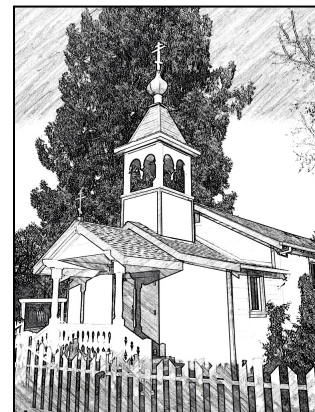


ANNOUNCEMENTS

FOURTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT

March 26, 2023 - Post-Feast of Annunciation



- TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone Eight:

Thou didst descend from on high, O Merciful One; Thou didst accept the three-day burial to free us from our sufferings. O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to Thee.

- TROPARION OF ANNUNCIATION, Tone Four:

Today is the crown of our salvation, and the revelation of the eternal mystery. The Son of God becomes the Virgin's Son, and Gabriel announces the glad tidings of Grace. Wherefore with him let us cry out to the Theotokos: Rejoice, O thou who art full of grace, the Lord is with thee.

- TROPARION OF THE ARCHANGEL GABRIEL, Tone Four:

Gabriel, Commander of the heavenly hosts, we who are unworthy beseech thee: by thy prayers encompass us beneath the wings of thine immaterial glory, and faithfully preserve us who fall down and cry out to thee: "Deliver us from all harm, for thou art the Commander of the Powers on high!"

- TROPARION OF THE ARCHANGEL, Tone Eight:

Supreme Commander Gabriel, thou art the glorious intercessor and servant before the all-radiant, worthy, all-powerful, infinite and awesome Trinity. Ever pray now that we may be delivered from all tribulations and torments, so that we may cry out to thee: "Rejoice, protection of thy servants!"

- TROPARION 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.

- Friday, March 24: 11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions

6 PM, Festal Matins for Annunciation

- Saturday, March 25: **9 AM, Divine Liturgy for Annunciation**

3:30 PM, Catechism—*On the Holy Mystery of Unction*

4:45 PM, Litya for the Reposed

5 PM, Great Vespers / Confessions

6 PM, Parish Council Dinner

- Sunday, March 26: 9:45 AM, Catechumen ceremony for Vickie Swing
10 AM, Divine Liturgy
11:30 AM, Church School
Noon, Agape Meal
- Monday, March 27: 5 PM, Holy Unction at Sts. Peter and Paul (very recent confession required)
- Tues., March 28: 8 AM, Lenten Matins
- Wed., March 29: 8 AM, Lenten Matins
5 PM, Confessions
6:15 PM, Presanctified Liturgy / Meal and Spiritual Reading
- Thurs., March 30: 8 AM, Matins with the Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete (about 2.5 hrs)
7 PM, Scripture Study via Zoom
- Friday, March 31: *No Matins*
11:30 AM–1 PM, Confessions
6 PM, Matins with the Akathist to the Theotokos
- Saturday, April 1: 11 AM, Baptism of Nicholas Ignatius Flood (child of Monica and Timothy)
3:30 PM, Catechism, *on Death and the Funeral*
5 PM, Great Vespers/Confession

• MANY YEARS

Congratulations to Hannah and Alexander Stameroff on the birth of their daughter on Saturday, March 18. Glory to God, mother and child are doing well. Nicholas Ignatius Flood, infant son of Monica and Timothy Flood, will be baptized on Saturday, April 1 at 11 AM.

• PRAYERS FOR CATECHUMENS:

Please keep in your prayers Vickie Swing, who will become a catechumen this coming Sunday at 9:45 AM. Please pray for our catechumens Andrew Geoffrion and Alandrea Martin, as they prepare for Holy Baptism on Lazarus Saturday at 9 AM.

• THE FIFTH WEEK OF GREAT LENT:

The observant Orthodox worshipper will have noticed, looking at the liturgical calendar for the upcoming fifth week of Lent, that there are additional Church Services. The usual Services will be more lengthy, and will challenge our attention. For example, the Wednesday evening Presanctified has more hymns to be sung (you may recall the refrain *Before I perish utterly, save me, O Lord*); and on Thursday, April 7, 8 AM, we sing the [Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete](#) in its entirety, and in the midst of the service read the *Life of St. Mary of Egypt*. The week will culminate on **Friday evening at 6 PM**, with the magnificent and joyful *Matins and Akathist* lauding the Theotokos, the Living Ark of God. This Matins/

SPEAKING OF BABIES AND MOMS



The parish diaper bank, now named after Matushka Olga Michael—*MOM Outreach*—and asking for her prayers—will take place on Wednesday, March 29 at 4 PM. Call Catie DeCarlo for information on how the distribution will take place (see [HERE](#) about the saintly Matushka Olga of Alaska).

Akathist is important for many reasons, not least of which is because our focus begins to shift from repentance to the events of the Lord's Passion.

- PLEASE PLAN AHEAD:

During Great Lent, it is the norm for each Orthodox Christian to confess at least once, and certainly again some time prior to Pascha. When a person is at peace and the conscience is purified by the grace of God which comes upon one during Confession, then he is led to participate more deeply—according to one's desire—in the life and communion of the Holy Trinity. **PLEASE NOTE:** For those over the age of seven who will receive Holy Communion during Holy Week and Pascha, it is a holy obligation—please forgive the terminology, but it expresses the necessity—to make a confession at least once in the weeks before Holy Week. Confessions will not be heard after Holy Wednesday. —*Fr Lawrence*

- LENT AS A TIME OF OFFERING:

The greatest offering we can present to the Lord is our self. We cannot do this without giving up our own will. We learn to do this through obedience, and obedience we learn through practice... Besides fasting we have other teachers to whom we can show obedience. They meet us at every step in our daily life, if we only recognize their voices. Your wife wants you to take your raincoat with you: do as she wishes, to practice obedience. Your fellow-worker asks you to walk with her a little way: go with her to practice obedience. Wordlessly the infant asks for care and companionship: do as it wishes as far as you can, and thus practice obedience. A novice in a cloister could not find more opportunity for obedience than you in your own home. And likewise at your job and in your dealings with your neighbor. —*Tito Colliander, Way of the Ascetics* (PDF available [HERE](#)).

- SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN.

See the following: <https://www.steugenecamp.org> St. Eugene's Orthodox Youth Camp will be held June 25–July 1, 2023 at the [Armenian camp in Dunlap, CA](#). We look forward to seeing you this summer! Scholarships are available—see Fr Lawrence, who will be attending camp.

- PREPARATION FOR PALM SUNDAY, HOLY WEEK AND PASCHA:

The Holy Week and Pascha duties ***Sign-Up Sheets*** are posted in the Narthex. I encourage all of us to take on a small responsibility.

- FLORAL DECORATIONS:

The Parish Floral Ministry is pleased to receive your offerings to cover the cost of palms and flowers. An offering plate will be out at the end of the Liturgy for the next two weeks. Questions? See Denise Pellizzer who is in charge of decorations for the Palm Sunday Vigil and Liturgy, Noon, Saturday April 8. For helping out with the Paschal decorations, see Daphne Russell.

- BLESSING BAGS:

Denise Pellizzer is also organizing prepping *Blessing* Bags for the homeless, Sunday April 2, after the Agape meal. This weekend at lunch she will offer some explanation on why and how we give them out.