



The Sunday Messenger

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH - WILKES BARRE, PA

2nd Sunday of Great Lent + Sun, March 12th, 2023 + Sunday of Gregory Palamas + Fathers of the Kiev Caves Lavra



Holy and divine instrument of wisdom, joyful trumpet of theology, together we sing thy praises, O God-inspired Gregory. Since thou now standest before the Original Mind, guide our minds to Him, O Father, so that we may sing to thee: “Rejoice, preacher of grace!”

Now is the time for action! Judgment is at the doors! So let us rise and fast, offering alms with tears of compunction and crying: “Our sins are more in number than the sands of the sea; but forgive us, O Master of all, so that we may receive the incorruptible crowns!”

Please Sing Along!

Singing the hymns and responses to the litanies along with the choir throughout the Divine Liturgy is encouraged!

Epistle Reading: Hebrews 1:10-2:3

And: “**You, LORD, in the beginning** laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You remain; and they will all grow old like a garment; like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed. But You are the same, and Your years will not fail.” But to which of the angels has He ever said: “Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool”? Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation? Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him,

Gospel Reading: Mark 2:1-12

And again He entered Capernaum after some days, and it was heard that He was in the house. Immediately many gathered together, so that there was no longer

Hymns for Today

The Angelic Powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure body. Thou didst capture hell not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead, glory to Thee.

O light of Orthodoxy, teacher of the Church, its confirmation, O ideal of monks and invincible champion of theologians, O wonderworking Gregory, glory of Thessalonica and preacher of grace, always intercede before the Lord that our souls may be saved!

DEAR GUESTS AND FRIENDS: A most sincere and heartfelt welcome to you from our community. According to the ancient traditions of the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is to be administered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared to receive the Holy Sacrament through prayer and fasting. If you have questions please let us know!

room to receive them, not even near the door. And He preached the word to them. Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men. And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you." And some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts, "Why does this Man speak blasphemies like this? Who can forgive sins but God alone?" But immediately, when Jesus perceived in His spirit that they reasoned thus within themselves, He said to them, "Why do you reason about these things in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise, take up your bed and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins" – He said to the paralytic, "I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"



This Week's Schedule

DOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

WELCOME HOLY RESURRECTION CATHEDRAL

Please keep Fr. Gregory in your prayers as he recovers from surgery. Holy Resurrection parishioners can make Sunday offerings to the Cathedral at the candle stand by placing it in an envelope marked "Cathedral". We are grateful to have you with us today!

+++

THIS WEEKEND – Sunday of Gregory Palamas

Saturday, March 11th

9 AM: Divine Liturgy

10:30 AM: Parastas for Lydia Homick – Offered by Jackie Brennan – Atkinson and Mark Hopyak

5 PM: Great Vespers, Confession

6 PM: Lenten Movie Night – Fr. Stu

Sunday, March 12th

8:40 AM: 3rd & 6th Hours, 9 AM: Divine Liturgy, Church School, Coffee Hour, Adult Education,

11:30 AM: Parish Council Meeting

THIS WEEK – 3rd Week of Great Lent

Wed, 11 AM-1:30 PM: Private Prayer in Church

Wed, 6 PM: Presanctified Liturgy w/ Potluck

Fri @ 6:30 PM: Akathist w/ Litya for the Departed

Sat @ 9 AM: Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

+++

NEXT WEEKEND – Sunday of The Cross

Saturday, March 18th

9 AM: Divine Liturgy

1 PM: Community Board Game Day

5 PM: Great Vespers, Confession

6 PM: Lenten Movie Night

Sunday, March 19th

8:40 AM: 3rd & 6th Hours, 9 AM: Divine Liturgy, Church School, Coffee Hour, Adult Education

Wilkes-Barre Deanery Mission Vespers

Sun, March 19th @ 4 PM: St. Michael's, Old Forge w/ Lenten Meal & Voices of the Anthracite Concert



ANNOUNCEMENTS

& Upcoming Parish Events

+++

SATURDAYS: LENTEN MOVIE NIGHT: Saturday evenings following Great Vespers in the basement of the church Sherry Huntzinger will be hosting a Christian movie night. Popcorn will be provided. This week showing Fr. Stu. "God needed a fighter, and He found one. Father Stu is based on the true-life story of boxer-turned-priest, Father Stuart Long, whose journey from self-destruction to redemption inspired countless people along the way." NOTE: This film has strong language and is not suitable for children.

LENTEN ADULT EDUCATION – The Orthodox

Spiritual Life: Fr. Innocent will be presenting weekly Adult Education Class Sundays during coffee hour throughout Great Lent. Each week will cover a different topic on the rich spiritual life our faith offers us and its ultimate goal. Presentations will last 30 minutes followed by discussion and Q&A. This class will take the place of Orthodoxy 101 during Great Lent. Everyone is invited.

LENTEN FOOD SALE: A big thanks to all who helped at Friday's Lenten Food Sale. Clam chowder has been added to the menu for the next few sales. Other menu items may be added depending on volunteer support. Please support & spread the word about upcoming sales - March 17, 24 & 31 / 11AM - 5PM. Potato pancakes (3 for \$5) & clam chowder (\$6 bowl/\$13 quart). Helpers are always needed & welcome. Volunteer sign-up sheet on the podium in the vestibule.

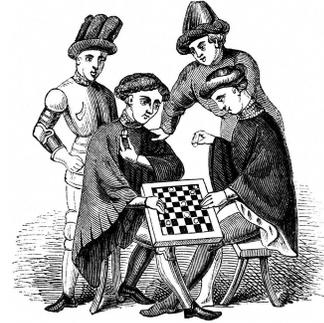
SUN MARCH 19TH, VOICES OF THE ANTHRACITE - 100 YEARS OF SACRED MUSIC IN WYOMING VALLEY: Voices of the Anthracite is a concert presented by the Chamber Choir of Saint Tikhon's Monastery. It explores the various musical traditions that have been nurtured in our churches for the last one hundred years. Using selections from Great Lent and Holy Week, the program will include plainchant as sung in Greek Catholic churches during the late 19th century, the adopted classics of Bortiansky and Turchaninoff, the New Direction composer Alexander Kastalsky, and music in the English language: Kedrov, Soroka, Ledkovsky, and Glagolev. The overall program will last roughly 40 minutes and will include music sung in Slavonic and English. The concert will follow Lenten Mission Vespers which begins at 4 PM (Sun, March 19th) at Saint Michael's Orthodox Church, Old Forge.

THIS WEEK: PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY w/ LENTEN POTLUCK: Weekly throughout Great Lent we will have Presanctified Liturgy followed by a Lenten Potluck (No meat or dairy) on Wednesday nights throughout the fast. Make this Liturgy and Community Meal a part of your Lenten Journey. Presanctified begins at 6 PM. See the weekly schedule for locations.

COMBINED PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY @ St. Mary's Antiochian Church on Wed, March 22 @ 6 PM w/ a Lenten Potluck to follow. Please bring a dish. The communities of Holy Resurrection & St. John the Baptist (Edwardsville) will also join us.

BRING IN YOUR PUSSYWILLOWS: Anyone willing to harvest pussywillows from your yard or area for our Paschal celebration can now bring them to the church. Spring weather is upon us and they will soon begin to flower. Thanks so much for your help!

+ MARCH COMMUNITY DAY + Board Games, Snacks, Fun



Saturday, March 18, 1 PM - 5 PM

Join us monthly downstairs in the Church Hall for games, snacks, fellowship and fun followed by Great Vespers at 5 PM. Bring a snack!

EVERYONE is Welcome



LENTEN & PASCHAL FLOWER DONATIONS

Donations towards adorning the church this Lenten season and Pascha are being collected so that our parish will be beautifully adorned for all of the feasts. General donations for flowers during lent are being accepted and will be used for the Feast of the Cross (flowers will adorn the cross) and Palm Sunday (Palms & Pussy Willows). Donations may be given to Deborah Mills. Please write "Flowers for Lent" in the memo. We will also continue our tradition of **Paschal Flower Donations** in memory and for the health of loved ones. We will adorn the grave of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Good Friday with fresh Spring flowers as a reflection of our love. These flowers will also adorn the Church on Holy Pascha and throughout Bright Week. On Saint Thomas Sunday, those who donated flowers will be welcome to bring these flowers home to loved ones and shut-ins to brighten their day. If you would like to honor a loved one by making a donation for Holy Pascha flowers "In Memory of" or "For the Health of" a loved one, please sign up in the Church Vestibule/Narthex. Please leave donations at the candle stand, mail them to the Church, OR drop it off in the rectory mailbox. The names of your loved ones will be listed in the Holy Pascha Church Bulletin and remembered in prayer. If you wish to have your offering

PARISH PRAYER LIST Living: Cynthia Dulsky, Nadine Breisch, Holoviak Family, Evelyn Kosmiski, Mat. Elizabeth, Jeri Basarab, Fr. Theodore Orzolek, Mary Ann Lepa, Mat. Delores Donlick, Vladimir & Marie Dutko, Alan, Cathy & Paul, Archpriest Vladimir, Tom & Joan Austin, Paul Berdy, Lilly, Charles, Elizabeth, George Krill, Lydia, John Zoranski, Melanie Bishop, Reader Matthew, Fr. Gregory White, Fr. Nicholas Solak **Departed:** Theodore Sovryda, Deborah Hoidra

listed in the Holy Pascha Bulletin, your loved ones name(s) and donation must be received by Palm Sunday.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

March Birthdays: Emma Lynn DiBatista (3/3), Abby Harvey (3/4), Lisa Marie Harvey (3/7), Isabela Sofrenovic (3/9), Dara Soljaga (3/11), Michael Polk (3/12) Nadine Breisch (3/13), Joshua Leonori (3/22), Gerry Stankiewicz (3/27), Jean Ann Hutz (3/31)

This Week's Birthdays: Michael Polk (3/12) Nadine Breisch (3/13)

Ask Fr. Innocent: Do you have questions about the Orthodox faith? Submit your questions anonymously in the vestibule in the small black "Ask Fr. Innocent?" box. Questions will be answered during coffee hour and/or in the bulletin.



Words of Wisdom From the Saints & Teachers

+++

Sunday of Gregory Palamas

Antiochan Archdiocese Website

On the second Sunday of Lent, we celebrate the teachings of St. Gregory Palamas, who upheld the Orthodox doctrine that humans can know God not only through the intellect but through experience of His uncreated energies.

Father Nicholas Belcher writes:

On the second Sunday of Lent, the Holy Orthodox celebrates the memory of Saint Gregory Palamas, the Archbishop of Thessalonica, who struggled valiantly to uphold the patristic teaching that God's energies are uncreated against those who held that God's grace is a created intermediary. While the distinction between uncreated energies and created grace may sound like an arcane debate between religious scholars, this dispute greatly disturbed the life of the Church and required a

series of six councils in Constantinople over the course ten years to finally proclaim the Orthodox teaching. In our age of theological relativism, this type of vociferous debate over wording seems nothing short of a waste of time causing unneeded division, but upon reflecting on these issues, we see the importance of St. Gregory's principled stand and ultimate triumph.

... every day we should stand in awe of Him, as He is with us, and do what is pleasing before Him. If we are unable now to perceive Him with our physical eyes, we can, if we are watchful, see Him continuously with the eyes of our understanding, and not just see Him, but reap great benefits from Him. This vision destroys all sin, demolishes all evil, and drives away everything bad. It gives birth to purity and dispassion, and bestows eternal life.

+ St. Gregory Palamas



The Treasury

"... but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal." + Jesus Christ

+++

Monthly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$12,305
Weekly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$2,840
Last Week's Collection (3/5/23): \$3,563

What is my weekly tithe?

Weekly Income	10%	5%	4%	2%
\$200	\$20	\$10	\$8	\$4
\$500	\$50	\$25	\$20	\$10
\$750	\$75	\$37	\$30	\$15
\$1000	\$100	\$50	\$40	\$20
\$1500	\$150	\$75	\$60	\$30
\$2000	\$200	\$100	\$80	\$40