

Great Lent/Holy Week/Pascha 2017 Announcements

Forgiveness Vespers

We begin Great Lent this year with Forgiveness Vespers with the Ceremony of Mutual Forgiveness on Sunday, February 26. This will occur after coffee hour today (11:30 a.m., approximately).

Great Compline & Canon of St. Andrew

For the first time, we will offer Great Compline and the Canon of St. Andrew of Crete at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, February 27.

Supplication Service to St. Raphael of Brooklyn in March

We will offer our Supplication Services to St. Raphael of Brooklyn at **5 p.m. on Saturday, March 4**. This service will be in place of our usual Saturday Vespers service. As the "patron saint of missions" in our Archdiocese, we offer this service as an intercession for our community as it embarks upon a building program.

Great Lent: Food for Hungry People Collection

With the beginning of Great Lent, we have also begun our annual Lenten collection for the Archdiocese's Food for Hungry People project. Coin boxes will be available in the church hall, starting on 2/26. Please return all coin boxes to church on Palm Sunday (4/9).

Sunday of Orthodoxy Divine Liturgy

Next Sunday's Divine Liturgy (3/5) commemorates the Sunday of Orthodoxy. Instead of our regular church school, Fr. Matthew will have a **special children's homily** on icons and there will be a **procession of icons** at the end of the service. All families are invited to bring personal icons to church for the procession.

Sunday of Orthodoxy: Special Archdiocese Collection

For the Sunday of Orthodoxy next week (3/5), we will take our annual special collection for the Archdiocese seminarian scholarship fund. Please make checks payable to St. Luke, noting "Seminarian Scholarship Fund" in the memo line.

Sunday of Orthodoxy Pan-Orthodox Vespers

The Greater Cleveland Council of Orthodox Clergy is sponsoring this year's Pan-Orthodox Sunday of Orthodoxy Great Vespers at 5 p.m. on Sunday, March 5 at St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral (733 Starkweather Ave., Tremont 44113). Children are especially invited to come with their personal icons and participate in the procession. His Eminence Metropolitan SAVAS of the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh will be presiding and preaching.

Lenten Confessions

Unless otherwise posted, Fr. Matthew is available after Saturday Vespers, Wednesday Presanctified Liturgy, and Friday Small Compline / Akathist services to hear confessions. Confessions are also possible by appointment.

Lazarus Saturday: Prayers for the Departed Faithful

It is a custom in many Orthodox parishes to offer the Trisagion Prayers for the Departed graveside on Lazarus Saturday (the Saturday before Palm Sunday) for the faithful departed from the parish. We will continue this practice on Saturday, April 8. Please watch for more details in upcoming announcements.

Palm Sunday/Holy Week/Pascha Schedule 2017:

- Saturday, April 8 - 5:00 p.m. - Vespers for Palm Sunday
- Sunday, April 9 - 9:30 a.m. - Palm Sunday Liturgy w/ Procession
- Wednesday, April 12 - 6:30 p.m. - Holy Unction
- Thursday, April 23 - 6:30 p.m. - 12 Passion Gospels
- Friday, April 14 - 9:00 a.m. - Royal Hours Service
- Friday, April 14 - 6:30 p.m. - Lamentations Service
- Saturday, April 15 - 10:30 p.m. - Pascha Service, followed by community meal
- Sunday, April 16 - No a.m. services at St. Luke

Archdiocese Practice Concerning Holy Unction

As a reminder, Holy Unction is a mystery (sacrament) of the Orthodox Church and can only be administered to baptized/chrismated members of the Church. As per the standing Archpastoral Directive from the Archdiocese, no priest in the Archdiocese is permitted to hand out Q-tips or bottles with the unction oil. If you need to be anointed, but are unable to attend the service, please contact Fr. Matthew.

Crop Hunger Walk

At 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 23, St. Luke will be participating with other Chagrin Valley churches in the annual Crop Hunger Walk walk-a-thon at Frohring Meadows. Proceeds from the event go to benefit the Geauga Hunger Task Force. To be part of the team from St. Luke, please contact Michele Baskette (440-665-8705 or michele.baskette@gmail.com). General information about the event can be found at:

<https://www.crophungerwalk.org/chagrinfallsqh/>

Church School Continues.

Church School continues for the spring, meeting every Sunday at 9 a.m.

2017 Parish Council

As a reminder, the 2017 Parish Council and officers are:

- Mike Bifano—Chair
- Bob Baskette—Vice Chair
- John Dumot—Secretary
- Anne Thomas—Treasurer
- Mark Foglietti
- Mariam Stevens
- Tom Vatov

March Building Committee Meetings

Scheduled Building Committee meetings in March will meet at 6:30 p.m. on the following dates:

- Thursday, March 2
- Thursday, March 9
- Thursday, March 16

March & April Parish Council Meetings

The March Parish Council meeting is scheduled for **4:30 p.m.** on **Sunday, March 19**. The April Parish Council meeting is scheduled for **4:30 p.m.** on **Sunday, April 23**.

Town Hall Meeting in March

Our next parish town hall meeting will take place **after coffee hour** on **Sunday, March 26**.

March is Antiochian Women's Month

Throughout the month of March, local parishes within our Archdiocese observe Antiochian Women's Month.

Spring Dates for St. Herman's Orthodox House of Hospitality.

We've scheduled a series of Saturdays throughout the spring to serve dinner at St. Herman's Orthodox House of Hospitality in Ohio City. If you are interested in helping serve on **April 1** or **May 20**, please contact Tyler Stevens (stevent@ccf.org, 216-213-0494)

From the Synaxarion: Major Feasts in March & April

March 9: The Forty Holy Martyrs of Sebaste

These holy Martyrs, who came from various lands, were all soldiers under the same general. Taken into custody for their faith in Christ, and at first interrogated by cruel means, they were then stripped of their clothing and cast onto the frozen lake which is at Sebastia of Pontus, at a time when the harsh and freezing weather was at its worst. They endured the whole night naked in such circumstances, encouraging one another to be patient until the end. He that guarded them, named Aglaius, who was commanded to receive any of them that might deny Christ, had a vision in which he saw heavenly powers distributing crowns to all of the Martyrs, except one, who soon after abandoned the contest. Seeing this, Aglaius professed himself a Christian and joined the Martyrs on the lake, and the number of forty remained complete. In the morning, when they were almost dead from the cold, they were cast into fire, after which their remains were thrown into the river. Thus they finished the good course of martyrdom in 320, during the reign of Licinius. These are their names: Acacius, Aetius, Aglaius, Alexander, Angus, Athanasius, Candidus, Chudion, Claudius, Cyril, Cyrion, Dometian, Domnus, Ecdicius, Elias, Eunoicus, Eutyches, Euty chius, Flavius, Gaius, Gorgonius, Helianus, Heraclius, Hesychius, John, Lysimachus, Meliton, Nicholas, Philoctemon, Priscus, Sacerdon, Severian, Sisinius, Smaragdus, Theodulus, Theophilus, Valens, Valerius, Vivianus, and Xanthias.

March 25: The Annunciation to our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos (Celebrated with Divine Liturgy on Friday, March 24.)

On March 25 in the Holy Orthodox Church we celebrate the Annunciation to our Most Holy Lady the Theotokos and Ever-virgin Mary. When the All-Holy Virgin completed the fourteenth year after her birth and was entering her fifteenth year, after having spent eleven years of living and serving in the Temple of Jerusalem, the priests informed her that, according to the Law, she could not remain in the Temple but was required to be betrothed and enter into marriage. The All-Holy Virgin surprised the priests when she told them that she had dedicated her life to God and that she desired to remain a virgin until death. Then, Zacharias, the high priest and father of the Forerunner, under the inspiration of God, and in agreement with the other priests, betrothed the Virgin Mary to Joseph of Nazareth to preserve her virginity and to care for her. When the fullness of time had come, as prophesied by Daniel the Prophet, and when God was pleased to fulfill His promise to the banished Adam and to the

Prophets, the great Archangel Gabriel appeared in the chamber of the All-Holy Virgin and, as some priestly writers wrote, precisely at that same moment when she held open the book of the Prophet Isaiah and was contemplating his great prophecy: "Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and bear a son! (7:13)" Gabriel appeared in all of his angelic brightness and saluted her: "Rejoice, highly favored one! The Lord is with thee," and the rest in order as it is written in the Gospel of Luke. With this angelic annunciation and the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Virgin, leading to the incarnation of our Lord, the salvation of mankind and restoration of all creation began.

Palm Sunday (Celebrated this year with Divine Liturgy on Sunday, April 9.)

On this day in the Holy Orthodox Church, the Sunday of Palms, we celebrate the radiant and glorious festival of the Entrance of our Lord Jesus Christ into Jerusalem. Jesus came to Bethany on the Sunday falling before the six days of the Mosaic Passover. On the following day He sent two of His Disciples, who brought Him a donkey on which He sat to enter the city. And when the great multitude heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they immediately took palm branches in their hands and went out to meet Him. All cried, "Hosanna! Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, King of Israel!" The branches of palm trees were a symbol of Christ's victory over Satan and Death. And the meaning of "Hosanna" is, "We pray Thee, save." The donkey's colt, which was still an untamed animal, and impure according to the law, as well as Christ's sitting thereon, symbolize the former savagery and impurity of the Gentiles; and their subsequent taming and obedience to the holy law of the Gospel.

Great Lent/Holy Week/Pascha
Schedule of Services & Events

February

25	Sat	5:00 p.m.	Vespers	
		6:00 p.m.	Bible Study: Gospel of St. Mark	
26	Sun	8:30 a.m.	Orthros	Forgiveness Sunday/Cheesefare
		9:00 a.m.	Church School	
		9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
		Noon	Forgiveness Vespers	
27	Mon			Great Lent begins
		6:00 p.m.	Great Compline & Canon of St. Andrew	

March

1	Wed	6:00 p.m.	Presanctified Liturgy	
2	Thur	6:30 p.m.	Building Committee	
3	Fri	6:00 p.m.	Small Compline / Akathist Hymn	
4	Sat	5:00 p.m.	Supplication Service to St. Raphael of Brooklyn	
5	Sun	8:30 a.m.	Orthros	1st Sunday of Lent: Sunday of Orthodoxy
		9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
			<i>Children's Sermon</i>	
			<i>Procession with icons & reading of the Synodikon at the end of Liturgy)</i>	
		5:00 p.m.	Sunday of Orthodoxy Pan-Orthodox Vespers @ St. Theodosius	
8	Wed	6:00 p.m.	Presanctified Liturgy	
9	Thu	6:30 p.m.	Building Committee	
10	Fri	6:00 p.m.	Small Compline / Akathist Hymn	
11	Sat	5:00 p.m.	Vespers	
		6:00 p.m.	Bible Study: Gospel of St. Mark	
12	Sun		<i>Daylight Savings Begins</i>	2nd Sunday of Lent: St. Gregory Palamas
		8:30 a.m.	Orthros	
		9:00 a.m.	Church School	
		9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
15	Wed	6:00 p.m.	Presanctified Liturgy	
16	Thu	6:30 p.m.	Building Committee	
17	Fri	6:00 p.m.	Small Compline / Akathist Hymn	
18	Sat		Spring Gathering at St. George w/ His Grace Bishop ANTHONY	
		5:00 p.m.	Vespers	
19	Sun	8:30 a.m.	Orthros	3rd Sunday of Lent: Sunday of the Cross
		8:00 a.m.	Church School	
		9:30 a.m.	Divine Liturgy	
			<i>(Procession of the Cross at the end of Liturgy)</i>	
		4:30 p.m.	March Parish Council Meeting	
22	Wed	6:00 p.m.	Presanctified Liturgy	
24	Fri	6:00 p.m.	Divine Liturgy	Annunciation of the Theotokos

25	Sat	5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Vespers Bible Study: Gospel of St. Mark	
26	Sun	8:30 a.m. 9:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:00 a.m.	Orthros Church School Divine Liturgy March Town Hall Meeting	4th Sunday of Lent: St. John of the Ladder
29	Wed	6:00 p.m.	Presanctified Liturgy	
31	Fri	6:00 p.m.	Small Compline / Akathist Hymn	
April				
1	Sat	3:00 p.m.	Outreach: Serve meal & Vespers at St. Herman's	
2	Sun	8:30 a.m. 8:00 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	Orthros Church School (<i>last session for Spring 2017</i>) Divine Liturgy	5th Sunday of Lent: St. Mary of Egypt
5	Wed	6:00 p.m.	Presanctified Liturgy	
8	Sat	9:30 a.m. 5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Graveside Trisagions Vespers Bible Study: Gospel of St. Mark	Lazarus Saturday
9	Sun	8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	Orthros Divine Liturgy <i>Children's Sermon</i> <i>(Procession with Palms at the end of Liturgy)</i> Fried Fish Potluck at Coffee Hour	Palm Sunday
10-14	Mon-Fri			Holy Week
12	Wed	6:30 p.m.	Holy Unction	
13	Thu	6:30 p.m.	Twelve Passion Gospels & Procession with the Cross	
14	Fri	9:00 a.m. 6:30 p.m.	Royal Hours Lamentations Service & Procession with the Bier	
15/16	Sat/Sun			Pascha
15	Sat	10:30 p.m.	Rush Procession & Pascha Service (Community Meal afterwards)	
16	Sun		(No a.m. services at St. Luke)	
22	Sat	5:00 p.m. 6:00 p.m.	Vespers Bible Study: Gospel of St. Mark	
23	Sun	8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 4:30 p.m.	Orthros Divine Liturgy Chagrin Valley Crop Hunger Walk @ Frohring Meadow April Parish Council	Thomas Sunday
29	Sat	4:30 p.m.	Vespers @ St. George w/ His Grace Bishop ANTHONY & His Grace Bishop NICHOLAS	
30	Sun	8:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m.	Orthros Divine Liturgy	Myrrhbearers' Sunday

His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan JOSEPH

The Right Reverend
Bishop ANTHONY



Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

Diocese of Toledo and
The Midwest

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA**

Great Lent 2017

Beloved Clergy and Faithful of the Midwest Diocese,

Glory to Jesus Christ!

As we move into the Lenten Spring (God has given us springtime weather already), we should remember this season of discipline for body, mind, and soul as a gracious opportunity, and not a grueling obligation!

This is a time to get ready for redemption. Great Lent is essentially two things: Repentance through prayer and Bodily Discipline through fasting. St. John Chrysostom has written, *“Repentance is the medicine which destroys sin; it is a heavenly gift, a force of grace that transforms all. It does not reject the immoral and is not dismissive of the alcoholic and does not reject the idolater, the slanderer, or the arrogant. It regenerates everybody because it is a furnace for the purification of sin. The wound and the medicine; these are sin and repentance.”*

Prayer and fasting shelters the new growth of spiritual maturity in us, like buds that come out in spring and the fruit that follows the flower. Abba Agathon said, *“All our care should be directed towards the fruit – we must guard the spirit; but it needs protection and help to grow from the foliage, the canopy of leaves and branches, which is bodily discipline.”*

As we all seek forgiveness from our Heavenly Father as prodigal children and celebrate Forgiveness Vespers inaugurating the Great Lent, I ask your forgiveness for all my weaknesses, shortcomings, and sins.

May our long-suffering, compassionate, and merciful Lord grant us a blessed and fruitful Fast!

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "+ Bishop Anthony".

+Bishop ANTHONY

**Bishop of Toledo
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America**

“The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch” (Acts 11: 26)

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His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan JOSEPH



Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA**

Great Fast, 2017

TO BE READ FROM THE PULPIT AND PRINTED IN THE BULLETIN

Let those of us who have wisely finished the course of fasting and who celebrate with love the beginning of the suffering of the Passion of the Lord, let us all, my brothers, zealously imitate the purity of self-controlled Joseph; Let us fear the sterility of the fig tree; Let us dry up through almsgiving the sweetness of passion. In order that we may joyously anticipate the Resurrection, let us procure like myrrh pardon from on high because the eye that never sleeps observes all things.

---St Romanos the Melodist

Beloved in the Lord:

Blessings and greetings in the name of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ. I pray that you and your families are enjoying good health as we prepare to begin another Lenten journey that culminates in the death and resurrection of our Lord.

As we begin our journey to Pascha, we enter into a time of increased prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. To that end, we write to you today to usher in a program that has become synonymous with this holy period, the *Food for Hungry Program*. This program, under the guidance of Miss Robin Nicholas, has helped countless numbers of people for decades. What I love about this program is that much of the money that is raised comes from the pennies, nickels, and dimes of the faithful adults and children of our parishes. It is amazing to think how our spare change can add up to so much!

As we begin a new fast, let us continue to strive to help those in need. As we abstain from foods and curtail our eating habits, let us set aside the extra money we would have spent on food and give it to the poor; this will make our fasting complete. As we increase our prayer, both private and in the Church, let us set aside those extra dollars we would have spent at the movies, going out with our friends, socializing, etc.; this will help put our prayer into action. As we strive to control our passions, let us help those whose only passion is to have a small meal to eat, a glass of clean water to drink, or a warm place to rest; this will enable us to see Christ in these, the least of our brethren.

Wishing you all a fruitful and spiritually rewarding fast, I remain,

Your Father in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Metropolitan Joseph". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined.

+JOSEPH

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)

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Greater Cleveland Council
of Orthodox Clergy

Sunday of Orthodoxy Great Vespers

March 5, 2017

5:00 PM

St. Theodosius Orthodox Cathedral (OCA)

733 Starkweather Avenue

Cleveland OH 44113



Chief Celebrant and Homilist

Metropolitan SAVAS

Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Pittsburgh

Children are invited to bring Icons and
participate in the procession

*Fellowship and refreshments in the Cathedral Hall
following the service*

Saints Constantine & Helen Cathedral, Cleveland Heights, Ohio

Lenten Retreat

Saturday, March 11, 2017

9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.



BISHOP GREGORY

AMERICAN CARPATHO-RUSSIAN ORTHODOX DIOCESE

9:00 a.m. Prayer Service

9:30 Registration and Breakfast

10:00 a.m. Session 1

Noon Lunch

1:00 p.m. Session 2

3:00 pm Closing Prayer

Checks to: Sts. Constantine & Helen Cathedral / "Retreat" in memo

3352 Mayfield Rd / Cleveland Heights, OH 44118 (Attn: Anne Mitchell)

More Information Kathy Chimples 216-952-3847

Name _____

Church _____

Phone _____ Email _____

_____ Prepaid Registration @\$15 (\$20 after March 5) _____

_____ Students @ \$5.00 _____

Additional Donation _____

Total Enclosed _____