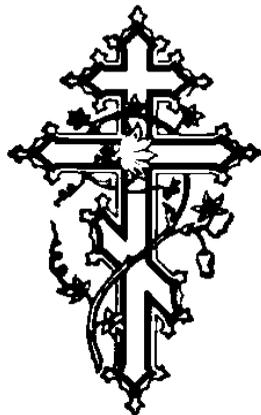


## TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

**Hebrews 4:14-5:6 (Epistle)** Brethren: Since we have a great High Priest Who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but One Who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not exalt Himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by Him Who said to Him, "Thou art my Son, today I have begotten Thee"; as He says also in another place, "Thou art a priest for ever, after the order of Melchizedek."

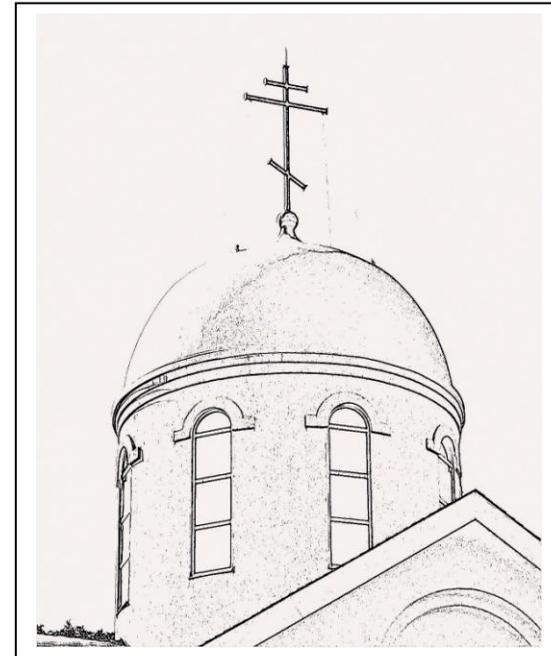
**Mark 8:34-9:1 (Gospel)** The Lord said: If any man would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life shall lose it; and whoever loses his life for My sake and the Gospel's shall save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of Me and of My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him shall the Son of Man also be ashamed, when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And He said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who shall not taste death before they see that the kingdom of God has come with power."



How precious the gift of the cross, how splendid to contemplate! In the cross there is no mingling of good and evil, as in the tree of paradise: it is wholly beautiful to behold and good to taste. The fruit of this tree is not death but life, not darkness but light. This tree does not cast us out of paradise, but opens the way for our return... By the cross death was slain and Adam was restored to life. The cross is the glory of all the apostles, the crown of the martyrs, the sanctification of the saints. By the cross we put on Christ and cast aside our former self. By the cross we, the sheep of Christ, have been gathered into one flock, destined for the sheepfold of heaven.

St. Theodore the Studite (7th C.)

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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Archpriest Gary Joseph Breton, *Rector*

Archpriest Sergius Kuharsky, *Retired Attached Priest*

Richard Hascha, *Senior Warden*

Reader Timothy Kozak, *Choir Director*

April 7, 2013

THIRD SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT

Veneration of the Cross

Tone 3. Repose of St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia and Enlightener of North America (1925—March 25 O.S.). St. George the Confessor, Bishop of Mitylene (9th c.). Ven. Daniel, Abbot of Pereyaslavl'-Zaleskii (1540). Martyr Calliopos at Pompeiopolis in Cilicia (304). Martyrs Rufinus the Deacon, Aquilina, and 20 soldiers with them at Sinope (ca. 310). Ven. Serapion of Egypt (5th c.).

Today's Readings:

Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6 and Hebrews 7:26-8:2

Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1 and John 10:9-16

Upcoming Week Service Schedule:

Today – 4:00pm Lenten Vespers @ Holy Cross Church, Medford

Wednesday – 7:00pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Friday – 9:30am Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Friday – 7:00pm Akathist to the Precious and Life-giving Cross

Saturday – 7:00pm Vespers

Sunday – 10:00am Divine Liturgy

Sunday – 4:00pm Lenten Vespers @ Ss. Peter and Paul Church, Manville

Next Sunday's Readings:

Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 and Ephesians 5:9-19

Gospel: Mark 9:17-31 and Matthew 4:25-5:12

Coffee Hour Teams:

Today – Paxton Team Next Sunday – May Team

Special Prayers

We pray for all our fellow parishioners, but we pray especially for those who are incapable of being with us in church. Among them are: Julia Katko, Helen Alexander, Dorothy Gornick, Tom Collins, Carl Dittinger, Diane Monteverde, Carol Menzel, Daria Riegler, Daniel Riegler, Walter Romanofsky, Anastasia Petrow, Millie Podolak, Anna Hlinka, Ann Marie Gahr, and Tara Escalona.

Welcome to our visitors who have joined us today for worship and prayer. We invite you to stay with us after today's services for an Agape Coffee Hour in our Parish Hall. Please sign our guest book before you leave, tell your friends and family members about us, and bring back one or two of them on your next visit!

Memory Eternal! Our sister in Christ, Olga Romanofsky, fell asleep in the Lord last Saturday. The burial service was held here Friday evening, and the Divine Liturgy was served yesterday morning. Burial followed at St. Vladimir Cemetery in Jackson. A 9-day panikhida will be served today after Divine Liturgy.

TODAY – The Lenten Mission Vespers for our area will be served at Holy Cross Church in Medford. All are invited to attend and enjoy lenten refreshments after the service. A schedule of future Deanery Mission Vespers throughout Great Lent is posted on the parish bulletin board in the narthex.

WEDNESDAY, April 10 - The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is served at 7:00pm. An agape pot-luck meal follows the service. If you plan to attend, please bring along a Lenten dish for all to share. If you plan to receive the Eucharist at this service, please refrain from eating and drinking during the day to the degree you are able.

Sunday, April 21 – A presentation dealing with the subject of bullying will be hosted by the Brick Clergy Association at 2pm at Brick Presbyterian Church. This timely and important event will be free. Details will be provided shortly.

Great Lent is the ideal time to avail oneself of the Sacrament of Confession. Father Gary will hear confessions after every Vespers and Akathist service. If you would prefer to come to the sacrament prior to the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, please notify Father Gary as early as possible so that this may be accomodated.

Catch up on the latest diocesan news at www.nynjoca.org, and the latest news from the central church (OCA) at www.oca.org. His Grace. Bishop Michael's latest Q&A video on Great Lent is now accessible on the diocesan website.

Many Years!

Birthdays this week:

Today – Debbie Alpaugh, Gail Hascha

Tuesday – Cynthia Stavrou, Jackie Anderson

Wednesday – Walter Romanofsky, Sever Ciorlian

OUTREACH

- Food Pantry donations are always accepted. Place non-perishable food items in blue bin in the narthex
- Clothing donations are accepted on the last Sunday of each month. Place donations next to the food pantry bin.