



St. MARY MAGDALENE ORTHODOX ✝ CHURCH

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2439 S. Long Lake Rd, Fenton, MI 48430

<http://www.st-marymagdalene.org>

March 2020

*"O Lord...
call me back
to Eden"*





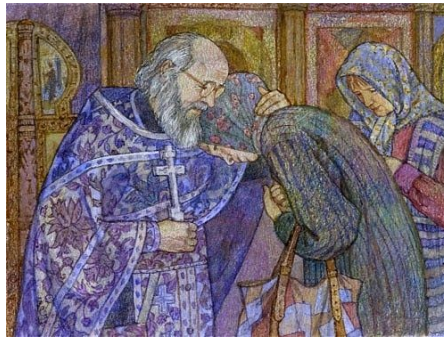
St. MARY MAGDALENE ORTHODOX CHURCH



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MONTHLY BULLETIN MARCH 2020



Important Dates to Remember:

- ✙ 3/1 Forgiveness Vespers
- ✙ 3/2-3/6 Clean Week Services 6:30pm Each Night
- ✙ 3/8 Sunday of Orthodoxy and Procession with Icons
- ✙ 3/9 & 3/23 Inter-Christian basketball 6:30pm
- ✙ 3/10 Parish Council Meeting
- ✙ 3/11 Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 6:00pm at St. Nicholas
- ✙ 3/13 Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 6:30pm at SMM
- ✙ 3/13,3/20 & 3/27 Choir Rehearsal 5:30pm
- ✙ 3/20 Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 6:30pm at SMM
- ✙ 3/21 Pan Orthodox Lenten Retreat, All Day at St. Nicholas
- ✙ 3/25 Pan Orthodox Vespers Liturgy 6:00pm at S.t George
- ✙ 3/27 Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 6:30pm at SMM
- ✙ 3/27-3/29 Women's Retreat at Holy Dormition Monastery
- ✙ 3/29-4/2 Monastery Pilgrimage

Call Me Back to Eden

A message from Fr. Gabriel

On March 1st, we begin our incredible journey towards Great and Holy Pascha! The red vigil lamps have been replaced by a dark purple. The vestments that are worn by the priest and deacon have changed from a bright gold to black. The melodies used by the choir have become more somber. The Service schedule has increased (my favorite part!) **Great Lent is here!**

One of the traditions that I always loved, was having the large cross and icon of Christ stand in the middle of the Church during the Forgiveness Vespers on the first day of Lent. I always catch myself starting up at our Lord and remembering how in a little over 40 days, we all will find ourselves in that exact same spot, gazing up in wonder at the incredible love that God has for all mankind.

During the entire first week of Lent, which in some traditions is called "Clean Week", we give ourselves a bit of a preview to Holy Week, in that we are called to be in Church every single night for the Canon of St. Andrew and for the Pre-Sanctified Liturgy. Although the services are all very beautiful, anyone who has ever prayed the canon with a deep heart of repentance, cannot help but be brought to tears, as we slowly start to see the state of our own souls. We begin to weep, just like Adam when he found himself outside the gates of Eden, lamenting and beating his breast at what his self-love had done to the world.

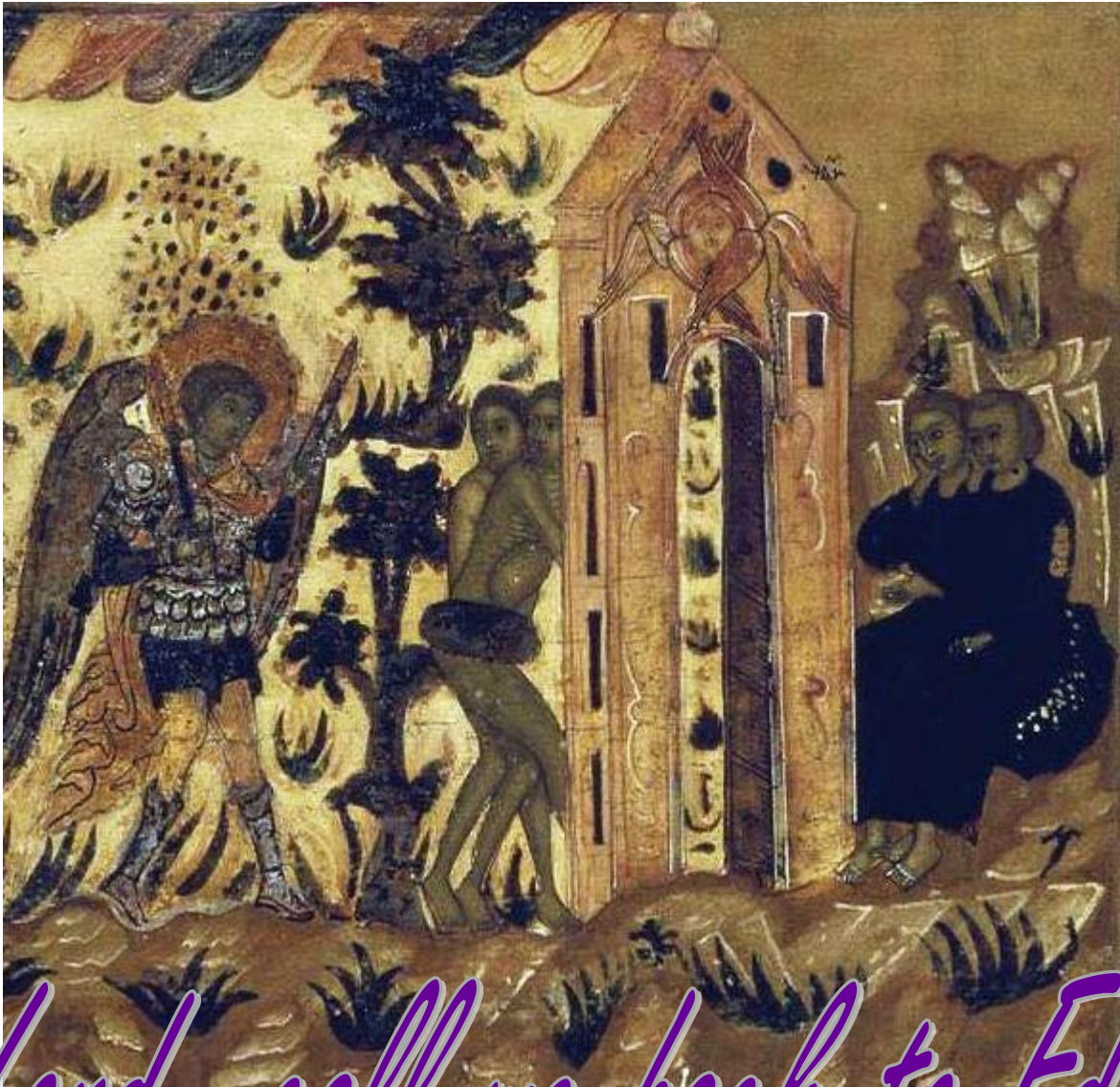
There is this incredible passage that comes from the last Matins service before Great Lent begins, which describes for us Adam's state of mind after he had cast himself out of Eden:

(Continued on page 3)

*“Woe is me...For the serpent has deprived me of my boldness before God, and through eating from the tree, I have become **an exile** from the joy of paradise! Woe is me! No more can I endure the shame! I was once king of all God’s creatures upon the earth, and have now become a prisoner, led astray by evil council. I who was once clothed in the glory of immortality, must now, as one condemned to die, wrap myself miserably in the skins of mortality. Woe is me! Who will share my sorrow with me? But O Lord who loves mankind, who has fashioned me from the earth and art clothed with compassion...call me back from the bondage of the enemy and save me.”*

What is Great Lent, brothers and sisters? It is our calling back from the enslavement of our passions, our wants, and our desires. It is about purging ALL of those things that lead us to forget who we are, what we were meant to do, and where we are called to be. The one sentence that needs to constantly be read from our lips, is the same one that Adam no doubt used as he was circling the gates of paradise: *“O Lord...call me back to Eden.”*

As we begin our journey back to paradise, I ask for your forgiveness for any way that I might have offended you, and I ask that you pray not only for me, but for the rest of your brothers and sisters, as we journey together towards Golgotha and the Holy Pascha.



“O Lord...call me back to Eden”

THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO SERVE!

Parish Greeters

March 1st:
Wes & Donna Nakagiri
March 8th:
Pat Smith
March 15th:
Seth & Mia Hillaker
March 22nd:
George & Julie Jonascu
March 29th:
Steve & Sue Walton

Coffee Hour Volunteers

March 1st: (Cheesefare)
John & Janet Wiese
March 8th: (Fasting)
Seth & Mia Hillaker
March 15th: (Fasting)
Chuck & Minka Owens
March 22nd: (Fasting)
Terry & Frieda Owens
March 29th: (Fasting)
Terri Owens

Epistle Readers

March 1st:
Rdr. Chris Ballnik
March 8th:
Janet Wiese
March 15th:
Rdr. John Auxier
March 22nd:
Rdr. Nathan Auxier
March 29th:
Jennifer Otis

Alternate Readers

March 1st:
Sue Walton
March 8th:
Sbdn. Andrew Durand
March 15th:
Rdr. Chris Ballnik
March 22nd:
Janet Wiese
March 29th:
Rdr. John Auxier



In case you missed this months homilies visit...

<http://www.st-marymagdalene.org/parish-blog>

WISHING YOU MANY BLESSED YEARS!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- ✝ 3– Inna Bondira
- ✝ 7– Brianna Walton
- ✝ 12– Steven Kekel & Katarina Jonascu
- ✝ 18– Stephanie Onderchanin
- ✝ 20– Rdr. John Auxier
- ✝ 21– Joseph Suriano
- ✝ 22– Katherine Jannakos & Doug Ballnik
- ✝ 24– George Naum
- ✝ 27– Larry Shipley
- ✝ 31– Chris Burtka & Andrew Ziats

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

- ✝ 10– Brion & Theresa Cooley

HAVE YOU “liked” and “shared” our parish Facebook page? For announcements, upcoming events, pictures and more visit us at

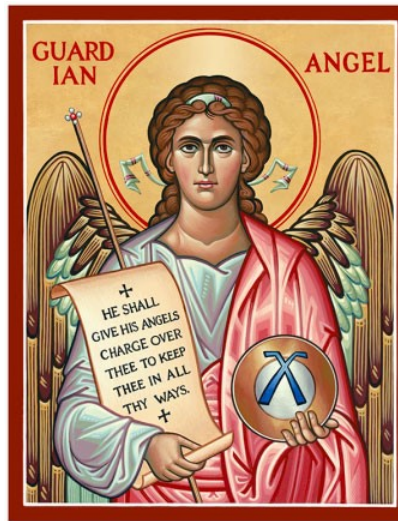
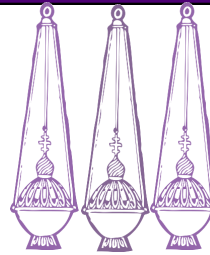
<https://www.facebook.com/StMaryMagdaleneOrthodoxChurch/>

This is a great way for you, your family and your friends to stay connected with your parish family and Orthodox Christian Community!

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	
Lon	
Ella	
Noah	



This Month's Sunday Scripture Readings

March 1st:
Matthew 6: 14-21

March 8th:
John 1: 43-51

March 15th:
Mark 2: 1-12

March 22nd:
Mark 8:34-9:1

March 29th:
Mark 9:17-31

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

Andrew

Catechumens

John
Karem
Asher
Miriam
Elliott
Alyssa
William
Anthony

Mother's With Child

Christine
Renee

MONTHLY FORECAST

Lent Fast Begins:

Welcome to Great and Holy Lent! Remember to fast from meat and dairy to the best of your ability, from now until Great and Holy Pascha. If you have dietary restrictions, are pregnant/nursing, or have never successfully completed a fast before, please see Fr. Gabriel!

Canon of St. Andrew:

The first week of Great Lent is called "Clean Week", and it is a way for us to cleanse our souls and our minds, as we prepare for our 40 day journey towards Pascha. There are services every day, starting on Clean Monday (March 2nd) with the Canon of St. Andrew and Compline Service at 6:30 PM. Make these services a priority, as they are vital to getting off on the right foot for the fast!

Pre-sanctified Pot Lucks:

Our first Pre-Sanctified Liturgy of the year is on Friday, March 6th, and will be followed by a Lenten Potluck downstairs! If you are an Orthodox Christian and will be receiving the sacraments that evening, be sure to fast from all food and drink after your lunch!

Orthodoxy Sunday Procession with Icons:

The first Sunday in Great Lent is Orthodox Sunday (March 8th), where we remember the decision of the entire ancient Church to protect the holy icons from those who wanted them destroyed. It is customary that on that day we process around the entire Church with our icons from home! Everyone is encouraged to bring their icons with them to Church to get them blessed, and to process outside with them after the Divine Liturgy. The children have been making their own icons in Church school!

Inter Christian Basketball Continues:

The announced dates for our ever growing Inter Christian Basketball Event in Linden will be Monday, March 9th and Monday March 23rd, beginning at 6:30 PM! Join us for some great exercise and fellowship!

Choir Rehearsals Announced for Great Lent:

In order to prepare for the rest of Great Lent and Holy Week, the choir will be having regular rehearsals at 5:30 PM on Fridays (starting on March 13th), one hour prior to Pre-Sanctified Liturgies! It is important to attend, as we are learning some new music for Holy Week this year!

COCC Vespers Schedule in Detroit Set:

Although we are near Flint, we are still apart of the Council of Orthodox Churches in Detroit, which provides some incredible opportunities during Great Lent for us to join with other Orthodox Christians in worship, while visiting some of the beau-

tiful Churches that we have near us! The full schedule of Sunday Lenten Vespers is available in one of the fliers below!

Pan Orthodox Lenten Retreat:

Our Pan Orthodox Community is pleased to welcome Fr. Bogdan Bucur as our guest speaker at our annual Lenten Retreat! This year's retreat will be called: "Our Covenant with God: Lessons from the Patriarchs, Prophets, Scribes, and Pharisees". The all day retreat will begin at 10:00 AM on Saturday, March 21st, at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church (2143 S. Center Rd. Burton, MI). The event is free, but you will need to RSVP so they know how many to feed! RSVP to St. Nicholas by calling (810) 744-0070 or by emailing stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com

Women's Retreat to Dormition Monastery:

Holy Dormition Monastery is going to be having their annual Women's Lenten Retreat from Friday, March 27th to Sunday, March 29th. The cost of the retreat is \$35, and the deadline to register is March 13th. See the flier in the bulletin for more details!

Monastery Pilgrimage Scheduled:

Our Monastery Pilgrimage to the East Coast will be departing on Sunday, March 29th after the Divine Liturgy. Although the trip is filled, there are sometimes last minutes cancellations! If you would like to go on the trip, be sure to contact Fr. Gabriel to see if there is an open seat!

Annunciation Services Announced:

The feast of the Annunciation will take place at St. George Antiochian Orthodox Church on Wednesday, March 25th, at 6:00 PM! There will be a Lenten Potluck following!

Holy Week Mark your Calendars:

Holy Week for 2020 begins on Friday April 10th, going through to Pascha Sunday April 19th. That is one month in advance for everyone to block those days on their calendars!!!

Pan Orthodox Combined Wednesday Pre-Sanctified:

Our first of 4 Pan Orthodox Lenten Services will be held on Wednesday, March 11th, at St. Nicholas in Burton, with the celebration of the Pre-Sanctified Liturgy at 6:00 PM. There will be a lenten potluck following the service!

Last Metanoia Class Rescheduled:

We had to cancel the last Metanoia Class of the year due to the weather! It has been rescheduled to Wednesday, March 18th, following the Compline service! Be sure to join us as we talk about the Saints, Mary, and the Church!

Clean Week

- Sunday, March 1st:** Liturgy and Forgiveness Vespers, 9:50 A
Monday, March 2nd: Matins, 9:00 AM. St. Andrew Canon 6:30 P
Tuesday, March 3rd: Canon of St. Andrew of Crete, 6:30 P
Wed. March 4th: Canon of St. Andrew of Crete, 6:30 P
Thursday, March 5th: Canon of St. Andrew of Crete, 6:30 P
Friday, March 6th: Pre-Sanctified Liturgy and Potluck, 6:30 P
Saturday, March 7th: Vigil for Orthodoxy Sunday, 4:00 P

1st Week of Great Lent

- Sunday, March 8th:** Orthodox Sunday Divine Liturgy, 9:50 A
Wed. March 11th: Pre-Sanctified Liturgy @ St. Nicholas, 6:00 P
Friday, March 13: Pre-Sanctified Liturgy and Potluck, 6:30 P
Saturday, March 14th: Vigil and Confessions, 4:00 P

2nd Week of Great Lent

- Sunday, March 15th:** Hours and Divine Liturgy, 9:50 A
Wed. March 18th: Compline and Confessions, 6:00 P
Friday, March 20th: Pre-Sanctified Liturgy and Potluck, 6:30 P
Saturday, March 21st: *Lenten Retreat at St. Nicholas, 10:00 A*

3rd Week of Great Lent

- Sunday, March 22nd:** Sunday of the Cross Divine Liturgy, 9:50 A
Wed. March 25th: **Annunciation** Liturgy @ St. George, 6:00 P
Friday, March 27th: Pre-Sanctified Liturgy and Potluck, 6:30 P
Saturday, March 28th: Vigil and Confessions, 4:00 P

4th Week of Great Lent

Monastery Pilgrimage 3/29 - 4/2

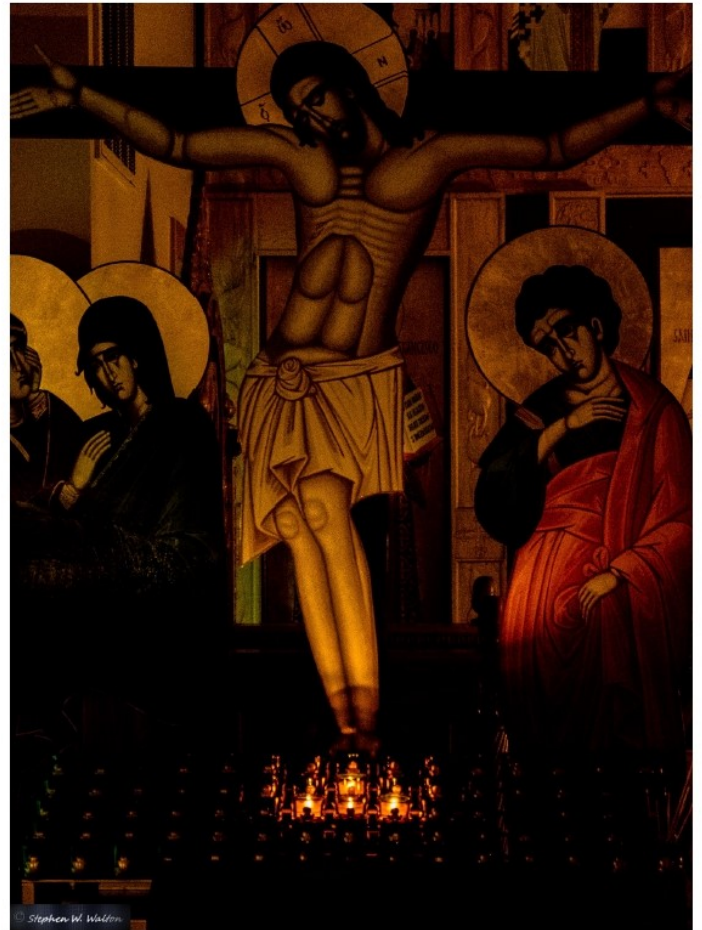
- Sunday, March 29th:** Hours and Divine Liturgy, 9:50 A
Friday, April 3rd: Pre-Sanctified Liturgy and Potluck, 6:30 P
Saturday, April 4th: Vigil and Confessions, 4:00 P

5th Week of Great Lent

- Sunday, April 5th:** Hours and Divine Liturgy, 9:50 A
Wed. April 8th: Pre-Sanctified Liturgy and Potluck, 6:00 PM
Friday, April 10th: Lazarus Saturday Vespers, 7:00 P
Saturday, April 11th: Lazarus Div. Liturgy @ Assumption, 9:30
Saturday, April 11th: Palm Sunday Great Vespers, 4:00 P

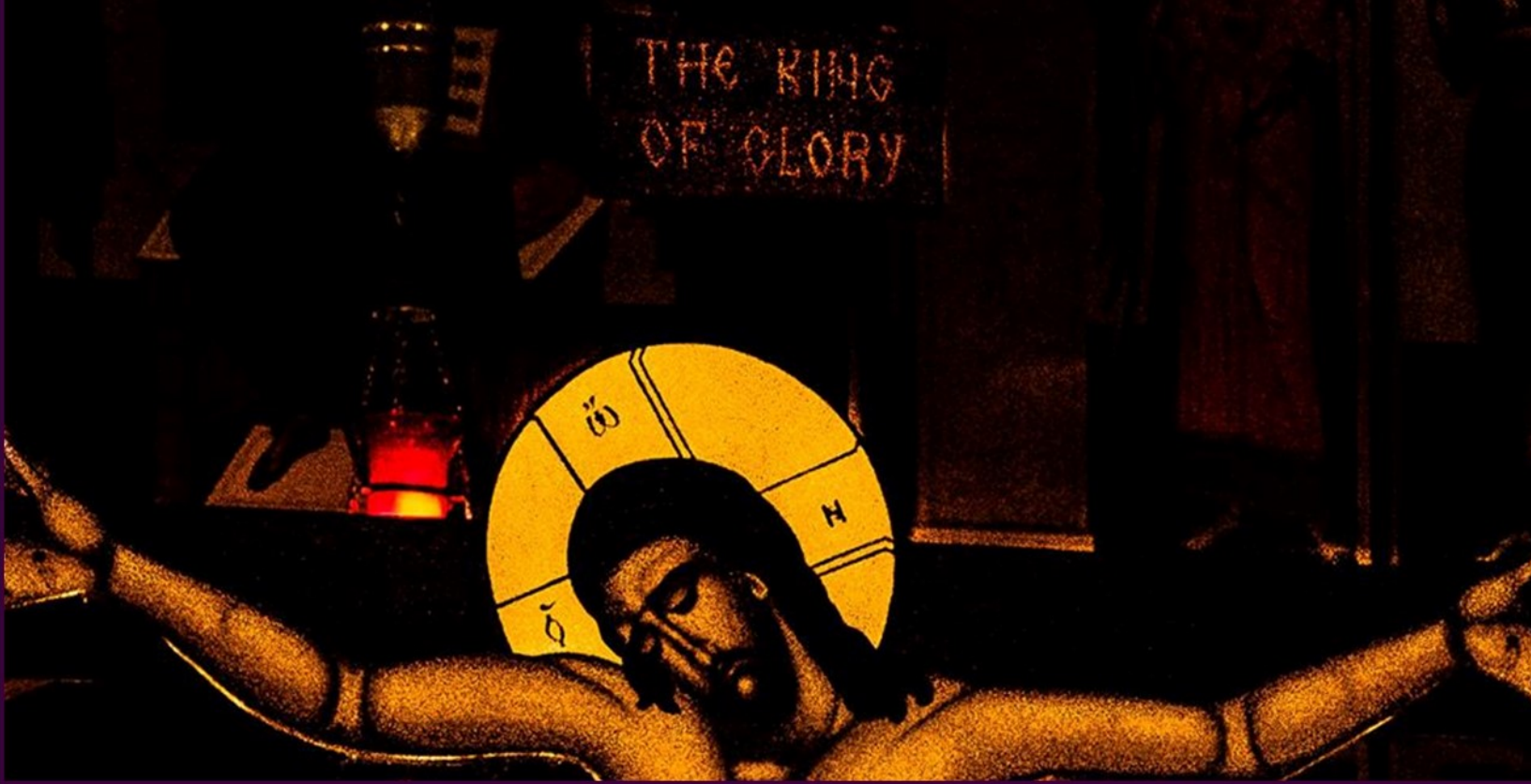
St. Mary Magdalene Service Schedule for Great and Holy Lent 2020

St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church
2439 S. Long Lake Rd.
Fenton, MI 48430
(810) 750-1401



Holy Week

- | | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|---|
| Palm Sunday, April 12th: | +Palm Sunday Divine Liturgy and Parish Photo, 9:50 A. | +Bridegroom Matins, 7:00 P |
| Holy Monday, April 13th: | +Pre-Sanctified Liturgy, 10:00 A. | +Bridegroom Matins, 7:00 P |
| Holy Tuesday, April 14th | +Bridegroom Matins, 7:00 P | |
| Holy Wednesday April 15th: | +Great and Holy Unction, 7:00 P | |
| Holy Thursday, April 16th: | +Divine Liturgy for the Inst. of the Eucharist, 10:00 A. | +Matins and Passion Gospels, 7:00 P |
| Holy Friday, April 17th: | +Holy Friday Great Vespers, 3:00 PM | +Matins and Lamentations, 7:00 P |
| Holy Saturday, April 18th: | +Holy Saturday Divine Liturgy, 10:00 AM | +Nocturnes, Matins, and Divine Liturgy, 11:30 P |
| Pascha Sunday, April 19th: | +Pascha Agape Vespers | |



CLEAN WEEK 2020



Sunday	March 1st	✝ Divine Liturgy and Forgiveness Vespers, 9:50am
Monday	March 2nd	✝ Clean Week Monday Matins Service, 9:00am ✝ Canon of St. Andrew of Crete, 6:30pm
Tuesday	March 3rd	✝ Canon of St. Andrew of Crete, 6:30pm
Wednesday	March 4th	✝ Canon of St. Andrew of Crete, 6:30pm
Thursday	March 5th	✝ Canon of St. Andrew of Crete, 6:30pm
Friday	March 6th	✝ Pre-Sanctified Liturgy and Lenten Potluck , 6:30pm
Saturday	March 7th	✝ Vigil for Orthodoxy Sunday, 4:00pm

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



~ 2020 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 and the Great Feast of the Annunciation together according to the schedule below. Holy Communion is given at both. 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.

- March 11th **Presanctified Liturgy** Combined at St. Nicholas, 6pm
- March 21st **Lenten Retreat** led by Fr. Bogdan G. Bucur (*see separate flier*)
- March 25th **Annunciation Divine Liturgy** at Assumption, 9:30am OR
Annunciation Evening Liturgy Combined at St. George, 6pm
- April 8th **Presanctified Liturgy** Combined at St. Mary Magdalene, 6pm
- April 11th **Preparation of Gifts, Raising of Lazarus Divine Liturgy, and
Lenten Breakfast** Combined at Assumption 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*

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 South Long Lake Road ❖ Fenton, MI 48430 ❖ 810-750-1701
St. Nicholas (OCA) 2143 South Center Road ❖ Burton, MI 48519 ❖ 810-744-0070

Come, Join Us for this Lenten Retreat by Fr. Bogdan Bucur!



Our Covenant with God: Lessons from the Patriarchs, Prophets, Scribes, and Pharisees

Fr. Bogdan will discuss some Biblical texts including the persons of Abraham, Jacob, Esau, Moses, and the woman caught in adultery.

Saturday, March 21, 2020

**St. Nicholas Orthodox Church • 2143 S Center Rd • Burton,
MI**

**Please RSVP by March 15 to (810) 744-0070 or
stnicholasburtonmi@gmail.com**

9:30 am – 10 am	Registration and Refreshments
10 am – 11:30 am	Presentation #1 with question & answer
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Lunch (free will offering)
12:30 pm – 2 pm	Presentation #2 with question and answer
2 pm – 2:30 pm	Break/Snacks
2:30 pm – 4 pm	Presentation #3 with question and answer
4:30 pm	Vespers and Confessions

Guest Speaker: Fr. Bogdan Bucur

Fr. Bogdan Bucur is a priest of the Antiochian Archdiocese who received his M.Th in Orthodox Theology at the University of Bucharest in his native Romania and then came to the United States to study under then-Archimandrite Alexander (Golitzin) at Marquette University where he received his M.A. in Theology and Ph.D. in Religious Studies. He serves as the priest of St. Anthony Antiochian Orthodox Church, Butler, PA and is Associate Professor of Theology at Duquesne University. He is a scholar of early Christianity, with a special interest in the link between reception history of the Bible and doctrinal developments in early Christianity and the Byzantine tradition

OUR PARISH YOUTH

Upcoming events:

3/1: No Church School for Forgiveness Sunday

3/8: Bring your Icons for the Sunday of Orthodoxy Procession

4/12: No Church School for Palm Sunday

PRAYER, FASTING AND ALMSGIVING

Dear Parents,

As Orthodox Christians we live our faith. The best way to learn this lifestyle is to grow up in your faith from a young age. Great Lent is a time for prayer, fasting and almsgiving. In Christ's teaching almsgiving always goes together with prayer and fasting and as St. John Chrysostom teaches, no one can be saved without giving alms and caring for the poor.

This year during Great Lent we are encouraging our children to live out their faith by giving of themselves to help other children in need. This year we are working with the *Foster Closet of Michigan*. This organization allows foster parents to come, at no cost to them, to pick out items they need for children placed in their care. Most children placed into foster care are taken in an emergency situation and often comes with nothing. Below is a list of items currently needed for the *Foster Closet of Michigan*. We are hopeful that parents with their children go through their personal items and pick one item per year of their age to donate to the charity, if you are able. Example: If your child is 6 years old, please encourage them to give 6 things. If you have any questions or would like to know more about the *Foster Closet of Michigan* please see Tonya Sophia Rice.

Gently Used Items Needed:

- | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--|-------------------------|---|
| ✝ Clothing : Preemie to Teenager | ✝ Non-Drop Down Cribs | ✝ Strollers | ✝ Outfits |
| ✝ Shoes | ✝ Toddler Beds/Crib Mattress' | ✝ All Baby Items | ✝ Toiletries |
| ✝ Coats | ✝ Unexpired Car Seats or Booster Seats | ✝ Halloween Costumes | ✝ Homemade Items: Blankets, Pillowcases |
| ✝ Snow pants/ Snowsuits | ✝ High Chair/Booster Seats | ✝ NEW Pack of Socks | ✝ OR any item a child may need or want. |
| ✝ Boots | ✝ Luggage | ✝ NEW Pack of Underwear | |
| ✝ Books | ✝ Duffle Bags | ✝ Bikes | |
| ✝ Pajamas | | ✝ Hygiene Products | |



“FATHERS AND MOTHERS: GO AND LEAD YOUR CHILD BY THE

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

Flint OCF:

“The Flint OCF did not meet over the last month, due to some scheduling conflicts. But our next scheduled meeting is Friday, February 28th at St. George at 7:00 PM. We will be joining by Fr. Jarrod from Assumption Greek Orthodox Church and the topic of discussion will be “Pray Unceasingly: Building and Maintaining a Healthy Life of Prayer.” This is so important as we approach Great Lent.”

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.



ALL NIGHT VIGIL

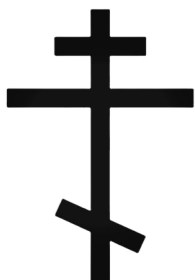
High Schoolers, College Students & Families
Friday, April 17th
Following Lamentations

Prayers for our college students:

- | | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Greg Auxier | Laura Khoury |
| Katherine Arnes | Rachael Hildreth |
| David Schutt | Sydney Wilkinson |
| Katherine Schutt | Katerina Jonescu |
| Oliver Lazar Senter | Katheryn Auxier |
| Elena Bucciarelli | Alexandra Kekel |
| Zachary Wilkinson | |
| Douglas Wilkinson | |

A Month in Review:

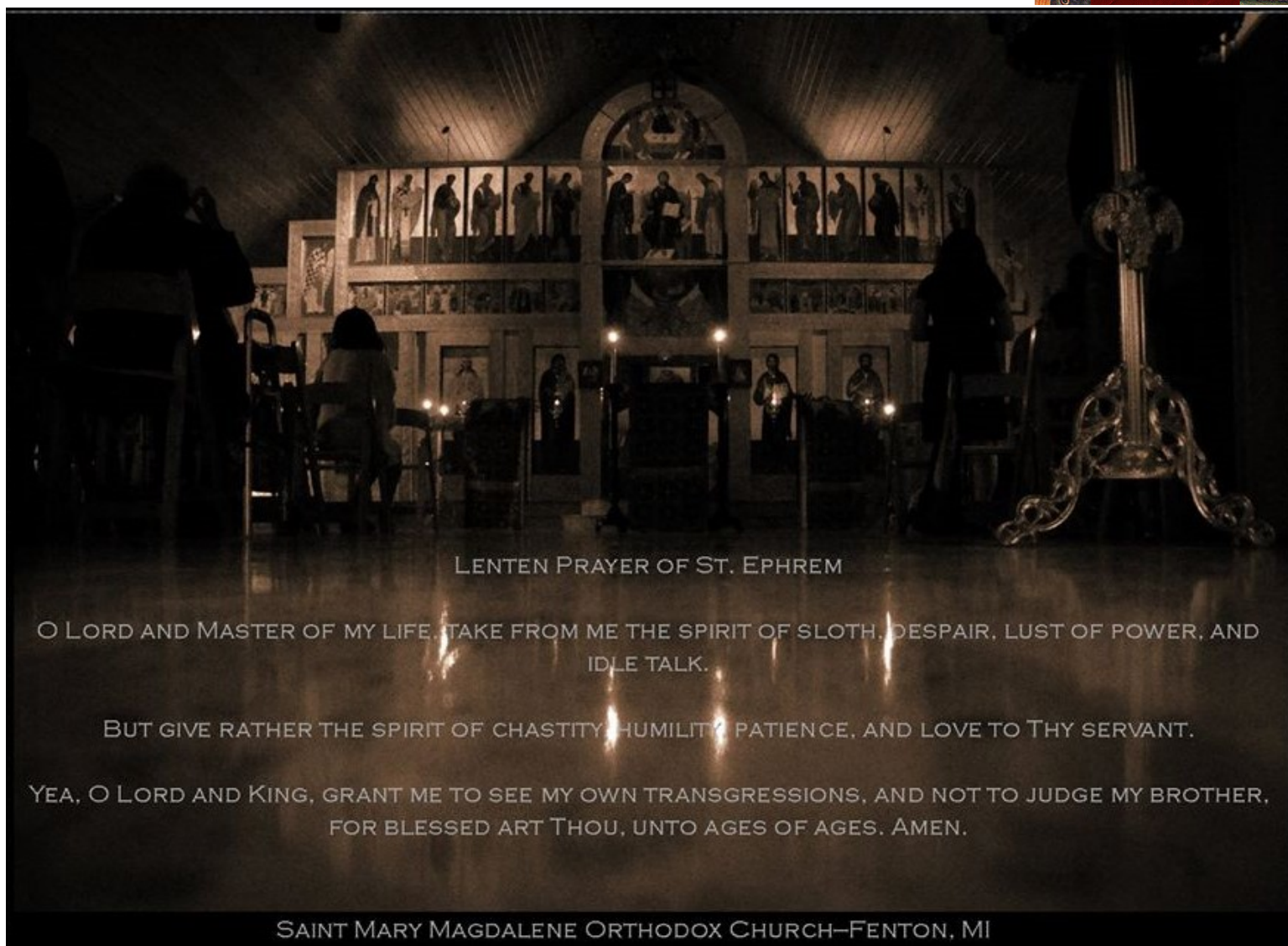
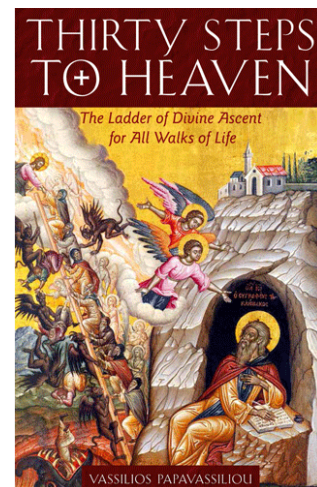
Thank you to everyone who participated in the collection and distribution of our Lazarus Bags. We were able to compile 50 bags. We blessed our candles for the Presentation of our Lord. We also remembered the lives of all of our departed Orthodox Brothers and Sisters of our extended parish family who have fallen asleep in the Lord.



Recommended Reading from Fr. Gabriel

Thirty Steps to Heaven by Vassilios Papavassiliou

Many laypeople have attempted to read the great spiritual classic, *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*, but have been frustrated in attempting to apply the lessons of this monastic text to their everyday lives in the world. Archimandrite Vassilios interprets the Ladder for the ordinary Christian without sacrificing any of its beauty and power. Now you too can accept the challenge offered by St. John Climacus to ascend closer to God with each passing day.



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.

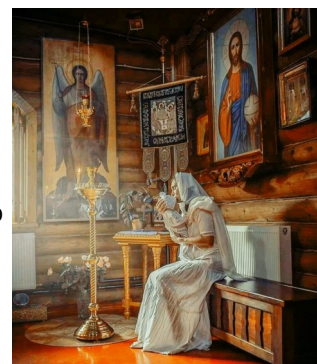
YEA, O LORD AND KING, GRANT ME TO SEE MY OWN TRANSGRESSIONS, AND NOT TO JUDGE MY BROTHER, FOR BLESSED ART THOU, UNTO AGES OF AGES. AMEN.

SAINT MARY MAGDALENE ORTHODOX CHURCH—FENTON, MI



St. Emilia's Moms Group

CALLING ALL MOTHERS: The St. Emilia Mom's Group was put together last year as a way for mother's of young children to support, learn, and pray for each other, as they partake in perhaps the most important ministry in the Church: The upbringing of Children in the faith. The group typically meets once a month, either at the Church or at a local restaurant. For more information, please see Addie Lanterman or Renea Becklehamer!



FELLOWSHIP OF ST. PHOTINI



"An inclusive opportunity for community outreach led

by the faithful of St. Mary Magdalene Orthodox Church"

PRAYER, FASTING AND ALMSGIVING

As Orthodox Christians we live our faith. The best way to learn this lifestyle is to grow up in your faith from a young age. Great Lent is a time for prayer, fasting and almsgiving. In Christ's teaching almsgiving always goes together with prayer and fasting and as St. John Chrysostom teaches, no one can be saved without giving alms and caring for the poor. This year during Great Lent we are encouraging our children to live out their faith by giving of themselves to help other children in need. However, we raise our children in a community setting so we are asking that the entire parish help our children in this endeavor.

This year we are working with the *Foster Closet of Michigan*. This organization allows foster parents to come, at no cost to them, to pick out items they need for children placed in their

care. Most children placed into foster care are taken in an emergency situation and often comes with nothing. Below is a flyer of items currently needed for the *Foster Closet of Michigan*.

If you have any questions or would like to know more about the *Foster Closet of Michigan* please see Tonya Sophia Rice.

Please contact Theophan Forsyth, Terri Oginski or Rebekah Humphreys if you would like any information about upcoming projects or would like to donate to the works of the Fellowship of St. Photini.

I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' 37 Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? 38 And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? 39 And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' 40 And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

Foster Closet

of Michigan



What We Do

Our organization provides clothing, underclothing, toys, shoes, baby equipment, and gear and in some cases furniture to children placed in the foster care system in State of Michigan. These items are new and like new items that have been donated to us. Children are often placed in foster care with no personal items and in many cases they come into care with only the clothes on their back. Our organization provides these kids with stylish new or like new clothes and personal items helping to begin the process of rebuilding their self-esteem and providing them with belongings they can call their own.

How can the Foster Closet Help?

Our organization helps reduce the financial strain a new placement can place on foster family by freeing up funds that would otherwise be used to fulfill these immediate needs. These needs are not always met immediately or in full by the State and that is where we step in. Meeting these needs allow foster parents to be able to use the funds saved to help the children adapt to their new home life in other ways. The Foster Closet is not a "One Stop" shop; you may use it as many times as need arises.

Locations and Counties Served

ALPENA, ARENAC, BAY, BERRIEN, BRANCH, GENESEE, ISABELLA, LIVINGSTON, MONROE, OAKLAND, ROSCOMMON, TUSCOLA, WAYNE WESTERN, WEXFORD
MISSAUKEE

For more information:

Contact Tonya Sophia Rice or call the organization di-

Items Needed

(Here is a list of Items for donating)

New or very gently used Clothing (Premie – Teenage)

New or very gently used Shoes

Coats

Snow Pants/Snow suits

Boots

Non-Drop down Cribs

Toddler beds/Crib Mattress'

Any type of Stroller

Unexpired Car seats/Booster Seats

High Chairs/Booster Seats

All Baby Items

Halloween Costumes

Packs of Socks

Packs of Underwear

Bikes

Hygiene Products

Luggage

Duffel Bags

New or very gently used Books

New or very gently used Pajamas

New or very gently used Outfits

Toiletries

Homemade Items: Blankets and Pillow Cases

Any items a child may need or want



Every child deserves a family



2020 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Friday, April 10:

Lazarus Saturday Vespers 7:00pm

Saturday, April 11:

Preparation of Gifts, Raising of Lazarus Divine Liturgy and Lenten Breakfast, combined at Assumption Greek Orthodox Church 9:30am

Palm Sunday Vespers at St. Mary Magdalene 4pm

Sunday, April 12: PALM SUNDAY

Palm Sunday Divine Liturgy 9:50am

Bridegroom Matins 7pm

Monday, April 13: HOLY MONDAY

Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 10am

Bridegroom Matins 7pm

Tuesday, April 14: HOLY TUESDAY

Bridegroom Matins 7pm

Wednesday, April 15: HOLY WEDNESDAY

Holy Unction 7pm

Thursday, April 16: HOLY THURSDAY, INSTITUTION OF THE EUCHARIST

Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great 10am

Passions Gospels 7pm

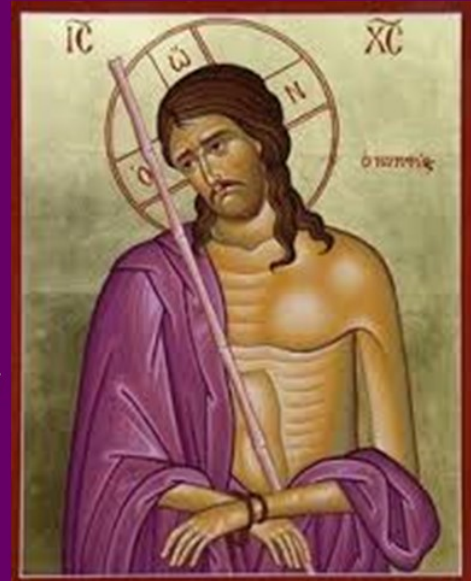
Friday, April 17: GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY

Holy Friday Vespers 3pm

Lamentations and Procession with the Shroud 7pm

Saturday, April 18: HOLY SATURDAY

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



THE PASCHA OF OUR LORD

Saturday, April 18: HOLY SATURDAY

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

Sunday, April 19: HOLY PASCHA!!!

Agape Vespers 1pm

ALL NIGHT VIGIL



High Schoolers, College Students & Families

Friday, April 17th

Following Lamentations



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 CHASTITY, 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!



YOUTH & OCF ICON PROCESSION

Parents and Church Schools: Please bring students (ages 7 thru HS), each with an icon of their choice, to participate in the Triumph of Orthodoxy Vespers! Children, with area OCF members, will hold their icon and assemble with clergy for the reading of the Synodicon, then lead the recessional at the conclusion. Join us!

Arrive in vestibule by 5:45pm. We have seating for you.
Contact OLGA (248 252-8184) for information.



FEATURED GUEST SPEAKER THE VERY REVEREND WILLIAM BARTZ



Father William J. Bartz, son of Father and Mrs. George Bartz graduated from Hellenic College and from Holy Cross School of Theology. He was commissioned a US Navy Chaplain in 1977 and ordained a Priest in 1982. His active duty began in 1984 and he served three Navy commands, as well as eight Marine Corps commands. During his last five years on active duty, he was the most senior Orthodox Priest in the US military. In 2003, he received the ecclesiastical Offikion of Protospesbyter. After retiring from the Navy at the rank of Captain, he was Chancellor of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Detroit from 2011 to 2013. Father was appointed by the Chairman of the Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the United States to be the Endorsing Agent for Military Chaplains in 2011. In 2013, he became Presiding Priest of Holy Trinity Church in Indiana. Under his leadership, the interior of the Church was completed and the Church was elevated to the dignity of a Cathedral. He retired from active parish ministry in 2019 and moved to Virginia. Father Bill and Presvytera Emily have three children and three grandchildren.

SUNDAY, 8 MARCH 2020 | 6pm
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX BASILICA of SAINT MARY
18100 MERRIMAN RD, LIVONIA (b/t 6 & 7 Mile Rds)





DETROIT'S ANNUAL
INTER-ORTHODOX SUNDAY LENTEN

Vespers 2020

8 MARCH | TRIUMPH OF ORTHODOXY

with Procession of Icons
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX BASILICA OF ST MARY
18100 Merriman Rd, Livonia (between 6 & 7 Mile Rds)
The Very Rev Fr WILLIAM BARTZ, Homilist

15 MARCH | ST GREGORY PALAMAS

ST STEVAN DECANSKI SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
14235 E 11 Mile Rd, Warren (on 696 Service Dr W of Groesbeck)
The Very Rev Fr DUSAN KOPRIVICA, Homilist

22 MARCH | THE HOLY CROSS

ST GEORGE ROMANIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
18405 W 9 Mile Rd, Southfield (just W of M-10 & M-39 Fwy)
The Very Rev Dr GEORGE SHALHOUB, Homilist

29 MARCH | ST JOHN OF THE LADDER

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH
20500 Anglin St, Detroit (at corner of 8 Mile, E of Dequindre)
The Very Rev Fr DIMITRIE VINCENT, Homilist

5 APRIL | ST MARY OF EGYPT

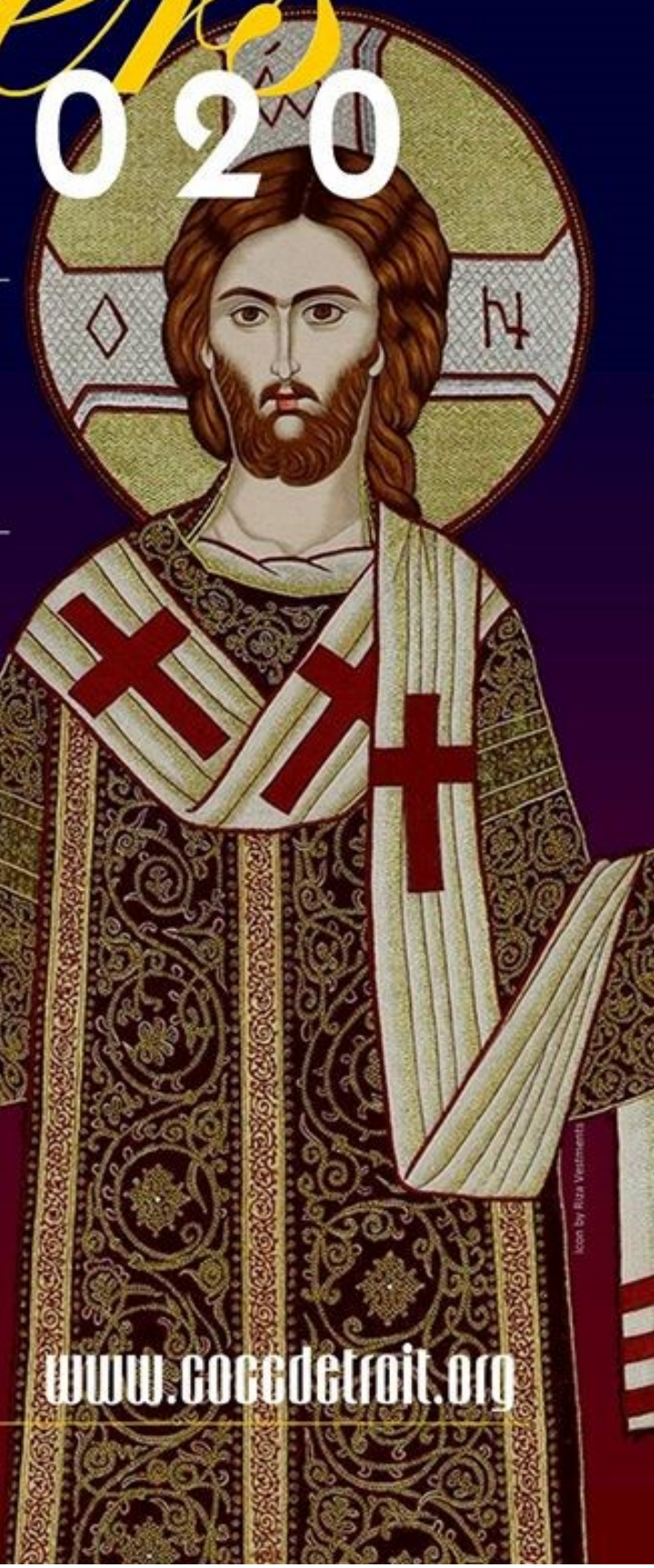
NATIVITY OF MARY GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
39851 W 5 Mile Rd, Plymouth (just E of Haggerty)
The Very Rev Fr SIMION CATAU, Homilist

Prayer. Education. Fellowship.

Services 6:00pm | Free-will offering | Refreshments

Officiated by the St John Chrysostom Clergy Brotherhood
Responses by the Detroit Inter-Orthodox Vespers Choir

www.coccdetroit.org



Icon by Riza Vestments

WOMEN'S LENTEN RETREAT - 2020

HOLY DORMITION MONASTERY

Friday - Sunday, March 27-29, 2020

Retreat Schedule:

- Friday, March 27 5:00 PM Great Compline
6:00 PM Dinner
- Saturday, March 28 6:30 AM Matins, Hours, Akathist
9:00 AM Divine Liturgy followed by Memorial Service
Lunch
Lenten Presentation: **Acquiring the Gift of
the Holy Spirit**
12 Noon – 3 PM
- **Part 1**, Father John Konklin with Q & A
 - Short Break
 - **Part 2**, Guest Presenter with Q & A
 - Personal Time
- 5:00 PM Light Dinner
6:00 PM Vigil (Combined Vespers and Matins)
- Sunday, March 29 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy (followed by Agape Meal)

<i>Suggested Donations:</i>	Lodging (per night)	\$50
	Saturday attendance, w/o lodging	\$35

Please email the Monastery: **ASAP** if you will need lodging dormitionmonastery@dormitionmonastery.org, as lodging capacity is very limited. If attending on Saturday only for the day, please call (517-569-2873), or email Monastery, no later than Friday, March 13, for capacity planning purposes. (If a cancellation occurs, please notify the Monastery ASAP so that someone else can take your place.)

Any questions: Please contact Sharon Foster (ssteffoster@yahoo.com; ph 231-267-3036)

Thank you!

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!