

Special points of interest:

Epistle Reading:

Hebrews 1:10-11; 2:1-3

Gospel Reading:

St. Mark 2:1-12

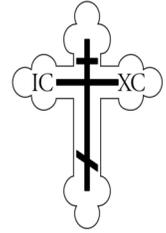
Liturgical Tone: 2

Liturgical Color: Purple

March 24, 2019

61 Canada Road

Painted Post, NY 14870



Schedule for Week

Sunday, March 24, 2019

*9:30am Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil
Coffee Social*

*5pm Great Vespers Eve of the Feast of the Annunciation
at the Greek Orthodox Church of the Annunciation Vestal, NY
Lenten Social to follow*

Wednesday, March 27, 2019

*5pm Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts
Confessions*

Friday, March 29, 2019

*5pm Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts
Confessions*

Saturday, March 30, 2019

9am All Souls Memorial Service

5pm Vespers

Sunday, March 31, 2019

*9:30am Divine Liturgy of St. Basil-Veneration of the Holy Cross
4pm Deanery Lenten Vespers for Ven. of the Holy Cross here at Saint Mary's
Lenten Social*

**NOTE: ADULT EDUCATION HAS BEEN RE-SCHEDULED
SUNDAY APRIL 7, 2019**

TOPIC: DIVINE LITURGY w/SISTER VASSA

WELCOME!

Welcome to all our visitors and guests who participate in our celebration of the Divine Liturgy today. We are glad you are here. While **Holy Communion may only be received by prepared Orthodox Christians**, our guests are welcome to join us in venerating the cross and receiving blessed bread at the conclusion of the Liturgy. We also hope you will join us for the Coffee Social afterward.

Parish Contact Information

Rev. Father Daniel Mahler Presiding Priest

Rectory: 607-962-5285 **Father's Cell:** 607-377-0587

Father's Office:: 607-936-0689

Cantor: Chuck Coons 607-368-1309



GOSPEL READING

THE THEOTOKIAN

Reading is from
St. Mark 2:1-12

Let us attend,

At that time, Jesus entered Capernaum and it was reported that he was at home. And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer room for them, not even about the door; and he was preaching the word to them. And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and when they had made an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic lay. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "My son, your sins are forgiven." Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, "Why does this man speak thus? It is a blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you question thus in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your pallet and walk? But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins' he said to the paralytic—"I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home." And he rose, and immediately took up the pallet and went out before them all; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

EPISTLE READING

Reading from *St. Paul's
Letter to the Hebrews 1:10-14;
2:1-3*

Brethren,

"IN THE BEGINNING, Thou, Lord, didst find the earth in the beginning, and the heavens are the work of thy hands; they will perish, but thou remainest; they will all grow old like a garment, like a mantle thou wilt roll them up, and they will be changed. But thou art the same, and thy years will never end." But to what angel has he ever said, "Sit at my right hand, till I make thy enemies a stool for thy feet?" Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to serve, for the sake of those who are to obtain salvation?

Therefore we must pay closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For if the message declared by angels was valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard him.



COFFEE with SISTER VASSA

LENT HUMBLER US!

“The lofty looks of man shall be humbled, the haughtiness of men shall be bowed down, and the Lord alone shall be exalted in that day. For the day of the Lord of hosts shall come upon everything proud and lofty, upon everything lifted up, and it shall be brought low...”
(Is 2: 11-12)

How unusual and refreshing, to have these readings from the ancient Prophet Isaiah on the weekdays of Lent! (Just FYI, the Prophet Isaiah is read at “The Sixth Hour” or “Sext” on the weekdays of the Byzantine Lent). In the reading for this Thursday, quoted above, we learn that all our “lofty looks,” “haughtiness,” and other masks with which we might present one another, and torment one another, will be “bowed down” in the “day” of the Lord. So if we’re tormented today, either by living a comparative life and yearning after the seemingly better life of celebrities or our more “successful” peers; or if we ourselves have burdened others with presenting such a mask of “success” or “lofty looks” to our peers,—all such delusions will be unmasked in “the day of the Lord of hosts.”

But when, exactly, will that “day” be, I might ask? Whenever I want it to be, in practical terms. Whenever I decide I want God to be

the God of my life, and not other “gods” of my own creation, I can be “brought low,” into the gentle realism and peace that is humility. I can live and thrive in the presence of God, rather than wallow amidst “the haughtiness of men,” if only I let Him into my life. So let me let Him in, really, in a bit of heartfelt prayer, on this blessed Thursday of the first week of Lent. I let this Thursday be “the day of the Lord of hosts,” as far as my little life is concerned. “Lord and Master of my life, grant me not the spirit of idleness, despondency, love of power, and idle talk.”

“Lord and Master of my life, grant me not the spirit of idleness, despondency, love of power, and idle talk.”

SOUTHERN TIER DEANERY

We will host the Deanery Lenten Mission on Sunday, March 31st @ 4pm.
Please mark your calendar and plan on attending and joining our brothers
and sisters of the deanery in prayer and fellowship
as we honor the Life-giving Cross.

SUNDAY OF THE HOLY CROSS

LENTEN VESPERS

4pm

Our Saint Mary's Church

Painted Post, NY

CONTACT US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



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Saintmarysorthodoxchurchcorning.org

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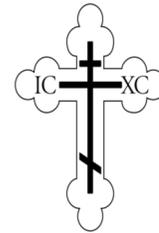
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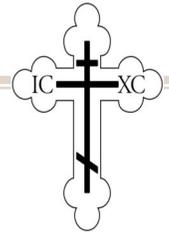
ADULT EDUCATION CLASS PRESENTATION

The Adult Education Class on the Divine Liturgy with Sister Vassa has been re-scheduled to begin on

SUNDAY, APRIL 7, 2019

***During the Coffee Social
following Divine Liturgy!***

On Sunday March 31, 2019 at 4pm we will host Veneration Cross Sunday Vespers with our Dean, Protopresbyter Jim Dutko as Main Celebrant along with visiting Deanery Clergy.



PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE IN YOUR PRAYERS



His Eminence, Metropolitan GREGORY; Protopresbyter Frank Miloro; Protopresbyter John Duranko; Protopresbyter Jim Dutko; Protopresbyter Luke Mihaly; Protopresbyter Lawrence Barriger; Protopresbyter Kenneth Bachofsky; Protopresbyter Michael Polanichka; V. Rev. Thomas Kadlek; Very Rev. John Baranik; V. Rev. Michael Psenechnuk; Rev. James Gleason; V. Rev. Robert Lucas; V. Rev. Jason Kappanadze; Deacon Charles Ellis; Deacon Donald Koch; Mother Raphaela; Pani Joan; Pani Kathleen Dutko; Pani Patricia Duranko; Pani-Matka Julia Romanchak; Sally Ellis; Judy Koch; Michael Banik; Helen Verno; Eleanor Adzima; Michael & Delores Kundrat; Vasyl & Lyudmyla Hayova; Helen Coons; Mary Benyo; Anna Chudanic; Michael Matzkevich; Marlene Wheet; Helen Molson; Donna Blazosky; Art Gallant; Nancy Murphy-Teed; Joyce Nissen; Chelsea Roman; Gloria Ewsuk; Andrew Chudanic; Tammy Pierson; Jeanne Zimmer; John Cowherd; Sylvia Serdula; Stephen Brancho; Carole Herrlich; Gary Herrlich; Daniel Donnelly; Jean Cox; Dimitri Wallick; John Chach; Andrew Havalchak; Basil Havalchak Diane Rodrigues; Kathy Snearly-Mahr; Bella; James Hulme; Isaac Glosser; Jeff Kerrick; Rachel Corey; Kristine Garner

To Jonathan Share who is serving in the United States Navy; Douglas Linsey serving in the United States Navy and for all our Men and Women serving and protecting our country at home and abroad!

March Birthdays

March 25

Noah Coons



O God, grant your servants who are celebrating their birthday this month good health, happiness, and salvation for many blessed Years!

Mnohaja I Blahaja L'ita!

Saint Gregory Palamas

On this second Sunday of Great Lent, we commemorate St. Gregory Palamas' successful defense of the Orthodox belief that humans can both know and experience God. He asserted that we can know with our minds that God exist, and we can also experience Him through His uncreated energies. This flew in the face of the teaching of Barlaam, critic of St. Gregory's and of Hesychasm in general.

St. Gregory was born in 1296 to a prominent family in Constantinople. His father died when Gregory was still young. The youth was so bright and hardworking that the emperor himself took interest in Gregory, helping to raise and educate him in the hopes that he would one day hold a high government position.

But Gregory left all of the glamour of Constantinople's elite behind when he departed for Mount Athos at age 20 to become a monk. (And he was not the only member of his family to do this. Shortly thereafter, his mother and sisters also became monastics.) As a monk on Mt. Athos, Gregory learned about "Hesychasm," a very calm, still way to pray. He mastered this prayer of the heart, and thus we know him as a "hesychast."

In 1326, Gregory went to Thessalonica and was ordained to the priesthood. He lived the life of a hermit on weekdays, silently praying alone and away from the world. On the weekends, he would celebrate the holy services in his parish and he would preach so beautifully that his sermons brought his listeners to tears.

When Barlaam, a bright and studious monk, came to Mt. Athos and heard about hesychasm, he proclaimed it to be heresy. He insisted that it was not possible for humans to know God's essence or to experience His energies such as uncreated light. His dissent caused quite a stir, and Gregory was called to debate with Barlaam about this. Gregory's studies in the world and his experience as a hesychast put him in the perfect position for this debate.

Gregory first tried to speak to Barlaam about all of this, but speaking did not seem to make any progress, so he began to write prolifically about the prayer of the heart and its validity. Although Gregory was writing a lot, they continued to meet and debate in person as well. One of these debates was before the 1341 Council of Constantinople, which took place in Hagia Sophia. This time, they were arguing about the Transfiguration. Gregory stood by the Orthodox belief that God revealed Himself to the disciples on Mt. Tabor, by using His Divine Energies. Barlaam said theirs was not an actual experience of God: just a helpful gift to the disciples, who couldn't really experience God because they are humans.

The members of the Council upheld Gregory's position as the truly Orthodox position. They agreed that God, Whose Essence we cannot approach, chooses to reveal Himself through His Energies. Humans can see those Energies, such as the light that the disciples could see on Mt. Tabor. After the Council ruled the Barlaam's teachings were heresy, Barlaam fled to Calabria.

In spite of the ruling, some people still argued against Gregory, even locking him up in prison for 4 years at one point. However, the very next patriarch released him and made him Archbishop of Thessalonica. In his later years, God gave Gregory the gift to perform miracles, including healing the sick, and he was granted a vision of St. John Chrysostom on the night before he died. His last words were, "To the heights! To the heights!"

Thanks to St. Gregory Palamas, the Church has maintained the truth that we humans are able to experience God through His uncreated energies. St. Gregory's life of dedication to God and His Church, as well as his willingness to stand for truth set him apart as a wonderful example to all of us. Sometimes people refer to the Sunday of St. Gregory of Palamas as "The Sunday of Orthodoxy Part Two," since his defense saved the Orthodox Church when it was under attack.

The Gospel reading for this second Sunday of Lent is the story of the paralytic whose four friends lowered him through the roof of the place where Christ was so that he could be healed by Him. Our Lord not only healed his legs, making him able to walk again, but also healed his sins, telling him, "Your sins are forgiven you." How beautiful it is for us to be reminded, right near the beginning of Great Lent, that the truth of our Faith is worth standing for, as did St. Gregory; at the same time receiving the reassurance that Christ is waiting for us to come to Him so that He can heal both our soul and body.

St. Gregory of Palamas, please intercede for us and for our salvation!

From the Antiochian Orthodox Church Website

Forty-eight Days to the "GREAT DAY"

Second Sunday of Lent Remembrance of St. Gregory Palamas

Today you entered Heaven!

The Epistle Reading at Liturgy today is from the Letter of St. Paul to the Hebrews. The message to his Jewish readers was challenging and tough! It took place around 70 AD when St. Paul wrote to these Greek-speaking Jewish converts to Christianity. He wrote to them because he learned they were being pressured to leave Christianity. He had to make sure he delivered on his promise to keep Jewish Christians in the Church.

So what happened? What did St. Paul do? I'm sure he gave this a lot of thought. The pressure had been building on these converts for about ten years. So he devised a "rescue operation"! That's what he did. He exhorted these Christian converts to "hold fast" to the Faith and to persevere. He laid out Christian liturgical theology and showed those weakening converts how the New Testament fulfilled and perfected the Old Testament worship. In other words, these converts' new way of worshipping God in the Liturgy allowed them to "enter into" Heaven as they worshipped! For in the Eucharist, they participated in Christ's once-for-all sacrifice. St. Paul reminded these converts that it is Christ Who offers and is offered. He becomes the perfect Priest and the perfect Sacrifice. As Christ enters into Heaven bodily, in His full human nature, he told them boldly "so do you!"

Do you understand how beautiful that is for us personally? For so do we, as well, at every Liturgy! If you attended Divine Liturgy this morning and received the Holy Eucharist, today you entered Heaven!

Forty-eight Days to the "GREAT DAY"

Book # 8

LENT 2019

Very Rev. Protopresbyter Frank Miloro, Chancellor

Council Meeting – March 17, 2019

Members Present: Rodney Kerrick, Nancy Gabel, Don Kakretz, Ted Kerrick, Nancy Lewek, and Carol Telehany

Members Absent: Jill Mertus, Tyler Colburn

Also in Attendance: Father Dan

The meeting was opened at 11: 45AM with a prayer. Carol requested a motion to accept the minutes of the December 30th meeting. A motion was made by Don and seconded by Nancy Gabel. The minutes were unanimously approved. Nancy Lewek abstained as she was a not Council member prior to the Annual Meeting.

Carol then requested a motion to accept the minutes of the February 24th meeting. A motion was made by Nancy Lewek and seconded by Rodney. All were in favor.

Priest Report:

Father Dan reported that the shut-ins are doing well.

He stated he would be visiting Mary Benyo in Bath this week.

He also noted that under the HIPAA laws, facilities do not let clergy know if a parishioner is in the hospital.

It is up to family members to make that information known.

Jean Cox is no longer in the hospital. She is recovering at home.

Kris Garner is also recovering at home from heart surgery.

The attendance for the first week of Lenten services was not good. Pre-sanctified Liturgy will be held on Wednesday and Friday.

Adult Ed will be held on March 31st. The program on the Divine Liturgy with Sister Vassa will take about six months to complete.

We will be hosting our Deanery Lenten Mission Vesper Service on March 31, 2019, Sunday of the Holy Cross beginning at 4:00PM. A Lenten social will follow the service.

Financial Report: Rodney presented the financial report.

Income Summary: Income through February 28th was \$12,078 versus the budgeted income of \$9,254 resulting in a positive variance of \$2,824.

Annual dues has been great and over budget by \$565.

Candle donations have taken in \$1,216 with a budget amount of \$954, over by \$262.

Income for cemetery maintenance is over budget by \$125. Income is coming in earlier this year.

Envelopes are at \$7,754 and are over the budgeted amount of \$5,965 by \$1,789. Regular envelopes themselves are up by \$1,323. Nativity envelopes did better than expected by \$396.

Coffee hour and Social Events have brought in \$168, over budget by \$68.

Expense Summary: Expenses through February 28th were \$16,382 versus budgeted expenses of \$14,807 resulting in a variance of \$1,575.

Rectory at Chatfield expenses were \$2,930 versus budgeted \$1,390 – over by \$1,540.

Canada Road rectory expenses were \$593 under budget by \$47.

Canada Road church and hall are over budget by \$152. Gas is over budget by \$109, fire inspection is over by \$67.

All other expenses are pretty much right on budget including office supplies, pastoral support and worship support.

Conclusion: Through February 28, 2019 we were budgeted to have a loss of \$5,503 whereas we had an actual loss of \$4,304 resulting in a positive variance of \$1,249. Income was better than expected, but expenses were also worse than expected.

| Chemung Canal Trust | 2/28/19 | 12/31/18 | Change |
|----------------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Operating Fund | 9,947.20 | 4,203.00 | 5,744.20 |
| Church Building Fund | 22,191.83 | 20,939.16 | 1,252.67 |
| Cemetery Fund | 25.00 | 25.00 | 0.00 |
| Church School | 3,145.79 | 3,145.79 | 0.00 |
| Mission Fund | 2,403.78 | 2,403.78 | 0.00 |
| Total Value | 37,713.60 | 30,716.73 | 6,996.87 |

| Charles Schwab | 2/28/19 | 12/31/18 | Change |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Operating Investment Acct. | 44,563.14 | 42,488.97 | 2,074.17 |
| Building Fund | 33,303.12 | 52,654.94 | -19,351.82 |
| Restricted Building Funds | 29,497.31 | 29,481.81 | 15.50 |
| Cemetery Account | 65,438.12 | 60,051.83 | 5,386.29 |
| Altar Society Building Fund | 16,594.41 | 15,474.24 | 1,120.17 |
| Total Value | 189,396.10 | 200,151.79 | -10,755.69 |

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Rectory (Cost Basis) | 145,000.00 | 145,000.00 | 0.00 |
| Canada Rd Church & Rectory | 600,000.00 | 600,000.00 | 0.00 |
| Grand Total | 972,109.70 | 975,868.52 | -3,758.82 |

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------|
| Restricted Funds: Landscaping | \$15,000.00 |
| Tetrapod/Altar | 10,000.00 |
| Iconostas | 3,450.00 |
| Dormer Dome | 1,000.00 |

Altar Society Report: Nancy Gabel gave the Altar Society report for Mary.

The balance in the checking account is \$1,249.62.

The pill bottle and the shoe collections continue.

Donations to the Food Pantry and Birthday bags continue (18 so far this year).

Nancy Gabel, Carole Herrlich and Mary Leonard are looking into stove for the kitchen. Members will meet next week (March 24th) to discuss the findings.

March 31st Lenten Mission and Sunday of the Cross. Mary will decorate the cross and members of the Altar Society will provide a light meal following the service.

Easter flowers: Mary will decorate the icon and Carole Herrlich will ask parishioners to "Sponsor" flowers. Carole Herrlich will take two of the metal tables.

The remaining metal tables (three plus one wooden) will have photos taken to add to Chatfield items to be listed on Craigslist and Facebook.

Old Business

Construction Update: Chuck reported on the Construction update.

Jim Glosser has completed the siding on the rectory and the church. The cost was approximately \$10,000. K & D seamless gutters submitted a quote for gutters on the rectory and the balance of the church for \$2,800.

Steering committee is looking at the color of the wood to be used on the Church ceiling.

Chatfield Place is to be professionally cleaned this week.

Father will ask Myra and Vlad Svyrydenko to take the listing pictures once the cleaning is complete. These are the photos for the listing.

The tag sale will be on May 4th at Chatfield Place.

Steering committee is considering stone three feet up on the front porch of the church entrance.

Water softener is at the rectory. Chuck and Ted will install.

Chatfield Place will be listed the first week of April at an asking price of \$189,000.

New Business

Calendar Change:

Father Dan stated that Metropolitan Gregory has given his blessing to hold a parish vote to change the calendar. The Council is looking to hold a special parish meeting the 19th of May.

Chuck request to work on finance committee:

Chuck has requested the Council's approval to be a member of the Finance Committee. Carol requested a motion to appoint Chuck. Nancy Gabel made the motion. It was seconded by Ted. All in favor.

Committee Reports

Cemetery Report

Chuck stated he has paperwork that he needs to get to the Cemetery Committee. This was acquired from the tax office.

Open Discussion

Carol stated she had information from Elaine Kerrick that there was a program in Steuben County called the Turning Point Program. This is a 24 hour human needs hotline. Father Dan will contact this program for information. We had a need for this service about a year ago.

Chuck stated we need to decide on the size of the domes on the dormers that we will need. We have donors for these domes.

There being no further business to discuss, Nancy Gabel made a motion to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Ted. The meeting adjourned at 1:00PM. Father Dan closed with a prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Telehany

Secretary



LENTEN FUNDRAISER IN SUPPORT OF UKRAINIAN CHILDREN ALONG THE WAR ZONE

Our parishioner and Church Council member Don Kakretz will be in the Ukraine personally working with Olga Riznychenko of Saint Demetrius Orthodox Church in Khar-kov from May 7th through May 30th helping them obtain and deliver supplies to the children along the front line in the war zone.

We will be having a basket out every Sunday of the Great Lent and we ask your support in helping the children in this area of the Ukraine in their time of need.

Won't you please give as generously as you can and help us make a difference.

If you are issuing a check please make it payable to **SAINT MARY'S ORTHODOX CHURCH** and we will have Rodney process it.

For further information please see Don during the coffee social.

Saint Gregory Palamas

