



ST. VINCENT OF LERINS ORTHODOX CHURCH

821 Ave E N., Saskatoon SK

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A parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

His Eminence Metropolitan Joseph

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of all North America

Clergy: Fr. Nectarios (Bernard) Funk (frnbfunk@sasktel.net)

Fr. Dn. John (Ivan) Youchezin (iicdn@sasktel.net)



Bulletin for The Week of Mar 25 - Apr 1, 2018

Sun – Mar 25 Feasts of the Annunciation and St. Mary of Egypt
9:00 am Orthros
10:00 am Divine Liturgy

Agape lunch team: Brenda, Amanda, Anna Sh.

Youth Group Event immediately after church at Lorena's home in Borden

Mon – Mar 26 6th week of Great Lent
6:30 pm Great Compline

Wed – Mar 28
6:00 pm Liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts followed by soup and bun agape meal

Fri – Mar 30
6:30 pm Small Compline with the Canon of St Lazarus the Righteous



Sat – Mar 31 Lazarus Saturday

- 9:00 am** Orthros
- 10:00 am** Divine Liturgy
- 5:45 pm** Confessions
- 6:00 pm** Church school
- 6:00 pm** Inquirers' class
- 7:00 pm** Great Vespers with Litya & Artoklasia



Sun – Apr 1 Palm Sunday

- 9:00 am** Orthros
- 10:00 am** Divine Liturgy
- Agape Potluck luncheon** (Fish, Wine and Oil allowed but, because of allergies, please don't bring fish to the church)
- 5:00 pm** Bridegroom Orthros



Mon- Apr 2 and Tues – Apr 3

- 6:30 pm** Bridegroom Orthros



REMINDERS / ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1.** Timothy and Aster Dombowsky joyfully announce the birth of Stephen Joseph on Friday - March 23 at 9:45 pm. Mother, father and baby are all well. May God grant him 'Many Years'.
- 2. From Lois**
 - Please have all your donations for the Food bank and Pregnancy Options Center, at the church by **PALM SUNDAY - April 1st**, to have everything cleaned up and delivered **BEFORE Pascha.**

➤ You can make a financial donation at our lunch table to help our teens and adults who will travel this summer to Project Mexico for a house-building experience.

3. Please contact Joan with names to be included in the prayer list, for the parish members and their immediate families.

The prayer list for this week is:

Fr. Bernard & Prs. Linda, Prs. Liana, Ilene, Heidi & Kosta, Aster & family, Matthew, Kelsy & family, Shane, Bruce, Adelle, Shaeleigh, Neoma, Ephrem, Crystal, Darlene, Joan, Victoria, Mervyn, Juliette, Madeleine, Gloria, Michael & Loraine, Donna Lee, Michael & Rose, Jordan, Mary, Anne, Hiet & Halid, Girmay, Berhane, Adam, Frewini & family, Lorena, Kyle, Ryan, Vitaly, Sue, Tyler, Jordan, David, Yvonne, Arlene, George & Mary

4. Please remember to send your announcements to the church's email address, stvincentorthch@sasktel.net , **for the weekly bulletins by Wednesdays ; **AND for the monthly calendars - by the 15th of each month.****

5. Youth Group - Holy Friday Vigil - April 6

Once again, this year the youth group will be hosting an all-night vigil on Holy Friday. We need adult volunteers to help supervise throughout the night. If you are interested, please contact Rachel Machnee. Also, if anyone is interested in signing up to chant at some point during the night, there will be a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board soon. All are welcome to participate in this event!

6. Paschal Announcement

Kimbal & Jodine Siebert (503 Tracksell Ave - Borden) offered to host the parish "Paschal Gathering" - Sunday April 8th, afternoon & evening. Everyone is invited! Come and go or come and stay.

Bring festal food to share - meat, cheese, special beverages, and any other goodies from your Paschal baskets. Coffee, tea and juice will be provided.

Weather-permitting, kids can play outside and there'll be ping-pong in the garage. Bring lawn chairs for a campfire.

Please put donations of candy, small balloons, stickers, etc. in Lois' mailbox (by **April 1**) for an egg hunt for the children.

7. **Camp St Innocent**

This year the parish will **subsidize each camper** going to Camp St Innocent **with \$85** towards their registration fees.

This is the camp that is endorsed and blessed by Metropolitan Joseph, and thus is the camp that our church will support with subsidies for the children to attend. **Deadline for subsidy applications is March 31. Deadline for camp registration is June 15.**

8. In an effort to cut down on the amount of food wasted at church lunch, we are going to start using smaller sized plates. **We are ONLY looking for the 8 ½" CORELLE plates.** If you have any that you would like to donate, or if you see some for a really good deal at the thrift store, please pick them up for us. The church can reimburse you for the cost, Any questions, please **contact Rachel Machnee.**



LOOKING AHEAD

❖ **Apr 8** Great & Holy Pascha

❖ **Apr 18** PC Meeting @ 7 pm

- ❖ **Apr 27** A truck and some able bodies are needed to help Mariam Ibrahim move on Friday, April 27th. If you are able to help, please let Fr. Bernard or Presvytera Linda know.
- ❖ **Apr 27-29** Women's Retreat
See poster on bulletin board for details
- ❖ **Apr 29** **Parish event:** Q&A with Mat. Constantina Palmer
- ❖ **June 2** **@ Holy Resurrection** - Ordination of Sub deacon Maximus Ferguson to the Holy Deaconate, preceded by the vesting of his Eminence Archbishop Irene.



Summer of 2018 – Fr. Bernard and Presvytera Linda's garden space will be available this year, if you would like to use it. They will be away during part of the gardening and weeding season and are not able to garden this year.



PASTORAL TEACHINGS, INFORMATION, DIRECTIVES, NOTES & SAYINGS

St. Mary of Egypt

Reflection by Dr. Gayle Woloschak

Professor, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University

In you the image was preserved with exactness, O Mother, for taking up your cross, you did follow Christ, and by your deeds you did teach us ... to attend to the soul. – Apolytikion, Plagal of the Fourth Tone

Nearing the end of the Lenten journey, we see Pascha approaching but we have not arrived yet. The story of St. Mary of Egypt demonstrates that it is never too late in life—or Lent—to attend to eternal matters.

St. Mary initially lived a life of debauchery. She once traveled to Jerusalem with some pilgrims, herself looking for fun. Upon attempting to enter the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, she felt a force preventing her. Suddenly aware of her impurity, she prayed for forgiveness and was able to enter. She repented, received absolution, and entered the wilderness, where she lived in fasting and repentance for the rest of her life.

Sometimes we, too, experience a moment of realization. We must repent. And after repentance comes action. Though we are not all called to solitude as St. Mary was, we can all turn from sin, toward Christ. When we fast, we grow our compassion for the hungry and the poor, as well as our knowledge of how much we need God's mercy.

O Holy Trinity, teach me to repent and to honor You by offering service to Your children near and far.



Feast of the Annunciation

by Abbess Victoria and the community of St. Barbara Monastery

When, God-willing, we have our next Friends' Gathering on March 25th, we will have concluded the liturgical celebration of the Feast of the Annunciation. But Christians from the beginning were aware of even more significance belonging to this date than this Great Feast.

The Jews regarded March 25th as the date of the creation of the world-- an idea which the early Christians accepted. (Not so naïve an idea as it might appear at first glance). Moreover, this was exactly the date of the Crucifixion of our Lord (The date on the Jewish calendar is the 14th of Nisan, which corresponds to March 25th). In the early centuries, Christians in some places even celebrated Pascha on this date--before the formula for determining the date of Pascha was set by the 1st Ecumenical Council. Then, March 25th is exactly nine months before the Nativity of Christ. Thus, it is no accident that the Church chose this date of March 25th to commemorate the Annunciation-- although this was done only after the date of Christmas had been well established. “Today is the beginning of our salvation...,” we sing with joy (Troparion of Annunciation).

This information about the significance of the date helps illumine the hymnography of the Feast. While the hymnography focuses on the Virgin’s exuberant response to the Archangel—(itself a hymn, the Magnificat), it reflects the theological vision of the Church.

It was the hymnographers’ gift of grace to understand this vision and the deep connections between the creation (and, by implication, the Fall), the Angel’s announcement (the beginning of the new creation, that is, the Conception of Jesus Christ), and the Crucifixion (as finishing the work of that creation).



Fasting

by Rev. Dom Theodore, Word Magazine, March 2018

Abstinence from food is important, but it is only the first stage of a genuine fast.

Having tamed our stomachs, we must go on to tame our egos, our oft-inflated sense of importance and position in the world.

St. Benedict's "tools of good works" characterize this stage of fasting as "not to yield to anger; not to nurse a grudge; not to hold guile in one's heart; ... not to render evil for evil; to do no wrong to anyone, and to bear patiently wrongs done to oneself..." and so much more. Abstaining from food is only a preparation for these, much harder ascetic struggles.

