

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

April 11, 2021

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Fourth 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***

## ***FIFTH WEEK OF GREAT LENT***

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – Tone 3**

**Saint John Climacus**

**Saturday, April 10**

**5:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions**

Matins Gospel: John 21:15-25

**Sunday, April 11**

**9:10 am 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hours: Reader Aaron Gray**

**9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great**

**Epistle Reader: Reader Aaron Gray**

Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9:17-31

**Wednesday, April 14**

**6:00 pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**

**Friday, April 16**

**6:00 pm Akathist to the Most-Holy Theotokos**

## ***SIXTH WEEK OF GREAT LENT***

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – Tone 4**

**Saint Mary of Egypt**

**Saturday, April 17**

**3:00 pm Great Vespers and Confessions**

Matins Gospel: John 21:15-25

**Sunday, April 18**

**9:10 am 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hours: Subdeacon Terrence Bilas**

**9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great**

**Epistle Reader: Anastasia Bohush**

Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14 Gospel: Mark 10:32-45

**Wednesday, April 21**

**6:00 pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**

**Friday, April 23**

**6:00 pm Vigil of LAZARUS SATURDAY**

# 4th Sunday of Great Lent: St John Climacus (of the Ladder)



The Fourth Sunday of Lent is dedicated to Saint John of the Ladder (Climacus), the author of the work, *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*. The abbot of Saint Catherine's Monastery on Mount Sinai (6th century) stands as a witness to the violent effort needed for entrance into God's Kingdom (Mt.10: 12). The spiritual struggle of the Christian life is a real one, "not against flesh and blood, but against ... the rulers of the present darkness ... the hosts of wickedness in heavenly places ..." (Eph 6:12). Saint John encourages the faithful in their efforts for, according to the Lord, only "he who endures to the end will be saved" (Mt.24:13).

# TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

## Hebrews 6:13-20

### God's Infallible Purpose in Christ

<sup>13</sup> For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, <sup>14</sup> saying, "Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you." <sup>15</sup> And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. <sup>16</sup> For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation *is* for them an end of all dispute. <sup>17</sup> Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the  $\square$ immutability of His counsel,  $\square$ confirmed *it* by an oath, <sup>18</sup> that by two  $\square$ immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we  $\square$ might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before *us*.

<sup>19</sup> This *hope* we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the *Presence* behind the veil, <sup>20</sup> where the forerunner has entered for us, *even* Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

## Mark 9:17-31

<sup>17</sup> Then one of the crowd answered and said, "Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit. <sup>18</sup> And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but

they could not."

<sup>19</sup> He answered him and said, "O faithless<sup>ⓐ</sup> generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I <sup>ⓑ</sup>bear with you? Bring him to Me." <sup>20</sup> Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth.<sup>21</sup> So He asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. <sup>22</sup> And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us."<sup>23</sup> Jesus said to him, "If<sup>ⓐ</sup> you can believe, all things *are* possible to him who believes."<sup>24</sup> Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" <sup>25</sup> When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!" <sup>26</sup> Then *the spirit* cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, "He is dead." <sup>27</sup> But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose.<sup>28</sup> And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?"<sup>29</sup> So He said to them, "This kind can come out by nothing but prayer <sup>ⓐ</sup>and fasting."

## **Jesus Again Predicts His Death and Resurrection**

<sup>30</sup> Then they departed from there and passed through Galilee, and He did not want anyone to know *it*. <sup>31</sup> For He taught His disciples and said to them, "The Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will rise the third day."

## **PALMS AND FLOWERS DONATIONS**

Flowers adorn the CROSS on the Third Sunday of Great Lent, the Sunday of the Veneration of the Holy Cross, **TODAY, April 4<sup>th</sup>** , and will adorn the Tomb of our Lord on Good Friday., **April 30<sup>th</sup>**, and the Altar Area on Pascha, **May 2<sup>nd</sup>** . Please make your donations at the Candle Desk for the flower and Palms for Palm Sunday, **April 25<sup>th</sup>**, at the Candle Desk.

*Along with palms, pussy willows are also blessed on Palm Sunday. Pussy willows have been called the herald of the spring and new life. Thank you to Subdeacon Terrence and Veronica Bilas for providing St. Elia with this years willows*

## **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 timber along side the shed needs to be cleaned-up. If you have time to spare, you can come anytime to accomplish these task. Thank you to Subdeacon Terrence Bilas for cleaning up a lot of the fallen branches.

## **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 Hunt्यान

### **Joel 2:12-13 A Call to Repentance**

<sup>12</sup> "Now, therefore," says the LORD,

"Turn to Me with all your heart,

With fasting, with weeping, and with mourning."

<sup>13</sup> So rend your heart, and not your garments;

Return to the LORD your God,

For He *is* gracious and merciful,

Slow to anger, and of great kindness;

And He relents from doing harm.

### **OUR PARISH STEWARDSHIP**

**Sunday, April 4., 2021**

**Candles: \$ 4 3.00**

**Improvement Fund: 137.00**

**Special Donation: 19.00**

**Sunday Offering: 690.00**

**TOTAL \$889.00**

## “A LENTEN THOUGHT”

God has taught us that you cannot love without giving. He so loved us that He gave us His Divine Son. And the Divine Son s loved us that He gave His life on the Cross for us. Now it is our turn to show our love.

During Lent, a time of prayer and penance, we need to think seriously of our need to be responsible to demonstrate our love.

We need to be aware that to Christ all of life is stewardship and that we are responsible to God Who made us for every capacity with which we have been endowed. Someone once asked Daniel Webster about the greatest thought he ever had. Without a moment’s hesitation, Mr. Webster replied: ***“The greatest thought my mind has ever grasped is my accountability to Almighty God.”***

Stewardship is the means by which we satisfy that accountability for it places every man on his own feet. It makes him a steward of what he has, and is, and can become. In a very real sense it is the only way, it is the only way we can be sure that we have been good disciples of Christ – that we have carried our full share of the work of the kingdom, and that, in some small way, we have helped the Word become flesh in our life and time.



# 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 S. 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](mailto: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!

# **Important Guidelines on Attending the Divine Services**

All services will continue to be *live streamed* by visiting our website [www.saintelia.com](http://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**