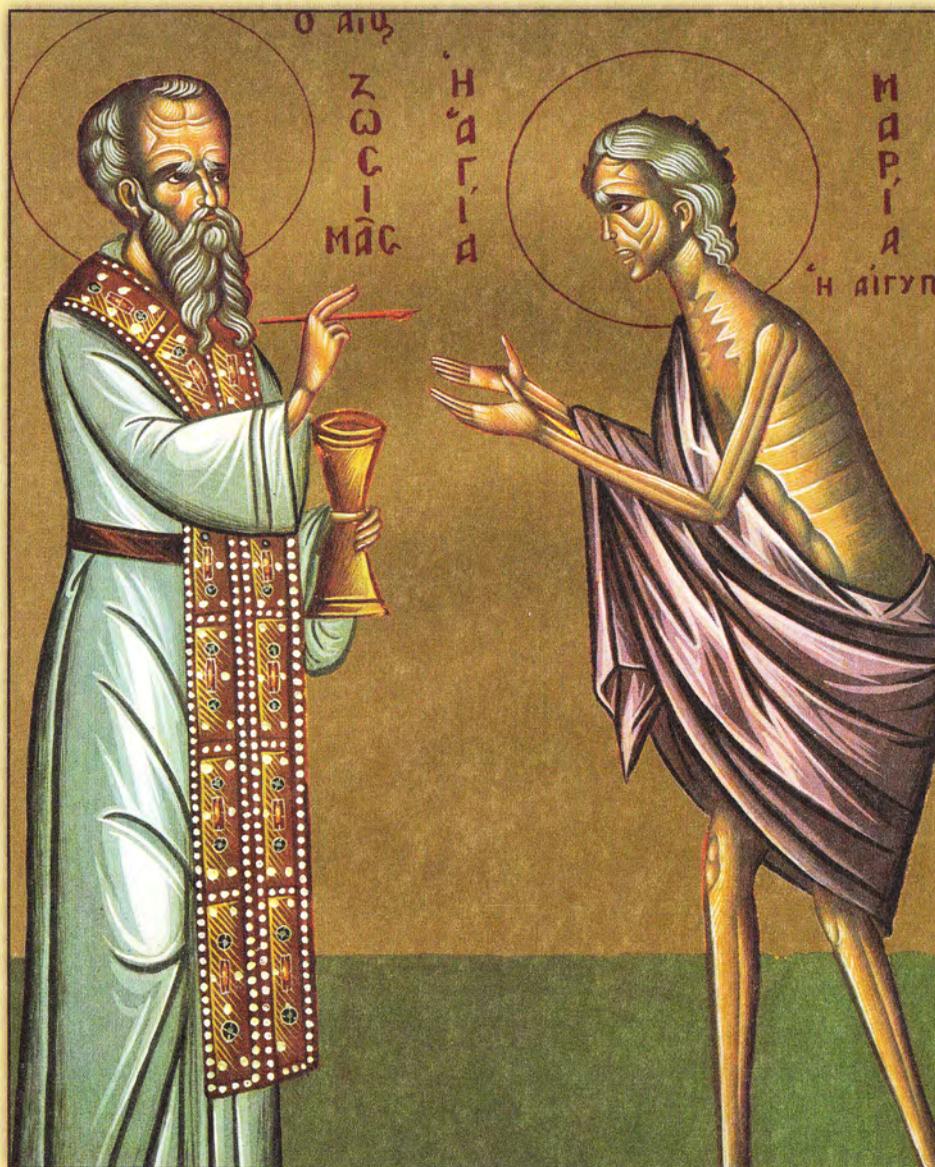


FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST
SAINT MARY OF EGYPT



Icon of Saints Zozimos and Mary of Egypt



March 22, 2015 TONE 8

5TH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST

VENERABLE MARY OF EGYPT; THE HOLY HIEROMARTYR BASIL, PRESBYTER OF THE CHURCH IN ANCYRA

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 23 – MARCH 29

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

9:30 AM – Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

SATURDAY, MARCH 28 – LAZARUS SATURDAY; OUR VENERABLE FATHER HILARION THE NEW; OUR VENERABLE FATHER STEPHEN THE WONDERWORKER

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy / Panakhyda; + Sophie Skop (40th day)

6:00 PM – Great Vespers

SUNDAY, MARCH 29 – FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY; OUR VENERABLE FATHER MARK, BISHOP OF ARETHUSA; CYRIL THE DEACON AND OTHERS WHO SUFFERED UNDER JULIAN THE APOSTATE

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy

For All Parishioners

*If you are reading the bulletin during the Liturgy (including the homily),
please **stop** and be attentive – будьмо уважні!*

Looking Ahead:

- ❖ Monday, March 23 – Paska Baking (9:30 AM)
- ❖ March 25th – Annunciation
- ❖ March 29th – Flowery Sunday
- ❖ March 29th – Easter Bake Sale
- ❖ April 5th – Pascha - Пасха
- ❖ April 12th – Parish Sviachenne Meal

Don't Wait Until It Is Too Late

Start arranging your schedule today so that you can be present for Holy Friday through Pascha. Absolutely no one should miss these services. Put God first: take off work and stand by the Cross of Christ.

Order your Paska for Easter!

\$7.00 each

See Olena Bankston to place your order.

FLOWER COLLECTION

Special envelopes are available in the back of the church do help with the purchase of flowers for the Feast of Pascha.

**Open to me the doors of repentance,
O Giver of Life; for my soul rises early to
pray toward Your holy Temple, bearing
the temple of my body all defiled. But
in Your compassion, purify me by the
lovingkindness of Your mercy.**

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR GREAT AND HOLY WEEK, MARCH 30 – APRIL 5

MONDAY, MARCH 30 - **GREAT AND HOLY MONDAY**; OUR VENERABLE FATHER JOHN CLIMACUS, AUTHOR OF “THE LADDER”

6:30 PM– Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

TUESDAY, MARCH 31 – **GREAT AND HOLY TUESDAY**; OUR VENERABLE FATHER HYPATIUS, BISHOP OF GANGARA

9:30 AM– Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1 – **GREAT AND HOLY WEDNESDAY**; OUR VENERABLE MOTHER MARY OF EGYPT

9:30 AM– Bridegroom Matins and Holy Mystery of Anointing

6:30 PM– Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts & Holy Mystery of Anointing

THURSDAY, APRIL 2 – **GREAT AND HOLY THURSDAY**; OUR VENERABLE FATHER AND CONFESSOR TITUS WONDERWORKER; PASSING INTO ETERNAL LIFE (1959) OF BLESSED NYKOLAI (NICHOLAS) CHARNETSKY, EXARCH OF VOLHYNIA AND CONFESSOR

9:30 AM– Matins of Betrayal

6:30 PM– Vespers of the Divine Liturgy of St Basil followed by the Holy Mystery of Repentance

FRIDAY, APRIL 3 – **GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY**; OUR VENERABLE FATHER AND CONFESSOR NICETAS, HEGUMEN OF THE MEDIKION MONASTERY

9:30 AM– Matins of the Passion (12 Gospels)

6:30 PM– Vespers of the Passion and Procession with the Shroud followed by the Holy Mystery of Repentance

SATURDAY, APRIL 4 – **GREAT AND HOLY SATURDAY**; OUR VENERABLE FATHERS JOSEPH THE HYMNOGRAPHER, AND GEORGE OF MALEON

9:30 AM– Jerusalem Matins

SUNDAY, APRIL 5 – **THE GLORIOUS FEAST OF PASCHA - ПАСХА** - THE RESURRECTION IN THE FLESH OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

7:30 AM– Paschal Matins

9:30 AM– Paschal Divine Liturgy followed by Blessing of Baskets

Advice to Those Living in the World

From Step 1 of the Ladder of Divine Ascent



Some people living in the world have asked me: "We have spouses and are beset with social cares, and how can we lead the spiritual life?" I replied to them: "Do all the good you can; do not speak evil of anyone; do not steal from anyone; do not lie to anyone; do not be arrogant towards anyone; do not hate anyone; do not be absent from the divine services; be compassionate to the needy; do not offend anyone; do not wreck another man's domestic happiness, and be content with what your own spouses can give you. If you behave in this way, you will not be far from the Kingdom of Heaven."

- God won't ask what kind of car you drove, he'll ask how many people you drove who didn't have transportation.
- God won't ask the square footage of your house, he'll ask how many people you welcomed into your home.
- God won't ask about the clothes you had in your closet, he'll ask how many you helped to clothe.
- God won't ask what your highest salary was, he'll ask if you compromised your character to obtain it.
- God won't ask what your job title was, he'll ask if you performed your job to the best of your ability.
- God won't ask how many friends you had, he'll ask how many people to whom you were a friend.
- God won't ask in what neighborhood you lived, he'll ask how you treated your neighbors.
- God won't ask about the color of your skin, he'll ask about the content of your character.
- God won't ask you how many times you spoke the truth, he'll ask you how many times you lied.
- God won't ask why it took you so long to seek salvation, he'll lovingly take you to your mansion in heaven.
- Бог не запитає тебе, яким автомобілем їздив, але скількох людей ти підвіз.
- Бог не запитає тебе, яку площу мав твій дім, а скількох подорожніх ти в ньому прийняв.
- Бог не запитає тебе, як ти одягався, а запитає, скількох людей ти зодягнув.
- Бог не запитає тебе скільки грошей ти заробляв, але яким способом.
- Бог не запитає тебе яку посаду ти займав, але чи ти працював чесно і сумлінно.
- Бог не запитає тебе, скільки ти мав приятелів, але для кого з них був приятелем ти.
- Бог не запитає тебе, в якому оточенні ти жив, але як ти ставився до своїх сусідів.
- Бог не запитає тебе краски твоєї шкіри, але запитає про твій характер.
- Бог не запитає тебе, скільки разів ти говорив правду, але запитає скільки разів ти збрехав.
- Бог не запитає тебе, чому ти так довго зволікав з покаєнням і виправленням. Він з любов'ю запровадить тебе до твого небесного житла.

Watch your thoughts, they become words.

Watch your words, they become actions.

Watch your actions, they become habits.

Watch your habits, they become your character.

Watch your character, it becomes your destiny.

Пильнуй свої думки, вони стають словами.

Пильнуй свої слова, вони стають діями.

Пильнуй свої діла, вони стають звичками.

Пильнуй свої звички, вони стають характером.

Пильнуй свій характер, він стає долею.

THE ANNUNCIATION

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. What a great surprise to the priests was the answer of the All-Holy Virgin that she had dedicated her life to God and that she desired to remain a Virgin until death, not wanting to enter into marriage with anyone! Then, according to Divine Providence, Zacharias, the high priest and father of the Forerunner, under the inspiration of God, and in agreement with the other priests, gathered twelve unwed men from the Tribe of David to betroth the Virgin Mary to one of them to preserve her virginity and to care for her. She was betrothed to

Joseph of Nazareth who was Joseph, the All-Holy Virgin in the Temple of Solomon, reading of Sacred Scripture, thoughts, in fasting and went anywhere outside interested in worldly things little to anyone, if at all, need. More frequently she of Joseph's daughters. had come, as prophesied when God was pleased the banished Adam and Archangel Gabriel appeared



her kinsman. In the house of continued to live as she did occupying her time in the in prayer, in Godly- in handiwork. She rarely the house nor was she and events. She spoke very and never without special communicated with both When the fullness of time by Daniel the Prophet, and to fulfill His promise to to the Prophets, the great 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!”* (Isaiah 7:13). Gabriel appeared in all of his angelic brightness and saluted her: *“Rejoice, full of grace! The Lord is with you”* (St. Luke 1:28), and the rest in order as it is written in the Gospel of the saintly Luke. With this angelic annunciation and the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Virgin, the salvation of mankind and restoration of all creation began. The history of the New Testament was opened by the words of the Archangel Gabriel: *“Rejoice, highly favored one”* This is to imply that the New Testament was to signify joy to mankind and to all created things. It is from this that the Annunciation is considered not only a great feast, but a joyful feast as well.

Special thanks to Mary Kitt for informing me of this important announcement:

RECALL NOTICE:

The Maker of all human beings (GOD) is recalling all units manufactured, regardless of make or year, due to a serious defect in the primary and central component of the heart.

This is due to a malfunction in the original prototype units code named Adam and Eve, resulting in the reproduction of the same defect in all subsequent units. This defect has been technically termed "Sub-sequential Internal Non-Morality," or more commonly known as S.I.N., as it is primarily expressed.

Some of the symptoms include:

1. Loss of direction
2. Foul vocal emissions
3. Amnesia of origin
4. Lack of peace and joy
5. Selfish or violent behavior
6. Depression or confusion in the mental component
7. Fearfulness
8. Idolatry
9. Rebellion

The Manufacturer, who is neither liable nor at fault for this defect, is providing factory-authorized repair and service free of charge to correct this defect.

The Repair Technician, JESUS, has most generously offered to bear the entire burden of the staggering cost of these repairs. There is no additional fee required.

The number to call for repair in all areas is: P-R-A-Y-E-R.

Once connected, please upload your burden of SIN through the REPENTANCE procedure. Next, download ATONEMENT from the Repair Technician, Jesus, into the heart component.

No matter how big or small the SIN defect is, Jesus will replace it with:

1. Love
2. Joy
3. Peace
4. Patience
5. Kindness
6. Goodness
7. Faithfulness
8. Gentleness
9. Self control

Please see the operating manual, the B.I.B.L.E. (Believers' Instructions Before Leaving Earth) for further details on the use of these fixes.

WARNING: Continuing to operate the human being unit without correction voids any manufacturer warranties, exposing the unit to dangers and problems too numerous to list and will result in the human unit being permanently impounded. For free emergency service, call on Jesus.

DANGER: The human being units not responding to this recall action will have to be scrapped in the furnace. The SIN defect will not be permitted to enter Heaven so as to prevent contamination of that facility.

Thank you for your attention!

- GOD

P.S. You may contact the Father any time by 'Knee mail'.

Share 2015

Stewardship involves a willingness to give from the very core of who we are and what we have, from substance rather than abundance. Please support **Share 2015 – Annual Eparchial Appeal** as best as you can.

Провідництво виликає бажання поділитися, від усього серця; не від достатку, а від можливостей. Вдова, що віддала до казни свої останні кілька монет знає це: *“Усі бо кидали з свого надміру, вона ж з убогства свого все, що мала, вкинула, - увесь свій прожиток”* (Марка 12:44). Підтримайте, будь ласка, наскільки можете **Share 1205 - Єпархіальний Заклик**.

Sunday offering for March 15

Amount	Number
\$2.00	1 (loose)
\$10.00	1
\$15.00	2
\$20.00	2
\$40.00	2
\$50.00	3
\$75.00	2
\$100.00	2
\$200.00	2
\$300.00	1
<hr/>	
\$1362.00	

Parishioner Total: \$1362.00

Average / parish household (42): \$16.81

Weekly Stewardship Goal: \$2125.00

Deficit: **(\$763.00)**

Please Note:

When you are away, please don't forget that the church still relies on your contributions. Our bills do not go on vacation. Your absence on any Sunday does not negate your obligation to support your home parish.

“Democracy needs religion more than religion needs democracy. A religion can live without democracy; it can live under tyranny, persecution and dictatorship – not comfortably, it is true, but heroically and divinely. But democracy cannot live without religion, for without religion democracy will degenerate into demagogy by selling itself to the highest bidder.”

Venerable Fulton Sheen
(*Whence Come Wars*)

Parishioners That Are Home Bound

If you or a loved one cannot make it to Church, Fr. James would be more than pleased to visit at your home, in the hospital, at a nursing home, or any other place. Please schedule a visit with Fr. James.

Going to the Hospital?

Please let your Father James know, so that he can add you to the prayer list, or, if you like, pay you a visit. If you know someone else is in the hospital please let Fr. James know.

Pastor:

Fr. James Bankston: (619) 905-5278

Pastoral Council:

Fr. Deacon Frank Avant: (760) 805-1667

Vladimir Bachynsky: (619) 865-1279

Mark Hartman: (619) 446-6357

Luke Miller: (858) 354-2008

Jeanine Soucie: (718) 674-4529

Social Committee Chairperson:

Megan Hartman (619) 540-4291

Finance Committee:

Bohdan Knianicky: (619) 303-9698

Fr. Deacon Frank Avant: (760) 805-1667



**Українська Греко-Католицька Церква
Святого Йоана Хрестителя
St. John the Baptizer
Ukrainian Greco-Catholic Church**

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Parish Office: (619) 697-5085

Website: stjohnthebaptizer.org

Pastor: Fr. James Bankston

frjames@mac.com

Fr. James' cell phone: (619) 905-5278

Deacon: Fr. Deacon Frank Avant

fhavant@mac.com

Fr. Dcn Frank's cell phone: (760) 805-1667

Whoever Wishes to be Great

Blessed is he who, dwelling amidst many people, does not turn towards the many, but directs his whole heart to God. Blessed is he who purchases Christ with all his belongings and has, as his only possession, the cross, which he raises on high. Blessed is he who, administering his legal possessions, extends God's hand to those who are in need ...

Blessed is he who, having authority over the people, by holy and great sacrifices brings Christ to earthly folk. Blessed is the one, who, being a child of the flock, a most perfect nursing, keeps the place of the heavenly Christ. Blessed is he who, by his pure mind's forceful movements, beholds the brilliance of the heavenly lights. Blessed is he who honors the Lord by much-toiling hands: and, for many people, this is the law of life. All these things fill up the heavenly receptacles in which are

stored the fruit of our souls, while every individual virtue leads to a different place. For many are the mansions pertaining to different lives.

Blessed is he, whom the mighty Spirit has shown to be poor in passions, whoever leads a life of repentance; who can never get his fill of celestial food; who, by kindness, becomes inheritor of great things; who, by bowels of mercy, draws down God's great compassion, being a friend of peace and pure in heart; who, for the sake of the renowned Christ, has endured many sufferings, and will find great honor. Keep to the way of these people, whichever you prefer.

St. Gregory the Theologian

**For more information on Eastern spirituality, visit
www.theosismedia.com**