

**St. Mary's Orthodox Church**  
**217 First Street, Coaldale Pa 18218**  
**Phone: 570-645-2772**

**OUR WEBSITE:**  
**www.stmarysnativity.org**

Rector: V. Rev. James Weremedic  
Retired Attached: V. Rev Paul Ropitsky  
President: Dr. Ronald Berezniak

**Sunday, April 7, 2024**

Reader Hours: Kaitlyn Dymtrow  
Reader Epistle: Michael Ropitsky



### **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Great Lent, Veneration of Precious Cross**

**Rest of St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, Enlightener of North America**

We welcome all our visitors today! We want to let you know that we are so glad you came to pray with us. Please come again; join us after the Divine Liturgy in the parish hall for fellowship. If you do not have a home church, we invite you to become a part of our parish family. **Only those Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves through strict Fasting on the morning of the Liturgy, recent Confession and at peace with each other may approach the Chalice and receive Holy Communion.**

#### **SERVICES:**

Sunday, April 7	9:30 AM: Liturgy of St. Basil & Fellowship (Veneration of Precious Cross) Church School
Sunday, April 7	4:00 PM: Lenten Mission @ <b>St. Mary's, St. Clair</b>
Wednesday, April 10	5:00 PM: Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts (Fast from Noon)
Friday, April 12	5:00 PM: Akathist to the Theotokos, Confessions
Saturday, April 13	5:00 PM: Great Vespers, and Confessions
Sunday, April 14	9:30 AM: Liturgy of St. Basil & Fellowship (St. John Climacus of the Ladder)
Sunday, April 14	4:00 PM: <b>Lenten Mission @ St. Mary's Church, Coaldale</b>
Wednesday, April 17	5:00 PM: Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts (Fast from Noon)
Thursday, April 18	5:00 PM: Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete
Friday, April 19	5:00 PM: Akathist to the Theotokos, Confessions
Saturday, April 20	5:00 PM: Great Vespers and Confessions
Sunday, April 21	9:30 AM: Liturgy of St. Basil (St. Mary of Egypt)
Sunday, April 21	5:00 PM: Lenten Mission @ Holy Apostles Church, Mechanicsburg
Wednesday, April 24	5:00 PM: Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts (Fast from Noon)
Friday, April 26	5:00 PM: Canon of St. Lazarus, Confessions

#### **Prayer List\*:**

Fr. Gregory White, Deacon Geoffrey LoBalbo  
Jeanne Cannon, Stephanie Chmel, Julia Forte, Julia Harahus, Karen & Rose Harkins, Nancy King,  
Olga Kushnir, Anna Marie Mantey, Dorothy & Joseph Macenka, Anna Pierson,  
Melissa Schmitt, Helen Sheers, Olga Sidoriak, Randy Winney, Marie Yurchak, Joan

\* Names will cycle off approximately every 30 days. You may request to have your name or the name of a loved one placed back on the list at any time by contacting Fr. James directly.

**If anyone is in need of a priest,  
please call Father James Weremedic at 570-645-2772.**

Visitation of the Sick and Infirm: If you are going into the hospital for any reason, please inform Fr. James at the Rectory. Emergency Calls: Please call the Rectory (570-645-2772) anytime (day or night) in an emergency.

*We express our deepest sympathy to the family of Eugenia Golubov  
Who fell asleep in the Lord 4/4/2024! Memory Eternal!*

*We express our deepest sympathy to the family of Edward Hojnicky  
Who fell asleep in the Lord 4/4/2024! Memory Eternal!*

**Candles (April 7)**

7-day Vigils-Altar: In memory of **Michael Harb** offered by Jeanne & John Cannon

Altar Candles: In memory of **Pauline Maholick** offered by Julia Forte

Eternal Lamp: In memory of **Mary Lutash** offered by Raymond & MaryJo Danchak

7-day Vigils-Tetrapod: In memory of **David O'Shura** offered by Mildred O'Shura

Vigil Crosses...In memory of **Martha Stafiniak** offered by Susan Swierczewski

Flowers Tetrapod...In Memory of **Martha Stafiniak** offered by the family

**\*Donations of flowers on the Tetrapod will now be \$50, due to the increase from  
Porvaznik's Flowers (under new management) in Lansford.**

**April Birthdays:** Paul Macenka 10- Jacqueline Babinetz, 14-Marie Yurchak, 16- Mary  
Evetushick, 17- Anastasia Babinetz, Julie McHugh, 22- Thomas Terry, 24- Dennis  
Vavra, 25- Paul Macenka, Jr.

**Financials 3/31/2024: Operating Acct:** Envelopes \$375, Non-envelope \$260, Altar Candles \$40,  
Candles \$95, Holy Day \$5, Donations \$320, Fish Dinner \$66, Fuel \$20, Building \$51, Paska Sale \$60.

**Fellowship Hour Hosts:**

**April 7** Barbara Teno **April 14** Russell King **April 21** Helen King **April 28** John Evetushick

If you have any Redner receipts, please call or get them to Helen King.

Please use your Boyer's card when shopping at Boyers; if you need one call Helen King.

**The Third Sunday of Lent is that of the Veneration of the Cross.**

The cross stands in the midst of the church in the middle of the Lenten season not merely to remind men of Christ's redemption and to keep before them the goal of their efforts, but also to be venerated as that reality by which man must live to be saved. "He who does not take up his cross and follow me is not worthy of me" (Mt.10:38). For in the Cross of Christ Crucified lies both "the power of God and the wisdom of God" for those being saved (1 Cor.1:24).

Next to the beautifully decorated Cross on the Tetrapod, we are blessed to have a piece of the original Cross of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Fr. John Perich gifted this reliquary with the Holy Cross inside to Fr. James Weremedic. Please take the time to venerate the Cross and Holy Relic.

**April 7, 2024 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Great Lent, Veneration of Precious Cross  
Repose of St. Tikhon, Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia, Enlightener of North America**

**John 21: 15-25 (11<sup>th</sup> Matins Gospel)**

So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me more than these?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You." He said to him, "Feed My lambs." He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I love You."

He said to him, "Tend My sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of Jonah, do you love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?" And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You."

Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep. Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish." This He spoke, signifying by what death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, "Follow Me."

Then Peter, turning around, saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following, who also had leaned on His breast at the supper, and said, "Lord, who is the one who betrays You?" Peter, seeing him, said to Jesus, "But Lord, what about this man?" Jesus said to him, "If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you? You follow Me."

Then this saying went out among the brethren that this disciple would not die. Yet Jesus did not say to him that he would not die, but, "If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you?" This is the disciple who testifies of these things, and wrote these things; and we know that his testimony is true. And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written. Amen.

**Tone 2 Troparion (Resurrection)**

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. He has trampled down death by death. He has become the first born of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted to the world // great mercy.

**Tone 8 Troparion (Cross)**

O Lord, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance! Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries; and by virtue of Your Cross, // preserve Your habitation!

**Tone 7 Kontakion (Cross)**

Now the flaming sword no longer guards the gates of Eden; it has been mysteriously quenched by the wood of the Cross. The sting of death and the victory of hell have been vanquished; for You, O my Savior, have come and cried to those in hell: // "Enter again into Paradise!"

**(Instead of the Trisagion, we sing:)**

Before Your Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master,  
and Your holy Resurrection we glorify.

**Tone 6 Prokeimenon**

V. O Lord, save Your people, / and bless Your inheritance!  
V. To You, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!

**Tone 1 Prokeimenon**

V. My mouth shall speak wisdom; / the meditation of my heart shall be understanding.

**Hebrews 4:14 -5:6 (Epistle)**

Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin.

Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest taken from among men is appointed for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also subject to weakness.

Because of this he is required as for the people, so also for himself, to offer sacrifices for sins. And no man takes this honor to himself, but he who is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was He who said to Him: "You are My Son, today I have begotten You." As He also says in another place: "You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek";

**Tone 8**

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. Remember Your congregation, which You have purchased of old!  
V. God is our King before the ages; He has worked salvation in the midst of the earth!  
V. The mouth of the righteous shall meditate wisdom, and his tongue shall speak of judgment.

**Silent Prayer before the Gospel:**

Illumine our hearts, O Master Who lovest mankind, with the pure light of Thy divine knowledge. Open the eyes of our mind to the understanding of Thy gospel teachings. Implant also in us the fear of Thy blessed commandments, that trampling down all carnal desires, we may enter upon a spiritual manner of living, both thinking and doing such things as are well-pleasing unto Thee. For Thou art the illumination of our souls and bodies, O Christ our God, and unto Thee we ascribe glory, together with Thy Father, Who is from everlasting, and Thine all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages.

**Mark 8:34-9:1 (Gospel)**

When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me.

For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

And He said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power."