT THAT
WHICH IS SINFUL



Let the ear fast
BY NOT LISTENING TO EVIL TALK AND GOSSIP



Let the mouth fast
FROM FOUL WORDS AND UNJUST CRITICISM

Lenten Pray of St. Ephrem

"OH LORD AND MASTER OF MY LIFE, TAKE
FROM ME THE SPIRIT OF SLOTH, DESPARE,
LUST OF POWER AND IDLE TALK...

... BUT GIVE RATHER THE SPRITRY OF CHAS-
TITY, HUMILITY, PATIENCE AND LOVE TO
THEY SERVANT.

YEA, O LORD AND KING, GRANT ME TO SEE
MY OWN TRANSGRESSIONS AND NOT TO
JUDGE MY BROTHER FOR BLESSED ARE
THOUGH, UNTO AGES OF AGES. AMEN"



OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2020

Created by Fr. Jonathan Bannon (ACROD)

SUNDAYS	THEMES / GOSPEL READING	HOW TO PARTICIPATE:
Fast - Free Week FEBRUARY 9th	 <i>TRIQDION WEEKS</i> Publican and the Pharisee Epistle: 2 Timothy 3:10-15 Gospel: Luke 18:10-14	Show compassion on the poor and distressed. Trust in God, not yourself and ask for His help before every task this week.
Normal Fast Week FEBRUARY 16th	 The Prodigal Son Returns! Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 Gospel: Luke 15:11-32	Schedule a Confession. Every morning say, "Today I will be humble." Use up/freeze meats this week.
Meatfare FEBRUARY 23rd FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY	 The Last Judgement Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8:8-9:2 Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46	Pray facing East this week. Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him! Use up/freeze dairy this week.
Cheesefare MARCH 1st FAREWELL TO CHEESE TODAY	 Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise! <i>FORGIVENESS SUNDAY</i> Epistle: Romans 13:11-14:4 Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21	Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.
1st Sunday of Lent MARCH 8th	 <i>GREAT LENT BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS</i> SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2 Gospel: John 1:43-51	Bring an icon to church for a procession.
2nd Sunday of Lent MARCH 15th	 ST GREGORY PALAMAS Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Gospel: Mark 2:1-12	Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today! Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.
3rd Sunday of Lent MARCH 22nd	 VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS <i>HALF WAY TO PASCHAI</i> Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6 Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1	Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bow!
4th Sunday of Lent MARCH 29th	 ST JOHN of the LADDER Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9:17-31	Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!
5th Sunday of Lent APRIL 5th	 ST MARY of EGYPT Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14 Gospel: Mark 10:32-45	Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.
FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY! APRIL 12th GREAT WEEK BEGINS	 <i>GREAT AND HOLY WEEK</i> ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9 Gospel: John 12:1-18	Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car!
GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY APRIL 17th	 GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY <i>JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS</i> CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE	Refrain from TV, Internet & Phones to honor Christ's Death.
FEAST OF FEASTS! APRIL 19th NO FASTING!	 <i>BRIGHT WEEK</i> HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!) Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17	Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" & say it before good morning and goodnight!

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN WOMEN OF MICHIGAN (OCW) 2020 SPEAKER SERIES

WHEN?	WHO? AND WHAT?	WHERE?
MONDAY MARCH 16 7 PM	Fr. Christopher Abell FORGIVENESS 360° -- OUR SACRED RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD, NEIGHBOR, SELF	Holy Ghost Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Church 38500 Ryan Road Sterling Heights
MONDAY APRIL 27 7 PM	Sub-Deacon Eric Shanburn WHY WE ARE CALLED TO SERVE	St. George Greek Orthodox Church 43816 Woodward Avenue Bloomfield Hills
SATURDAY MAY 16 10 AM	His Grace, Bishop Paul (Diocese of the Midwest, OCA) HELPING OUR KIDS NAVIGATE IN AN UNORTHODOX WORLD -- MAKING FRIENDS / LOVING ENEMIES	Holy Trinity Orthodox Church 20500 Anglin Street Detroit
MONDAY JUNE 15 7 PM	Fr. Nick Marcus THEOLOGY OF ILLNESS	Holy Transfiguration Orthodox Church 36075 West Seven Mile Road Livonia
SATURDAY JULY 18 9 AM (BEGINS WITH LITURGY)	Fr. Gabriel Bilas ANNUAL RETREAT-- AN ORTHODOX UNDERSTANDING OF CREATION THROUGH THE EYES OF C.S. LEWIS	Dormition of the Mother of God Orthodox Monastery 3389 Rives Eaton Road Rives Junction
MONDAY SEPTEMBER 21 7 PM	Nick Lionas, M. Div., Youth Director YOUNG ADULTS -- WHAT WE REALLY WANT IN THE CHURCH (PERCEPTIONS VS. REALITY)	St. Mary the Protectress Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral 21931 Evergreen Southfield
SATURDAY OCTOBER 17 10 AM	Presvytera Julie Honeycutt HOW TO SLOW DOWN THE MIND FOR CONTEMPLATION AND PRAYER	Assumption Greek Orthodox Church 21800 Marter Road Saint Clair Shores
MONDAY NOVEMBER 16 7 PM	Fr. David Subu SOCIAL MEDIA -- IMPACT ON FAMILIES	St. Clement Ohridski Eastern Orthodox Church 19600 Ford Road Dearborn

While rare, sometimes there is a change to the speaker or venue. Keep up-to-date with our monthly flyers, sent by e-mail and posted on Facebook.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/440819592966158>

PLEASE SHARE THIS FLYER AND OUR FACEBOOK PAGE WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND PARISHIONERS.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU AT OUR EVENTS IN 2020!

Referral Program To Benefit The St. Mary Magdalene Church Expansion



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 Church Expansion Fund by offering a \$500.00 donation for every referral that results in a closed transaction!