

# WEEKLY BULLETIN

April 18, 2021

Vol. 38 No. 16

Fifth Sunday of Lent



St. ELIA  
ORTHODOX  CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

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[www.saintelia.com](http://www.saintelia.com)

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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*

## Gospel Reading – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent

### Mark 10:32-45

Now they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was going before them; and they were amazed. And as they followed they were afraid. Then He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them the things that would happen to Him: “Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to 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 on Him, and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again.” Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Him, saying, “Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask.” And He said to them, “What do you want Me to do for you?” They said to Him, “Grant us that we may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on Your left, in Your glory.” But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” They said to Him, “We are able.” So Jesus said to them, “You will indeed drink the cup that I drink, and with the baptism I am baptized with you will be baptized; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared.” And when the ten heard it, they began to be greatly displeased with James and John. But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, “You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all. For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.”

# **SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES**

## ***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**

## ***Great and Holy Week***

### **LAZARUS SATURDAY**

**Saturday, April 24**

**9:00 am Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom**

**5:00 pm Vigil of Palm Sunday – *Blessing of Palms***

### **PALM AND FLOWERY SUNDAY**

***The Entrance of our Lord into Jerusalem***

**Sunday, April 25**

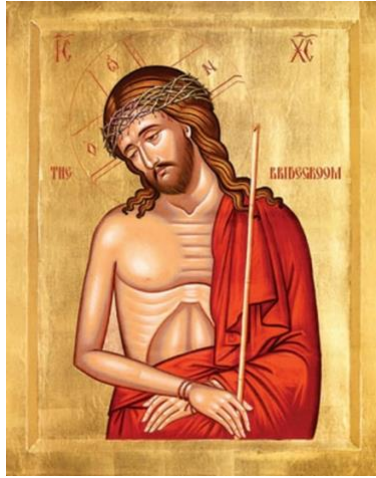
**9:10 am Hours – Reader Michael Luc**

**9:30 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom**

**Epistle Reader: Reader Michael Luc**

**EPISTLE: Philippians 4:4-9 GOSPEL: John 12:1-18**

**5:00 pm Matins of the Bridegroom - *Sad Sunday***



## **GREAT AND HOLY BRIDEGROOM MONDAY**

**Monday, April 26**

**6:00 pm Matins of the Bridegroom**

**GOSPEL: Matthew 24:3-35**

## **GREAT AND HOLY BRIDEGROOM TUESDAY**

**Tuesday, April 27**

**6:00 pm Matins of the Bridegroom**

**GOSPEL: Matthew 24:36-26:2**

## **GREAT AND HOLY BRIDEGROOM WEDNESDAY**

**Wednesday, April 28**

**6:00 pm The Mystery of Holy Unction**

## **GREAT AND HOLY BRIDEGROOM THURSDAY**

**Thursday, April 29**

**6:00 pm Matins of Great and Holy Friday  
Twelve Passion Gospels**

## **GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY**

**Friday, April 30**

**6:00 pm Great Vespers and  
Lamentations**

*Christ dies on the Cross, is taken down from the Cross,  
is buried and descends into hell.*

## **GREAT AND HOLY SATURDAY**

**Saturday Night, May 1**

**11:30 pm Nocturns**  
*Removal of the Shroud from the Grave*

## *The Holy Pascha*

*The Glorious Resurrection of our Lord and  
Savior Jesus Christ*

**Sunday, May 2**

**12:00 Midnight**  
**Resurrection Matins**  
**Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom**  
**Epistle Reader: Anastasia Bohush**  
***Blessing of the Artos and Red Eggs***

### **Paschal Basket Blessing**

Following the Midnight Service of Pascha, in the Church Hall.  
The children are encouraged to bring their own Baskets.

**11:00 am Sunday Morning**  
**Agape Vespers of Holy Pascha**  
**GOSPEL: John 20:19-25**

# Bright Week

## BRIGHT MONDAY

Monday, May 3

9:00 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

*Christ is Risen! Christos Voskrese! Christos Aneste!*  
*Al Masseh Qam! Hristos a Inviat*



*Come and receive the Light from the  
unwaning Light, and glorify Christ  
Who is risen from the dead!*

## **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. Thank you to Subdeacon Terrence Bilas for cleaning up a lot of the fallen branches.

## **"ZOOM" PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** **TUESDAY, APRIL 20, at 7:00 PM**

### **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 Kovaiaak and Mitred Archpriest Daniel Kovalak

Matushka Chrisitne Zebren;

Matushka Laryssa Huntyan

# Saint Mary of Egypt

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Sts. Zosima and Mary of Egypt

Our venerable mother **Mary of Egypt** was a desert ascetic who repented of a life of prostitution. She lived during the sixth century, and passed away in a remarkable manner in 522. The Church celebrates her feast day on the day of her repose, April 1; additionally, she is commemorated on the Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt, the fifth Sunday in Great Lent.

## Life

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She began her life as a young woman who followed the passions of the body, running away from her parents at age twelve for Alexandria. There she lived as a harlot for seventeen years, refusing money from the men that she copulated with, instead living by begging and spinning flax.

One day, however, she met a group of young men heading toward the sea to sail to Jerusalem for the veneration of the Holy Cross. Mary went along for the ride, seducing the men as they traveled for the fun of it. But when the group reached Jerusalem and actually went towards the church, Mary was prohibited from entering by an unseen force. After three such attempts, she remained outside on the church patio, where she



looked up and saw an icon of the Theotokos. She began to weep and prayed with all her might that the Theotokos might allow her to see the True Cross; afterwards, she promised, she would renounce her worldly desires and go wherever the Theotokos may lead her.

After this heart-felt [conversion](#) at the doors of the church, she fled into the desert to live as an [ascetic](#). She survived for years on only three loaves of bread and thereafter on scarce herbs of the land. For another seventeen years, Mary was tormented by "wild beasts—mad desires and passions." After these years of temptation, however, she overcame the passions and was led by the Theotokos in all things.

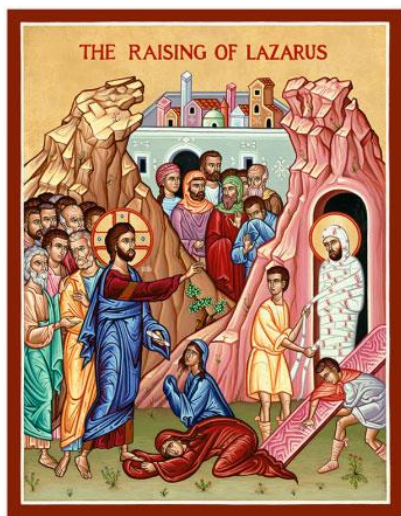
Following 47 years in solitude, she met the priest St. Zosima in the desert, who pleaded with her to tell him of her life. She recounted her story with great humility while also demonstrating her gift of clairvoyance; she knew who Zosima was and his life story despite never having met him before. Finally, she asked Zosima to meet her again the following year at sunset on Holy Thursday by the banks of the Jordan.

Zosima did exactly this, though he began to doubt his experience as the sun began to go that night. Then Mary appeared on the opposite side of the Jordan; crossing herself, she miraculously walked across the water and met Zosima. When he attempted to bow, she rebuked him, saying that as a priest he was far superior, and furthermore, he was holding the Holy Mysteries. Mary then received communion and walked back across the Jordan after giving Zosima instructions about his monastery and that he should return to where they first met exactly a year later. When he did so, he found Mary's body with a message written on the sand asking him for burial and revealing that she had died immediately after receiving the Holy Mysteries the year before (and thus had been miraculously transported to the spot where she now lay). So Zosima, amazed, began to dig, but soon tired; then a lion approached and began to help him, that is, after Zosima had recovered from his fear of the creature. Thus St. Mary of Egypt was buried. Zosima

returned to the monastery, told all he had seen, and improved the faults of the monks and abbot there. He died at almost a hundred years old in the same monastery.

Later, the story of Mary's life was written down by St. Sophronius, Patriarch of Jerusalem

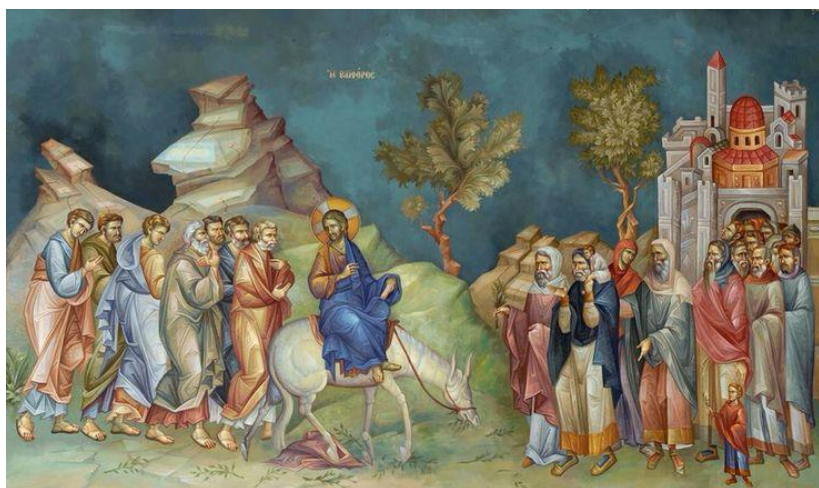
## Lazarus Saturday – April 24<sup>th</sup>



On this coming Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, the Saturday before Holy Week, the Orthodox Church commemorates a major feast of the year, the miracle of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ when he raised Lazarus from the dead after he had lain in the grave four days. Here, at the end of Great Lent and the forty days of fasting and penitence, the Church combines this celebration with that of Palm Sunday. In triumph and joy the Church bears witness to the power of Christ over death and exalts Him as King before entering the most solemn week of the year, one that leads the faithful in remembrance of His suffering and death and concludes with the great and glorious Feast of Pascha. This miracle is performed by Christ as a reassurance to His disciples

before His coming Passion: they are to understand that, though He suffers and dies, yet He is Lord and Victor over death. The resurrection of Lazarus is a prophecy in the form of an action. It foreshadows Christ's own Resurrection eight days later, and at the same time it anticipates the resurrection of all the righteous on the Last Day: Lazarus is "the saving first-fruits of the regeneration of the world." As the liturgical texts emphasize, the miracle at Bethany reveals the two natures of Christ the God-man. Christ asks where Lazarus is laid and weeps for him, and so He shows the fullness of His manhood, involving as it does human response and genuine grief for a beloved friend. Then, disclosing the fullness of His divine power, Christ raises Lazarus from the dead, even though his corpse has already begun to decompose and stink. This double fullness of the Lord's divinity and His humanity is to be kept in view throughout Holy Week, and above all on Good Friday. On the Cross we see a genuine human agony, both physical and mental, but we see more than this: we see not only suffering man but suffering God.

## **Palm Sunday:– April 25<sup>th</sup>**



# Entrance of our Lord into Jerusalem

On the Sunday before the Feast of Great and Holy Pascha and at the beginning of Holy Week, the Orthodox Church celebrates one of its most joyous feasts of the year. Palm Sunday is the commemoration of the Entrance of our Lord into Jerusalem.

The biblical story of Palm Sunday is recorded in all four of the Gospels (Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-10; Luke 19:28-38; and John 12:12-18). Five days before the Passover, Jesus came from Bethany to Jerusalem. Having sent two of His disciples to bring Him a colt of a donkey, Jesus sat upon it and entered the city. People had gathered in Jerusalem for the Passover and were looking for Jesus, both because of His great works and teaching and because they had heard of the miracle of the resurrection of Lazarus. When they heard that Christ was entering the city, they went out to meet Him with palm branches, laying their garments on the ground before Him, and shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he that comes in the Name of the Lord, the King of Israel!"

On this day we receive and worship Christ in the same manner as King and Lord

## **PALMS AND FLOWERS DONATIONS**

Flowers 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 flowers 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*

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*A Polish legend tells the tale,  
of tiny kittens, oh so frail.*

*Along the river's edge they chased.  
With butterflies, they played and raced.*

*They came too close to the river's side,  
and thus, fell in. Their mother cried.*

*What could she do but weep and moan?  
Her babies' fate were yet unknown.*

*The willows, by the river, knew  
just what it was that they must do;*

*They swept their graceful branches down  
Into the waters, all around.*

*To reach the kittens was their goal;  
A rescue mission, hears and soul.*

*The kittens grasped the branches tight.  
The willows saved them from their plight.*

*Each springtime since, the story goes,  
Willow branches now wear clothes.*

*Tiny fur like buds are sprung  
where little kittens had once clung.*

*And that's the legend, so they claim,  
How Pussy Willows got their name!*

# 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:

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...**NO GATHERING IN THE VESTIBULE, OFFICE OR PARISH HALL**

<u>Sunday,</u>	<u>April 11, 2021</u>
Candles:	\$ 43.40
Paschal Flowers:	5.00
<u>Sunday Offering:</u>	<u>1,305.00</u>
TOTAL	\$ 1,353.40