

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

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Sunday, April 7, 2024

Tone 3 – Third Sunday of Great Lent | Veneration of the Cross
Repose of St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, Enlightener of North America

Weekly Schedule

Today: Mission Service at 4:00PM at Saint Vladimir's Orthodox Church
located at 812 Grand Street in Trenton, NJ 08610
Website: <https://www.saintvladimir.com>

The fourth week Lenten schedule at the parish is on page 7 of Bulletin

Tuesday: April 9 - Bible Study - 6:30PM on ZOOM platform ONLY!

Saturday: April 13 – Great Vespers at **4:00PM**

Sunday: April 14 – Fourth Sunday of Great Lent | St John Climacus
Reading of Hours – 9:30am
Divine Liturgy – **10:00am**
Fellowship Coffee Hour to follow the Readers Service

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 3)

Let the heavens rejoice! / Let the earth be glad! / For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. / He has trampled down death by death. / He has become the first born of the dead. / He has delivered us from the depths of hell, / and has granted to the world // great mercy.

Troparion (Tone 1 – Cross)

O Lord, save Thy people / and bless Thine inheritance! / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries; / and by virtue of Thy Cross, // preserve Thy habitation!

Troparion (Tone 1 – Saint Tikhon)

Let us praise Tikhon, the Patriarch of All Russia, / and Enlightener of North America, / an ardent follower of the apostolic traditions, / and good pastor of the Church of Christ, / who was elected by Divine Providence, / and laid down his life for his sheep! / Let us sing to him with faith and hope, / and ask for his hierarchical intercessions: / keep the Church in Russia in tranquility, / and the Church in North America in peace; / gather her scattered children into one flock, / bring to repentance those who have renounced the True Faith, / preserve our lands from civil strife, // and entreat God's peace for all people!

Kontakion (Tone 2 – Saint Tikhon)

A gentle manner adorned thee: / thou didst show kindness and compassion to those who repented; / thou wast firm and unbending in confessing the Orthodox Faith, / and zealous in loving the Lord. / O holy Hierarch of Christ and Confessor Tikhon, / pray for us that we may not be separated from the love of God, // which is of Christ Jesus, our Lord!

Kontakion (Tone 7 – Cross)

Now the flaming sword no longer guards the gates of Eden; / it has been mysteriously quenched by the wood of the Cross. / The sting of death and the victory of hell have been vanquished; / for Thou, O my Savior, hast come and cried to those in hell: // Enter again into Paradise!

(In Place of the Trisagion, we sing:)

Before Thy Cross / we bow down in worship, O Master / and Thy holy Resurrection // we glorify. (3x's)

Prokeimenon (Tone 6)

O Lord, save thy people / and bless Thine inheritance!
v. To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!

Prokeimenon (Tone 1 – Saint Tikhon)

My mouth shall speak wisdom / the meditation of my heart shall be understanding!

Epistle Reading: Hebrews 4:14-5:6

“Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest taken from among men is appointed for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also subject to weakness. Because of this he is required as for the people, so also for himself, to offer sacrifices for sins. And no man takes this honor to himself, but he who is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was He who said to Him: “You are My Son, Today I have begotten You.” As He also says in another place: “You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek”
Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 8)

v. Remember Thy congregation, which Thou hast purchased of old! Alleluia (3x's)
v. God is our King before the ages; He hath wrought salvation in the midst of the earth! Alleluia (3x's)
v. The mouth of the righteous shall meditate wisdom, and his tongue shall speak of judgment.
Alleluia (3x's) [TONE 2]

Gospel Reading: Mark 8:34-9:1

When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels. And He said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power."

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:

The light of Thy countenance is signed upon us, O Lord.
The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not fear evil tidings. Alleluia (3x's)

*[Note: Today's readings for Saint Tikhon are as follows:
Epistle – Hebrews 7:26-8:2 and Gospel - John 10:9-16]*

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

Update to our Parish 2024 Lenten Schedule

An additional Memorial Saturday Divine Liturgy has been added to the 2024 Lenten Schedule to be served next Saturday, April 13 at 10:00AM. During this service, Father Mark will read the rest of the names of the departed who were not mentioned during the Memorial Saturday Liturgy that was served yesterday (Saturday, March 30th)

Please Note: the 2024 Lenten Schedule along with other parish scheduled services and/or events are on our parish website's homepage. On the right of the parish website's homepage you will see scheduled services/events under the "Service Schedule" or the "Weekly News". Make sure you scroll down the website to view all information. Also, links to pdf documents, schedules, and the weekly bulletin are also listed under "Weekly News". Please click on the title of the information you wish to view and it will open up for your viewing pleasure. Thank You!!

Votive Vigil Cross Candles Scheduling

We are scheduling to have the votive vigil cross candles lit for services during the Lenten season. There is a sign-up sheet located at the candle desk in the Vestibule.

Either 1 Large or 2 Small candles per each votive vigil cross candles can be reserved

As of last night, the following dates and cross sizes have been reserved...

- * Veneration of the Cross (Sunday, April 7) = **BOTH Large Crosses are Reserved!**
- * Saint John Climacus (The Ladder) (Sunday, April 14) = Both Crosses are Available
- * Saint Mary of Egypt (Sunday, April 21) = **ONE Large Cross is Reserved!**
- * Lazarus Saturday (Saturday, April 27) = Both Crosses are Available
- * Palm Sunday (Sunday, April 28) = Both Crosses are Available
- * Holy Thursday (Thursday, May 2) = **BOTH Large Crosses are Reserved!**
- * Holy Friday (Friday, May 3) = **ONE Large Cross is Reserved!**
- * Holy Saturday (Saturday, May 4) = Both Crosses are Available
- * PASCCHA (Sunday, May 5) = **BOTH Large Crosses are Reserved!**
- * Saint Thomas Sunday (Mother's Day) (May 12) = **ONE Large Cross is Reserved!**

Attendance during Lenten Services (3rd Week of Lent)

Wednesday, April 3 – Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts = No Service Held (15 Last Year)

Friday, April 5 – Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts = 19 (5 Last Year – Akathist served)

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

John Bilaski offered by Nina Patterson
Natalie and John Nedbal offered by Nina Pattersen
Tracy, Stephanie, Kenneth, Debra, Christina offered by M/M K Kavalkovich
Anastasia, Alexander, Colin, Selena, Levi offered by M/M K Kavalkovich
James, Emily, Catherine, Patricia, Steven offered by M/M K Kavalkovich

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Marc Sr, Marc Jr, Vito, Anne, William, Carmen offered by Patricia Ferguson

May Their Memories Be Eternal!

Vigil Cross Candles – 3/31/24

One Large Vigil Cross – Memory of Protopresbyter John Meyendorff
offered by Father Mark and Matushka Jan Kozak

One Large Vigil Cross – Health of Emily Gerasimoff and Peter Witiak
offered by Mark Klus and Tish Berchtold

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Please remember in your prayers:

Ignatius Gabriel Parsells (newly born on March 21 * 7lbs. 3oz. & 19 inches long), his siblings Luke, Theodore, Miriam Anastasia and his parents Peter and Heather Parsells. May God Grant Ignatius and his family Many Blessed Years!!

Christina Andrews and her unborn child; Emily Gerasimoff; Jane Kelly; Anne (Homa) Killoran; Justine McCann and her Newborn child; Sheba Patton; Peter Witiak; and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

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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 back on Sunday, October 10, 2021, 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 began back on Sunday, October 17, 2021.
Please be generous with your offering. Every little bit counts. Thank You!

Cash Flow Activity (March)

<u>Week of Sun Mar 24 to Sat Mar 30</u>	<u>March Month to date</u>
Attendance: 27	37 (average)
Funds In: \$ 1,741.00	\$ 6,343.00
Funds Out: \$ 210.18	\$ 6,093.52
Net Surplus/(Deficit): \$ 1,530.82	\$ 249.48

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

2024 Monthly/Quarterly Schedule

- 1st Sunday of each month** – Monthly Panikhida immediately after Divine Liturgy.
- 2nd Tuesday of each month** – Bible Study at 6:30pm on ZOOM media platform.
- 4th Thursday of each month** – Book Club at 6:30pm on ZOOM media platform.
- 5th Sunday of each quarter** – Quarterly Parish Council Meeting after Liturgy.

Readers Schedule:

	<u>Today (Apr 7)</u>	<u>Next Week (Apr 14)</u>
3 rd Hour:	Reader David Pellack	Reader Mark Klus
6 th Hour:	Simon Herbert	Reader David Pellack
Epistle:	Subdeacon Daniel Kavalkovich and Reader David Pellack	Reader Mark Klus and Matthew Andrews

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 on the calendar printout which is located in the white/clear 3-ring binder 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 2024.

Fourth Week of Lent - Lenten Services here at the Parish!

- Wednesday, April 10 – Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts at 6:00PM
- Friday, April 12 – Akathist to the Blessed Mother Olga at 6:00PM
- Saturday, April 13 – Memorial Saturday Divine Liturgy at **10:00AM**

Saturday, April 13 – Memorial Saturday Diving Liturgy – 10:00PM

This service was added after the 2024 Lenten Schedule (paper version) was released. This service will be the second Memorial Saturday Liturgy served during the 2024 Lenten Season. During this service, Father Mark will read the rest of the names of the departed who were not mentioned during the Memorial Saturday Liturgy that was served on Saturday, March 30th

Sunday, April 14 – Vesper Mission Service – 4:00PM

Holy Trinity Orthodox Church | 1236 Juniper Street | Pottstown, PA 19464
Phone: 484.949.9754 (Rectory) Website: <https://www.holytrinitypottstown.org>

Sunday, April 21 – Vesper Mission Service – 4:00PM

Saint Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church | 506 Stahr Road | Elkins Park, PA 19027
Phone: 440.864.7346 (Rectory) Website: Parish only has a Facebook account!!



**Third Sunday of Great Lent
Veneration of the Cross**

[April 7th]

Through the Cross, joy has come into all the world.

At the midpoint of Great Lent, Orthodox Christians are invited to the Veneration of the Cross of Christ. In the Lenten journey, we are taught to be mindful of the importance of repentance, fasting, prayer, almsgiving, and forgiveness.

Without these, our spiritual pilgrimage is lacking in meaning. We cannot be disciples of Christ without these marks of Christian life and practice.

After an enthusiastic beginning of Great Lent, little by little we show signs of being tired, our attention begins to flag, our love for God and neighbor begins to wear out. In other words, our own comfort again becomes the priority.

The veneration of the Cross renews and refocuses our Lenten journey by brining our attention back to Christ, back to the love of God for us. This love is given as a gift to us in the form of the Cross, the symbol both of Christ’s suffering and of the resurrection. We are taught by Jesus Christ to take up our own cross and follow Him. To venerate the Cross of Christ is to be inspired, strengthened, and enabled to carry our cross.

All of the above is true. Yet it is incomplete. An important dimension is missing – the dimension of joy. “Through the Cross joy has come into all the world.” These words in a hymn of the Resurrection reveal the dimension of joy as central and essential. Where there is faith without joy, faith is deficient. Where there is almsgiving without joy, charity is deficient. Where there is love, there is joy. Where there is Christ, there is joy.

As we walk the pilgrimage of Great Lent, let it be full of joy, and therefore full of Christ.

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Let us look upon the cross for health and guidance as we sing the Troparion for the Cross today:

O Lord, save Thy people / and bless Thine inheritance! / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries; / and by virtue of Thy Cross, // preserve Thy habitation!

