

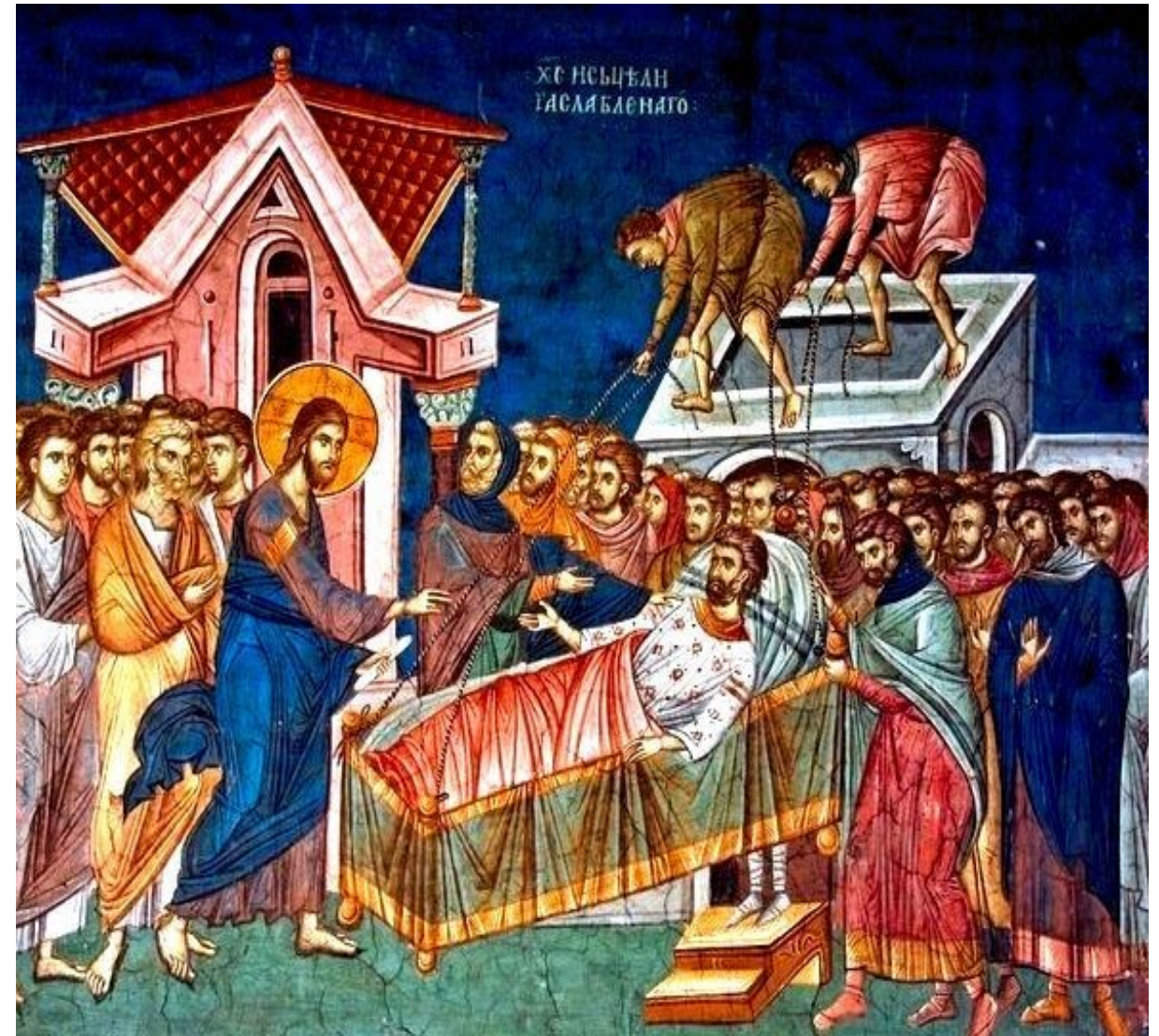
*From the Divine Office for the Second Sunday of Great Lent*

*With what words shall we who dwell on earth praise the holy bishop, Gregory Palamas? He is the teacher of the Church, the herald of the Light of God, the initiate of the heavenly mysteries of the Trinity, the chief adornment of monastic life, renown alike in action and in contemplation, the glory of Thessalonica. Now he dwells in Heaven with the great and glorious Demetrios, whose relics flow with holy oil. (Vespers)*

*Hail glory of the fathers, voice of theologians, tabernacle of inward silence, dwelling-place of wisdom, greatest of teachers, deep ocean of the word. Hail, O you who practiced the virtues of the active life and ascended to the height of contemplation! Hail, healer of man's sickness. Hail, shrine of the Spirit; hail, father who though dead are still alive. (Orthros)*



**SECOND SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT  
FEBRUARY 28, 2021**



**HEALING OF THE PARALYTIC**

**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Melkite Catholic Church**  
256 Hamilton St.  
Worcester, MA 01604  
Rectory: (508) 752-4174 Hall: (508) 755-2199  
Email: [olphmelkite@gmail.com](mailto:olphmelkite@gmail.com)  
Rev. Bryan McNeil, Pastor  
Email: [Brymc56@comcast.net](mailto:Brymc56@comcast.net) Cell: (978) 314-1962  
Divine Liturgy: Sunday 10:00 AM

**Antiphon (3rd)**

1: Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord; let us shout with joy to God our Savior.

**O Son of God, who are risen from the dead, save us who sing to You, Alleluia.**

2: Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving and let us joyfully sing psalms to Him.

**Khallisna Ya-Bnallah, Ya Man qama min baynil-amwaat, nahnu muranneemeena Laka.**

**Haleloueya.**

3: For God is a great Lord and a great King over all the earth.

**O Son of God, who are risen from the dead, save us who sing to You, Alleluia.**

**Entrance Hymn**

**Priest:** Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ.

**People:** **O Son of God, Who are risen from the dead, save us who sing to you Alleluia!**

**Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 6, pg. 41)**

The angelic powers were around Your tomb, and the guards became as dead, and Mary stood at the tomb, seeking Your spotless body; Then You despoiled Hades without being tried by it, and You met the Virgin O Bestower of life. O Lord, who rose from the dead, glory to You!

**Troparion of the Holy Relics (Tone 2)**

O Victorious witnesses of the Lord, blessed is the earth that received your blood, and holy are the heavenly places that opened to your souls. You have vanquished the enemy in battle and proclaimed Christ with courage. We beg you to intercede with Him who is all good, that He may save our souls.

**Troparion of our Holy Father Gregory Palamas (Tone 8)**

O Gregory the Wonderworker, light of Orthodoxy, support and teacher of the Church, glory of monks and invincible protector of theologians, pride of Thessaloniki and preacher of grace: Pray without ceasing for the salvation of us all.

**Troparion of the Dormition (Tone 1, Pg 15)**

In giving birth, you have preserved your virginity and in falling asleep, you did not forsake the world, O Mother of God. You have passed to life, being the Mother of Life. Through your intercessions, save our souls from death.

**Kontakion of the Annunciation (Tone 8)**

We your servants ascribe to you, O Mother of God, thank offerings of victory, O Champion Leader, for we have been liberated from terror. But since you have that invincible power, do you free us from danger, so that we may cry out to you, "Hail, O Virgin and Bride ever pure!"

On the Second Sunday of Great Lent we commemorate the holy relics of the martyrs. We also commemorate our father among the saints, Gregory Palamas. The word *martyr* means "witness". These holy men and women were witnesses to the world that Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior. During the period of persecution in the early Church, the martyrs suffered horrible tortures and deaths as a result of their refusal to deny Christ and to worship pagan idols. The relics of many of these martyrs have the power to heal those afflicted with sickness. In the early Church, the Liturgy was often celebrated on the tombs of these holy ones. Today, relics of the saints are placed inside the holy table in our churches. The antimimension, the cloth on which the priest celebrates the Divine Liturgy, also contains relics. The martyrs stand as examples for us to emulate. Nothing should sway us from proclaiming the glory of the One God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!

*Holy martyrs, intercede for us!*

Gregory Palamas was a 14th century bishop, monk, and theologian. He was defender of hesychasm and taught about the uncreated energies of God. St. Gregory taught that "God, unapproachable in His Essence, reveals Himself through His energies, which are directed towards the world and are able to be perceived, like the light of Tabor, but which are neither material nor created. (OCA website)" His teachings were solemnly upheld at the Council of Blachernae in 1351.

*Holy Gregory Palamas, intercede for us!*





## DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS

**Today** +Josephine Chebib Yanni. Requested by Jeanette Halal & Family

**March 7** +Josephine Chebib Yanni. Requested by Joe & Lorraine Lian



## Mystery of Icons

### *Introduction into the Theology and Spirituality of the Icon in the Byzantine Tradition*

(February 22 - March 6, 3:00 - 4:45 PM EST)

A short, but intensive course on the history, theology and spirituality of icons. We will trace the development of Eastern Christian iconographic tradition through its main stages, look at its most remarkable phenomena, and try to understand theological and spiritual appeal of icons through the ages.

To learn more about this Free Course, hosted by the ECF Office of Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic and how to join it either live or watch its recordings please visit:

[https://sites.google.com/view/mysteryoficons-coursesite/home?fbclid=IwAR36zRYuBhrxnykpgxOquTckCV9QaZLYOI5r9pqB\\_tfRvOxHQIW9EUWaqLw](https://sites.google.com/view/mysteryoficons-coursesite/home?fbclid=IwAR36zRYuBhrxnykpgxOquTckCV9QaZLYOI5r9pqB_tfRvOxHQIW9EUWaqLw)

## This Week's Lenten Services

**Mon. 3/1 @ 6PM Great Compline**

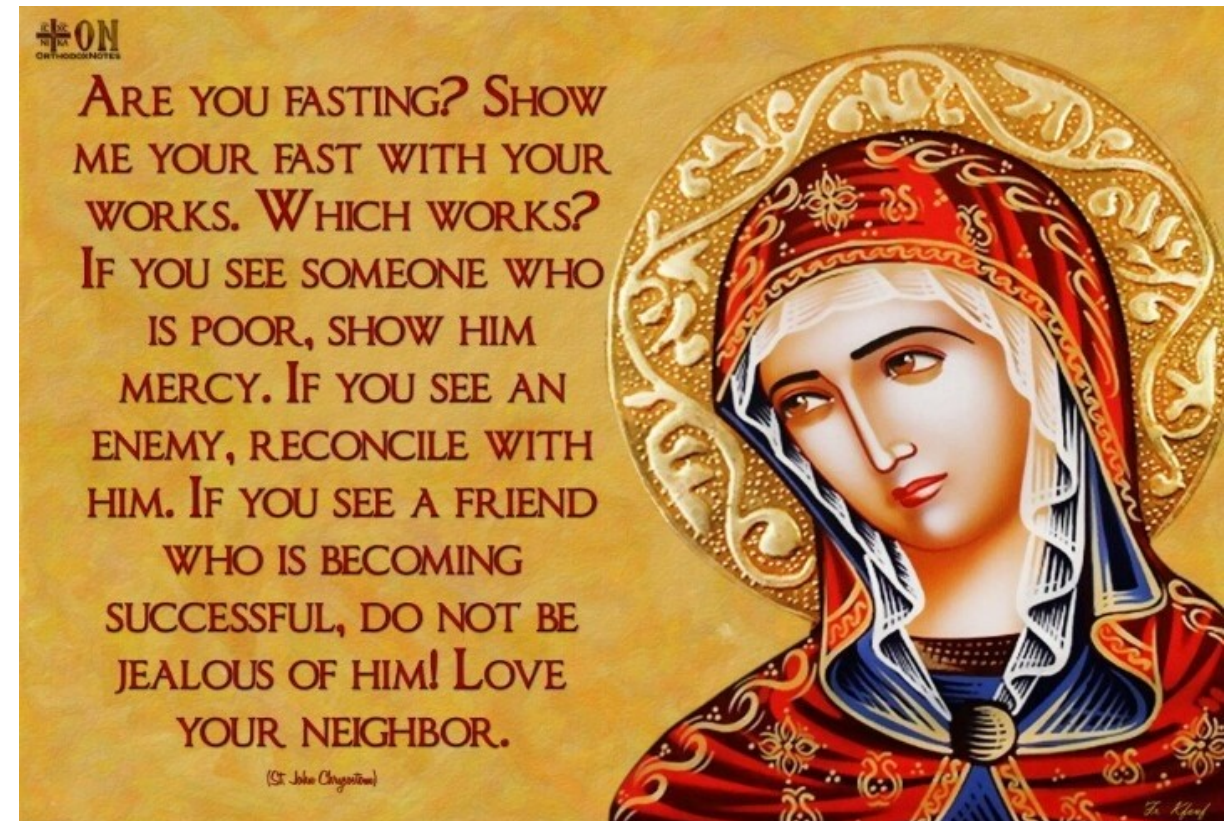
**Wed. 3/3 @ 6PM Presanctified Liturgy**

**Fri. 3/5 @ 6PM Little Compline w/Akathist Hymn**

**Sun 3/7 @ 10AM Third Sunday of Great. Commemoration of the Precious and Life Giving Cross**

If we have to cancel a service, we will send an email to the email list and put a post on our Facebook page.

**Fr. Bryan is available for confessions after each Lenten service, on Saturdays from 10AM-Noon, and by appointment.**





**GOD WITH US ONLINE SERIES  
DYING TO SIN  
The First Steps in Askesis**

**Mondays, February 22, March 1 & 8 @ 8 - 9 p.m. ET  
Register at [godwithusonline.org](http://godwithusonline.org)**

**Instructor - Rev. Deacon Thomas Moses**

Rev. Deacon Thomas Moses serves as a deacon at Our Lady of the Cedars Melkite Greek Catholic Church in Manchester, NH, where he lives with his wife and daughter. He is a graduate of Sts. Cyril and Methodius Byzantine Catholic Seminary and now works as a full time high school theology teacher at Bishop Guertin High School and a per diem chaplain at St. Joseph Hospital, both in nearby Nashua, NH. Some of his written work can be found on Catholic Exchange.

<u>Last Week's Collection</u>	
<b>Regular</b>	<b>\$ 1,149</b>
<b>Candles</b>	<b>\$ 30</b>
<b>Easter Flowers</b>	<b>\$ 80</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,259</b>
<b>God bless you for your generosity!</b>	



**Prokimenon**

**Reader** You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us always from this generation.

**People:** You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us always from this generation.

**Verse:** Save me, O Lord, for there is no longer any holy man, for truthfulness has vanished from among the children of men.

**People:** You, O Lord, will keep us and preserve us always from this generation.

**Reader:** You, O Lord, will keep us

**People:** And preserve us always from this generation.

**Epistle:** Heb. 1:10-14; 2:1-3

**Alleluia Verses**

Your favor, O Lord, I will sing forever; from generation to generation my mouth will proclaim Your faithfulness.

**Verse:** For You have said, "My kindness is established forever." In heaven You have confirmed Your faithfulness.

**Gospel:** Mk. 2:1-12

**Special Petitions for the Ecumenic Prayer (Inserted after the third petition)**

- For all your people who have proven positive with the coronavirus, that they may be restored to full health and offer you their praise and thanksgiving, we pray to you, Lord, hear us and have mercy.
- For all those who have died as a result of the coronavirus that they may be granted rest with the Saints and the mercy of God in the Heavenly Kingdom, we pray to You, Lord, hear us and have mercy.
- For doctors, nurses, and all in health care, risking their lives to minister to those afflicted with the coronavirus, that they remain safe, and in good health as they serve others, we pray to You, Lord, hear us and have mercy.
- For all your people in Lebanon who were hurt during the disastrous explosion, that they may be restored to full health, and for those who died that they may be granted rest among the Saints, we pray to You, Lord, hear us and have mercy.
- For peace throughout the Middle East, especially in Lebanon, Syria, Palestine, and Iraq, we pray to You, Lord, hear us and have mercy.

**HIRMOS of Saint Basil (Tone 3)**

In you, O Full of Grace, all creation rejoices, the orders of angels and the human race as well: O Sanctified Temple, Spiritual Paradise, and Glory of Virgins, from whom our God, who exists before all eternity, took flesh and became a little Child! He has taken your womb as His throne, making it more spacious than the heavens. Therefore, O Full of Grace, in you all creation rejoices: glory to you!