

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, March 22, 2026

Reader Hours: Mat. Lisa
Reader Epistle: Edward Pierson



4th Sunday of Great Lent St. John Climacus

Please call Fr. James Weremedic at (570) 427- 3686 for emergencies!
Please call (570) 764-4323 for non-emergencies.

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:

Saturday, March 21	4:30 PM: Parastas-Alexis Gancasz offered by Jeanne & John Cannon
Saturday, March 21	5:00 PM: Great Vespers, and Confessions
Sunday, March 22	9:30 AM: Liturgy of St. Basil & Fellowship (St. John Climacus of the Ladder)
Wednesday, March 25	5:00 PM: Vesperal Liturgy, The Annunciation of Holy Theotokos
Thursday, March 26	5:00 PM: Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete and the life of St. Mary of Egypt
Friday, April March 27	5:00 PM: Little Compline with the Akathist Canon, Confessions
Saturday, March 28	5:00 PM: Great Vespers and Confessions
Sunday, March 29	9:30 AM: Liturgy of St. Basil, Archbishop Mark , Fellowship (St. Mary of Egypt)

Prayer List*:

Robert Boguski, Bob Brunda, Jeanne Cannon, Todd Cleary, William Evetushick, Julia Forte, Nancy King, Olga Kushnir, Anna Marie Mantey, Dorothy Macenka, Paul Macenka, Olga Martsyniv, Dave Mazaika, Tom McCarthy, Ron Pierce, Millie O'Shura, Melissa Schmitt, Altheia Rosahac Shellock, Olga Sidoriak, Jolie Skelton, Amanda Skripnek, SD James Weremedic, Jr.

* 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.

Candles March 22

7/Day Vigils-Altar: In memory of Alexis Gancasz offered by Jeanne & John Cannon Pierson
 Altar Candles: In memory of Michael & Helen Bogosh offered by offered by Terri & David Bogosh
 Eternal Lamp: In health of Cathy Lepley offered by Russell & Geri King
 7/Day Tetrapod: In memory of Olga Hebda offered by Raymond & Mary Jo Danchak

March Birthdays: 1- Logan Leatherman, 3- Charlotte Gauronsky, 6- Marie Kalavritinos, 7- Clarissa Buchanan, 14- Mary Hertzog, 18- Kerry Freedman, 19- Shannon Golob, 20- Mary Louise Gauronsky, 21- Mildred O'Shura, 24- Olga Sidoriak,

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.

Financials 3/15/2026: Envelopes \$467, Non-Envelope \$47, Altar Candles \$, Candles \$53, Activities \$95, F.U.E.L. \$, Building \$, H.E.L.P. \$60, Sam's Club \$45

How much is my tithe?!

Weekly Income	10%	5%	4%	2%
\$200	\$20	\$10	\$8	\$4
\$500	\$50	\$25	\$20	\$10
\$750	\$75	\$38	\$30	\$15
\$1,000	\$100	\$50	\$40	\$20
\$1,500	\$150	\$75	\$60	\$30
\$2,000	\$200	\$100	\$80	\$40

We are not required to bring a tenth of our income to the Church; we can bring twenty, thirty, or even one-hundred percent, as did the poor widow (*Mark 12:42-43*). But we can start with a small step. We can at least bring as much as the Old Testament Hebrews, at least the ten percent that rightly belongs to God and not us. But if we don't have as much zeal for the temple of God as the Old Testament people had, then the Lord will accept and bless even seven or five percent or any other amount offered with a pure heart. **We must begin somewhere!**
[On Tithing | A Russian Orthodox Church Website \(pravmir.com\)](http://pravmir.com)

Date	Hours	Epistle	Fellowship Hour
March 22	Mat. Lisa	Edward Pierson	Berezniak
March 29	Gloria Bench	Michael Ropitsky	Kim Gauronsky
April	Curtis Wetzal	Edward Pierson	Palm Sunday
April	Claire Remington	John Evetushick	Pascha

If anyone is in need of a priest: Please call Fr. James Weremedic at **(570) 427-3686**.

For non-urgent calls, please call the rectory at (570) 764-4323

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For urgent priestly needs.

Please note the new phone 570-427-3686 and update in your contacts.

March 22, 2026 4th Sunday of Great Lent: St. John Climacus of the Ladder

The Fourth Sunday of Lent is dedicated to Saint John Klimakos, the author of *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*. In this book the Igoumen of Saint Katherine's Monastery on Mount Sinai bears witness to the great effort which is required for entry into God's Kingdom (Matthew 10:12). The spiritual struggle of the Christian life is difficult since it is "not against flesh and blood, but against ... the rulers of the present darkness ... the hosts of wickedness in heavenly places ..." (Ephesians 6:12). Saint John encourages the faithful in their efforts for, as the Lord has said, only "he who endures to the end will be saved" (Matthew 24:13).

After writing *The Ladder* at the request of Igoumen John of Raithu Monastery, and leading a God-pleasing life, Saint John fell asleep in the Lord when he was about seventy-five years old (ca. 603).

Tone 8 Troparion (Resurrection)

You descended from on high, O Merciful One! You accepted the three day burial to free us from our sufferings! // O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to You!

Tone 1 Troparion (St. John Climacus)

O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body, you were a wonderworker, O our God-bearing Father John. You received heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil and prayer, healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to you by faith. Glory to Him Who gave you strength! Glory to Him Who granted you a crown! // Glory to Him Who grants healing to all!

Tone 4 Kontakion (St. John Climacus)

The Lord truly set you on the heights of abstinence, to be a guiding star, showing the way to the universe, // O our father and teacher John.

Tone 8 Prokeimenon

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord, our God!
V. In Judah God is known; His Name is great in Israel.

Tone 7 Prokeimenon (St. John Climacus)

Let the saints exult in glory; / let them sing for joy on their couches!

Hebrews 6:13-31 (Epistle)

For when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, "Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you." And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute.

Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us.

This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

Tone 8

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

V. Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior!

V. Let us come before His face with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!

Tone 4

V. They that are planted in the house of the Lord shall flourish in the courts of our God.

Mark 9:17-31 (Gospel)

Then one of the crowd answered and said, "Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not." He answered him and said, "O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me." Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth. So He asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it: "Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!" Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" So He said to them, "This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting." Then they departed from there and passed through Galilee, and He did not want anyone to know it. For He taught His disciples and said to them, "The Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will rise the third day."