



ALL SAINTS ORTHODOX CHURCH

Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of North America

4129 W. Newport Ave., Chicago, IL 60641

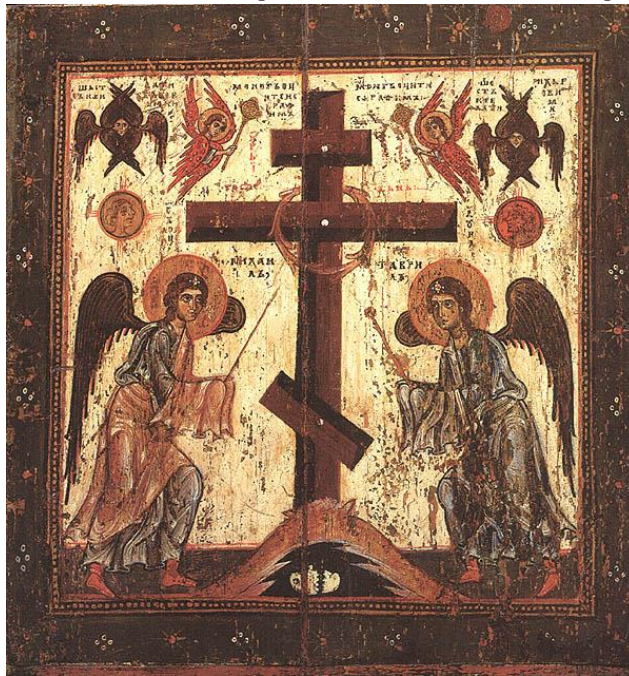
773-231-6177

www.allsaintsorthodox.org

Sunday, March 27, 2022

Saturday Vespers, 7pm • Sunday Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:30am

Veneration of the Holy Cross • Third Sunday of Lent



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Hymns of the Day, immediately after the Small Entrance:

Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 7): Thou didst shatter death by Thy Cross, Thou didst open paradise to the thief; Thou didst turn the sadness of the ointment-bearing women into joy. And didst bid Thine Apostles proclaim a warning, that Thou hast risen O Christ, granting to the world the great mercy.

Troparion for the Holy Cross (Tone 1): O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, granting to Thy people victory over all their enemies, and by the power of Thy Cross preserving Thy habitation.

Kontakion to the Theotokos for the Sundays of Lent (Tone 8): O Champion Leader, to thee I offer thanks of victory! O Theotokos, thou hast delivered me from terror. As thou hast invincible power, O Theotokos, thou truly can set me free from all danger. Set me free and deliver me, that I may cry unto thee: Hail, O bride without bridegroom!

Troparion of All Saints (Tone 4): Adorned in the blood of Thy martyrs, throughout all the world as in purple and fine linen, Thy Church through them doth cry unto Thee, O Christ God: Send down Thy compassion upon Thy people; grant peace to Thy habitation and great mercy to our souls.

THE EPISTLE

For the Third Sunday of Lent

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance.

Unto Thee, O Lord, will I cry, O my God!

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews (4:14-5:6)

Brethren, since we have a great High Priest, who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast the confession. For we do not have a High Priest who is unable to sympathize with our infirmities, but one who has been in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore draw near with boldness to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy, and may find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest, being taken from among the people, is appointed on behalf of the people in things pertaining to God, that he may offer up both gifts and sacrifices for sins; who can have



compassion on the ignorant and on those who are erring, since he himself also is encompassed with infirmity. Because of this he is bound, as for the people so also for himself, to offer up for sins. And no one takes the honor upon himself, but as being called by God, as was Aaron. So Christ also did not glorify Himself to become a High Priest, but it was by the One saying to Him, “Thou art My Son, today I have begotten Thee.” As He says also in another place, “Thou art a Priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.”

THE GOSPEL

For the Third Sunday of Lent

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (8:34-9:1)

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 will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel’s will save it. For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels.” And Jesus said to them, “Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power.”



:: THE CROSS IN OUR LIFE, Part 1 ::

By Metropolitan Joseph

Many heretics of our time don't believe in the cross, even if they may call themselves Christians. Some pop stars and actors wear the cross, but by the witness of their lives we can assume that they don't put much value in the cross except as an empty symbol. There is nothing new under the sun and there have always been accusation against our Church. In the second century, Christians were accused of practicing incest, of being cannibals, of being ignorant and of being bad citizens. The most dangerous accusation was that the Christian teaching was



unreasonable. This idea purported that the incarnation was nonsense; God would not lower Himself to become a tiny baby or to be crucified as a common thief.

At the peak of these accusations was that Christians worshipped a crucified animal. In the excavation of the old city of Rome, a stone was discovered which pictured a crucified person, who had the head of a donkey. This picture was drawn to ridicule the Christians who worshipped someone who had been crucified.

In response to all these accusations, Christians pointed to the injustices. There were no secrets among Christians. Christians were good citizens and Christianity was a reasonable belief. The death of Christ was the supreme sacrifice! The cross is not just a symbol or piece of material in our life. *"For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God"* (1 Cor. 1:18).

Without the Holy Cross of our Lord and deep understanding of our faith, we manifest the same accusations. Faith and knowledge must go together. Faith alone leads to superstition and knowledge alone is limited to facts. The process is called Transformation which means transfiguring ourselves to a better understanding of faith and a better life in light of the Holy Cross.

Our prominent St. Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch (AD 115), struggled to disprove and refute two contemporaries of the Christian faith:

1. *Judaizers*, who were relapsing to the Old Testament thinking that Jesus was merely a prophet who was above passion and crucifixion. They found the Old Testament a relaxing religion in which the cross did not exist.

2. *Docetists*, which asserted that Christ had not really come in the flesh and was not really crucified; He only appeared to be crucified.

These two heresies resisted Orthodoxy throughout the history of Christianity taking different forms. History reveals how foolish and scandalous the cross seemed to many religions; to Jews, Judaizers, Gentiles and Moslems.

These heretics still exist in our age because many are convinced that the prophets and the Son of God are above the punishment of crucifixion. To them, only condemned personas are affixed to the cross to await death. These tendencies were always disproved by the fact of Jesus' birth in the flesh and Jesus' death on the cross. Jesus' death on the cross marked the end of the Law of the Old Testament (Gal 3:13).

Jesus was lifted up on the cross as Moses lifted the serpent in the wilderness. What is this serpent which was lifted up by Moses? What is the meaning of the typology? If we go back to the Book of Numbers in the Old Testament, we will see that the people became impatient in the desert and that they spoke against God. Thus, the fiery serpent was sent among the people so that many of them died. These poisonous snakes were a kind of divine judgment on the people's rebellion against God. So, Moses prayed for the people. And the Lord told Moses to make a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. Everyone who was bitten when they saw it would live. This could be seen as spiritual testing; persecution, difficulty, trial. This whole process is one of self-denying.

Jesus used the symbol of the healing snake as representing His crucifixion and resurrection which heals us from death and sin. The verb "lifted up" has a double meaning. It refers to the cross of Jesus and to His glorification in His resurrection and ascension.

From His analogy, the crowd understood that Jesus spoke about His death, but for the masses of people, Messiah and death were incompatible. When Jewish nationalism was on the rise, the expectation of a Messiah acquired political overtones. The people expected Jesus to be a national leader, a mighty king who would deliver the people from the Roman yoke and restore the earthly kingdom of Israel. The crowds and even the disciples that gladly listened to Jesus shared in the understanding of Messiah. They continued to hold these hopes until the very end. The people wanted Jesus to be a king who would not hesitate to use the sword for the realization of their nationalistic dreams.

Announcements and Upcoming Events

For a full calendar of events and services at All Saints, see our website www.allsaintsorthodox.org

Today:

- Cross veneration at the end of Matins
- **Adult church school:** Mariana Cuceu will offer a presentation on her work in Romania with the St. Paraskeva Charity.
- **Teen SOYO:** After coffee hour and Sunday school, there will be a Teen SOYO meeting and Lenten service project.

This week:

- **Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, & Friday:** Lenten morning prayers, 9am. *Throughout Lent, our daily morning prayers will include readings from the Psalms, Biblical canticles, and daily hymns from the Lenten Triodion.*
- **Wed., March 30:** Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, 7pm. *Potluck meal will follow.*
- **Fri., April 1:** Madayeh (Akathist) service at St. George Church in Cicero, 7pm.
- **Sat., April 2:** Icon Academy, 9am; Intro to Orthodoxy class, 6pm; Vespers, 7pm.
- **Next Sunday, April 3: St. John Climacus.** Matins & Divine Liturgy, 8:30am, followed by coffee hour and Sunday school.

CAMP ST. GEORGE: Our diocesan summer camp resumes this year for ages 9 through high school! It will take place July 3-9 at Camp Ewalu in Strawberry Point, Iowa. Please see Fr. Andrew if you are interested, so we can coordinate transportation and scholarship funds.

LENTEN COIN BOXES: Please take a **“Food for Hungry People” coin box** from the greeters’ table! These are supplied each Lent by the Fellowship of St. John the Divine, in accordance with our archdiocese, to feed the hungry around the world. **Please use these boxes all during Lent and turn them in at Pascha to be blessed.** Please replace the coins with a check marked “For the Poor” in the memo line, or submit paper money. If you have any questions, contact Pat K.

“The merciful person is he who gives to others what he has himself received from God, whether it be money, food, strength, a helpful word, prayer or anything else that he has through which he can express his compassion for those in need. At the same time he considers himself a debtor since he has received more than he is asked to give.” (St. Peter of Damascus)

Volunteer Schedule

Date	Reader	Prospora	Greeter	Coffee	Food
Sun, Mar 27 <i>Holy Cross</i>	Michelle C	Pat K	Azizeh C	Lydia A	G-K
Wed, Mar 30		Debbie K	Domitille	n/a	Potluck
Sun Apr 3 <i>St John Climacus</i>	Polycarp	Domitille	Nancy L	Domitille	L-P
Wed Apr 6		Dn Walid	Azizeh C	n/a	Potluck
Sun Apr 10	Jim K	Cristina P	Sandy A	Alina S	R-Z
Wed Apr 13		Dn Walid	Domitille	n/a	Potluck
Sat Apr 16 <i>Lazarus</i>	Paul K	Sandy A	Nancy L.		
Sun Apr 17 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	Jason L	Debbie K	Sandy A	Zach C	A-F

For Sunday coffee hour, the church has been divided into four parts alphabetically (A-F, G-K, L-P, and R-Z). On your assigned week, please bring something simple to share with everyone for coffee hour.

If you have children, please monitor them as they go through the coffee hour line, and help them clean up after themselves.

Weekly clean-up will be the responsibility of those providing coffee hour. And of course, things go faster when we can all pitch in and help.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

MARCH 27–APRIL 2, 2022

ADAPTED FROM THE
LECTIONARY OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ARCHDIOCESE

Sunday, March 27: Veneration of the Precious & Life-Giving Cross

Hebrews 4:14-5:6 / Mark 8:34-9:1

Monday, March 28: Apostle Herodion of the 70

Hebrews 9:1-10 / Mark 6:30-44

Isaiah 14:24-32 / Genesis 8:21-9:7 / Proverbs 11:19-12:6

Tuesday, March 29: Mark, Bishop of Arethusa

Hebrews 9:11-15 / Mark 6:45-56

Isaiah 25:1-9 / Genesis 9:8-17 / Proverbs 12:8-22

Wednesday, March 30: St. John Climacus, author of *The Divine Ladder of Ascent*

Hebrews 9:15-22 / Mark 7:1-23

Isaiah 26:21-27:9 / Genesis 9:18-10:1 / Proverbs 12:23-13:9

Thursday, March 31: Innocent, Enlightener of Siberia & Alaska

Hebrews 9:23-28 / Mark 7:24-30

Isaiah 28:14-22 / Genesis 10:32-11:9 / Proverbs 13:19-14:6

Friday, April 1: Holy Mother Mary of Egypt

Hebrews 10:1-10 / Mark 8:1-10

Isaiah 29:13-23 / Genesis 12:1-7 / Proverbs 14:15-26

Saturday, April 2: Titus the Wonderworker

Hebrews 6:9-12 / Mark 7:31-37

ALL SAINTS IS A PARISH OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
THE MOST REVEREND METROPOLITAN JOSEPH
THE RIGHT REVEREND BISHOP ANTHONY, DIOCESE OF TOLEDO AND THE MIDWEST
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