



Sunday March 20, 2016 TONE 1

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT — Tone 1. Sunday of Orthodoxy. The Holy Fathers who were slain at the Monastery of St. Sabbas: Ven. John, Sergius, Patrick, and others (796). Monk Martyr Euphrosynus of Sinozérsk (Novgorod—1612). Martyr Photina (Svetlana, Fatíma), the Samaritan woman, and her sons: Martyrs Victor and Joses, and two others (ca. 66).

This Week's Schedule

Wednesday 3/23	Presanctified Liturgy 6:30 p.m.
Friday 3/25	Annunciation Vespers & Liturgy 6:30 p.m.
Saturday 3/26:	Great Vespers 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 3/27:	Hours 8:40 a.m. Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m. <i>followed by Coffee hour & Church School</i>

Reader Schedule

DATE	3 RD HOUR	6 TH HOUR EPISTLE	
Mar-20	RILEY, A	RILEY, J	RILEY, J.
Mar 25	<i>ANNUNCIATION</i>		
Mar-27	CARPENTER	SOUDER, C.	CAREY
Apr-3	SOUDER, C	WALES	WALES
Apr-10	BUNITSKY, S	BUNITSKY, K	PECK

Hymns and Prayers

Tone 1 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews,
while the soldiers were guarding Your most pure ^body,
You rose on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world.
The powers of heaven therefore cried to You, O Giver of Life:
“Glory to Your Resurrection, O Christ!
Glory to Your ^Kingdom!//
Glory to Your dispensation, O Lover of mankind!”

Tone 2 Troparion *(Sunday of Orthodoxy)*

We venerate Your most pure image, O Good One;
and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ our God.
Of Your good will You were pleased to ascend the cross in the flesh
and deliver Your creatures from bondage to the Enemy.
Therefore with thankfulness we cry aloud to You:
“You have filled all with joy, O our Savior,//
for You alone have come to save the world.”

Tone 8 **Kontakion***(from the Lenten Triodion)*

No one could describe the Word of the Father;
but when He took flesh from you, O Theotokos, He accepted to be
described,

and restored the fallen image to its former state by uniting it to divine beauty./

We confess and proclaim our salvation in words and images.

Tone 4 Prokeimenon (*Song of the Fathers*)

Blessed are You, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is
Your name forever! (*Song of the three Holy Children, v. 3*)

v: For You are just in all that You have done for us! (v. 4)

Epistle Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2

By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.

And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets:

who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

Women received their dead raised to life again. Others were tortured, not accepting deliverance, that they might obtain a better resurrection.

Still others had trial of mockings and scourgings, yes, and of chains and imprisonment.

They were stoned, they were sawn in two, were tempted, were slain with the sword. They wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins, being destitute, afflicted, tormented –

of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains, in dens and caves of the earth.

And all these, having obtained a good testimony through faith, did not receive the promise,

God having provided something better for us, that they should not be made perfect apart from us.

Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us,

looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Tone 4

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: Moses and Aaron were among His priests; Samuel also was among those who called on His Name. (Ps 99/100:6)

v: They called to the Lord and He answered them. (Ps 99/100:6)

Gospel John 1:43-51

The following day Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, "Follow Me."

Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter.

Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote – Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph."

And Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see."

Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!"

Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you."

Nathanael answered and said to Him, "Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!"

Jesus answered and said to him, "Because I said to you, 'I saw you under the fig tree,' do you believe? You will see greater things than these."

And He said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

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

Hymn to the Theotokos

All of creation rejoices in you, 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 your body into a throne,

and your womb He made more spacious than the heavens.

All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace.//

Glory to you!

Communion Hymns

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest! (*Ps 148:1*)

Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous; praise befits the just! (*Ps 32/33:1*)

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

This Week's Announcements

Orthodoxy Sunday Today we celebrate the triumph of Orthodoxy and the victory of the Church over the iconoclasts. Following divine liturgy we will make an icon procession with special prayers in honor of the celebration. The celebration will be continued Sunday evening at St. Michael's Patriarchal Church in Philadelphia. at 4:00 p.m. All are welcome.

Annunciation This Friday we will celebrate the feast of the Annunciation to the Theotokos. We will celebrate with Vespertal Liturgy at 6:30 p.m. followed by a pot luck dinner. All are welcome.

Check out a Book for Lent We have plenty of reading material available for the Lenten season in our parish library. Please take a look! If you cannot find the materials you are looking for in our parish library please let us know.

Study Group & The Ladder of Divine Ascent During the season of Great Lent Fr. Barnabas will be offering a Study group Thursday mornings at 10 a.m. We will also offer on Friday evenings following the Akathist a study and discussion group on St. John Climacus' "Ladder of Divine Ascent". Please make plans on joining us on Thursday mornings and Friday evening following services.

Journeys to Orthodoxy We are asking both cradle Orthodox and convert alike to share your journey to the Orthodox Church. We hope to compile these stories and make them available to both the faithful of St. Michael's and our guest and visitors. We hope that your story may be an inspiration and a help to others. Journeys to Orthodoxy may be submitted to Laura Najemy or Fr. Barnabas. Please consider sharing your journey with us.

Presanctified Liturgy On Wednesday evenings we will be celebrating the Presanctified Liturgy. The Divine Liturgy is not celebrated in the Orthodox Church on lenten weekdays however, in order for the faithful to sustain their lenten effort by participation in Holy Communion, the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is served. This Liturgy is called Presanctified, since the Holy Gifts are presanctified (or consecrated) on the previous Sunday. This is an evening Liturgy consisting of Vespers, followed by a portion of the full Liturgy. The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts comes after a day of spiritual preparation and total abstinence. All who plan on participating in Holy Communion for the Presanctified Liturgy who are unable to make the effort of total fasting because of weaknesses or illness, should eat a light lenten meal in the morning or mid morning and begin fasting for communion by noon. Reminder that our Presanctified Liturgy will be followed by a lenten pot luck dinner. All are welcome to come and bring a lenten dish and share in the extra fellowship as we make our journeys together to Pascha.

Liturgy of St. Basil the Great On Sundays during the lenten season we may notice that the Divine Liturgy is a little different. This is because we celebrate the longer Liturgy of St Basil the Great. In the 4th century Church the liturgy of St. Basil was celebrated every Sunday and feast day of the whole year. It was the official Eucharistic Liturgy to be celebrated on a regular basis throughout the year. Towards the end of the first quarter of the second millennium the Liturgy of Saint Basil was replaced by the liturgy attributed to Saint John Chrysostom another 4th century father of the Church. Some say that the celebrating of Saint Basil's liturgy still being done during Lent is because of the conservative liturgical character of Lent. And since it is the intention of the Church to dedicate more time to prayer during Lent, that it is a good opportunity to teach the faithful dogma by offering for their hearing and singing the profound and all-embracing theological elucidations of the Basilian Liturgy. It is also said that it served during lent because of its expressively doctrinal and educational character. Listen and you will hear the wisdom and beauty of this liturgy on the Sunday's of Great Lent. Handouts will be available.

Lenten Mission Vespers St. Michaels will be hosting a Lenten Mission Vespers on Sunday, April 17th at 4:00 pm. We will need assistance with food preparation, table setup and cleanup. We are planning a simple, limited menu in large quantity, as this is usually a well-attended service. Please contact Alice Morjana at 302.588.5836 or email at alusakm@aol.com to let her know how you can help!

Mission Coin Boxes for OCMC The Orthodox Christian Mission Center annual Mission Coin box program is an excellent opportunity to put our faith in action during the Lenten weeks. Funds raised through the mission coin boxes assist the further growth of ministries that support Christ's Church around the world. In 2015 over \$30,000 were raised through this program. Mission coin boxes will be collected at the end of Lent. Please take a box and consider giving extra this lenten season.

The Annunciation

March 25 is the Feast of the Annunciation, the visit of the archangel Gabriel to Mary, proclaiming God's plan that she would give birth to His Son.

We read the story of the Annunciation on this day, in Luke 1: 24-38. It begins with Gabriel saluting Mary with "Hail," which can be translated as "rejoice." One of the recurring phrases with which Mary is addressed in Orthodox worship is, "Rejoice, O unwedded bride." Origen wrote that a salutation like this is never "addressed to a man; such a special greeting was reserved only for Mary."

Gabriel tells Mary, "The Lord is with you." These words alert us that God is going to do something extraordinary with the person to whom they are addressed. In the Old Testament, Nathan says the words to King David when David plans to build a temple for the Lord (2 Samuel 7:3). In Judges 6: 12 the angel of the Lord comes to encourage Gideon to fight the Midianites, and says, "The Lord is with you, you mighty man of valor" (Judges 6: 12).

Mary is understandably troubled by Gabriel's words, and by his formal greeting. She is, after all, just a young

girl. In answer to her question of how the birth will take place, Gabriel says, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you." His words tell us that this is a uniquely miraculous birth, far beyond any other, including the birth of John the Baptizer which Gabriel also has foretold.

Once again, similar words occur in the Old Testament, describing something important. In Isaiah 32: 15-20 we read about the future transformation of everything in creation, when "the Spirit is [will be] poured upon us from on high."

Luke uses words that tie Christ's birth to the Old Testament, the preparation for His coming, to remind us that God always prepares us for things. But then he makes it clear that this birth, the coming of Christ, is the end and fulfillment of all that preparation. Gabriel says: "...and the Lord God will give him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there will be no end."

Young Mary stands in the presence of this imposing celestial being. She hears these life-changing words. She knows that Gabriel is waiting for her response. Without equivocation, without any more questions, she calmly says, "Let it be to me according to your word."

Her decision will be costly—Simeon will soon tell her of the sword that is to pierce her soul. But she trusts that agreeing to be "the handmaid of the Lord" is the right thing. A reading for this day, Hebrews 2: 14, tells us that it is indeed the right thing for our salvation: "Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he [Christ] himself likewise partook of the same nature, that through death he might destroy him who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong bondage." Mary is the one through whom this deliverance took place.

This weekly bulletin insert complements the curriculum published by the Department of Christian Education of the Orthodox Church in America. This and many other Christian Education resources are available at <http://dce.oca.org>.

Prayers for the Departed: *Archpriest John Udics, Archimandrite Athanasy, Michael Churozy, Michael Boosalis, Gregory Telep, Raymond Popovich, Georgia Harb*

Prayers for the Sick and Those in Need: *Fr. Vladimir Petorak, Fr. Joseph Chupeck, Fr. David Shewczyk,, Fr. Josef Petranin, Mat Julia Petranin, Mat. Ellen Chupeck, Mat. Jennifer Franchak, Lemlem Resat, Harry Wujcik, , Alfred Mokhiber, Peter Melnik, Lily Nassif, Agnes Timchak, Olga Riley, Anna Hotrovich, Marie Holowatch, Marie Karawulan, Barbara Hicks, Maria Current, Anna Herko, Zack Bajuyo, Luke Wales, Nona Carey, Joseph Wojciechowski, Mona Elia, Lydia Kendall, , Maria and Doug Dozier, Mary Anne Farrell, Caiton Tompkins, Michael Vannello, Catalina(Mary) & Jeremy (John) Fink, Alma, Mark, Catherine, Rae, Mat. Joanna*

Prayers for Women and the Children to be Born of Them: *Maria Peck,, Elizabeth Clause, Matushka Anastasia Hojnicky*

Birthdays: *Karen Hojnicky (26th), Olga Maloney (26th)*

Date	<u>Coffee/ Fellowship Hour</u>	<u>Service Duty</u>	<u>Church Cleaners</u>	<u>Library</u>
20-Mar	Lachance/ Shatley/ Hines	Sheeler/ Baldychev	Kendall	Maloney
27-Mar	Najemy/ Kendall	Bunitsky/Lewis	Baldychev/ Shatley	Lewis
3-Apr	Souder/ Riley	Riley	Sulpizi	Gundersen
10-Apr	Kraiter/Cretu/Vladimirova	Elia/ Morjana	Riley	Farrell

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