



THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF THE DORMITION

OF THE MOST HOLY MOTHER OF GOD
Парафія Успіння Пресв. Богородиці
A PARISH OF THE UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF EDMONTON

Address:

15608 -104 Avenue,
Edmonton, AB
T5P 4G5

Please register
online or by phone to
attend services.

Services:

Sunday Divine Liturgy
(Ukr & Eng) at 10 am

& Melkite (Arabic) D.L. at 2 pm

Parish Website:

<http://dormition.eeparchy.com>

Twitter:

@dormitionparish

<https://twitter.com/dormitionparish>

Eparchial Website:

www.eeparchy.com

Pastor:

Fr. Bo Nahachewsky

Fr. Bo's cell phone:

780-340-FR.BO (3726)

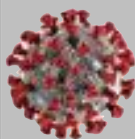
Fr. Bo's Emails:

fr.nahachewsky@eeparchy.com

March 14, 2021

Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast:

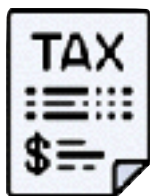
St. John Climacus, Tone 8; our Venerable Father Benedict of Nursia (547)



At Dormition everyone is always welcome....

...so long as you are wearing a mask and keep your social distance...
and unless you are feeling sick... If you are please stay home.

Get well first, then come and join us again. We take covid seriously.



Please be advised that the 2020 tax receipts have been issued to all parishioners and visitors who donated directly to the parish. You should receive your tax receipt in the mail in the next week. For donations that were made to the parish on-line via the Eparchial website, you will need to print your receipt from the Canada Helps website using the following link:
<https://Canadahelps.org/en/ReceiptDownload.aspx>

Holy Week & Easter Schedule

(based on current AHS restrictions) are announced in this bulletin.

YOU WILL NEED TO REGISTER! (Hopefully I will have the registration open by Tuesday.)



Taking care of our shut-ins.

I can not thank the three beautiful ladies (Helen was behind the camera) for lovingly baking gorgeous "pascha" breads for our seniors and shut-ins. In addition to these other Easter treats, and much love.



lovely breads, the recipients will get

Diane, Helen & Virginia, may God bless you all abundantly for your tireless compassion on our parish's older population. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

Iconographer in Virtual Residence

I was approached by St. Benedict School in Edmonton to do an "Artist in Residence" program, on the theme of Icons. Due to covid we had to tweak the program a bunch and now I call it the "Iconographer in Virtual Residence" program. Below are the videos I am using with the school to teach the students from Grades K-3 & 4-6, as well as their teachers.



I am planning to use a similar icon and instructions for our Camp Oselia program this summer. I also suppose this now can be easily reproduced for other schools, camps or parishes if they would want it. If they do, they should contact me with plenty of warning, as it takes time to cut the boards and assemble the materials.

I will also be having each of our First Solemn Communicants work on this project too.

Each student (and many teachers) received a carved out board like the one you see here. I cut deeper ones for the younger students, and not-so deep ones for the older ones.

It took me a lot of time to cut the 260+ boards for them all, but I must say in the end I am kinda proud of the results. I do however now have a very dusty

garage, and made my wife park outside for a while... sorry dear... I will clean it.

Also, I provided each student with a small paint brush, because the typical brushes that elementary schools have are... big, hard and not very good for detailed painting. And 7 colours of acrylic paint.

I would very much like to thank Benjamin Moore Paint store in Sherwood Park for generously donating the paint. This was an unexpected blessing. Thanks.

Pictures of the children and their works on the following page.



- Session 0: Teacher Setup
- Session 1: What is an Icon?
- Session 2: Praying & the Kingdom
- Session 3: God becomes Flesh
- Session 4: Clothes, both God and Man
- Session 5-A: Hair Power
- Session 5-B: Hair Power
- Session 6: Jesus the Priest
- Session 7-A: He is looking at you
- Session 7-B: He is looking at you
- Session 8: Holy Spirit - Our Light
- Session 9: Jesus Christ - I AM
- Session 10: The Face of God
- Session 11: Lips and Hair Highlights
- Session 12: Kings have Bling
- Session 13: Blessing the icon

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qFiVtCXTy4s>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tSHqdXOCmcA>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h6xMwPLyaJM>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h5wUOhNzaDg>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nulHpdCpoqQ>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GBWzEv7stk8>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0hGYw8TQhXM>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0hGYw8TQhXM>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=plbwT19UdL8>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=41TnR3m2rtw>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A-FY2662jHk>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qN1JiF4-2l0>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ybf6fGctDg>
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7_EOMkd3gD8
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dGZhWKB-Tww>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NnUjA0OkIbl&t=1s>

Pictures from Iconographer in Virtual Residence which happened this past week.



Keep Praying for our First Solemn Communion Class!



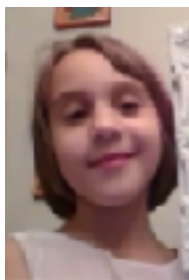
Arion S.
Grade 3



Damen H.
Grade 3



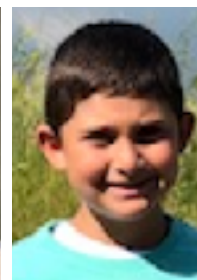
Jack B.
Grade 2



Gabby L.
Grade 2



John C.
Grade 4



Georges A.
Grade 4



Ella G.
Grade 4?

During Great Lent, the Eparchy of Edmonton conducts its annual collection for “Aid to the Missionary Church in Canada.” see previous bulletins for details.

- Please pray for several of our parishioners and family members including (but not limited to): Ross, Ron, Peter, Katie, Jean, Edward, Verna, Miranda, Sarah, Marge, Ann, Louis & Rosa Maria.
 - Happy birthday to Helen Frankiw, Shirley Pewar & Alex Schabel who all celebrate their birthdays this week. May God grant you many happy years. Mnohaya Lita.
 - No new news about the AGM. Once we figure it out, we shall let you know.
 - Our **website** has been updated A LOT and we will continue to do so with the help of our Eparchial Communications Director. This is being done so that it not only looks and functions better, but it also has more content which is easier to use, and so that it also looks good and functions on mobile devices such as smart phones. If you notice any broken links, info that needs updating or anything missing, please feel free to send me an email. - Fr. Bo
 - Thank you Alex, Sheila and the rest of the financial team for getting this years tax receipts out. God bless your efforts.
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Parish Pastoral Council:

I am thinking we should try to meet online next week. Check your emails so we can pick a good day. I'm thinking Tuesday (23) or Wednesday (24) after work.

from oca.org

4th Sunday of Great Lent: St John Climacus (of the Ladder)

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is dedicated to Saint John of the Ladder (Climacus), the author of the work, The Ladder of Divine Ascent. The abbot of Saint Catherine's Monastery on Mount Sinai (6th century) stands as a witness to the violent effort needed for entrance into God's Kingdom (Mt.10: 12). The spiritual struggle of the Christian life is a real one, “not against flesh and blood, but against ... the rulers of the present darkness ... the hosts of wickedness in heavenly places ...” (Eph 6:12). Saint John encourages the faithful in their efforts for, according to the Lord, only “he who endures to the end will be saved” (Mt.24:13).



Venerable John Climacus of Sinai, Author of “the Ladder”

from oca.org

Saint John of the Ladder is honored by Holy Church as a great ascetic and author of the renowned spiritual book called THE LADDER, from which he is also called “of the Ladder” (Climacus).

There is almost no information about Saint John’s origins. One tradition suggests that he was born in Constantinople around the year 570, and was the son of Saints Xenophon and Maria (January 26).

John went to Sinai when he was sixteen, submitting to Abba Martyrius as his instructor and guide. After four years, Saint John was tonsured as a monk. Abba Strategios, who was present at Saint John’s tonsure, predicted that he would become a great luminary in the Church of Christ.

For nineteen years Saint John progressed in monasticism in obedience to his spiritual Father. After the death of Abba Martyrius, Saint John embarked on a solitary life, settling in a wild place called Thola, where he spent forty years laboring in silence, fasting, prayer, and tears of penitence.

It is not by chance that in THE LADDER Saint John speaks about tears of repentance: “Just as fire burns and destroys the wood, so pure tears wash away every impurity, both external and internal.” His holy prayer was strong and efficacious, as may be seen from an example from the life of the God-pleasing saint.

Saint John had a disciple named Moses. Once, the saint ordered his disciple to bring dung to fertilize the vegetable garden. When he had fulfilled the obedience, Moses lay down to rest under the shade of a large rock, because of the scorching heat of summer. Saint John was in his cell in a light sleep. Suddenly, a man of remarkable appearance appeared to him and awakened the holy ascetic, reproaching him, “John, why do you sleep so heedlessly, when Moses is in danger?”

Saint John immediately woke up and began to pray for his disciple. When Moses returned in the evening, Saint John asked whether any sort of misfortune had befallen him.

The monk replied, “A large rock would have fallen on me as I slept beneath it at noon, but I left that place because I thought I heard you calling me.” Saint John did not tell his disciple of his vision, but gave thanks to God.

Saint John ate the food which is permitted by the monastic rule, but only in moderation. He did not sleep very much, only enough to keep up his strength, so that he would not ruin his mind by unceasing vigil. “I do not fast excessively,” he said of himself, “nor do I give myself over to intense all-night vigil, nor lay upon the ground, but I restrain myself..., and the Lord soon saved me.”

The following example of Saint John’s humility is noteworthy.

Gifted with discernment, and attaining wisdom through spiritual experience, he lovingly received all who came to him and guided them to salvation. One day some envious monks reproached him for being too talkative, and so Saint John kept silence for a whole year. The monks realized their error, and they went to the ascetic and begged him not to deprive them of the spiritual profit of his conversation.

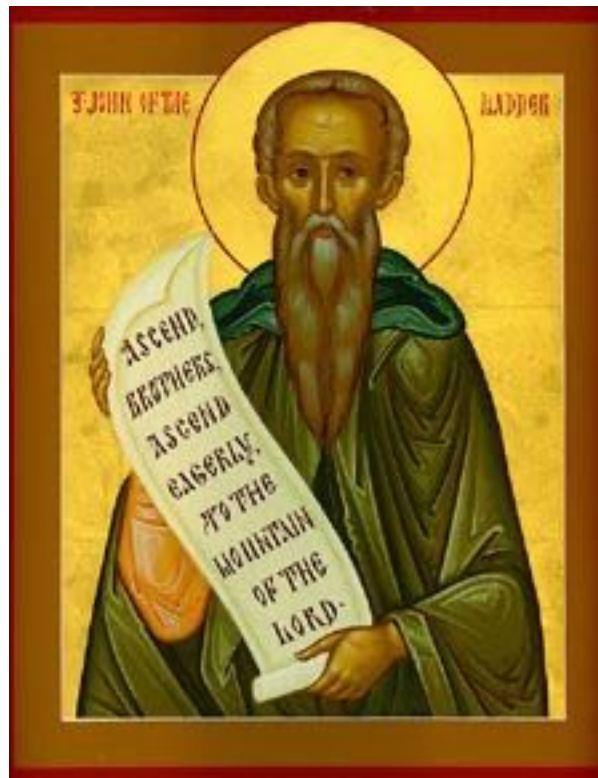
Concealing his ascetic deeds from others, Saint John sometimes withdrew into a cave, but reports of his holiness spread far beyond the vicinity. Visitors from all walks of life came to him, desiring to hear his words of edification and salvation. After forty years of solitary asceticism, he was chosen as igumen of Sinai when he was seventy-five. Saint John governed the holy monastery for four years.

Toward the end of his life, the Lord granted him the gifts of clairvoyance and wonderworking.

At the request of Saint John, igumen of the Raithu monastery (Commemorated on Cheesefare Saturday), he wrote the incomparable LADDER, a book of instruction for monks who wished to attain spiritual perfection.

Knowing of the wisdom and spiritual gifts of Saint John of Sinai, the igumen of Raithu requested him to write down whatever was necessary for the salvation of those in the monastic life. Such a book would be “a ladder fixed on the earth” (Gen. 28:12), leading people to the gates of Heaven.

Saint John felt that such a task was beyond his ability, yet out of obedience he fulfilled the request. The saint called his work THE LADDER, for the book is “a fixed ladder leading from



earthly things to the Holy of Holies....” The thirty steps of spiritual perfection correspond to the thirty years of the Lord’s age. When we have completed these thirty steps, we will find ourselves with the righteous and will not stumble. THE LADDER begins with renunciation of the world, and ends with God, Who is love (1 John 4:8).

Although the book was written for monks, any Christian living in the world will find it an unerring guide for ascending to God, and a support in the spiritual life. Saints Theodore the Studite (November 11 and January 26), Sergius of Radonezh (September 25 and July 5), Joseph of Volokolamsk (September 9 and October 18), and others relied on THE LADDER as an important guide to salvation.

The twenty-second step of THE LADDER deals with various forms of vainglory. Saint John writes: “When I fast, I am vainglorious; and when I permit myself food in order to conceal my fasting from others I am again vainglorious about my prudence. When I dress in fine clothing, I am vanquished by vanity, and if I put on drab clothing, again I am overcome by vanity. If I speak, vainglory defeats me. If I wish to keep silence, I am again given over to it. Wherever this thorn comes up, it stands with its points upright.

A vain person seems to honor God, but strives to please men rather than God.

People of lofty spirit bear insult placidly and willingly, but only the holy and righteous may hear praise without harm.

When you hear that your neighbor or friend has slandered you behind your back, or even to your face, praise and love him.

It is not the one who reproaches himself who shows humility, for who will not put up with himself? It is the one who is slandered by another, yet continues to show love for him.

Whoever is proud of his natural gifts, intelligence, learning, skill in reading, clear enunciation, and other similar qualities, which are acquired without much labor, will never obtain supernatural gifts. Whoever is not faithful in small things (Luke 16:10), is also unfaithful in large things, and is vainglorious.

It often happens that God humbles the vainglorious, sending a sudden misfortune. If prayer does not destroy a proud thought, we bring to mind the departure of the soul from this life. And if this does not help, let us fear the shame which follows dishonor. “For whoever humbles himself shall be exalted, and whoever exalts himself shall be humbled” (Luke 14:11).

When those who praise us, or rather seduce us, start to praise us, let us recall our many sins, then we shall find that we are not worthy of what they say or do to honor us.”














In THE LADDER Saint John describes the ascent toward spiritual perfection, which is essential for anyone who wishes to save his soul. It is a written account of his thoughts, based on the collected wisdom of many wise ascetics, and on his own spiritual experience. The book is a great help on the path to truth and virtue.

The steps of THE LADDER proceed gradually from strength to strength on the path of perfection. The summit is not reached suddenly, but gradually, as the Savior says: “The Kingdom of Heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force” (Mt.11:12).










Saint John is also commemorated on the fourth Sunday of Great Lent.



Dormition Parish - March 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>14 </p> <p>Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast: St. John Climacus, Tone 8; our Venerable Father Benedict of Nursia (547);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Fast Day 28 • Hebrews 6:13-20; • Ephesians 5:9-19; • Mark 9:17-31; • Matthew 4:25-5:12 <p>10 am D.L. Bilingual Ukrainian / English</p> <p>2 pm D.L. Bilingual Arabic / English</p>	<p>15 </p> <p>The Holy Martyr Agapius and the Six Martyrs with Him (284-305);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Fast Day 29. • Isaiah 37:33-38:6; • Genesis 13:12-18; • Proverbs 14:27-15:4 <p>Fr. Bo <u>WILL</u> take this day off (like he should every week)</p>	<p>16 </p> <p>The Holy Martyrs Sabinus and Papas (284-305);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Fast Day 30. • Isaiah 40:18-31; • Genesis 15:1-15; • Proverbs 15:7-19 	<p>17 </p> <p>Our Venerable Father Alexius, Man of God;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Fast Day 31. • Isaiah 41:4-14; • Genesis 17:1-9; • Proverbs 15:20-16:9 <p>2pm Appointment</p> <p>Helen Frankiw's Birthday</p>	<p>18 </p> <p>Our Holy Father Cyril, Archbishop of Jerusalem (386);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Fast Day 32. • Isaiah 42:5-16; • Genesis 18:20-33; • Proverbs 16:17-17:17 <p>6 pm? Eparchial Vocations Directors meeting with Seminarians at Dormition</p> <p>Shirley Pekar's & Alex Schabel's Birthdays</p>	<p>19 </p> <p>The Holy Martyrs Chrysanthus and Daria (253-60);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Fast Day 33. • Isaiah 45:11-17; • Genesis 22:1-18; • Proverbs 17:17-18:5 <p>11 am Patristics Course for clergy</p> <p>4pm Anticipated Liturgy Recording</p> <p>7pm Young Adults Online Ministry</p>	<p>20 </p> <p>Akathist Saturday; our Venerable Fathers Martyred by the Saracens at the Monastery of St. Sabbas (580-97);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Fast Day 34 • Hebrews 9:24-28; • Hebrews 9:1-7; • Mark 8:27-31; • Luke 10:38-42; 11:27-28 <p>Weekly day of editing the Liturgy video, making of this bulletin, updating the website and much more. Saturdays are busy.</p>
<p>21 </p> <p>Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast: Our Venerable Mother, Mary of Egypt, Tone 1; our Venerable Father and Confessor James, Bishop of Catania (813-20);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Fast Day 35. • Hebrews 9:11-14; • Galatians 3:23-29; • Mark 10:32-45; • Luke 7:36-50 <p>We will celebrate the Annunciation of Our Most Holy Lady, the Mother of God and Ever-Virgin Mary at each liturgy.</p> <p>10 am D.L. Bilingual Ukrainian / English</p> <p>2 pm D.L. Bilingual Arabic / English</p>	<p>22 </p> <p>The Holy Priest-Martyr Basil, Presbyter of Ancyra (363); Passing into eternal life (1924) of Fr. Isidore Dolnytsky, hymnographer, professor and spiritual father of L'viv and the Greek College in Rome;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Fast Day 36. • Isaiah 48:17-49:4; • Genesis 27:1-41; • Proverbs 19:16-25 <p>Fr. Bo <u>WILL</u> take this day off (like he should every week)</p> <p>Verna Hnatiuk's & Stefan Sokolowski's Birthdays</p>	<p>23 </p> <p>The Holy Venerable-Martyr Nikon and His Disciples, Martyred with Him (270-75);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Fast Day 37. • Isaiah 49:6-10; • Genesis 31:3-16; • Proverbs 21:3-21 <p>2pm Appointment</p> <p>Possible PPC Meeting online?</p>	<p>24 </p> <p>Fore-feast of the Annunciation of the Mother of God; Our Venerable Father Zachary; Our Holy Father Artemon, Bishop of Seleucia in Pisidia;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Fast Day 38. • Isaiah 58:1-11; • Genesis 43:26-31; 45:1-16; • Proverbs 21:23-22:4 <p>Possible PPC Meeting online?</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Annunciation of Our Most Holy Lady, the Mother of God and Ever-Virgin Mary; Passing into Eternal Life (1944) of Blessed Omelian (Emil) Kovch, Priest of Peremyshliany and Martyr of Majdanek;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Great Fast Day 39. • Isaiah 65:8-16; • Genesis 46:1-7; • Proverbs 23:15-24:5; • Luke 1:24-38 <p>Due to covid we are moving all feastal Liturgies to the Sunday preceding or following. In this case preceding.</p>	<p>26 </p> <p>Synaxis of the Holy Archangel Gabriel; Great Fast Day 40.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isaiah 66:10-24; • Genesis 49:33-50:26; • Proverbs 31:8-31 <p>11 am Patristics Course for clergy</p> <p>4pm Anticipated Liturgy Recording</p> <p>6pm Lower Elementary 7pm Upper Elementary 8pm Teen Online Ministry (see Fr. Bo for details)</p>	<p>27 </p> <p>Holy Week Begins</p> <p>Lazarus Saturday;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hebrews 12:28-13:8; • John 11:1-45 <p>Weekly day of editing the Liturgy video, making of this bulletin, updating the website and much more. Saturdays are busy.</p>

Holy and Bright Weeks at Dormition “assuming current AHS guidelines.”

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>28 </p> <p>Palm Sunday: The Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philippians 4:4-9; • John 12:1-18 <p>10 am D.L. Bilingual Ukrainian / English</p> <p>Possible 12 noon English... if needed</p> <p>2 pm D.L. Bilingual Arabic / English</p> <p>Virginia Sharek's Birthday</p>	<p>29 </p> <p>Great Monday;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matthew 21:18-43; • Ezekiel 1:1-20; • Exodus 1:1-20; • Job 1:1-12; • Matthew 24:3-35 <p>Liturgical Recordings during the day</p> <p>Evening: Setup of Cameras and Audio Equipment for Holy Week Services</p>	<p>30 </p> <p>Great Tuesday;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matthew 22:15-23:39; • Ezekiel 1:21-2:1; • Exodus 2:5-10; • Job 1:13-22; • Matthew 24:36-26:2 <p>Liturgical Recordings during the day</p> <p>4-10 pm open church with Confessions available (Limit of 20 people at any given time.)</p>	<p>31 </p> <p>Great Wednesday;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • John 12:17-50; • Ezekiel 2:3-3:3; • Exodus 2:11-22; • Job 2:1-10; • Matthew 26:6-16 <p>Liturgical Recordings during the day</p> <p>If demand exists:</p> <p>4-10 pm open church with Confessions available (Limit of 20 people at any given time.)</p> <p>Kiartan Lonsberry's Birthday</p>	<p>April 1 </p> <p>Great Thursday;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 Corinthians 11:23-32; • Matthew 26:2-20; • John 13:31-18:1; • John 18:1-28; • Matthew 26:57-75; • John 18:28-19:16; • Matthew 27:3-32; • Mark 15:16-32; • Matthew 27:33-54; • Luke 23:32-49; • John 19:25-37; • Mark 15:43-47; • John 19:38-42; • Matthew 27:62-66; <p>6 pm Reading of the Gospels in English for BOTH PARISHES.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register: Limit 40 people • may be split into 5pm and 8pm only if another Arabic speaking priest comes. • Gospels will be visible on screen in Ukrainian & Arabic. <p>Chris Lirette's Birthday</p>	<p>2  </p> <p>Good Friday;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (see liturgical calendar for all the readings) <p>1 pm overflow service if needed.</p> <p>3 pm Paschanytsia Service in Ukrainian & English.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register: Limit 40 people <p>5 pm Burial / Shroud Service in Arabic & English.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register: Limit 40 people <p>7 pm Burial / Shroud Service in Arabic & English.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register: Limit 40 people <p>Ronny Kennedy's Birthday</p>	<p>3 </p> <p>Great and Holy Saturday;</p> <p>Probably no public church services this day.</p> <p>Church will be sanitized (yet again) and set up for Sunday. Time... yet unknown.</p>
<p>4</p> <p>Glorious Pascha! (Easter Sunday)</p> <p>Resurrection of our Lord and God.</p> <p>8:30 am Resurrectional Matins</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register: Limit 40 people <p>9 am Resurrectional D.L. Bilingual Ukrainian / English with basket Blessing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register: Limit 40 people <p>11 am Resurrectional D.L. English with basket Blessing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register: Limit 40 people <p>1 pm Resurrectional D.L. English with egg Blessing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register with Rita: Limit 40 people <p>3 pm Resurrectional D.L. English with egg Blessing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Register with Rita: Limit 40 people <p>Christopher Bawol's Birthday</p>				<div style="text-align: center;">  <p>Bright Week</p> <p>No services other than Sunday.</p> </div> <div style="background-color: #0072bc; color: white; padding: 10px; margin-top: 10px;"> <p>Please Note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All AHS Rules will be strictly followed. • To open up more seating we will have closed circuit TV and Audio in the hall. • You should register for all services. First Come first served. (so if you want an “in the church” seat, register asap.) • Church will be cleaned after each service. (Volunteers greatly appreciated) </div>		

Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast: St. John Climacus, Tone 8; our Venerable Father Benedict of Nursia (547)

Troparion: You came down from on high, O Merciful One,* and accepted three days of burial* to free us from our sufferings.* O Lord, our life and our resurrection,* glory be to You.

Troparion: O John, our God-bearing father,* you were shown to be a citizen of the desert,* an angel in bodily form,* and a worker of miracles.* Through fasting, prayers and vigils you received heavenly gifts* to heal the sick and the souls of those who, in faith, run to you.* Glory to Him who gives you strength.* Glory to Him who crowned you.* Glory to Him who works healing for all through you.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and for ever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion: On the heights of true abstinence,* the Lord established you as a reliable star,* giving light for guidance to the ends of the earth,* O father John, our teacher.

Prokeimenon:

Pray and give praise to the Lord our God.

verse: In Judea God is known; His name is great in Israel.

Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 (NRSV)

Brothers and Sisters, when God made a promise to Abraham, because he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore by himself, saying, "I will surely bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Human beings, of course, swear by someone greater than themselves, and an oath given as confirmation puts an end to all dispute. In the same way, when God desired to show even more clearly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it by an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God would prove false, we who have taken refuge might be strongly encouraged to seize the hope set before us. We have this hope, a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus, a forerunner on our behalf, has entered, having become a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

Alleluia verses:

Come, let us rejoice in the Lord; let us acclaim God our Saviour.

Let us come before His countenance with praise and acclaim Him with psalms.

They who are planted in the hose of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God. (*Psalms 91:14*)

Gospel: Mark 9:17-31; (NRSV)

At that time a man came to Jesus, fell down before him and said, "Teacher, I brought you my son; he has a spirit that makes him unable to speak; and whenever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, but they could not do so." He answered them, "You faithless generation, how much longer must I be among you? How much longer must I put up with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him. When the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. Jesus asked the father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. It has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you are able to do anything, have pity on us and help us." Jesus said to him, "If you are able!—All things can be done for the one who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out, "I believe; help my unbelief!" When Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You spirit that keeps this boy from speaking and hearing, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again!" After crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he was able to stand. When he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" He said to them, "This kind can come out only through prayer."

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again."

Hymn to the Mother of God

In you, O Full of Grace, all creation rejoices: the angelic ranks and all the human race. Sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, virgins' pride and boast, from whom God is made flesh and became a little Child; and He who is our God before all ages, He made your womb a throne, and He made it wider than all the heavens. In you, O Full of Grace, all creation rejoices. Glory be to you.

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens;* praise Him in the highest.

The just man shall be in everlasting remembrance;* of evil hearsay he shall have no fear.*

Alleluia, alleluia,* alleluia.

At the end:

You have suffered, the passion for us, O Lord, Jesus, Son of God, have mercy on us. (3x with prostrations)