



Sunday April 10, 2016 FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT —
Tone 4. St. John Climacus (of The Ladder). Martyrs Terence, Pompeius, Africanus, Maximus, Zeno, Alexander, Theodore, Macarius, and 33 others, beheaded at Carthage (3rd c.). Martyrs James (Jacob) the Presbyter, and Azadan and Abdicius—Deacons, of Persia (ca. 380).

This Week's Schedule

- Wednesday 4/13 Presanctified Liturgy 6:30 p.m.
- Thursday 4/14 *Study Group 10:00 a.m.*
- Friday 4/15 Akathist 7:00 p.m. *followed by Study Group*
- Saturday 4/16: Great Vespers 5:00 p.m.
- Sunday 4/17: Hours 8:40 a.m. **Divine Liturgy 9:00 a.m.**
followed by Coffee hour & Church School

Reader Schedule

| DATE | 3RD HOUR | 6TH HOUR | EPISTLE |
|-------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------|
| Apr-10 | BUNITSKY, S | BUNITSKY, K | PECK |
| Apr-17 | RILEY, J | RILEY, A | RILEY, J |
| Apr-24 | SOUDER, C | SULPIZI, L | CAREY |
| May-1 | CARPENTER | RILEY, J | PECK |

Hymns and Prayers

Tone 4 Troparion (Resurrection)

When the women Disciples of the Lord
learned from the Angel the joyous message of the Resurrection,
they cast away the ancestral curse
and elatedly told the Apostles:
“Death is overthrown!
Christ God is risen,//
granting the world great mercy!”

Tone 1 Troparion (for St John Climacus)

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!

Tone 4 Kontakion (for St John Climacus)

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.

Tone 4 Prokeimenon

O Lord, how manifold are Your works; in wisdom have You
made them all. (Ps 103/104:24)
*v: Bless the Lord, O my soul! O Lord, my God, You are very
great! (Ps 103/104:1)*

Tone 7 Prokeimenon (St John Climacus)

Let the saints exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their
couches! (Ps 149:5)

Epistle 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.

Ephesians 5:9-19 *(St John Climacus)*

(for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth), finding out what is acceptable to the Lord. And have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but rather expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of those things which are done by them in secret. But all things that are exposed are made manifest by the light, for whatever makes manifest is light.

Therefore He says: "Awake, you who sleep, Arise from the dead, And Christ will give you light." See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil.

Therefore do not be unwise, but understand what the will of the Lord is. And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord,

Tone 4

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: Go forth, prosper and reign, for the sake of meekness, righteousness and truth! (Ps 44/45:5)

v: For You love righteousness, and hate iniquity. (Ps 44/45:8)

Tone 4

v: They that are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. (Ps 91/92:13)

Gospel 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. 1

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."

Matthew 4:25-5:12 *(St John Climacus)*

Great multitudes followed Him – from Galilee, and from Decapolis, Jerusalem, Judea, and beyond the Jordan.

And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying: Blessed are the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted. Blessed are the meek, For they shall inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, For they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

(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*)
The righteous shall be in everlasting remembrance. He shall not fear evil
tidings. (*Ps 111/112:6b-7a*)
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

This Week’s Announcements

April 16th Cleanup In Preparation for Holy week and Pascha we will have a parish wide cleanup on Saturday April 16 at 9:00 a.m. Please consider coming to help.

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!

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

The Sacrament of Holy Confession Great Lent is a time for us to take personal spiritual inventory of our inner life. Repentance is the beginning and also the condition of a truly Christian life. To become more fully human, more truly ourselves, we have to face our failures. And not just our inadvertent mistakes but also the situations in which we more or less deliberately turn away from what we are really called to be. The traditional approach of the Fathers of the Church is that if we don't admit our sin, we will never bring our-selves to go beyond it. The Lenten season is a perfect opportunity to rediscover our relationship with Christ and get back on the narrow path that leads to salvation. Confessions will be offered on Wednesday evening before Presanctified, Saturday evenings following Great Vespers. If these times are inconvenient please call Fr. Barnabas for confession by appointment. Please do not wait until the last minute!

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.

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.

Body and Soul

On April 13 the Church honors the martyr Crescens. He was the son of a nobleman, and came from Myra in Lycia, a familiar name because it's also the home town of the great Saint Nicholas.

Crescens was respected because he was a member of an eminent family. He was also well-known as a Christian who was not afraid to talk about his faith. So it isn't surprising that one day, seeing a group of pagans on their way to the temple to honor the gods, he started a conversation with them. He asked them why they bothered to offer worship to idols made of stone that couldn't even hear them, let alone respond to them somehow. He told them about the life that Jesus Christ lived among us, and urged them to follow His way.

There is no record of any conversions taking place that day, but someone disapproved of Crescens' action enough to report him to the local prefect, a pagan, who took it very seriously. Crescens was arrested.

However, as the son of a prominent citizen, Crescens could not be treated like some common criminal. In addition to that, the prefect knew his father and was aware that the father was a good, decent man. He tried hard to get Crescens to worship the idols, but when that failed he decided to give the young man a suggestion that would save both of them a lot of trouble, rather than keeping him under arrest.

The prefect said, "If you insist that your soul must cling to this God of yours, so be it. But then just bow to the gods with your body—the outward show of respect will be enough."

But Crescens couldn't possibly have been convinced to do such a thing. He answered, "The body can never do something independently of the soul. It is the soul that gives guidance to the body." He was martyred for his refusal.

The Lenten services of the Orthodox Church reflect this direction of the body by the soul. As we go through Great Lent we use our bodies to bow before God, making our physical movements consistent with the prayers we offer and the repentance we feel in our souls. Crescens' answer to the prefect puts this into words.

Of course it's possible to offer outward signs of love for God that are not really directed by the soul. Some of those who greeted Jesus Christ with shouts of "Hosanna" as He entered Jerusalem, remembered on this Palm Sunday, were ready to demand His crucifixion not much later.

Also on this day we read about the man most notorious for saying with seeming sincerity what he didn't inwardly believe. John 2: 4-6 records Judas' pretended concern for the poor and then bluntly tells us that he didn't care for the poor at all, but was a thief.

As the Feast of the Resurrection approaches, we can look to the martyr Crescens as an example of how body and soul can work together to glorify God.

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: Michael Churozy, Michael Boosalis, Gregory Telep, Raymond Popovich, Georgia Harb, Lily Nassif

Prayers for the Sick and Those in Need: Fr. Vladimir Petorak, Fr. Joseph Chupeck, Fr. Josef Petranin, Mat Julia Petranin, Mat. Ellen Chupeck, Mat. Jennifer Franchak, Mat. Lisa Weremedic, Lemlem Resat, Harry Wujcik, , Alfred Mokhiber, Peter Melnik, 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, Rae, Mat. Joanna Bohush

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

Service Ministries

| Date | <u>Coffee/ Fellowship Hour</u> | <u>Service Duty</u> | <u>Church Cleaner</u> | <u>Library</u> |
|---------------|---|----------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 10-Apr | Kraiter/Cretu/ Vladimirova | Elia/ Morjana | Riley | Farrell |
| 17-Apr | Bacuta | Sulpizi/Fink | | Skomorucha |
| 24-Apr | Oberto | Hojnicki/Souder | Bunitsky/ Oberto | Maloney |
| 1-May | PASCHA | Sheeler/Baldychev | Fravel | <i>No Library</i> |

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

| DATE | VESPERS and LITURGY |
|-------------|----------------------------|
| Apr-10 | Team Conover |
| Apr-17 | Team Gabriel |
| Apr-24 | Team George |

Last Week's Attendance
 04/02 Vespers.....38
 04/03 Divine Liturgy.....103
 03/30 Presanctified Liturgy...40
 04/01 Akathist.....30