

runs about one hour) at 6:15 PM on Friday, April 7. The next morning—April 8—will be the Feast of Lazarus Saturday, with Divine Liturgy at 9:30 AM, to be sung by our new Children’s Choir.

That afternoon we will clean in and around St. Seraphim and also decorate for Palm Sunday. Work will begin at 2 PM. See Patricia Krueger or Matushka Katherine Crawford for times to help out with decorations for Palm Sunday.

The Vigil for Palm Sunday, with the blessing of palms, will begin at 5 PM. There will be an opportunity for confession during Matins, **after** the Holy Gospel is chanted. The next morning, Sunday, April 9, we will celebrate the Divine Liturgy, and have a procession around the Church at the conclusion.

- SIGN UP LISTS FOR HOLY WEEK AND PASCHA:

For those looking to help out during Holy Week and Pascha at Church, please look for the signup sheets, to be posted in the Narthex on the Fifth Sunday of Lent: duties include cleaning the church after services, candle desk help, coloring Pascha eggs, reading Psalms and the Book of Acts, etc.

- MIGRATING STUFF:

For a kid, tree stakes, a water-filled ditch, and other miscellaneous items, provide imaginative props for endless fun. My kids grew up on the property, so I am well aware of how those items stored behind the Storage Building end up in the ditch or in other places as toys. On the other hand, we will eventually need the tree stakes, railroad ties and other items—now serving as bridges in the ditch—so it would be great to get them all into our storage building. I am asking if a few of our dads would not mind gathering up all these things and putting them into the first bay of the Storage Building. I would also ask that parents supervise their children whether they are playing outside or inside. No doubt all have seen the Parish Council notice regarding this request

—Fr. Lawrence

ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 26, 2017 ~ Post-Feast of Annunciation

- TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Seven:

By Thy Cross Thou didst destroy death; to the thief, Thou didst open Paradise. For the Myrrh-bearers, Thou didst change weeping into joy, and Thou didst command Thy Disciples, O Christ God, to proclaim that Thou art risen, granting the world great mercy.

- TROPARION OF ANNUNCIATION, Tone Four:

Today is the fountainhead of our salvation and the manifestation of the mystery which was from eternity. The Son of God becometh the Virgin’s Son, and Gabriel announceth the good tidings of grace; for this cause, let us cry to the Mother of God with him: Rejoice, thou who art full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

- TROPARION OF THE ARCHANGEL GABRIEL, Tone Four:

Supreme Commanders of the Heavenly armies, we, the unworthy do ever entreat you, that by your prayers ye surround us with the protection of the wings of your immaterial glory, preserving us who earnestly fall down before you and cry aloud: Deliver us from misfortunes, in that ye are the leaders of the hosts on high.

- KONTAKION OF THE ARCHANGEL GABRIEL, Tone Two:

Supreme Commander of God and minister of the Divine glory, guide of men and leader of the bodiless hosts: ask for what is to our profit and for great mercy, since thou art Supreme Commander of the bodiless hosts.

- KONTAKION OF ANNUNCIATION, Tone Eight:

To thee, the Champion Leader, we thy flock dedicate a feast of victory and of thanksgiving as ones rescued out of sufferings, O Theotokos; but as thou art one with might which is invincible, from all dangers that can be do thou deliver us, that we may cry to thee: Rejoice, thou Bride Unwedded.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

- Saturday, March 25: 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy for Annunciation
3:30 PM, Catechism *On Holy Unction*
5 PM, Great Vespers
8 PM, Concert by the Sonoma Bach Consort
- Sunday, March 26: 10 AM, Divine Liturgy / 11:45 Church School
Noon, Agape luncheon in Hall
3 PM, Concert by the Sonoma Bach Consort
- Monday, March 27: 5 PM, Holy Unction at Sts. Peter and Paul
- Tuesday, March 28: 8 AM, Matins
- Wed., March 29: 8 AM, Matins
5 PM, Confessions
6:15 PM, Presanctified Liturgy / Meal
- Thursday, March 30: 9 AM, Matins, Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete, with the *Life of St. Mary of Egypt*
- Friday, March 31: 9 AM, Talk on the *Ladder of Divine Ascent*
6 PM, Matins of the *Akathist to the Theotokos*
- Saturday, April 1: 10:30 AM, Extended Choir Rehearsal
3:30 PM, Catechism *Death and the Funeral*
5 PM, Great Vespers

• MEMORY ETERNAL:

Our brother in Christ, Solomon Tesfai, reposed on Thursday morning, March 23. We grieve, yet with hope in the resurrection. The Funeral service will be held on Sunday, March 26, at 11 AM at Lafferty and Smith Funeral Home, burial at Shiloh Cemetery in Windsor at 2 PM.

• MYSTERY OF HOLY UNCTION:

The Mystery of Holy Unction Service will be presided over by His Eminence Archbishop Kyrill at Sts. Peter and Paul Russian Orthodox Church (Stony Point Rd) on Monday, March 27 beginning at 5 PM. Fr. Alexander Krassovsky, the host pastor, advises us that those who wish to be anointed must properly prepare themselves through prayer, fasting and

Holy Confession. Those who will be coming to Confession and receiving Holy Communion this Sunday, March 26, may participate in the sacrament without a repeat confession—if their consciences so allow.

• THIS WEEK:

Normally the Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast is dedicated to the memory of St. John, abbot of St Catherine's Monastery in Sinai, and the author of the *Ladder of Divine Ascent* (7th century). Because March 26 is also the Leave-taking of Annunciation and the Feast of the Archangel Gabriel, the hymns to St. John are transferred to another day.

• THURSDAY OF THE GREAT CANON:

As Great Lent progresses, it ebbs and flows with opportunities for worship and asceticism. The careful observer will notice that the Fifth Week of the Great Fast presents unique opportunities for liturgical worship and more variety, than other weeks. On Thursday morning we will sing the *Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete*, with the Life of St. Mary of Egypt. On Friday at 6 PM we will sing the magnificent *Akathist to the Theotokos* with Matins for the Fifth Week.

• MANY THANKS:

Having Bishop Daniel here last Sunday for the celebration of the Veneration of the Precious Cross made that feast particularly splendid. We are grateful as well for those who decorated, cooked, cleaned, served, sang and hosted.

• CONFESSION:

During Great Lent, we intensify our spiritual work, fasting, works of mercy. We make an effort to keep a watch on our mind, heart and words as we prepare for Pascha. I remind each of you to come to Confession during these final weeks of Great Lent, in order to cleanse the image of God within. For those **over the age of seven** who wish to receive Holy Communion during Holy Week and Pascha, it is required to make a confession at least once in the three weeks before Holy Week. No Confessions will be heard after Holy Wednesday. —*Fr. Lawrence*

• LAZARUS SATURDAY/PALM SUNDAY EVENTS:

Matins of Lazarus Saturday will be served (a unique resurrectional service,