

SAINT JOHN'S ORTHODOX CHURCH

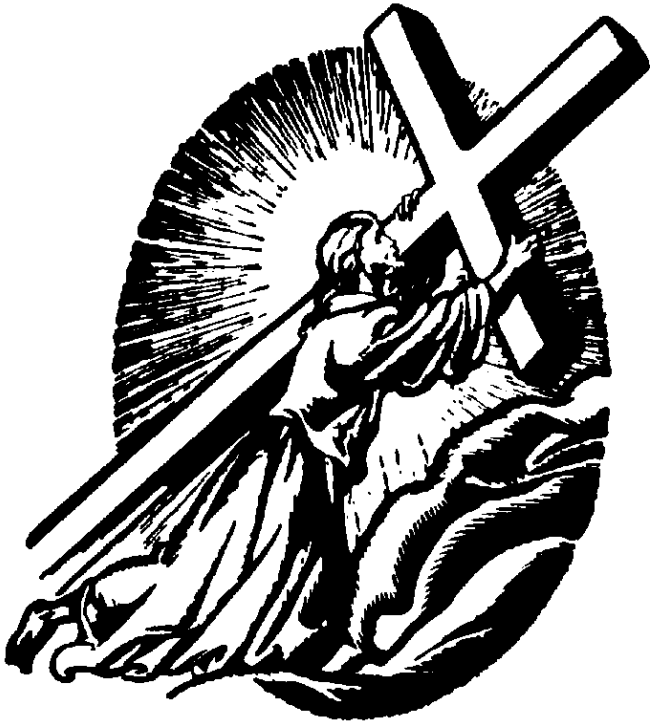
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Clergy:

Rev. Father David Mastroberte
Very Rev. Protopresbyter Michael Polanichka
Rev. Deacon John Anderson

A Parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese – Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople

BULLETIN FOR MARCH 13-26, 2016



BIRTHDAYS

- Mar. 13 Kathleen Chuba

- 15 Mary Barbara Hardy
Michael Ristvey

- 16 Joseph Jaeger

- 17 Fr. David Mastroberte

- 18 Margaret Holmes

- 21 Karen Hynes

- 23 Jessica Nameth

- 26 Grace Cataloni

**MEN TO
HOLD CANDLES**

Sunday, March 20th

- Michael Polanichka
- Dan Ristvey
- Joel Ristvey
- Matt Ristvey
- Michael Ristvey

Sunday, March 27th

- Tom Ristvey
- Peter Roman
- Steve Saluga
- Milan Shumkaroff
- Ed Slovesko



SERVICES & EVENTS FOR MARCH 13-27, 2016

*SUN	3/13/2016	CHEESEFARE SUNDAY; OF FORGIVENESS
	9:00 AM	Divine Liturgy Panachida: +Metropolitan Nicholas, 5th Anniversary of Repose
	6:00 PM	Vespers for the Beginning of the Great Fast
MON	3/14/2016	FIRST DAY OF LENT (STRICT FAST)
	8:30 AM	Lenten Matins (Chapel)
	6:00 PM	Great Canon of St. Andrew, Part 1 at St. George's Church (Serbian)
TUES	3/15/2016	
	6:00 PM	Great Canon of St. Andrew, Part 2 at Holy Cross Church (Romanian)
WED	3/16/2016	
	6:00 PM	*No Confessions Before This Service Great Canon of St. Andrew, Part 3 at OUR CHURCH
THURS	3/17/2016	
	8:30 AM	Parastas (Chapel) ++Palahunik Fam.; +John & +Mary Spondike (Per.)
	6:00 PM	Great Canon of St. Andrew, Part 4 at St. John's (Ukrainian)
FRI	3/18/2016	
	5:30 PM	Confessions
	6:00 PM	Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
*SUN	3/20/2016	FIRST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST; TRIUMPH OF ORTHODOXY
	9:00 AM	Divine Liturgy of St. Basil Icon Procession with Church School Students at the End of Liturgy Panachida: +John Belous (Per.)
	5:00 PM	Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers at St. George's Serbian Orthodox Church *Refreshments to Follow

Thoughts on Stewardship

By Dan Hromyak

"For his sake I have accepted the loss of all things and I consider them so much rubbish, that I may gain Christ..." - Philippians 3:8

The first commandment says that we shall not put others gods before the Lord. Detaching ourselves from material possessions and considering them "rubbish" does just that. It strengthens our relationship with Jesus and allows us to live more freely and joyfully.

"I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another." - John 13:34

It is easy to love someone when they love us back. But it takes courage to love someone when we feel unappreciated, used or feel our opinion doesn't matter. It takes courage to "love my neighbor" when he may be someone I don't like, someone I don't know or someone who doesn't look like me.

The Lenten Prayer of Saint Ephrem the Syrian

In the Orthodox Church, this prayer is added to church services from Sunday through Friday evenings during the Lenten season. Add it to your daily prayers!

O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of laziness, despair, lust for power and vain talking.

But give to me, Your servant, the spirit of purity, humility, patience and love.

Yes, Lord and King, grant me to see my own sins and not judge my brother. For blessed are You forever and ever. Amen.

Inter-Parish Services and Events During Lent

One of the blessings afforded us in a special way during Lent is the opportunity to be together with our fellow Orthodox Christians, both at our church and at other churches. Here is a concise list of such happenings:

- ◆ 3/14–3/17: Canon of St. Andrew (*See Schedule*)
- ◆ 3/20: Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers at St. George's, 5 PM
- ◆ 3/24: Vespers for Annunciation in Farrell, 7 PM
- ◆ 4/3: Lenten Mission in Warren, 4 PM
- ◆ 4/8: Lenten Mission in North Royalton, 6 PM
- ◆ 4/9: ACRY Lenten Retreat in Homestead OR Lenten Retreat at Holy Cross
- ◆ 4/16: Our Lenten Mission, 4 PM
- ◆ 4/22: Lenten Mission in Erie, 6 PM
- ◆ 4/27: Sacrament of Holy Unction at Annunciation in Farrell, 6 PM

We can look at these services as *mini-pilgrimages* which take us outside of our usual churchgoing routine. We are able to worship in another holy place, and to be with our brothers and sisters in Christ (whether in our immediate area, or of our Diocese).

We have already distributed flyers about the ACRY Retreat, and include flyers for the Lenten Missions and local pan-Orthodox Lenten Retreat with this bulletin. Consider *your* participation in these services and events this year!

Visit our Diocesan Online Resources!

Diocesan Website: <http://www.acrod.org>

Camp Nazareth: <http://www.campnazareth.org>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/acroddiocese>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/acrodnews>

You Tube: <https://youtube.com/acroddiocese>

MON	3/21/2016	
	8:30 AM	Lenten Matins (Chapel)
TUES	3/22/2016	
	8:30 AM	Parastas (Chapel) +Andrew & +Agnes Karas; +Vasil & +Melania Hercha (Per.)
WED	3/23/2016	
	5:30 PM	Confessions
	6:00 PM	Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts *Lenten Pot-Luck Meal to Follow
THURS	3/24/2016	
	8:30 AM	Parastas (Chapel) Carol Feltovich (40th Day), by Margie Hromyak
	7:00 PM	Great Vespers at Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Farrell
FRI	3/25/2016	ANNUNCIATION TO THE MOTHER OF GOD (HOLYDAY)
	9:00 AM	Divine Liturgy *No Evening Lenten Services Because of the Holyday
SAT	3/26/2016	LEAVETAKING OF THE ANNUNCIATION; ST. GABRIEL
	9:00 AM	Divine Liturgy Panachida and Reading of Names of Departed
*SUN	3/27/2016	SECOND SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST; ST. GREGORY PALAMAS
	9:00 AM	Divine Liturgy of St. Basil Panachida: +JoAnn & Eric Burprich (Per.)

Non-Lenten Announcements

¶ **2016 Diocesan Yearbook “ACRY Annual”** is available in the Office for \$12.00.

¶ **Reminder:** Monthly Board Meeting will be on Monday, March 21 at 6:00 PM.

Lenten Announcements

¶ **Pan-Orthodox Choir Rehearsal** for Sunday of Orthodoxy Vespers at St. George’s Serbian Orthodox Church today at 1:00 PM in their fellowship hall. All singers invited!

¶ **The Great Fast—Lent—begins on March 14!** We will usher in this season with Vespers on March 13 at 6:00 PM. Please take note of the additional services scheduled during this season, as found on the monthly calendar and in this bulletin. Announcements regarding *fasting* are found on the back of the monthly calendar.

¶ **Lenten Self-Denial Boxes** are available in the vestibule. Please take one (or more!) and add your offerings to it throughout Lent. After Pascha, our donations will be shared with the Community Food Warehouse and the Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC). Related to this...

¶ **March 13 is designated as “Mission Sunday”** by the Assembly of Orthodox Bishops in the US. Focus is given to the work of the Orthodox Christian Mission Center—OCMC. We support OCMC throughout the year, especially through our Denial Boxes and Gift Wrapping proceeds. Dr. Henry Vanzanten will have a display about OCMC’s work on March 13. Please say a prayer for Orthodox Missions and Orthodox Missionaries serving around the world, consider volunteering to serve as part of an Orthodox Mission Team, and support this eternal work of the Church with a gift to the Mission Center.

¶ **Confessions** will be heard beginning at 5:30 PM before most evening Lenten services (unless otherwise noted). Fr. David is also available on Monday mornings after the Matins service; by appointment; and on a *limited* basis before Divine Liturgy on Sunday mornings.

¶ **Great Canon Service during the First Week of Lent.** As is customary in our area, the local Orthodox parishes will each take an evening hosting a portion of the *Great Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete*. The schedule is in the bulletin. Our parish will host the service on Wednesday, March 16th at 6:00 PM. The “Great Canon” is a lengthy liturgical composition on the theme of repentance, which includes a number of troparia (*hymns*) referencing all of “salvation history,” from Adam and Eve to Christ. The refrain sung over and over again is: “*Have mercy on me, O God, have mercy on me!*”

¶ **Sunday of Orthodoxy Procession of Icons:** Following Liturgy on March 20th, a short Procession of Icons will be held inside the church, to celebrate the “Triumph of Orthodoxy” and the restoration of icons after iconoclasm in the 9th century. All **children and youth** are invited to participate in this procession by carrying an icon—either one brought from home, or an icon provided by the church. *Youth are to gather in the vestibule following Communion on Sunday, March 20th to be arranged for the procession.*

¶ **Sunday of Orthodoxy Pan-Orthodox Vespers** will be held on Sunday, March 20th, 2016, at St. George’s Serbian Orthodox Church, Keel Ridge Road, Hermitage. The service will begin at 5:00 PM. Dennis Bell, an iconographer, will speak about iconography. Sweets and coffee to follow.

¶ **Lenten Pot-Luck Meals.** Following the Presanctified Liturgy on Wednesday, March 23rd, we will have a pot-luck/covered dish meal in the Hall. Bring a Lenten dish to share with those gathered. In past years, we observed a meatless menu, and we will again keep that as our baseline. However, Fr. David wholeheartedly *encourages* you to “step it up” this year, and bring a “strict fast” (meatless and dairyless) dish/dessert.

¶ **Looking Ahead:** We are accepting donations of candy for the **Easter Egg Hunt** on Easter Sunday, May 1. They must be *individually wrapped* and *small* enough to fit inside the plastic eggs. Donations may be brought to the church hall. Thank you!