

St. Mary's Orthodox Church
217 First Street – Coaldale Pa 18218-1602
Phone.....570-645-2772

OUR WEBSITE...www.stmarysnativity.org

Rector: V. Rev. James Weremedic

Retired Attached: V. Rev Paul Ropitsky

Choir Director: Wash King

Sunday, April 18, 2021

Fifth Sunday of Lent

St. Mary of Egypt

Glory Be To Jesus Christ!

Glory Be Forever

Sunday, April 18	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy
Wednesday, April 21	5:00 PM – Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts
Saturday, April 24	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy – Lazarus Saturday
Sunday, April 25	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy – followed by Blessing of Palms and Pussy Willows

CONFESSION

Confessions resumed with modifications due to COVID-19. Please call the rectory at 570-645-2772 and talk to Father James for a reservation. Call between 9:30 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday. Individual schedule times will be spread out so limited contact occurs. Husband and wife can be scheduled together. Lysol will be used between confessions.

Anyone wanting to have a confession, but has concerns of COVID-19, should contact Father James to make the appropriate accommodations. Caution in this period of time is the safe choice for many of our parishioners.

I ask that everyone coming to Confession, please schedule for this week. Holy Week has a great importance as we turn from looking within ourselves to focus on our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ!

HOLY WEEK AND PASCHA 2021

Our tentative plans for Holy Week and Pascha are listed below.

These plans are subject to change as we get closer to the end of Great Lent.

Thursday, April 29 at 6:00 PM:	The 12 Gospel Readings
Friday, April 30 at 5:00 PM:	Burial Service
Saturday, May 1 at 9:30 AM:	Vespral Liturgy
Sunday, May 2 at 8:30 AM:	Nocturn, Matins, Divine Liturgy followed by Blessing of Baskets

Candles (April 18):

7-Day Vigils/Altar... For the Health of Julia Forte offered by Ted Bogosh

Altar Candles... For the Health of Wash & Helen King offered by Ted Bogosh

Eternal Lamp... For the Health of Aunt Olga Hebda offered by Raymond & Mary Jo Danchak

Vigil Crosses ... In memory of Kay & Paul Maliniak offered by William Yelsh

7-Day Vigils/Tetrapod... For the Health of Martha Stafiniak offered by Ted Bogosh

Decorated Candles/Tetrapod...In memory of Parents, John & Margaret Secara

offered by Patricia Palincha

Please pray for the following:

Matushka Lovey Ropitsky, Matushka Lisa Weremedic,

Andrew Balliet, Michael Birozik, Clark Bogosh, Theodore Bogosh, Cecil Buchanan, Emmalyn Naomi Buchanan, Evanna Jane Buchanan, Stephanie Chmel, Irene Davis, Ilene Devine, Julia Forte, Olga Hebda, Peter Holoviak, John King, Claire Kononchuk, Michael Kulick, John Kushnir, Nancy Lorchak, MaryAnn Macenka, Mildred O'Shura, Anna Pisko, Melissa Schmitt, Althea Sherlock, Olga Sidoriak, Martha Stafiniak, Joseph Tosca, Martha Teno, Michael Teno, Nancy Vanno, Elizabeth Warcholak, Russell Wishousky, Russell Yallas, & Richard York.

April Birthdays: 3- Anna Pisko, 4- Elizabeth Warcholak, 10- Jackie Babinetz, 14- Marie Yurchak, 16- Mary Evetushick, 17- Julie McHugh & Anastasia Babinetz, 22- Amanda Skripnek, 22- Martha Teno (95), 23- Britney Miller & Anne Ostrosky, 24- Dennis Vavra

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.

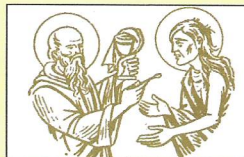
Financials 4/05-11/21: *Operating Acct:* \$1,099.00; Building Fund 45, Cemetery Fund 15 Flowers 75. Please continue to keep filling your church envelopes. Thank you!

Thank you for your prayers and birthday cards. Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated. Olga Sidoriak

We express our deepest sympathy to the family of Helen Yurchak who fell asleep in the Lord. 4/11/21 Memory Eternal

“A WONDERFUL PEACE”

Repentance is the theme of the Lenten Season. St. Mary of Egypt is remembered today because most of her life was spent ATONING for sins in her early years.



To achieve this, St. Mary lived alone in the wilderness beyond the Jordan for 48 years. Her story would have remained untold if she had not accidentally been discovered there by a monk named Zossima, who was on a personal Lenten pilgrimage in the desert.

In addition to telling Zossima the details of her sordid past and subsequent conversion, St. Mary spoke of the tremendous struggle she endured as she strove to do her penance and dedicate her life to the Lord. “For 17 years,” she reflected, “I struggled with my mindless passions. I wanted to eat and drink in abundance. I wanted to hear lustful songs. I wept bitterly, and prayed to the Mother of God to remove these thoughts from me. When I had wept enough, I then saw a light that flooded over me from all sides, and I WAS FILLED WITH A WONDERFUL PEACE.”

What a powerful lesson these words bring to us as our Lenten journey comes to a close! Repentance does not come easy, nor do our sins give up on us without a struggle! It is only through fervent prayer and constant spiritual laboring that this is accomplished.

Our goal must be to attain this state of purity, so that we, too, can be filled with the wonderful peace that comes from confidently feeling that our life is pleasing to God. May this shining example give us the strength and courage that is necessary for us to accomplish repentance.

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Saint Mary of Egypt

We rejoice in the loving kindness of our God and
His willingness to receive a repentant sinner.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT — Tone 4. St Mary of Egypt. Ven. John, disciple of Ven. Gregory of Decapolis (9th c.). Martyrs Victor, Zoticus, Zeno, Acindynus, and Severian, of Nicomedia (303). St. Cosmas, Bishop of Chalcedon, and his fellow ascetic, St. Auxentius (815-820). New Martyr John the New of Epirus (1526). Ven. Evfimii (Euthymius), Enlightener of Karella; and the Righteous Anthony and Felix.

Troparion — Tone 8

The image of God was truly preserved in you, mother, / for you took up the Cross and followed Christ. / By so doing, you taught us to disregard the flesh, for it passes away, / but to care instead for the soul, since it is immortal. / Therefore, your spirit, holy mother Mary, Rejoices with the angels!

Kontakion — Tone 3

Having been a sinful woman, / you became through repentance a Bride of Christ. / Having attained angelic life, / you defeated demons with the weapon of the Cross. / Therefore, most glorious Mary, you are a Bride of the Kingdom!

Galatians 3:23-29 (*Epistle, Saint*)

But before faith came, we were kept under guard by the law, kept for the faith which would afterward be revealed. Therefore, the law was our tutor to bring us to Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after faith has come, we are no longer under a tutor. For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

Hebrews 9:11-14 (*Epistle*)

But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come, with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation.

Not with the blood of goats and calves, but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption.

For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

Luke 7:36-50 (*Gospel, Saint*)

Then one of the Pharisees asked Him to eat with him. And He went to the Pharisee's house, and sat down to eat. And behold, a woman in the city who was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at the table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil, and stood at His feet behind Him weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed them with the fragrant oil.

Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he spoke to himself, saying, "This Man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner."

And Jesus answered and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you." So he said, "Teacher, say it."

"There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty. And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both. Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?"

Simon answered and said, "I suppose the one whom he forgave more." And He said to him, "You have rightly judged." Then He turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? I entered your house; you gave Me no water for My feet, but she has washed My feet with her tears and wiped them with the hair of her head.

You gave Me no kiss, but this woman has not ceased to kiss My feet since the time I came in. You did not anoint My head with oil, but this woman has anointed My feet with fragrant oil.

Therefore, I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little." Then He said to her, "Your sins are forgiven."

And those who sat at the table with Him began to say to themselves, "Who is this who even forgives sins?" Then He said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace."

Mark 10:32-45 (*Gospel*)

Now they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was going before them; and they were amazed. And as they followed, they were afraid. Then He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them the things that would happen to Him: "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be betrayed to the chief priests and to the scribes; and they will condemn Him to death and deliver Him to the Gentiles; and they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit on Him, and kill Him. And the third day He will rise again."

Then James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came to Him, saying, "Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask."

And He said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?"

They said to Him, "Grant us that we may sit, one on Your right hand and the other on Your left, in Your glory."

But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?"

They said to Him, "We are able." So Jesus said to them, "You will indeed drink the cup that I drink, and with the baptism I am baptized with you will be baptized; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be greatly displeased with James and John.

But Jesus called them to Himself and said to them, "You know that those who are considered rulers over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; but whoever desires to become great among you shall be your servant. And whoever of you desires to be first shall be slave of all.

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."