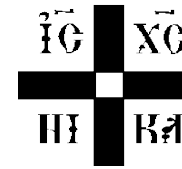


Weekly Schedule

Wednesday	Presanctified Liturgy, 6:30 p.m.
Friday	Akathist, 6:30 p.m.
Saturday	Great Vespers, 6:00 p.m. Confessions following Great Vespers
Sunday	Reading of Hours, 9:40 a.m. Divine Liturgy, 10:00 a.m. <i>Fellowship Hour following Divine Liturgy</i>

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is dedicated to St John of the Ladder (Climacus), the author of the work, The Ladder of Divine Ascent. The abbot of St Catherine's Monastery on Mount Sinai (6th century) stands as a witness to the violent effort needed for entrance into God's Kingdom (Mt.10:12). The spiritual struggle of the Christian life is a real one, "not against flesh and blood, but against ... the rulers of the present darkness ... the hosts of wickedness in heavenly places ..." (Eph 6:12). Saint John encourages the faithful in their efforts for, according to the Lord, only "he who endures to the end will be saved" (Mt.24:13).



Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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(215) 468-3535 (Church)
Email: frmatthew@comcast.net

Rev. Matthew Cantrell, Acting Rector

Rev. Sergius Willis, Associate Pastor

Call to arrange sacraments, services, instruction, counseling, home visits, sick calls.

Troparion (Tone 7) (Resurrection)

By Your Cross You destroyed death. To the thief You opened Paradise. For the Myrrhbearers You changed weeping into joy. And You commanded Your disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that You are risen,//granting the world great mercy.

Troparion (Tone 1) (St. John)

O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body, you were a wonderworker, O our God-bearing Father John. You received heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil and prayer, healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to you by faith. Glory to Him Who gave you strength! Glory to Him Who granted you a ^crown!//Glory to Him Who grants healing to all!

Kontakion (Tone 4) (St. John)

The Lord truly set you on the heights of abstinence, to be a guiding star, showing the way to the universe,//O our father and teacher John.

March 14, 2010

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT — Tone 7.
St. John Climacus (of *The Ladder*)**

Prayers for The Faithful and Departed

Emelie, Julia, Witiak family, McCartney family, Margaret, Drimik family, Corba family. **May God Grant Them Many Years!**

Kathleen, Al, Mary, Helen, Michael, Mary, Anna, Maxim, Wanenchak family, Irene. **May Their Memories Be Eternal!**

Glory to God For All Things!

Epistle Reading

Hebrews 6:13-20

For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, "Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you." And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute. Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

Gospel Reading

Mark 9:17-31

Then one of the crowd answered and said, "Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not. He answered him and said, "O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me." Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth. So He asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us. Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it: "Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!" Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" So He said to them, "This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting." Then they departed from there and passed through Galilee, and He did not want anyone to know it. For He taught His disciples and said to them, "The Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will rise the third day."

Welcome to our Visitors!

A warm welcome to all our visitors and guests who have joined us in celebrating the Divine Liturgy. Please join us for our Fellowship Hour in the Church Hall . **Please note: Only those Orthodox Christians that have properly prepared themselves through prayer, fasting and confession of sins should approach the Chalice and receive Holy Communion.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Food Collection

Please bring any food you would like to donate to church. We, as a church, will offer food to one of the local food banks. **We will accept donations for one more week, after which we will make a run to our local food bank, Philabundance.**

Church Telephone Number

Our church's telephone number is 215-468-3535. If there is inclement weather, do please call the number and wait for the answering machine. If church is canceled, it will be announced here.

Lenten Services

Please note that weekday service times (Presanctified Liturgy and Akathist) have been changed to start at 6:30p.m.

Easter Flowers

Debbie has started taking orders for Easter flowers. Please see her if you would be interested.

Memorial Service

We will have a memorial service following the Divine Liturgy today in order to remember Kathleen Ambrozates on the fortieth day of her repose.

Church and Church property Cleaning

Next Saturday, March 20, at 10:30 a.m., parishioners will gather to clean out our rental property that has been vacated. As of now, we have five people committed for a couple of hours. We need more parishioners, however, so please do try and be at the property next Saturday if possible. Moreover, our Church cleaning will be on March 27, at 10:30 a.m., to prepare for Holy Week and Pascha.