

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

*As you dwelt in the wilderness, you erased from your soul the fantasies of the passions in order to inscribe thereon the image of God by the light of the virtues. You shone with such radiance that you lightly walked upon the waters and were lifted up from the earth in your prayer to God. Standing now with confidence before Christ, O blessed Mary, intercede with Him for the salvation of our souls. (Vespers)*

*With hymns we now celebrate you, O venerable Mary, lamb and daughter of Christ! Once the offshoot of the Egyptians, you have now become a precious flower for the Church, practicing asceticism and prayer beyond the common measure of mankind. By the merits of your life and deeds, you have been exalted in Christ, O Mary, and appear as a radiant bride in the kingdom of Heaven. (Orthros)*



**FOURTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT  
APRIL 3, 2022**



**Our Lady of Perpetual Help Melkite Catholic Church**  
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Divine Liturgy: Sunday 10:00 AM

**DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. BASIL**

**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 4) pg. 40**

The women disciples of the Lord, having learned from the angel the joyful announcement of the resurrection, and having rejected the ancestral sentence, proudly told the apostles: Death is despoiled. Christ God is risen, bestowing to the world great mercy.

**Troparion of the St. Mary of Egypt (Tone 8)**

In you, O Mother Mary, was restored the likeness of God, for you carried your cross and followed Christ. You taught by your deeds how to spurn the body, for it passes away and how to value the soul, for it is immortal. Wherefore your soul is forever in happiness with the angels.

**Patronal Troparion (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 intercession, save our souls from death.

**Kondakion of The Annunciation (Tone 8-Arabic this week)**

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 as 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.

**Another Trip to Jerusalem (St Mary of Egypt)**

ON THIS LAST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST the Church also remembers another trip to Jerusalem: one that occurred some 300 years after Christ. According to the life written by St. Sophronios, Patriarch of Jerusalem in the seventh century, Mary the Egyptian was a runaway teenager who drifted into a fast lifestyle in Alexandria living in part on the proceeds of the sexual favors she dispensed. When she was 29 Mary attached herself to a group going on pilgrimage to the Holy Land. She went, not out of piety, but to meet others devoted to the same lifestyle. According to Sophronios, she never lacked for companions both on the journey and when she arrived in the Holy City. One day, curiosity prompted her to follow some pilgrims to the Anastasis, the church build over Christ's tomb. She found herself unable to enter, resisted by an unseen force. Believing that this was because of her wild way of life, she was struck with remorse. She prayed before an icon of the Theotokos in the courtyard, asking for forgiveness and vowing to abandon the world and its pleasures. Returning to the church door she found herself now able to enter. Returning to give thanks before the icon, Mary heard a voice promising, "If you cross the Jordan, you will find glorious rest/ true peace." After confessing and receiving Communion, she went into the desert where she remained a hermit for the rest of her life. The image of this extraordinary repentance and commitment to asceticism is held up to the Church as an encouragement to enter wholeheartedly into the remainder of the Fast and the Great Week which follows.

*After distancing yourself from the weight of the passions by contemplating God, O Mary, you directed your desires and deeds to that which is on high. Gazing at the icon of the all-pure Virgin and resolutely renouncing all sin, you confidently went to worship the precious Cross.*

*You joyfully visited the holy places, nourished by virtue on the path of salvation, rapidly traveling along the road of holiness. Crossing the streams of the Jordan and dwelling in the wilderness like the Baptist you tamed the rebelliousness of the flesh, calming the wild nature of the passions, O venerable Mother Mary, by your holy way of life. (Vespers)*



## DIVINE LITURGY INTENTIONS

**Today**                    **People of Ukraine living and deceased**  
**HS of James Rahall.** Requested by Nicholas Rahall

**April 10**                **Our Families and Friends, living and deceased**

**Today's Coffee Hr. is hosted by Laurance & Saimon Aulo**  
**Next week's Coffe Hr. is hosted by the Parish**

### Last Week's Collection

<b>Weekly</b>	<b>\$1,587</b>
<b>Candles</b>	<b>\$ 48</b>
<b>Coffee Hr.</b>	<b>\$ 50</b>
<b>Easter Flowers</b>	<b>\$ 25</b>
<b>Donations</b>	<b>\$ 565</b>
<b>Stole</b>	<b>\$ 100</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 2,375</b>

**God bless you for your generosity!**



## THIS WEEK'S LENTEN SEVICE SCHEDULE

**Mon Apr 4, 6PM** - Great Compline  
**Wed Apr 6, 6PM** - Presanctified Liturgy  
**Fri Apr 8, 6PM** - Great Vespers for Lazarus Saturday  
**Sat Apr 9, 10AM** - Divine Liturgy for Lazarus Saturday  
**Sun Apr 10, 10AM** - Divine Liturgy for Palm Sunday followed by procession w/palms

## COFFEE HOUR

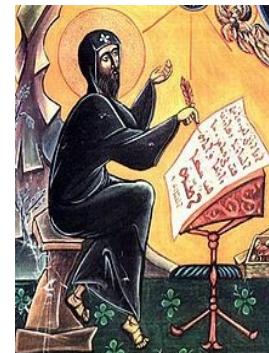
Please join us after the Divine Liturgy this morning for the Coffee Hour. It is a chance for us to catch up with each other and share Christian fellowship. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Hall. Please sign up to take a turn hosting. We are now in Great Lent, so there should be no meat or eggs. It will be nice to share food and fellowship once again. I have missed it! I hope you have as well!

Please Remember in your prayers: Susan Arraje, George Arraj, Jr., Robert Ghiz, Archie Opatka, Katherine Thomas, Charlotte Stockhaus, Ruth Welsh, James Rahall, and people of Ukraine.

If there are people for whom you would like me to pray, please reach out and give me their names. Part of our vocation as Christians is to pray for each other, especially when someone is sick or suffering in any way.

## FINANCIALS

<u>3.2022</u>		<u>10.2021-3.2022</u>	
<b>Income</b>	<b>\$7,641</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>\$43,496</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	<b>(\$8,867)</b>	<b>Expenses</b>	<b>(\$37,374)</b>
<b>Net</b>	<b>(\$1,226)</b>	<b>Net</b>	<b>\$6,121</b>



### PRAYER OF ST. EPHREM THE SYRIAN

O Lord and Master of my life, grant that I not be infected with the spirit of slothfulness and inquisitiveness, the spirit of ambition and vain talking. Grant instead to your servant the spirit of purity and humility, the spirit of patience and neighborly love.

O Lord and King, bestow upon me the grace of being aware of my sins and of not thinking evil of those of my brethren, for You are blessed forever and ever.

## The Road to Jerusalem (Mark 10:32-45)

“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*” (Mk 10:33-34). As the Great Fast draws to a close, we turn our eyes to Jerusalem where the Lord will undergo His life-giving passion and death for us. He had spoken repeatedly of the suffering He would endure but, as the Gospel records, His disciples “*did not understand this saying and were afraid to ask Him*” (Mk 9:32). When Jesus first spoke of the sufferings awaiting Him, “*Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him*” (Mk 8:32). By the time recorded in this Sunday’s Gospel selection, the disciples understood the threat posed by Jesus’ enemies and “*they were afraid*” (Mk 10:32). In John 10 we read that Jesus’ foes “*...sought again to seize Him, but He escaped out of their hand. And He went away again beyond the Jordan... and there He stayed*” (Jn 10:39-40). Still the disciples did not fully comprehend what would happen. At this stage they still saw the Kingdom of God as being “*of this world*” and were concerned about their own status in this Kingdom as they understood it. They envisioned Jesus restoring Israel’s freedom from the Romans and securing an independent state for God’s people. The sons of Zebedee, James and John, wanted to be Jesus’ principal aides, at His right and left hands in His “glory.” But Jesus’ glory would be the glory of sacrifice, on the cross, and others were destined to be at His right and left hand there.

### Why Go to Jerusalem?

The practice of spending the great feasts of the Jews – Passover, Shavuot and Sukkot – in Jerusalem was based on the precept in the Book of Exodus: “*Offer a sacrifice to Me three times each year. Keep the festival of Matzos [Passover]... the reaping festival [Shavuot]... the harvest festival [Sukkot] ...Three times each year, every male among you must appear before God the Lord*” (Exodus 23:14-17). Since sacrifices were only performed in the temple people would regularly visit Jerusalem on these feasts. The Gospels record several visits by the Lord to Jerusalem for these feasts, the first being when He was twelve years old (see Lk 2:41-51). This visit, however, would be a climactic one, culminating in His death and resurrection. The version of the Mosaic commandment in the book of Deuteronomy adds a note: “*Three times a year all your males shall appear before the LORD your God ... and they shall not appear before the LORD empty-handed. Every man shall give as he is able, according to the blessing of the LORD your God which He has given you*” (Deut 16:16-17). In His Incarnation Christ received the gift of His human nature – He would now give it back to the Father on the cross. But God, who would not allow the death of Abraham’s son Isaac (see Gen 18), would not permit His own Son to remain in the grave, but raised Him up on the third day.

### CHURCH CLEANING DAY

Please join us on **Saturday April 9 at 11:30AM** to clean the church and hall for Pascha. If the weather is nice, we will also do a little cleaning outside.

If you can lend a hand for an hour or so, it will be much appreciated.

### Prokimenon

**Reader:** Make vows to the Lord your God and fulfill them; let all round about bring gifts to the awesome God.

**People:** Make vows to the Lord your God and fulfill them; let all round about bring gifts to the awesome God.

**Verse:** God is renowned in Judah; in Israel great is His name.

**People:** Make vows to the Lord your God and fulfill them; let all round about bring gifts to the awesome God.

**Reader:** Make vows to the Lord your God and fulfill them;

**People:** Let all round about bring gifts to the awesome God.

### Epistle: Heb. 9:11-14

### Alleluia Verses

Come, let us sing joyfully to the Lord; let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation.

**Verse:** Let us greet Him with thanksgiving; let us joyfully sing psalms to Him.

### Gospel: Mk. 10:32-45

### Hirmos of Saint Basil (Tone 3-English this week)

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, Full of Grace, in you all creation rejoices: glory to you!

### **St. Vincent de Paul Collection Box**

We now have a collection box for St. Vincent de Paul in the parking lot. It is for **clothes and shoes only**. Feel free to put your donations in the box. Please do not leave them on the ground in front of the box. If the box is full, let me know and I’ll have it emptied.

Thank you in advance for your generosity!