

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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Mailing Address: PO Box 20083 * Point Breeze Station | Philadelphia PA 19145-0383

Sunday, April 10, 2022

Tone 1 – Fifth Sunday of Great Lent | Saint Mary of Egypt
Martyrs Terence, Pompelus, Africanus, Maximus, Zenon, Alexander, Theodore, Macarius,
and 33 others, beheaded at Carthage (3rd c.)

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

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Deacon – Michael McCartney Choir Director – Nina Patterson
Subdeacon – Daniel (Ken) Kavalkovich Reader – Mark Klus
Parish President - Matthew Andrews [Phone: 856.217.8075]

Weekly Schedule

- Today: Mission Service Vespers at 4:00PM **At Our Parish!!!**
- Tuesday: Bible Study at 6:30PM in the church basement and on ZOOM platform.
Social Distancing will be followed
- Wednesday: April 13 - Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts at 6:00PM
- Friday: April 15 - Vespers - Lazarus Saturday at 6:00PM
- Saturday: April 16 – Lazarus Saturday Divine Liturgy at 10:00AM
- Saturday: April 16 – Great Vespers at 4:00PM
(along with the Blessing of Pussywillows and Palms)
- Sunday: April 17 – Entry of our Lord into Jerusalem (*Palm Sunday*)
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – 10:00am
Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 1)

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, / while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, / Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, / granting life to the world. / The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: / “Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! / Glory to Thy Kingdom! // Glory to Thy dispensation, O thou who lovest of mankind!”

Troparion (Tone 8 – Saint Mary of Egypt)

The image of God was truly preserved in thee, O Mother, / for thou didst take up the Cross and followed Christ. / By so doing, thou taughtest us to disregard the flesh for it passeth away; / but to care instead for the soul, for it is immortal. // Therefore thy spirit, O holy Mother Mary, rejoiceth with the angels.

Kontakion (Tone 1)

As God, Thou didst rise from the tomb in glory, / raising the world with Thyself. / Human nature praises Thee as God, for death has vanished. / Adam exults, O Master! / Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to Thee: // “Thou art the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

Kontakion (Tone 3 – Saint Mary of Egypt)

Having been a sinful woman, / thou becamest through repentance a bride of Christ. / Having attained angelic life, / thou didst defeat demons with the weapon of the Cross. // Therefore, O most glorious Mary, thou art a bride of the Kingdom.

Prokeimenon (Tone 1)

Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us / as we have set our hope on Thee.
v. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous! Praise befits the upright!

Another Prokeimenon (Tone 4 – Saint Mary of Egypt)

God is wonderful in His saints, / the God of Israel.

Epistle Reading: Hebrews 9:11-14

But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?
Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 1)

- v. God gives vengeance to me, and subdues people under me! Alleluia (3x's)
- v. He magnifies the salvation of the King and deals mercifully with David,
His anointed, and his seed forever. Alleluia (3x's)
- v. I waited patiently for the Lord; He attended to me and heard my supplication. Alleluia (3x's) [TONE 1]

Gospel Reading: Mark 10:32-45

Now they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was going before them; and they were amazed. And as they followed they were afraid. Then He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them the things that would happen to Him: Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death and deliver Him to the Gentiles; and they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit on Him, and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again. Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Him, saying, "Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask." And He said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" They said to Him, "Grant us that we may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on Your left, in Your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They said to Him, "We are able." So Jesus said to them, "You will indeed drink the cup that I drink, and with the baptism I am baptized with you will be baptized; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared. And when the ten heard it, they began to be greatly displeased with James and John. But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.

Instead of "It is truly meet..." we sing the following

All of creation rejoices in thee, O Full of Grace: / the assembly of Angels and the race of men. / O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, / the glory of virgins, from whom God was incarnate and became a Child: / our God before the ages. / He made thy body into a throne, / and thy womb He made more spacious than the heavens. / All of creation rejoices in thee, O Full of Grace. // Glory to thee!

Communion Hymn:

Praise the Lord from the heavens! Praise him in the highest!
The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not fear evil tidings. Alleluia (3x's)

*[Note: Today's readings for Saint Mary of Egypt are as follows:
Epistle – Galatians 3:23-29 and Gospel – Luke 7:36-50]*

Announcements

A Warm Welcome to all of our visitors & guests who worshiped with us today and who have joined us in celebrating the Divine Liturgy. Please join us in the church basement for our Fellowship and Coffee Hour.

Announcements

2022 Lenten Schedule (Beginning 6th Week of Lent to Holy Week)

****Please Note:** This schedule is subject to change depending on schedule of the clergy. Please listen to the announcements, check your emails, parish website, and parish Facebook page regularly for updated changes to this schedule. Thank You!**

6th Week of Lent (April 11 to April 16)

Tuesday, April 12, 2022 – Bible Study – 6:30PM
Wednesday, April 13, 2022 - Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts - 6:00 PM
Friday, April 15, 2022 – Vespers of Lazarus Saturday – 6:00PM
Saturday, April 16, 2022 – Lazarus Saturday Divine Liturgy – 10:00 AM
Saturday, April 16, 2022 – Great Vespers - 4:00 PM
(after Vespers – Blessing of Pussywillows and Palms)

Holy Week (April 18 to April 23)

Monday, April 18, 2022 – Bridegroom Matins of Holy Tuesday – 6:00 PM
Tuesday, April 19, 2022 – Bridegroom Matins of Holy Wednesday – 6:00 PM
Wednesday, April 20, 2022 – Matins & Holy Unction – St Stephen’s Cathedral - TBD
Thursday, April 21, 2022 – Holy Thursday – Vespers Divine Liturgy – 10:00AM
Thursday, April 21, 2022 – Holy Thursday – Friday Matins & 12 Gospels – 6:00PM
Friday, April 22, 2022 – Holy Friday – Vespers (Burial Service) – 3:00PM
Friday, April 22, 2022 – Holy Friday – Holy Saturday Matins w/Lamentations - 4PM
Saturday, April 23, 2022 - Holy Saturday – Chrismation Service for James – 9:30AM
Saturday, April 23, 2022 – Holy Saturday – Vespers with the Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great (with All 15 Old Testament Readings) – 10:00AM

(His Grace, Archbishop MARK will be in attendance on Holy Saturday!!!)

Parish Lenten Project – FINAL DAY!!

The parish is still collecting coats for the homeless during the parish’s Lenten Project. We have a need for men’s coats and children’s coats. If you can spare a worn or gently worn coat, please consider donating them to our homeless agency partners, Soup and Song. In addition, we are also collecting canned goods. Please consider buying a few extra things on sale when you go shopping or donating current in date items from your pantry. Thank you for your generosity as always!

Pascha Basket Candy Sale – Fundraiser for the HVAC Project – Final Day

Orders for handmade chocolate candy bars for your Pascha baskets have begun and the final day for orders to be taken is Sunday, April 3, 2022. These orders will be filled and delivered on the following dates: April 3, and April 10. The price for each bar is \$5.00. Each bar is approximately 4 ounces. There are four different designs of chocolate candy bars to choose from: two rabbits, Noah’s ark, hydrangea, or love birds.

New designs: Orthodox crosses, flowers, and animal selections. Orthodox crosses can be ordered in white, milk or dark chocolate. The price for a cross is \$7.00. The price for the flowers and animal designs are \$5.00 each.

Please see Matushka Janine for samples and for ordering

Remember, homemade chocolate candy bars for sale will be by Pre-Orders Only!!!

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Pete Witiak offered by David Pellack
Daniel Witiak offered by Pete Witiak
Anastasia & Unborn Child, Colin, Alex, Selena, Patricia, Catherine, Barbara, Gabriel, Luke, Scarlett, Elton,
Family & Friends offered by MM K Kavalkovich

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Julia Drimak offered by the Hourahan Family
Marc Ferguson Sr. offered by MM K Kavalkovich

May Their Memories Be Eternal

Today - Vigil Cross Candles – 4/10/22:

One Large Votive Cross – Memory of Michael, Mary, and MaryAnn Popelak
offered by the DeVito Family

One Large Votive Cross – Health of Mary Herbert offered by
MM Herbert and Family

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Please remember in your prayers:

Anastasia Jones & her unborn child; Heather Parsells & her unborn child; Ronald Kavalkovich (continuous recovery); Jane Kelly (recovery); Anne (Homa) Killoran (recovery); Sheba Patton (recovery); Dr. Gale Rutan; Joseph Rabik; Peter Witiak; and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

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Sidewalk Repair Donations (Week of April 3)

Sidewalk Repair Block Donation – \$0 from the Candy Sale

Attendance during Lenten Services (5th Week of Lent)

Wednesday, April 6 – Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts = 14
Thursday, April 7 – Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete = 10
Friday, April 8 – Akathist (to the Precious Lord Jesus) = 12

Announcements (cont.)

Please ensure that your Mobile Phone is set to Silent (or at least set on vibrate) during the Divine Liturgy! Thank You!!!

*******Special weekly collections taken after Gospel or Sermon*******

In addition to our general collection, the parish takes a special collection each week to fund certain parish projects. By the action taken at the Fall General Parish Meeting held on Sunday, October 10, the parish body approved that the special collection for the first three Sundays of the month be earmarked towards the repairing/fixing/replacing of the roofs of both houses that the parish owns (now known as the Row House Fund).

The fourth Sunday (and fifth, when it occurs) the special collection will be earmarked towards Charity.

This new collection schedule will begin on Sunday, October 17.

Please be generous with your offering. Every little bit counts. Thank You!

Cash Flow Activity (March/April)

Week of Sun Mar 27 to Sat Apr 2

March Month (Unaudited)

Attendance:	50	47 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,963.00	\$13,449.32
Funds Out:	\$ 8,701.34	\$ 6,413.84
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$ 6,738.34)	\$ 7,035.48

Thank you all for your continuous offerings to maintain the parish!

Shop Rite Gift Cards: If you need to purchase Shop Rite Gift Cards, please see either David Pellack or Ken Kavalkovich to secure them. Your purchase of a Shop Rite Gift Card is an additional fundraising project that helps support the church at no additional expense to the purchaser.

Calendar of Events

- 1st Sunday of each month** – Monthly Panikhida immediately after Divine Liturgy.
- 2nd Tuesday of each month** – Bible Study at 6:30pm in church basement.
- 2nd Sunday of each month** – Property Committee Meeting after Divine Liturgy.
- 3rd Sunday of each month** – Currently no permanent event is scheduled.
- 4th Sunday of each month** – Currently no permanent event is scheduled.
- 5th Sunday of each quarter** – Quarterly Parish Council Meeting after Liturgy.

Readers Schedule:

	<u>Today (Apr 10)</u>	<u>Next Week (Apr 17)</u>
3 rd Hour:	To Be Determined	To Be Determined
6 th Hour:	To Be Determined	To Be Determined
Epistle:	Subdeacon Daniel Kavalkovich and Daniel Herbert	To Be Determined

Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning Teams:

If you have volunteered to host coffee hour, please check which team you are on and when your Team is hosting coffee hour in the white/clear 3-ring binder which is located on the display case outside of the office room.

Please continue to check our parish website, social media pages, and your emails regularly for updated information on the parish regarding parish services & events in April 2022.

EASTER Flowers: We are now accepting donations until Palm Sunday! Please place your donation in one of the white envelopes marked “FLOWERS” and leave it on the candle stand in the Vestibule.

Vigil Cross Votive Candles: We are scheduling to have the vigil cross votive candles lit for services during the Lenten season. As of this morning, the following dates and cross sizes have been reserved:

- * Palm Sunday (April 17) = Both Large Crosses reserved
- * Holy Thursday (April 21) = Both Large Crosses reserved
- * Holy Friday (April 22) = Both Large Crosses reserved
- * PASCHA (April 24) = Both Large Crosses reserved

Please see Simon Herbert to schedule details & cross size lightings!

Pussywillows and Palms to be Blessed for Palm Sunday

Reminder: If you are bringing your own Pussywillows and/or Palms to be blessed after the Vesper service for Palm Sunday (Saturday evening, April 16), please be sure that you somehow identify which ones are your branches (i.e. tie together with a ribbon; place a tag with your name if necessary; etc...). Thank You!



Fifth Sunday of Great Lent: Saint Mary of Egypt [April 10th]

On the fifth Sunday of Great Lent, the Church provides us with one final theme of prayer and repentance before we enter Holy Week, the life of Saint Mary of Egypt. Saint Mary explained to Abba Zosimas, “I was born in Egypt, and when I was 12 years old, I left my parents and went to Alexandria. There I gave myself to unrestrained sensuality. For more than 17 years I lived like that.”

Saint Mary described how she boarded a ship of pilgrims on its way to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. Upon arrival she attempted to enter the church, but a force prevented her entrance. She realized that she had to repent of her sinful ways, and the Blessed Theotokos revealed to her that salvation awaited her in the desert beyond the Jordan River by means of continual prayer and fasting.

Abba Zosimas asked her, “How many years have passed since you began to live in the desert?” She replied, “It is 47 years.” Abba Zosimas asked, “What food do you find here?” She said, “I had two and a half loaves of bread when I crossed the Jordan. Eating a little at a time, I finished them after a few years.”

On this Sunday of Great Lent, the Church encourages us to emulate this powerful example of lifelong repentance by prayer and fasting. While we all surely eat more than two and a half loaves of bread in a few years, our meager fasting should heighten our compassion for the poor and the hungry, and whatever resources we are able to preserve by fasting become available for “the least of these my brethren.” Let us reach out to the poor and destitute throughout the world with the inspiration of Saint Mary of Egypt, especially during this time of tumult and suffering.

[Source: Very Reverend Father Michael Elias from *Weekly Spiritual Reflections for Great Lent – Journey to Pascha* booklet by the IOCC (2016)]

NOTE: If anyone wishes to read more about the life of both Saint Mary of Egypt and Abba Zosimas, please go on the OCA website (www.oca.org) and click on the Feast & Saints link, then select today’s date, and then click on the “Read the Life” box for 5th Sunday of Great Lent: St Mary of Egypt.

