

ALL SAINTS ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of North America 4129 W. Newport Ave., Chicago, IL 60641 773-231-6177 • www.allsaintsorthodox.org

Sunday, April 6, 2025

St. Mary of Egypt • Fifth Sunday of Lent
Saturday Vespers, 7pm • Sunday Orthros & Divine Liturgy, 8:30am



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Apolytikion of the Resurrection (Tone 8): From the heights Thou didst descend, O compassionate one, and Thou didst submit to the three-day burial, that Thou might deliver us from passion. Thou art our life and our resurrection; O Lord, glory to Thee!

Apolytikion for St. Mary of Egypt (Tone 8): Through thee, the divine likeness was securely preserved, O mother Mary, for thou didst carry the cross and follow Christ. By example and precept thou didst teach us to ignore the body, because it is perishable, and to attend to the concerns of the undying soul. Therefore, doth thy soul rejoice with the angels.

Kontakion to the Theotokos (Tone 2): O undisputed intercessor of Christians, O Theotokos who is unrejected by the Creator: Turn not away from the voice of our petitions, though we be sinners. Come to us with aid in time, who cry unto thee in faith, for thou art good. Hasten to us with intercessions, O Theotokos, who didst ever intercede for those who honor thee.

Apolytikion 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 Fifth Sunday of Lent

Prokeimenon – Psalm 75:11, 1

Make your vows to the Lord your God, and perform them. In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel.

The reading is from the Epistle to the Hebrews (9:11-15)

BRETHREN, Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation. Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption. For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God,

cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? For this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.

Alleluia – Psalm 94:1, 2

O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.

THE GOSPEL

For the Fifth Sunday of Lent

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark (10:32-45)

At that time, Jesus took His twelve disciples, and began to tell them what was to happen to Him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, and deliver Him to the Gentiles. And they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit upon Him, and kill Him; and after three days He will rise."

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Him, and said to Him, "Teacher, we would that thou should do for us whatsoever we shall desire" And Jesus said to them, "What do you want me to do for you?" And they said to Him, "Grant us to sit, one at Thy right hand and one at Thy left, in Thy glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to Him, "We are able." Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized. But to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

When the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. And Jesus called them to Him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be servant of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

REFLECTING ON THE LIFE OF ST. MARY OF EGYPT

Adapted from an article on www.oca.org

"Where shall I begin to weep for the actions of my wretched life? What first-fruit shall I offer, O Christ, in this my lamentation? But in Thy compassion grant me forgiveness of sins." (The Canon of St. Andrew, Canticle 1, vs. 2.)



During Great Lent we remember and venerate Saint Mary of Egypt both on April 1 and the Fifth Sunday of Lent. With the Canon of St. Andrew, read in many churches during the first and fifth weeks of Lent, we uphold her as an icon of repentance, an example for every Orthodox Christian to emulate. Yet for many years, she lived a life of bondage to sexual passions. ...

While we don't know about the very early years of her life, we do know that at age twelve she ran away from home. For the next seventeen years she was a slave to her insatiable appetite for sexual perversions.

For seventeen years, Saint Mary of Egypt lived a lifestyle that isolated her from the community and God. Covered with filth amassed over the years, her heart yet longed for

union with God. The healing of the venerable Saint Mary of Egypt was not instantaneous but required a rigorous and lengthy spiritual journey. Being led by the Holy Spirit, she retreated to the wilderness where she lived the life of a hermit for seventeen years, seeking freedom from bondage of the passions. She spent a further thirty years in the wilderness having obtained the true gifts of repentance, healing and freedom from the enslavement of sin.

During Great Lent, each of us seeks repentance, turning from our own vices and passions and setting our minds and hearts on God. Through the intercessions of the most Holy Theotokos, God grants us the gift of compunction to turn from our wounds and sins to find healing and comfort in Him.

Let us remember Saint Mary of Egypt and her wonderful redemption. During the remainder of this Lenten journey, may we pray to be freed from our imprisonment to the passions that enslave us.

Announcements and upcoming Events

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

Today: St. Mary of Egypt – Fifth Sunday of Lent

- Orthros & Divine Liturgy, beginning 8:30am.
- Coffee hour provided by <u>last names A-F</u>, followed by church school. Fr. Pat will teach the adult class upstairs in the church.

Tuesday, April 8:

- Lenten Orthros, 9am
- Parish council meeting, 7:30pm (in person at the church)

Wednesday, April 9:

- Lenten Orthros, 9am
- Homeschool classes, 10am-4pm
- Presanctified Liturgy, 7pm, followed by Lenten potluck dinner.

Thursday, April 10: Lenten Orthros, 9am

Friday, April 11: Last Day of Lent

- Lenten Orthros, 9am
- Compline with the Canon of St. Lazarus, 7pm

Saturday, April 12: The Raising of St. Lazarus

- Divine Liturgy, 10am
- Potluck meal (fasting), and Holy Week talk, 12pm
- Vespers for Palm Sunday, 7pm

Next Sunday, April 13: Palm Sunday

- Orthros, <u>outdoor palm procession</u>, & Divine Liturgy, beginning 8:30am
- Coffee hour provided by <u>last names G-K</u>
- First Bridegroom Orthros, 7pm

Please see separate Holy Week schedule for all services and events, April 11-22.

CHURCH ETIQUETTE: Here are a few reminders from your priest as we seek to give the Lord the best of our time and efforts when we gather for worship, fellowship, and study.

- **During Divine services**, everyone present should be in the church participating in worship, unless there is a good reason to be downstairs or elsewhere (noisy children, trips to the restroom, illness, etc.). Food prep should be kept to a minimum, and under no circumstances should anyone (adults or kids) be socializing during services.
- **During Church school,** I'd like to see adults making more of an effort to attend Church school upstairs, to honor and learn from our teachers. Church school for children, teens, and adults is a vital part of our Christian formation, and our teachers put much time and effort into their presentations. Feel free to carefully bring your food and drink to class if you need more time for coffee hour. Thank you!

LENTEN FOOD DRIVE: We are collecting this Lent for the needs of Northside Housing, for their drop-in center and new men's shelter. Bring your donations of non-perishable foods and clothing items (underwear & white t-shirts sizes M-XL, shoes sizes 9-12). They are in need of items that don't need to be cooked, especially heat-and-serve containers, or cans with pop-tops. A list of suggested items is on the greeter table. Please place your donations in the back of the church on or near the table. **The deadline is Sunday, April 13.** Monetary donations are also accepted, please write **"Food Drive"** on the memo line. If you have any questions, please contact Sandy Abraham. God blesses those who remember the poor!

FOOD FOR HUNGRY PEOPLE: Coin boxes, as supplied by our Archdiocese, are once again available for Lent at our greeters' table. Use these boxes during Lent and turn them in at Pascha to be blessed. Please replace the coins with a check marked <u>Food for Hungry People</u> in the memo line, or submit paper money. If you have any questions, contact Pat K.



"O let not the meek be turned away ashamed; the poor and needy shall praise Thy Name." (Psalm 73:21)

Volunteer Schedule

| Date | Reader | Prosphora | Greeter | Coffee | Food |
|---------------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| Sun, April 6 Mary of Egypt | Rich C | Domitille | Tobey L | Zach C | A-F |
| Wed, April 9 Presanctified | n/a | Pat K | Nancy L | Volunteer | Potluck |
| Sat, April 12 St Lazarus | Michelle C | Dn Walid | JoAnne T | n/a | n/a |
| Sun, April 13 Palm Sunday | Sdn Joseph | Cristina P | John O | Alina S | G-K |
| Thurs., April 17 Holy Thursday | Christy K | Domitille | Domitille | Volunteer | Potluck |
| Sat., April 19 Holy Saturday | Jim K | Sandy A | Azizeh C | Zach C | Catered |
| Sun, April 20 Holy Pascha | Joseph L | Debbie K | Nancy L | n/a | Baskets |
| Sun April 27 St. Thomas | Paul K | Pat K | Richard B | Domitille | L-P |

For Sunday coffee hour, the last names of our church members have 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, monitor them as they go through the coffee hour line, and make sure they don't take more than they can eat. Please also help your children clean up after themselves.

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



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

APRIL 6-12, 2025

ADAPTED FROM THE LECTIONARY OF THE ANTIOCHIAN ARCHDIOCESE

Sunday, April 6: St. Mary of Egypt

John 20:11-18 / Hebrews 9:11-15 / Mark 10:32-45

Monday, April 7: Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow & Enlightener of N. America

Isaiah 48:17-49:4 / Hebrews 11:23-31 / Mark 9:30-41 Genesis 27:1-41 / Proverbs 19:16-25

Tuesday, April 8: Celestine, Pope of Rome

Isaiah 49:6-10 / Hebrews 11:32-12:2 / Mark 9:42-50 Genesis 31:3-16 / Proverbs 21:3-21

Wednesday, April 9: Holy Martyr Eupsychius of Caesarea

Isaiah 58:1-11 / Hebrews 12:3-17 / Mark 10:1-16 Genesis 43:26-31, 45:1-16 / Proverbs 21:23-22:4

Thursday, April 10: Hieromartyr Gregory V, Patriarch of Constantinople

Isaiah 65:8-16 / Hebrews 12:18-29 / Mark 10:17-31 Genesis 46:1-7 / Proverbs 23:15-24:5

Friday, April 11: Guthlac the Hermit of Crowland

Isaiah 66:10-24 / Hebrews 13:1-25 / Mark 10:46-52 Genesis 49:33-50:26 / Proverbs 31:8-31

Saturday, April 12: The Raising of St. Lazarus

Hebrews 12:28-13:8 / John 11:1-45

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HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN SABA, ARCHBISHOP OF NORTH AMERICA ARCHIMANDRITE JEREMY DAVIS, VICAR FOR THE DIOCESE OF TOLEDO & THE MIDWEST