

...from the Church's hymnology...

The Lord took a handful of dust from the earth.  
He breathed into it and created me, a living man.  
He made me lord and master of all things on earth;  
truly I enjoyed the life of the angels.  
But Satan the deceiver tempted me in the guise of a serpent;  
I ate the forbidden fruit and forfeited the glory of God.  
Now I have been delivered to the earth through death.//  
O my compassionate Lord, call me back to Eden!

*Gr. Vespers, The Expulsion of Adam & Eve from Paradise*

When the Enemy tempted me,  
I disobeyed Thy command, O Lord.  
I exchanged the glory of my mortal body for shame and nakedness.  
Now I must wear garments of skins and fig-leaves;  
I am condemned to eat the bread of bitter hardship by the sweat of my brow.  
The earth is cursed and brings forth thorns and husks for me.  
O Lord, Thou didst take on flesh from the Virgin in the fullness of time;//  
call me back and restore me to Eden!

*Gr. Vespers, The Expulsion of Adam & Eve from Paradise*

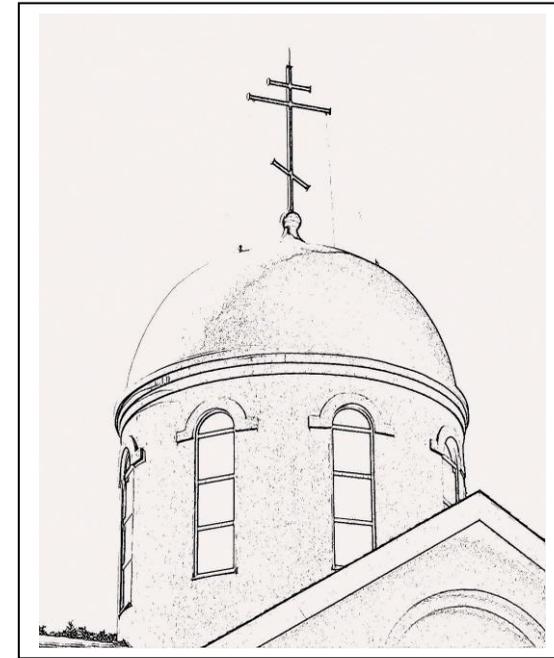
Let us begin the fast with joy!  
Let us prepare ourselves for spiritual efforts!  
Let us cleanse our soul and cleanse our flesh!  
Let us abstain from every passion as we abstain from food!  
Let us rejoice in virtues of the Spirit and fulfill them in love,  
that we all may see the Passion of Christ our God,//  
and rejoice in spirit at the holy Pascha!

*Vespers of Forgiveness*

**Keep up on OCA news by visiting [www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org), diocesan news by visiting [www.nynjoca.org](http://www.nynjoca.org), and parish news by visiting [www.occa-brick.org](http://www.occa-brick.org).**

*The Distinguished Diocesan Benefactors program is an essential vehicle for funding the activities and programs of our diocese. As you plan your year-end giving, please consider participating in this program. More information is available at the diocesan website at [www.nynjoca.org](http://www.nynjoca.org).*

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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Very Rev. Fr. Gary Joseph Breton, *Rector*

Very Rev. Fr. Paul Kucynda, *Retired Attached Priest*

Rev. Fr. Michael Pejovic, *Attached Priest*

Matthew Petrides, *Senior Warden*

Matushka Mary Buletza-Breton, *Choir Director*

March 17, 2024  
SUNDAY OF CHEESEFARE

The Expulsion of Adam and Eve from Paradise  
Forgiveness Sunday

*Tone 8. Ven. Aleksy (Alexius) the Man of God (411). Ven. Macarius the Wonderworker, Abbot of Kalyázinsk (Tver'—1483). Martyr Marinus. St. Patrick, Bishop of Armagh, Enlightener of Ireland (ca. 461).*

**Today's Readings:**

***Epistle:*** Romans 13:11-14:4

***Gospel:*** Matthew 6:14-21

**Upcoming Service Schedule:**

Today – 9:00am Divine Liturgy

Today – 10:30am Vespers of Forgiveness

Mon-Thu – 6:00pm Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

Friday – 6:00pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Saturday – 6:00pm Great Vespers

Sunday – 9:00am Divine Liturgy

Sunday – 6:00pm Vigil for the Annunciation

Monday – 9:00am Vespers w.Liturgy (*Annunciation*)

**Next Sunday's Readings:**

***Epistle:*** Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2

***Gospel:*** John 1:43-51



*The Expulsion of  
Adam and Eve  
from Paradise*

***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, Ellen Norman, and Lori Ratushnuk.**

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** - Those **elected to serve on the Parish Council** at the Parish Annual Meeting will be installed along with the officers of the St. Catherine Society.

**TODAY** – To foster greater participation, the **Vespers of Forgiveness** will be served immediately following the installation of the Parish Council. At the end of Vespers, we will participate in the **Rite of Forgiveness**, a concrete and meaningful way for us to begin the season of repentance - **Great Lent**.

**TODAY** – Please join us for **Coffee Hour** in the Parish Hall after the Rite of Forgiveness. **Team #2** is in charge.

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

**TODAY** – Father Gary has written a **letter on stewardship and parish finances**. Please pick up your copy in the narthex.

**TOMORROW** is the **first day of Great Lent**. In addition to the Divine Liturgy on Sundays, try to participate in as many **weekday services** as you are able. They truly help us to draw nearer to God during the season of repentance. **The Compline with the Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete** will be served Monday through Thursday evenings of this week. **The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts** will be served this Friday evening. Please check the **service schedule** on the opposite page for a complete listing of this week's services.

**TOMORROW** - We begin 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.

**Monday, March 25** is the **Great Feast of the Annunciation to the Most-holy Theotokos**. This is our **parish's patronal Feast**. Archbishop Michael will be with us for the Vigil on Sunday evening and for the Divine Liturgy on Monday. Please plan to participate with your fellow parishioners.

**Friday, March 29** – **Dessert Rolls** will be baked. **Help** will be needed in the afternoon especially. Please speak with Cathy Berger or Olga Pasick if you can help.