



Sunday March 12, 2017 SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT — Tone 5. St. Gregory Palamas. Synaxis of the Venerable Fathers of the Kiev Caves Lavra. Ven. Theophanes the Confessor, of Sigriane (818). Righteous Phineas, grandson of Aaron (ca. 1500 B.C.). St. Gregory Dialogus, Pope of Rome (604). Ven. Simeon the New Theologian (1021).

This Week's Schedule

Wednesday 3/15 Presanctified Liturgy 6:30 p.m.
Friday 3/17 Presanctified Liturgy 6:30 p.m.
Saturday 3/11 Great Vespers 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 3/12 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
Mar-12	BUNITSKY	BUNITSKY	BRASOWSKI
Mar-19	LEWIS	SOUDER	FINCK
Mar 25	ANNUNCIATION		
Mar-26	RILEY	RILEY	RILEY
Apr-2	WALES	WALES	WALES
Apr-9	BUNITSKY	BUNITSKY	FINCK

Hymns and Prayers

Tone 5 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word,
co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit,
born for our salvation from the Virgin;
for He willed to be lifted up on the Cross in the flesh,
to endure death,
and to raise the dead//
by His glorious Resurrection.

Tone 8 Troparion *(St Gregory Palamas)*

O light of Orthodoxy, teacher of the Church, its confirmation,
O ideal of monks and invincible champion of theologians,
O wonderworking Gregory, glory of Thessalonica and preacher of
grace,//
always intercede before the Lord that our souls may be saved!

Tone 4 Kontakion *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

Now is the time for action!
Judgment is at the doors!
So let us rise and fast,
offering alms with tears of compunction and crying:
“Our sins are more in number than the sands of the sea;
but forgive us, O Master of all,//
so that we may receive the incorruptible crowns!”

Tone 8 Kontakion *(St Gregory Palamas)*

Holy and divine instrument of wisdom,
joyful trumpet of theology,
together we sing thy praises, O God-inspired Gregory.
Since thou now standest before the Original Mind, guide our
minds to Him, O Father,//
so that we may sing to thee: “Rejoice, O preacher of grace!”

Tone 5 Prokeimenon

Thou, O Lord, shalt protect us and preserve us from this generation forever. (Ps 11/12:7)

v: Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any that is godly! (Ps 11/12:1)

Tone 1 Prokeimenon *(for St Gregory)*

My mouth shall speak wisdom, the meditation of my heart shall be understanding. (Ps 48/49:3)

Epistle Hebrews 1:10-2:3

And: "You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands.

They will perish, but You remain; and they will all grow old like a garment; like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed. But You are the same, and Your years will not fail."

But to which of the angels has He ever said: "Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool"?

Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation?

Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away.

For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him,

Hebrews 7:26-8:2 *(St Gregory Palamas)*

For such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens; who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for His own sins and then for the people's, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself.

For the law appoints as high priests men who have weakness, but the word of the oath, which came after the law, appoints the Son who has been perfected forever.

Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens,

a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man.

Tone 5

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: I will sing of Thy mercies, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim Thy truth from generation to generation. (Ps 88/89:1)

v: For Thou hast said: "Mercy will be established forever; My truth will be prepared in the heavens." (Ps 88/89:2)

Tone 2 (Triodion)

v: The mouth of the righteous shall meditate wisdom, and his tongue shall speak of judgment. (Ps 36/37:30)

Gospel Mark 2:1-12

And again He entered Capernaum after some days, and it was heard that He was in the house.

Immediately many gathered together, so that there was no longer room to receive them, not even near the door. And He preached the word to them.

Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men.

And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying.

When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you."

And some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts

"Why does this Man speak blasphemies like this? Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

But immediately, when Jesus perceived in His spirit that they reasoned thus within themselves, He said to them, "Why do you reason about these things in your hearts?"

Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise, take up your bed and walk'?

But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins" – He said to the paralytic,

"I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house."

Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

John 10:9-16 (St Gregory Palamas)

I am the door. If anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives His life for the sheep.

But a hireling, he who is not the shepherd, one who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf catches the sheep and scatters them.

The hireling flees because he is a hireling and does not care about the sheep.

I am the good shepherd; and I know My sheep, and am known by My own.

As the Father knows Me, even so I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep.

And other sheep I have which are not of this fold; them also I must bring, and they will hear My voice; and there will be one flock and one shepherd.

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

Hymn to the Theotokos

All of creation rejoiceth 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 rejoiceth in thee, O Full of Grace.//Glory to thee!

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 Announcement

Presanctified Liturgy this Week Just a reminder that this week we will be offering Presanctified Liturgy on both Wednesday (Mar15) and Friday (Mar 17). Don't forget that a Pot Luck dinner follows the Liturgy on Wednesday. Please consider staying for fellowship as well as liturgy.

Lenten Retreat On Saturday April 1st we will be offering a Lenten retreat. The guest speaker for the retreat is Frederica Mathewes-Green. We are trying to get an accurate count of those planning on attending so we are asking if all would please sign up online at <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/409084aa4a92da0fd0-lenten>

Pussy willows for Palm Sunday If you have any pussy willow trees in your yards, will you please cut any pussy willow branches in early spring and bring them to church on Saturday, April 8th. They will be distributed along with palms.

Grass Cutting: We are looking for volunteers to assist with the grass cutting chores this year. There is a signup sheet in the Narthex. The intent is to set up teams of 3 people to work the cutting on a rotating basis. The more teams we can form, the less of a chore it is for everyone. Please help with this effort this year.

Collection for Fr. Nightingale This Lenten season we are collecting for one of our diocesan clergy who suffered a severe fall. The funds collected will go towards renovations to his home and for a handicap vehicle for his use. Please consider participating and pick up an alms bag for Fr. John Nightingale in the church narthex.

Perogie Available Thanks to all who came and helped pinch perogies this past week. Perogies are available for sale in the church hall. Please see Elizabeth Melnick. Get them now before they are gone!

Diaper Drive Thank You Thanks to all who contributed to the Diaper Drive collection. Thank you also to Anne Riley for bringing the need to our attention and for organizing the collection.

Study Group Study group will resume this Thursday (March 16th) at 10 am with "The Ladder of Divine Ascent". All are welcome to join us.

Basics of Orthodoxy We will be offering the basics of Orthodoxy class on Friday evenings during the Lenten season. All are welcome to attend.

Captured but Free in Christ

It could be a question for an Orthodox version of Jeopardy: What two saints, both commemorated in this third week of March, were captured by pirates?

The answer would be Saint Gregory Palamas, whom we remember today, and Saint Patrick of Ireland, whose feast day is on the 17th. Though their experiences with pirates came at different times in their lives, both must have experienced terror. And both lost their liberty, at least for a time, after their capture.

Patrick, born in southwest England, was taken by Irish pirates at the age of sixteen as was sold into slavery in Ireland, toiling for years there in isolated misery. He managed to escape and to convince some sailors to take him back to England, where he was reunited with his family.

We might assume that Patrick would want nothing more to do with Ireland or the Irish after years of such humiliating hardship. Yet in the year 435, already ordained, he agreed to go back to Ireland and preach the faith. He did it so well and so lovingly that besides becoming Ireland's most revered saint, he was given the title "Equal to the Apostles" because he brought a whole country to Christianity.

Nine hundred years later, Gregory Palamas was writing about monasticism and the Christian life. As Father John Meyendorff has written, Gregory believed that:

...the difference between the apostles who went up Mount Tabor with Jesus and the Christians of today lies in the fact that Peter, James and John saw the light "exteriorly," as an object appearing supernaturally to their bodily eyes, while Christians now, sacramentally united to the Redeemer after His death and resurrection, can contemplate the light interiorly, within their hearts. They can develop the potentialities of this gift and its divine character ever more and more until they find God Himself.

St. Gregory Palamas and Orthodox Spirituality, SVS Press, 1974 (p. 117)

While sailing from Thessalonica to Byzantium, Gregory had his own experience of being capture by pirates. They were Muslim Turks, and

they kept Gregory and his fellow passengers in captivity for almost a year. Far from keeping aloof from his "hosts", he spent the time in amicable theological disputes with the son of the Emir, and expressed the hope that "a day will soon come when we will be able to understand each other" (Meyendorff, 106.) This great saint, as we can see from the quotation above, clearly believed in the uniquely authentic relationship of Christians with God through Jesus Christ. Yet his mind and heart were open to exploring another faith.

If Patrick had refused to return to the place where pirates sold him into slavery, Christianity might not have come to Ireland. If Gregory had refused conversation with his Turkish captors, we would not have him as a model for our efforts to engage with Islam today.

Great saints, it seems, can use anything—including capture by pirates—to the glory of God.

Troparion - Tone 3 St. Patrick

Holy Bishop Patrick,

Faithful shepherd of Christ's royal flock,

You filled Ireland with the radiance of the Gospel:

The mighty strength of the Trinity!

Now that you stand before the Savior,

Pray that He may preserve us in faith and love!

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>.

Wisdom from the Holy Fathers

The eyes of the lofty shall be humbled

In Byzantium there existed a remarkable and instructive custom at the coronation of the Emperor in St. Sophia's. This was that, when the Patriarch placed the crown on the Emperor's head, he at the same time placed in his hand a silk purse filled with grave-dust. This was so the Emperor might be mindful of his death, flee all pride and be humble.

Bishop Nikolai Velimirovic. Prologue

'Detachment grows from an experience and taste of the knowledge of God and from a meditation on the account to be rendered at death.'

St. John Climacus

To repent is to smile, not to frown. To look up, not down. It is not just the recognition that things have gone wrong, but the realization that through Christ they can be put right. It is not the sight of our own ugliness but the vision of God's beauty.

Metropolitan Kallistos of Diokleia

If you wish that God should speedily give you hearty faith in prayer, strive with all your heart to speak and to do everything in regard to other people sincerely, and never be deceitful in your dealings with them. If you are straight-forward and truthful with others, then God will give you straightforwardness and sincere faith also in reference to Himself

+ St. John of Kronstadt +

Do not seek the perfection of the law in human virtues, for it is not found perfect in them. Its perfection is hidden in the Cross of Christ.

+ St. Mark the Ascetic +

Remember that each of us has his own cross. The Golgotha of this cross is our heart: it is being lifted or implanted through a zealous determination to live according to the Spirit of God. Just as salvation of the world is by the Cross of God, so our salvation is by our crucifixion on our own cross.

+ Bishop Theophan the Recluse +

Prayers for the Departed: Anwor Kawaja, Robert Germany

Prayers for the Sick and Those in Need: Fr. Joseph Chupeck, Fr. Josef Petranin, Fr. John Nightingale, Mat Julia Petranin, Mat. Ellen Chupeck, Mat. Jennifer Franchak, Mat. Lisa Weremedic, Lemlem Resat, Alfred Mokhiber, Peter Melnik, Agnes Timchak, Olga Riley, Anna Hotrovich, Marie Holowatch, Marie Karawulan, Barbara Hicks, James Hicks, Anna Herko, Zack Bajuyo, Luke & Anna Wales, Nona Carey, Mona Elia, Lydia Kendall, Maria and Doug Dozier, Mary Anne Farrell, Michael Vannello, Catalina(Mary) & Jeremy (John) Finck, John Griffith, Cynthia Griffith, Carson, Stephen, Maria, Aiden, Peck family, Anne Peck, George Coyle, Harry Lewis, Nicholas, Susanne, Josephine Didonatos family

Prayers for Women and the Child to be born: Tatyana Klimova, Elizabeth Clause

Prayers for Catechumens: Carolyn Peck, Stephanie Smiertka

Prayers for Newly Illumined/Chrismated: William(Michael) Wennburg, Emily (Theodora) Zushi, Misty (Mary) Robinson, Cedric Peck

Date	<u>Coffee Hour</u>	<u>Service Duty</u>	<u>Church Cleaner</u>	<u>Library</u>
12-Mar	Najemy/Kendall	Riley	Sulpizi	Skomorucha
19-Mar	Elia/ Gundersen/ Farrell	Sulpizi/ Fink	Riley	Maloney
26-Mar	Oberto/ C. Peck	Hojnicki/ Souder	General Cleaning	Lewis
2-Apr	Pot Luck	Sheeler/ Baldychev	Bunitsky	Gundersen
9-Apr	Pacienza/ George	Bunitsky/ Lewis	Farrell	Farrell

ALTAR SERVER SCHEDULE

DATE

VESPERS and LITURGY

Mar-12

Team Conover

Mar-19

Team Gabriel

Mar-26

Team George

Apr-02

Team Conover