

WEEKLY BULLETIN

March 28, 2021

Vol. 38 No. 13

Second Sunday of Lent



St. ELIA ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

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*His Eminence Alexander, Archbishop of Toledo, Bulgarian Diocese, OCA
Very Rev. Mitred Archpriest Father Don Anthony Freude, Parish Rector
Rev. Protodeacon James M. Gresh, Attached*

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

THIRD WEEK OF GREAT LENT

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – Tone 1

St .Gregory Palamas

Saturday, March 27

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Matins Gospel: John 20:19-31

Sunday, March 28

9:10 am 3rd & 6th Hours: Reader Michael Luc

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great

Epistle Reader: Reader Michael Luc

Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Gospel: Mark 2:1-12

Wednesday, March 31

**Rest of St. Innocent, Enlightener of the Aleuts and
Apostle to the Americas**

6:00 pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

FOURTH WEEK OF GREAT LENT

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT – Tone 2

Veneration of the Cross

Saturday, April 3

5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions

Matins Gospel: John 21:1-14

Sunday, April 4

9:10 am 3rd & 6th Hours: Joshua Wherley

9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great

Epistle Reader: Joshua Wherley

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

Wednesday, April 7

Rest of St. Tikhon, Enlightener of North America

6:00 pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

REMEMBER THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES

Subdeacon Anthony Freude, son of Fr .Don and Popadia Donna
Egor Cravcenco. Son of Serghei and Ludmila Cravcenco

REMEMBER OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS

Metropolitan Herman

Joseph Boyle (brother of Kathy Gray)

Sandra Dodovich (mother of Tony Dodovich)

Phyllis George (sister of Rose Marie Vronick)

Angelo Lambo and Florence Lambo

Larissa Freude Newman

Reader William Paluch

Martin and Rose Marie Vronick

Margaret Gresh (mother of Protdeacon James Gresh)

Niki Bober (President of the Orthodox Christian Women)

Matushka Myra Kovaiak and Mitred Archpriest Daniel Kovalak

Matushka Christitne Zebren;

Matushka Laryssa Huntyan

CHURCH SPRING CLEANING

The Church building and grounds is always in need of some special attention. Among the items inside the Church that need to be attended to are polishing the brass candle stands, bread trays; mending of the Server's robes (which can be done even at home), window washing, etc. **On Saturday, April 17, we will gather from 12 noon to 3:00 pm for a "spring cleaning" and ending with Great Vespers.**

On the grounds, the bricks around the wooden sign need to be put back in place, the flower beds need to be cleaned, the saw grass needs to be cut, the timber along side the shed needs to be cleaned-up. If you have time to spare, you can come anytime to accomplish these task.

OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP

Sunday, March 21, 2021

Candles: \$ 20.00

Sunday Offering: 1,340.00

TOTAL \$1,360.00

Help those in need: Bring in toiletries and other needed items during Lent!

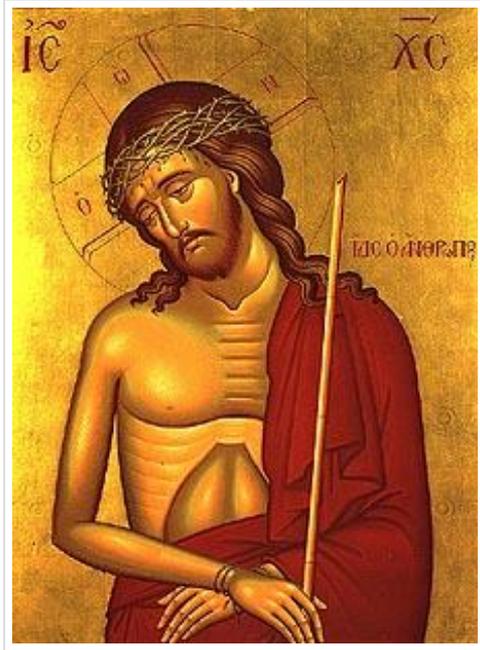
During Great Lent we are called upon to fast not only for reasons of self-control and prayer, but also for reasons of love: to deny ourselves something that we may share what we have saved with someone else who is in need. This Lent, our parish family will be collecting items for the Peter Maurin Center (<http://www.petermaurincenter.org>). Located just 5 minutes north of St. Elia at 1096 N. Main St., the Center serves unsheltered and marginalized individuals and families in the Greater Akron area by offering prepared meals, warm clothing and friendship at their facilities and in the community.

Look for the bin located near the entrance of church, and drop off your items as you come in each week. If you are not currently attending services, contact Aaron Gray (330-413-8324, grayaaron@outlook.com) to pick up your donations. Below is a list of ideas of items that are currently in need at the Center:

- Toilet paper
- Toiletries and personal hygiene items
- Bottled water
- Aluminum foil and plastic wrap
- Plastic zip bags: sandwich, quart, or gallon
- Cleaning supplies
- One-day Metro bus passes (these cost \$2.50 each and can be purchased at the Metro Station and frequently at Giant Eagle stores)

Thank you for doing your part to help those in need!

GREAT LENT – A TIME OF RENEWAL



On Monday, March 15th, we began the Holy Season of Great Lent. It is a very valuable season of the Church Year and he appointed time for our spiritual renewal. It in truth, it is a *Gift from God!*

Great Lent is an excellent time to put aside all those things that make us displeasing to ourselves, to others, and to God. Someone once suggested an item called a *spiritual wastebasket*.

The wastebasket is a very valuable piece of equipment. A general use of this item is important for efficiency in an office or a home or wherever needed.

Possibly, a wise and generous use of a spiritual wastebasket could also be the secret for spiritual efficiency and blessedness. Many of our lives are encumbered with things that should go into this type of wastebasket.

The Epistle to the Hebrews enjoins in this advice when it says, ***“We too, then, should throw off everything that hinders us, especially the sin that clings so easily, and keep running steadily in the race we have started.”*** (Hebrews 12:1) Past sins and errors belong in the wastebasket. We all sin and make mistakes. Because we are human we have erasers on pencils and deletes on computers. Old grudges, festering anger, old resentments, are only a few of the items we should discard.

St. Paul’s life is an example of past sins, errors and omissions. We know the Apostle Paul’s past and how he persecuted the early Christians, and how it took the drastic action of God knocking him off his horse, blinding him, to convince him to change his life. Because of his experience he gives us sound advice: ***“All I can say is that forget the past and I strain ahead for what is still to come. I am racing for the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive in Jesus Christ.”*** (Philippians 3:13)

Great Lent is a call to repentance. ***“Repentance is a second regeneration from God”*** says St. Isaac the Syrian, And also an incomparably great gift and grace from God Who restores that which is fallen. So let us repent and forgive one another. Let us take a deep breath and pray: ***“Lord, help is to forgive, give us repentance that is worthy of Thy forgiveness.”***

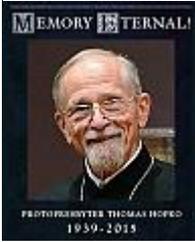
FORGIVENESS

On Forgiveness Sunday, March 10th - due to a family emergency -, I was unable to be with you and personally ask you for forgiveness at that time. Please forgive me if I have offended or neglected you in any way. Father Don

During this Holy Season of Great Lent we need to prepare to make a good Confession. The Sacrament of Confession recognizes the Presence of Christ in His Holy Church forgiving His people. In so doing we prepare ourselves for the celebration of the great and glorious Feast of Pascha,

Confessions are held each Saturday evening following Vespers, or, by request to Father Don.

55 Maxims of the Christian Life



Fr. Thomas Hopko 1939-2015

Protopresbyter Thomas Hopko fell asleep in the Lord on March 18, 2015. May his memory be eternal! In addition to his many books, articles, and sermons - in 2006, in response to a request, Fr. Thomas compiled this simple but powerful set of spiritual maxims that "a believer, very simply put, would do if they really were obedient to God and wanted to live in the way that God would have us live."

1. Be always with Christ, trust God in everything.
2. Pray as you can, not as you want.
3. Have a keepable rule of prayer that you do by discipline.
4. Say the Lord's Prayer several times a day.
5. Have a short prayer that you constantly repeat when your mind is not occupied with other things.
6. Make some prostrations when you pray.
7. Eat good foods in moderation.
8. Keep the Church's fasting rules.
9. Spend some time in silence every day.
10. Do acts of mercy in secret.

11. Go to liturgical services regularly
12. Go to confession and communion regularly.
13. Do not engage intrusive thoughts and feelings. Cut them off at the start.
14. Reveal all your thoughts and feelings regularly to a trusted person.
15. Read the scriptures regularly.
16. Read good books a little at a time.
17. Cultivate communion with the saints.
18. Be an ordinary person.
19. Be polite with everyone.
20. Maintain cleanliness and order in your home
21. Have a healthy, wholesome hobby.
22. Exercise regularly.
23. Live a day, and a part of a day, at a time.
24. Be totally honest, first of all, with yourself.
25. Be faithful in little things.
26. Do your work, and then forget it.
27. Do the most difficult and painful things first.
28. Face reality.
29. Be grateful in all things.
30. Be cheerful.
31. Be simple, hidden, quiet and small.
32. Never bring attention to yourself.
33. Listen when people talk to you.
34. Be awake and be attentive.
35. Think and talk about things no more than necessary.
36. When we speak, speak simply, clearly, firmly and directly.
37. Flee imagination, analysis, figuring things out.

38. Flee carnal, sexual things at their first appearance.
39. Don't complain, mumble, murmur or whine.
40. Don't compare yourself with anyone.
41. Don't seek or expect praise or pity from anyone.
42. We don't judge anyone for anything.
43. Don't try to convince anyone of anything.
44. Don't defend or justify yourself.
45. Be defined and bound by God alone.
46. Accept criticism gratefully but test it critically.
47. Give advice to others only when asked or obligated to do so.
48. Do nothing for anyone that they can and should do for themselves.
49. Have a daily schedule of activities, avoiding whim and caprice.
50. Be merciful with yourself and with others.
51. Have no expectations except to be fiercely tempted to your last breath.
52. Focus exclusively on God and light, not on sin and darkness.
53. Endure the trial of yourself and your own faults and sins peacefully, serenely, because you know that God's mercy is greater than your wretchedness
54. When we fall, get up immediately and start over.
55. Get help when you need it, without fear and without shame.

Important Guidelines on Attending the Divine Services

All services will continue to be *live streamed* by visiting our website www.saintelia.com.

In accordance with the State of Ohio, CDC, and Diocesan guidelines we all must follow these simple steps when attending:

- 1) If you or your family member is sick please stay home.
- 2) All must wear masks in church (disposable masks are provided in the vestibule).
- 3) Sanitize your hands before entering the church (sanitizer is located in the vestibule).
- 4) All are required to keep 6 feet social distancing. Pews are marked for available and not available seating.

5) Please... **THERE WILL BE NO GATHERING IN THE VESTIBULE, OFFICE OR PARISH HALL**

So sorry to say... but we cannot kiss the icons, cross, chalice, gospel book, and/or Father's hand.

Lastly, due to limited seating to ensure safe distancing and Diocesan Guidelines, parishioners must pre-register to attend liturgical services. Please call Fr. Don at 330-724-7009