

5th Sunday of Great Lent – St. Mary of Egypt

Thou wast standing before the doors of the Church,
polluted with evil and unable to enter.

Accused by thine own conscience, O wise one of God,
thou wast converted to a better way of life.

Looking upon the icon of the blessed Mother of God,
thou didst condemn all thy past sins, O Mother Mary,//
and didst go to bow before the precious Cross.

Having worshipped at the holy places with great joy,
thou didst receive saving grace for thy journey of virtue.
Thou didst set out in haste to follow the narrow path,
crossing the river Jordan,
and going to live where the Baptist had dwelt.

Through self-denial thou didst tame the savagery of the passions,
and through violence thou didst break the rebellion of thy flesh,//
taking the Kingdom of God by force.

Thou didst live alone in the wilderness,
and as thou didst erase the images of sin from thy soul,
God marked it with the imprint of holiness.

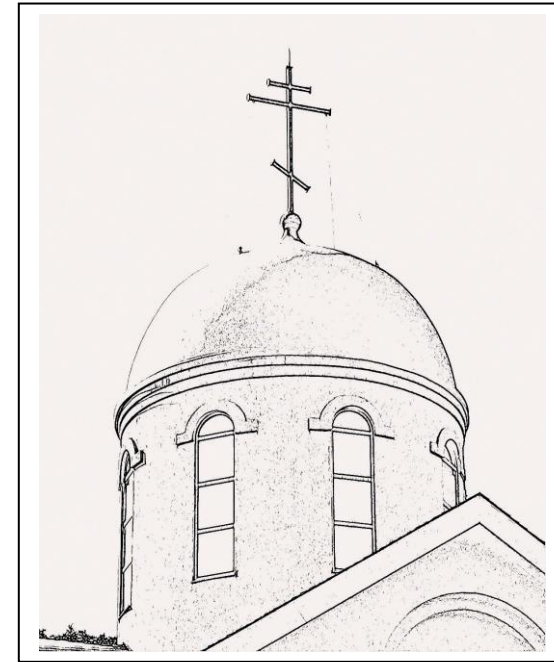
Filled with the spirit, O Blessed Mother,
thou didst walk on the surface of the waters;
by thy prayers thou didst ascend from earth to heaven.
Since thou standest before Christ, O glorious Mary,//
entreat Him with boldness to save our souls!

The power of Thy Cross has worked a wonder, O Christ.

Through it a harlot became a champion of the ascetic life.
She cast aside her weakness and bravely fought the devil,
and having won the prize of victory,//
she ceaselessly prays for our souls.

Stikhera from Great Vespers

WEEKLY



BULLETIN

Today is the beginning of our salvation, the revelation of the eternal mystery. The Son of God becomes the Son of the Virgin as Gabriel announces the coming of Grace. Together with him let us cry to the Theotokos: Rejoice O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you!

Troparion of the Annunciation to the Theotokos

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION

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Rev. Fr. Michael Pejovic, *Attached Priest*

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Matushka Mary Buletza-Breton, *Choir Director*

April 21, 2024
FIFTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT
St. Mary of Egypt

Tone 5. Hieromartyr Januarius, Bishop of Benevento, and his companions: Festus, Proculus, and Sosius—Deacons, Desiderius—Reader, and Euty chius and Acutius—laymen, at Pozzuoli (ca. 305). Hieromartyr Theodore of Perge in Pamphylia, his mother, Philippa, and Martyrs Dioscorus, Socrates, and Dionysius (2nd c.). Martyrs Isaac, Apollos, and Quadratus, of Nicomedia (303). St. Maximian, Patriarch of Constantinople (434). The Recovery of the Relics of Saint Theodore of Sanaxar (1791).

Today's Readings:

Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14 and Galatians 3:23-29

Gospel: Mark 10:32-45 and Luke 7:36-50

Upcoming Service Schedule:

Today – **9:00am Divine Liturgy**

Today – **5:00pm Deanery Lenten Vespers @ Wayne**

Wednesday – **6:00pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**

Friday – **6:00pm Vespers (Lazarus Saturday)**

Saturday – **9:00am Baptism & Divine Liturgy (Lazarus Saturday)**

Saturday – **6:00pm Great Vespers**

Sunday – **9:00am Divine Liturgy**

Next Sunday's Readings:

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9

Gospel: John 12:1-18



*St. Mary
of Egypt*

*Please pray for vocations to the Holy
Priesthood!*

Special Prayers

We pray for all our parish family members, but we pray especially for those who are ill and afflicted. Among them are **Mary Herelick, Zoran Pejovic, Betty James, Manya Shark, Deryl Tczap, Mary Tczap, George Stavrou, Margaret Makara, Dennis & Ann Marie Gahr, Michael Getmanov, Alan Diaz, Mary Ann Sivilic, and Lori Ratushnik.**

We are happy that you have joined us for worship today and hope that you will join us for Coffee Hour after the veneration of the Cross. **The reception of the Holy Eucharist** is only for baptized members of the Orthodox Church who have prepared with prayer, fasting, and periodic confession. You are encouraged to receive the blessed bread that is **offered at the end of the service and which may also be offered to you by one of your neighbors during Communion.**

Annunciations

TODAY – Please join us for **Coffee Hour** in the Parish Hall after the Veneration of the Cross. **Team #3** is in charge.

TODAY – **Church School** class will be held during Coffee Hour.

TODAY – The **St. Catherine Society** will meet during Coffee Hour.

TODAY – The **Lenten Food Drive** is underway. Grocery bags and lists of needed items are located both in the church narthex and in the parish hall.

TODAY – The final **Deanery Lenten Mission Vespers** of the Lenten season will be served at Holy Resurrection Church in Wayne at 5:00 PM. Archbishop Michael will preside. All are invited to participate.

THIS WEDNESDAY - The **Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts** will be served at 6:00pm. An agape pot-luck meal will follow, to which everyone is invited to bring a Lenten dish.

THIS SATURDAY – Prior to the Divine Liturgy, Al Lovecky will be **baptized and chrismated** into the Orthodox Faith. **Glory be to God!**

We are in the midst of Great Lent during which we are encouraged to participate in the **Lenten discipline of fasting** from meat and dairy until the Great Feast of Holy Pascha. All fasting should be undertaken with regard to each person's ability to tolerate its physical demands. If you have questions about the Lenten discipline, please contact Father Gary for further clarification.

If we wish to receive the **Eucharist at the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**, some fasting should precede the reception. Ideally, no food or drink should be taken from the midnight prior to the service. If this is not possible, then fasting after a light breakfast or an early lunch is advised.

Dessert Rolls are available for sale. Please speak with Cathy Berger or Olga Pasick to make purchases today.

MANY YEARS

Birthdays this week:

Monday – Jason Price

Tuesday – Kathy Diaz

Friday – Miranda Humphrey

Keep up on OCA news by visiting
www.oca.org, *diocesan news by visiting*
www.nynjoca.org, *and parish news by*
visiting
www.occa-brick.org.