



CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN OF APRIL 2, 2017

A Warm Welcome!

We warmly welcome all of our visitors! It's good to have you!

Don't Wait Until It Is Too Late

Start arranging your schedule now for Holy Friday through Pascha. Put God first: take off work/school and stand by the Cross of Christ.

The Mysteries of Confession and Communion

should be received by all Orthodox Christians on a regular basis and at the very least during the Great Fast and Pascha. If you have not availed yourself of these life-giving sacraments, please be sure to do so. Likewise, frequent communicants should make a confession during this and all lenten periods, as well as whenever the conscience is burdened.



Holy Week & Pascha Sign-Up Sheet

In the back of the church there is a sign-up sheet for helping with the preparations for Holy Week and Pascha.

Parish Center / Grounds Clean-up Day

Thank you to all who helped - your assistance yesterday was greatly appreciated! May the Lord bless you for your labors and dedication!

The Mystery of Holy Unction

will be served on Great and Holy Wednesday, April 12th, at 7:00pm. The Church's practice of anointing with holy oil for the healing of soul and body dates to Apostolic times, see James 5:14. Those who wish to receive this Mystery should first have made a recent Confession.

Flyers for Holy Week and Pascha

Are available in the back of the church. Please take and post them.

Festive Fish Meal

On Palm Sunday, there will be a traditional Bakaliaro fish dinner offered to all. Please stay and join in the fellowship and food. Thank you to the families who are providing the dinner!

Offerings: Did You Know?

- ❖ Offerings: 1) help the Church fulfill her work and 2) help us grow in Christ. Offerings are a matter of faith not just finances.
- ❖ If you miss a Sunday, please consider offering double the next week as the church's bills are constant.

SUNDAY, APRIL 2ND

Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt

8:40a.m. Hours
 9:00a.m. Div. Liturgy
 Coffee hour

MONDAY, APRIL 3RD

7:00p.m. Vespers

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5TH

6:00p.m. Presanctified Liturgy
 Potluck Lenten Meal

FRIDAY, APRIL 7TH

7:00p.m. Matins

LAZARUS SATURDAY, APRIL 8TH

8:40a.m. Hours
 9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy
 6:00p.m. Great Vespers w/ Litiya

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 9TH

Entrance into Jerusalem

One of the Twelve Great Feasts

8:40a.m. Hours
 9:00a.m. Div. Liturgy
 Fish Meal
 7:00p.m. Bridegroom Matins

READER SCHEDULE

Sunday, Apr. 9th

Nicholas Borodulia

Sunday, Apr 16th

Joanne Patrick



CASH FLOWS THROUGH 2/28/17					CASH FLOWS IN MARCH 2017					FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT		
OPERATING		OTHER		ALL	OPERATING		OTHER		ALL	AS OF: 4/2		
Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Net	Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Net	Available	Restricted	Savings
14,038	12,430	570	500	+1,679	7,998	8,222	0	0	-224	1,926	2,970	0

ASK FATHER: 3 QUESTIONS / 3 ANSWERS

Q. How does Confession help prepare me to receive Holy Unction and Holy Communion?

A. Each Sacrament in the Orthodox Church has its own unique function in bringing about the healing and restoration of man, who, as we read in Genesis, was tricked by the serpent and became sick and subject to death having been infected with the poisonous venom of sin. According to the Fathers, Confession is the first step on the road to healing, for through Confession man can spit out the devil's deadly poison and purge himself from sin. Then once the poison has been expelled, the spiritual and physical wounds left by the bite can be healed through the anointing of Holy Unction. And through the reception of the Body and Blood of Christ, the Sustenance of eternal life, man can regain his strength and return to health of body and soul. Yet, just as anointing a snake bite with oil and feeding a man healthy food, will not bring about healing unless the poison is first removed, so too the reception of Holy Unction and Holy Communion will not profit a man unless he first purges himself of sin through Holy Confession.



Q. How often should I confess my sins?

A. One should confess one's sins and spit out the devil's poison whenever one is spiritually bitten to the point that one's health is in danger. One may reach this point from a single deadly bite, such as murder, adultery, fornication, or some other very serious sin, or from a series of lesser bites, such as anger, overeating, judging others, or lustful thoughts. As a general rule, the frequency of one's confession should depend on the amount of poison with which one has been infected.



Q. Is it necessary to confess every time I receive Holy Communion?

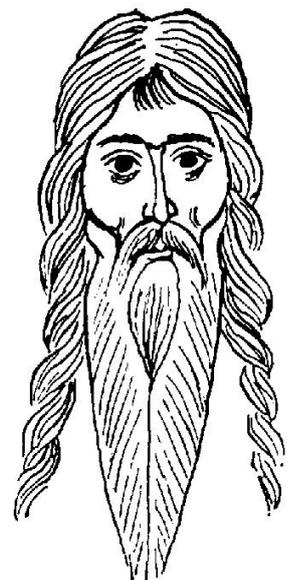
A. If one receives from the Holy Chalice infrequently, say once or twice a year, then yes, one should go to confession each time before receiving Holy Communion. However, for the frequent communicant, one who receives Holy Communion every Sunday, it is not necessary to confess one's sins before each time one receives, that is, unless one has fallen into a serious sin. In such cases, one should not approach the Chalice until one has first confessed one's sin and fulfilled the advice or penance of one's father confessor. Finally, although it is not necessary for the frequent communicant to confess his or her sins each time he or she approaches the Chalice, confession should be made at least during each of the four fasting seasons, lest the poison received over time through small sins lead to the same spiritual death as that which comes through a single deadly bite.

WISDOM FROM THE FATHERS

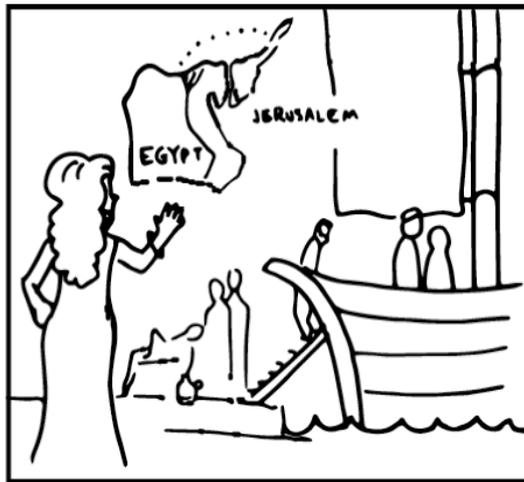
"Every day you provide your bodies with good to keep them from failing. In the same way your good works should be the daily nourishment of your hearts. Your bodies are fed with food and your spirits with good works. You aren't to deny your soul, which is going to live forever, what you grant to your body, which is going to die." - *St. Gregory the Great*

"Beguiling and deceptive is the life of the world, fruitless its labor, perilous its delight, poor its riches, delusive its honors, inconstant, insignificant; and woe to those who hope in its seemingly good things: because of this many die without repentance. Blessed and most blessed are those who depart from the world and its desires." - *Elder Nazarius*

"When anyone is disturbed or saddened under the pretext of a good and soul-profitting matter, and is angered against his neighbor, it is evident that this is not according to God: for everything that is of God is peaceful and useful and leads a man to humility and to judging himself." - *St. Barsanuphius the Great*



∞
**THE LIFE OF
 ST.
 MARY
 OF
 EGYPT**
 ∞
manymercies.blogspot.com



MARY WAS FROM EGYPT, AND SHE LIVED A LIFE OF SHAME. ONE DAY SHE GOT ON A BOAT TO GO TO JERUSALEM.

SHE WANTED TO GO IN THE CHURCH TO SEE THE LIFE-GIVING CROSS...



...BUT SHE COULDN'T GO IN! SHE SAW AN ICON OF THE MOTHER OF GOD, AND WEPT FOR ALL HER SINS.

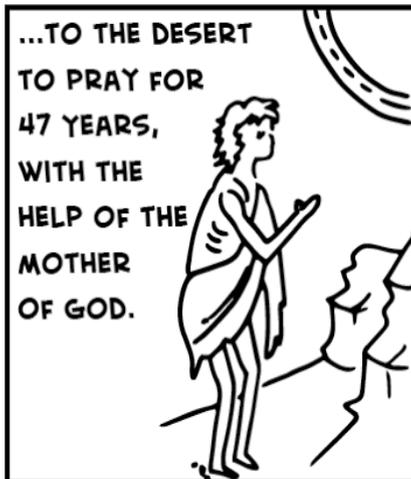
SHE HEARD A VOICE FROM THE HEAVENS...



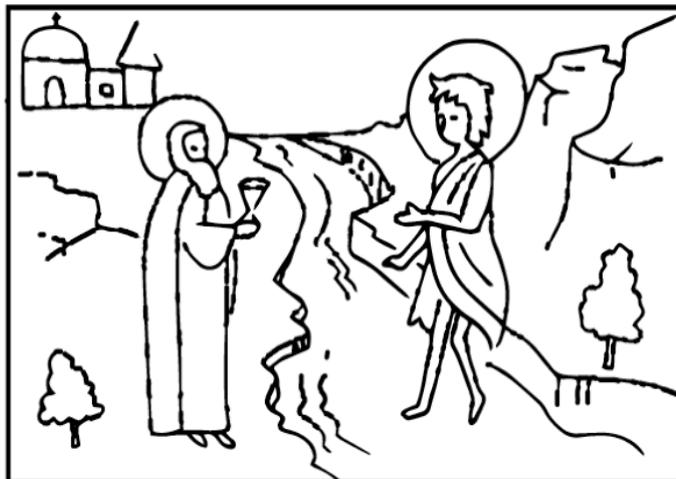
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"Cross the Jordan to find glorious rest."
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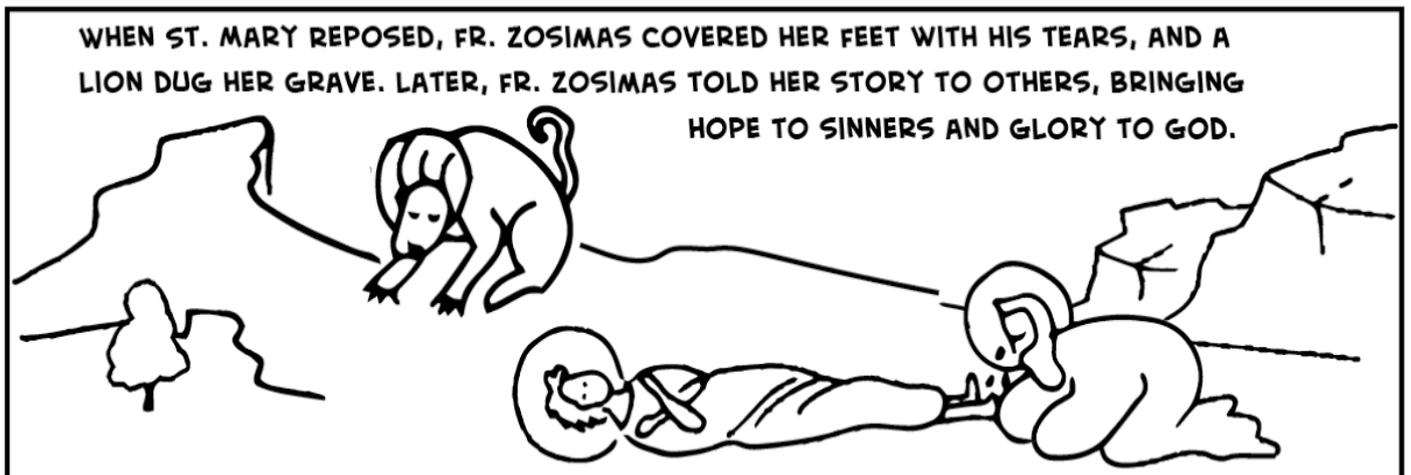
...SO SHE WENT ACROSS THE JORDAN...



...TO THE DESERT TO PRAY FOR 47 YEARS, WITH THE HELP OF THE MOTHER OF GOD.



SHE MET FR. ZOSIMAS IN THE DESERT. WHEN HE BROUGHT HER HOLY COMMUNION SHE WALKED ACROSS THE JORDAN AS ON DRY LAND.



WHEN ST. MARY REPOSED, FR. ZOSIMAS COVERED HER FEET WITH HIS TEARS, AND A LION DUG HER GRAVE. LATER, FR. ZOSIMAS TOLD HER STORY TO OTHERS, BRINGING HOPE TO SINNERS AND GLORY TO GOD.

HOLY ST. MARY OF EGYPT, PRAY TO GOD FOR US!



DAILY OBSERVANCES OF THE FAITHFUL DURING HOLY WEEK

Lazarus Saturday concludes Great Lent. This celebration remembers Christ's raising of Lazarus from the dead and the promise of universal resurrection for all. Lazarus Saturday provides a bridge to Holy Week during which the Church services remember Christ's last week before His crucifixion and resurrection.

In the Orthodox Church the last week of Christ's life is officially called Passion Week. Each day is designated in the service books as "great and holy." There are special services every day of the week which are fulfilled in all churches. Earthly life ceases for the faithful as they "go up with the Lord to Jerusalem".

LAZARUS SATURDAY, THE DAY BEFORE PALM SUNDAY

On this day the rising from the dead of St. Lazarus, the righteous friend of Christ, is celebrated. Holy Week begins with the phrase: "Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany", John 12:1. His arrival coincided with the Jewish Passover. It started on the 15th of the month of Nisan in commemoration of the freeing of the Hebrew people under the leadership of Moses, from the slavery of the Egyptians by the miraculous act of God. The Church relates preparation and redemption to the events of this week.

Six days before the Passover a feast was given for Christ in Bethany of Judea where Christ had stopped on His way to Jerusalem. Lazarus, His friend, and his sisters were present. A short time earlier Christ had risen Lazarus from the dead, thereby gaining the respect and faith of the people, but also the

hatred of the fanatics. The Church names this day the "Saturday of Lazarus" in remembrance of the resurrection of Lazarus and its promise of universal resurrection for all men. The Church connects this celebration, by anticipation, with the Entrance of Christ into Jerusalem: "We carry the Symbols of victory and cry Hosanna in the highest".

The readings are Hebrews 12:28-13:8 and John 11:1-45.



PALM SUNDAY

Palm Sunday celebrates the glorious and brilliant feast of the Entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem. Zechariah had prophesied the entrance of the Messiah into Jerusalem, saying: "Rejoice greatly ... O daughter of Jerusalem; behold, the King comes unto Thee; he is just, and having salvation; lowly, and riding upon an ass, and upon a colt the foal of an ass", Zech. 9:9. The contemporary Jews associated this prophecy with the expected Messiah. This action of Christ testifies to His nature as Savior, but with the definite declaration that His Kingdom: was not of this world. The news that Christ was in Bethany provoked a general enthusiasm of acceptance, but also of indignation among the High Priests, who had decided to kill Christ. The main road leading to Jerusalem was covered with palm trees. The multitudes,

with palm branches in their hands, spread their cloaks on the road as a show of respect, crying out: "Hosanna to the Son of David, blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord". All the actions and words of the people and, of Christ had a Messianic meaning readily recognized by the Jews of that time. As usual, Christ went immediately to the Temple, where He prayed and taught. That evening He departed for Bethany.

A custom of distributing branches of palms to the people in the Church prevails to this day, commemorating the victory of Christ against the evil powers.

The Epistle reading is Phil. 4:4-9, and the Gospel reading is John 12:1-18.