

SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN OF MARCH 4, 2012

SUNDAY/MARCH 4

First Sunday of Great Lent – “Triumph of Orthodoxy” (Tone 5) Wine & Oil

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour

4:00p.m. Vespers at Holy Ghost Church, Manville

4:00p.m. Vespers at Ss. Peter & Paul Church, Passaic

End of the 1st and beginning of 2nd week of the Great & Holy Fast

MONDAY/MARCH 5

7:00p.m. Vespers

TUESDAY/MARCH 6

7:00p.m. Vespers; Confession

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 7

9:30a.m. Akathist to the Passion ; Confession

6:30p.m. Pre-Sanctified Liturgy & Lenten Meal

THURSDAY/MARCH 8

3:00p.m. Vespers; Confessions

7:00p.m. Movie: “The Sacrament of Confession” with discussion to follow

FRIDAY/MARCH 9

40 Holy Martyrs of Sebaste Wine & Oil

7:00p.m. Vespers; Confession

MEMORIAL SATURDAY/MARCH 10

Wine & Oil

9:30a.m. Akathist to Departed; Confession

5:30p.m. Vigil; Confession

Day Light Savings Time Begins – Sunday, March 11th. Set your clocks ahead one hour before going to sleep Saturday night.

SUNDAY/MARCH 11

Second Sunday of Great Lent (Tone 6)

St. Gregory Palamas of Thessalonica

Wine & Oil

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour; Church School

11:45a.m. Movie: “Sacrament of Penance”

4:00p.m. Vespers at St. Gregory Palamas Church in Glen Gardner with Bishop Michael and clergy and faithful of the NJ Deanery

End of the 2nd and beginning of the 3rd week of the Great and Holy Fast



“On the Sunday of Orthodoxy”

Outside of an Orthodox country, the “Triumph of Orthodoxy”, which we celebrate on the First Sunday of Great Lent – is a missionary feast! It inspires, encourages, teaches the Orthodox preachers with the host of those who labored – from the Cross at Golgotha to our day – who created this feast, who brought to the altar of the Word their talents, their labors and their lives.

- St. Alexander of Moscow and New York, Russian New-Martyr & American Missionary

Offerings for the week of March 4

Olive Oil – in memory of Michael and Justina, in memory of Vaschen and Emilia.; in memory of Sandy and Joan; for the health and protection of John and Vera.

Wine – for the health and salvation of Kyra Kulick Lewis (birthday).

Flowers – in memory of Charles Kachek.

Parish Synodicon – Memory Eternal!

Mar.04, 1935 Anna Klimovich
Mar.04, 1959 Sedor Dezko
Mar.05, 1981 Gregory Grenther
Mar.05, 1989 Joan Balogh
Mar.06, 1972 Joseph Lebedz
Mar.08, 1974 John Wigodinski
Mar.08, 1976 Sophie Rose
Mar.08, 1990 Henry Olszyk
Mar.09, 1919 Elizabeth Demstor
Mar.09, 1956 Michael Hnatuk
Mar.09, 1956 Anna Makowski
Mar.09, 1957 John Makowski
Mar.09, 1976 Daria Karanevich
Mar.09, 2010 Charles Kachek
Mar.10, 1936 Jacob Voliakim
Mar.10, 1963 William Zaleski

Coffee Hour Hosting

Coffee Hour Hosts are reminded that in the Great and Holy Lent we do not serve meat, dairy or fish.

Mar. 04 - Combs, Mantzafos, Parsells, Sokol

Mar. 11 - Hunchar, Erkman and Turri

Mar. 18 - Sarchisian, Dunaenko & Hando

Ushers Schedule

Mar .04 - T. Smith & P. Bakaletz

Mar .11 - T. Gorbatuk & J. Stone

Mar. 18 - P. Parsells & C. Dunaenko

Hosting of Deanery Clergy Meeting

Our parish will host a luncheon for the meeting of the New Jersey Deanery Clergy, with Bishop Michael on Monday, March 12th at 10:00a.m. Each month the clergy of our deanery (21 parishes) meets with our bishop to discuss pertinent matters.

Lenten Sunday Vespers

All Vespers Services are at 4:00p.m.

- 2nd Sunday of Great Lent/Mar. 11
St. Gregory Church in Glen Gardner
(Bishop Michael present)
- 3rd Sunday of Great Lent/Mar. 18
Mother of God Church in Mays Landing
- 4th Sunday of Great Lent/Mar. 25
Annunciation Church in Brick
(Bishop Michael present)
- 5th Sunday of Great Lent/Apr. 1
Ss. Peter & Paul Church in Bayonne

Boiled Wheat Is Sought

Mar. 10th, 17th and 24th – Memorial Saturdays at 9:30a.m.

The church will supply cups, spoons and napkins. Please speak with Fr. James.

Pussy Willows Are Sought

Please deposit them in the lower hall. Thanks!

Incense Fragrances In Usage

Week of Mar. 04 - "Hyssop"

Week of Mar. 11 - "Constantinople"

Week of Mar. 18 - "Catacomb"

Your comments on fragrances is welcomed.

2012 Parish Council

- On Sunday, March 11th, the Parish Council will take Pledge of Office at the Divine Liturgy.
- Parish Council Meeting, Thursday, March 15th at 7:00p.m.

Film "On the Sacrament of Confession"

On Thursday, March 8th at 7:00p.m. and again on Sunday, March 11th at 11:45a.m. a 45 minute film will be presented with time for discussion after. All of us could always learn something new and perhaps correct misunderstandings we may have about exactly what Confession is.

Spring Church Cleaning

Saturday, March 24th at 10:30a.m. Please plan to be here and help out.

THE TOP 10 LENTEN TIPS

1. Regardless of how you fast, fast every single day. This type of fasting helps wear down the passions and build spiritual endurance.
2. Know exactly what the fasting regulations are and try to approximate them as best you can. Each Lent, try to be more strict yet humble.
3. Particular concerns about fasting? Age, health issues, never fasted before, mixed-marriages? Speak with your priest.
4. Be sure to recite the Lenten prayer of Saint Ephraim. If you cannot make prostrations just make bows or cross yourself.
5. On weekends, we do not make prostrations and our fasting is slightly relaxed.
6. The Lenten services and tones are offered only during the week – strive to participate as much as possible in these services and the spirit of lent will rub off on you.
7. Sports and outdoor activities are not contrary to the Lenten spirit.
8. Strive to avoid going to movies, parties, vacations, and other entertainments. This we do so we can have more time to devote to spiritual things.
9. Confession and Holy Communion are central to securing the benefits of Lent. Without fail, we should receive the Sacraments during the period of Great Lent.
10. Be mindful of what we look at and how much time we spend on TV and computer. Some give up TV for all of Lent. Others strictly limit their time and watch only educational and news programs. Surfing on the web? Hit the theological sites.



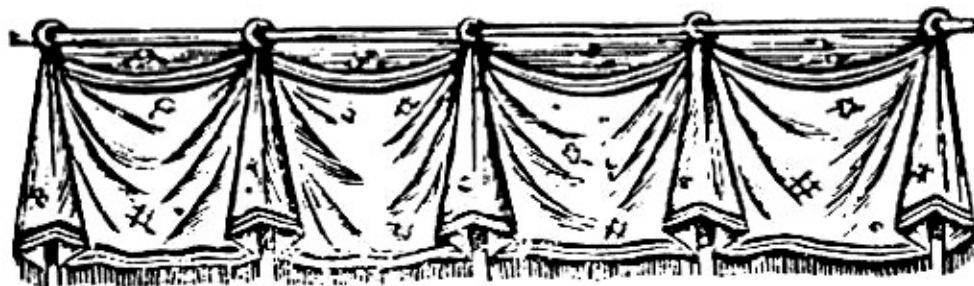
ON FASTING AND SELF-CONTROL

By St. Gregory Palamas

By our actions in Great Lent, let us lay hold of the benefit of fasting and self-control. Let us prove our good disposition towards them and give a practical demonstration of the fruit they bear. "For every tree is known by its own fruit" (Luke 6:44), and, "The husbandman must be first partaker of the fruits. Consider what I say," says the apostle (2 Timothy 2:6-7). Each of the other virtues cleanses and adorns either the soul or the body, or rather, just one part of the soul or body. The mind is cleansed and adorned by prayer and knowledge, anger by meekness, and desire by chastity. But fasting and self-control lull the stirrings of the body and quench the raging of anger and desire. They make the understanding like a clear, cloudless sky, cleansing it from the rising vapors which result from large quantities of food, and the melancholy which they cause.

The outward man perishes through fasting and self-control but the more he does so, the more the inward man is renewed, as the apostle tells us (2 Corinthians 4:16). Someone has said, "A fat belly does not bring forth a sound mind." A belly refined by fasting and self-control, however, necessarily refines the mind as well.

Everything noble and good is accomplished and perfected by these means. Fasting and self-control are a double wall of defense and whoever lives within them enjoys great peace.



THE LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS

By VRev. Thomas Hopko

The eucharistic Divine Liturgy is not celebrated in the Orthodox Church on lenten weekdays, since the full Divine Liturgy has a joyful character not in keeping with the somberness of the Great Fast. However, in order for the faithful to sustain their lenten effort by participation in Holy Communion, the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is served. The service is an ancient one in the Orthodox Church. We officially hear about it in the canons of the seventh century, which obviously indicates its development at a much earlier date.

On all days of the holy fast of Lent, except on the Sabbath, the Lord's Day, and the holy day of the Annunciation, the Liturgy of the Presanctified is to be served (Canon 52, Quinisext, 692).

The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is an evening service. It is the solemn lenten Vespers with the administration of Holy Communion added to it. There is no consecration of the eucharistic gifts at the presanctified liturgy. Holy Communion is given from the eucharistic gifts sanctified on the previous Sunday at the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, unless, of course, the feast of the Annunciation should intervene; hence its name of "presanctified."

The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is served on Wednesday and Friday evenings, although some churches may celebrate it only on one of these days. It comes in the evening after a day of spiritual preparation and total abstinence. The faithful who are unable to make the effort of total fasting because of weakness or work, however, normally eat a light lenten meal in the early morning.

During the psalms of Vespers, the presanctified gifts are prepared for communion. They are transferred from the altar table where they have been reserved since the Divine Liturgy, and are placed on the table of oblation. After the evening hymn, the Old Testament scriptures of Genesis and

Proverbs are read, between which the celebrant blesses the kneeling congregation with a lighted candle and the words: "The Light of Christ illumines all," indicating that all wisdom is given by Christ in the Church through the scriptures and sacraments. This blessing was originally directed primarily to the catechumens -- those preparing to be baptized on Easter -- who attended the service only to the time of the communion of the faithful.

After the readings, the evening Psalm 141 is solemnly sung once again with the offering of incense. Then, after the litanies of intercession and those at which the catechumens were dismissed in former days, the presanctified eucharistic gifts are brought to the altar in a solemn, silent procession. The song of the entrance calls the faithful to communion.

Now the heavenly powers (i.e., the angels) do minister invisibly with us. For behold the King of Glory enters. Behold the mystical sacrifice, all fulfilled, is ushered in.

Let us with faith and love draw near that we may be partakers of everlasting life. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

After the litany and prayers, the Our Father is sung and the faithful receive Holy Communion to the chanting of the verse from Psalm 34: "O taste and see how good is the Lord. Alleluia." The post-communion hymns are sung and the faithful depart with a prayer to God who "has brought us to these all-holy days for the cleansing of carnal passions," that he will bless us "to fight the good fight, to accomplish the course of the fast, and to attain unto and to adore the holy resurrection" of Christ.

The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is traditionally considered to be the work of the sixth-century pope, Saint Gregory of Rome. The present service, however, is obviously the inspired liturgical creation of Christian Byzantium.

