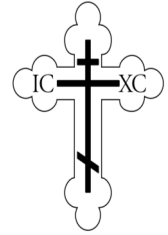


**Special points of interest:**

Epistle Reading:  
Hebrews 4:11-5:6  
Gospel Reading:  
St. Mark 8:31-9:1  
Liturgical Tone: 3  
Liturgical Color: Red

**March 31, 2019**

61 Canada Road  
Painted Post, NY 14870



**Schedule for Week**



*YOUR CROSS WE ADORE O MASTER, AND  
YOUR HOLY RESURRECTION WE GLORIFY!*

*Sunday, March 31, 2019*

*9:30am Divine Liturgy of St. Basil-Veneration of the Holy Cross  
4:00pm Deanery Lenten Vespers for Ven. of the Holy Cross  
here at Saint Mary's Lenten Social*

*Wednesday, April 3, 2019*

*5:00pm Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts*

*Friday, April 5, 2019*

*5:00pm Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts*

*Saturday, April 6, 2019*

*9:00am All Souls Memorial Service  
5:00pm Vespers/Confessions*

*Sunday, April 7, 2019*

*9:30am Divine Liturgy Feast of the Annunciation*

**ADULT EDUCATION 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

THE THEOTOKIAN

SAINT MARY'S ORTHODOX CHURCH



## **EPISTLE READING**

*Reading from St. Paul's  
Letter to the Hebrews 4:14-16;  
5:1-6*

*Brethren,*

*Since we have a high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people, And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him, "Thou art my Son, today I have begotten thee"; as he says also in another place, "Thou art a priest for ever, after the order of Melchizedek.*

## **GOSPEL READING**

*Reading is from  
St. Mark 8:34-38; 9:1*

*Let us attend,*

*The Lord said: If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his life? For what can a man give in return for his life? For what can man give in return for his life? For whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed., when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." And he said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the kingdom of God come with power."*



## COFFEE with SISTER VASSA

### **CHRISTIANITY & PATRIOTISM**

“Now at the feast he used to release for them one prisoner for whom they asked. And among the rebels in prison, who had committed murder in the insurrection, there was a man called Barabbas. And the crowd came up and began to ask Pilate to do as he was to do for them. And he answered them, ‘Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?’ For he perceived that it was out of envy that the chief priests had delivered him up. But the chief priest stirred up the crowd to have him release for them Barabbas instead. And Pilate again said to them, “Then what shall I do with the man whom you call the King of the Jews?’ And they cried out again, ‘Crucify him.’ And Pilate said to them, ‘Why, what evil has he done?’ But they shouted all the more, ‘Crucify him.’ So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released for them Barabbas’ and having scourged Jesus, he delivered him to be crucified.” (Mk 15: 6-15)

Individually, perhaps most in this crowd would have chosen Jesus over Barabbas. But as a crowd, they are “stirred up” by their chief priest, on the basis of a common, Judean patriotism in the face of the hated, Roman authorities, to choose Barabbas “instead.” Barabbas whose name means “son of the father,” is chosen “instead” of the only-begotten Son of the Father, Jesus. Because Barabbas was a true rebel against the Romans, arrested “in the

insurrection,” like a sort of Robin Hood or thorn-in-the-side of the Romans. And as such, he appealed to patriotic Jewish mentality, while Jesus was not interested in any such “insurrection,” as His present vulnerability before the Roman authorities demonstrated.

Jesus Christ walked and acted amongst us, speaking to each of our human, universal, -not specifically Jewish, Greek, Roman, Ukrainian, Russian, Serbian, American, etc.-thirsts for the Kingdom of God; He spoke to our common thirst for the peace and well-being in the higher authority and grace of God. So even if certain chief-priests “stir up” our crowd-mentality known as “patriotism,” in their respective flocks, throughout history, let me not be tempted to choose any “Barabbas” as my focus today. He may be the “son” of my “father-land,” but still of a different “father” from the One of my Lord Jesus Christ, to Whom we ascribe glory forever.

Amen!

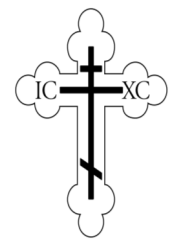


**SOUTHERN TIER DEANERY**  
**SUNDAY OF THE HOLY CROSS**  
**LENTEN VESPERS**  
**4pm**  
**Our Saint Mary's Church**  
**Painted Post, NY**

**CONTACT US ON SOCIAL MEDIA**



**Church Website:**  
[Saintmarysorthodoxchurchcorning.org](http://Saintmarysorthodoxchurchcorning.org)  
**Follow our Diocese On-Line**  
Diocesan Website  
[acrod.org](http://acrod.org)  
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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 Ralphaela; 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 Wheat; 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; and for all our Men and Women serving and protecting our country at home and abroad!

### ***LENT HUMBLER US!***



### ***WELCOME SOUTHERN TIER DEANERY***

*Today, we welcome our Dean, Father Jim Dutko, the Clergy and our Deanery family to our Saint Mary's Church. It is always wonderful when we gather together as one family to worship and enjoy good fellowship. As we gather today on this third Sunday of the Great Lenten journey and venerate the Precious and Life-giving Cross, we can not help but feel presence of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in our midst for He told us that "when two or three gather in His name, He is in our midst!"*

*At the conclusion of our Lenten service to the Holy Cross, please join us and partake of the Lenten foods that our ladies prepared and see old friends and make new friends as well.*

*In Christ,  
Father Dan*



*O Lord, say Your people, and bless Your inheritance, grant Orthodox Christians victory over their enemies, and protect You people with Your Cross.*

*Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.*

*Now the flaming sword no longer guards the gates of paradise; it has been mysteriously quenched by the wood of the Cross! The sting of death and the victory of hell have been vanquished; for You, O my Savior, did come and cry to those in hell: Enter again into Paradise.*

*Tropar and Kondak of the Cross*

*O God and Father of glory, for our sake You gave Your only-begotten Son, and through Him have made us sons, and worthy again of Your Spirit. Have compassion on us now, for we have broken Your commandments. Do not condemn us with those who have cut themselves off from You, nor leave us starved of Your spiritual gifts. Instead, make us worthy to draw near to You in our words and in our hearts, and to prove by our deeds that we are Your sons, as we imitate the conversion of the prodigal son. To him You made known Your love beyond expression for sinners. May we obtain everlasting happiness which You have made ready for all who do Your will, through the grace and mercy and love for mankind of Your only-begotten Son, with whom glory is due to You, together with Your all-holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever and forever.*

*Amvon Prayer for the Veneration of the Cross*

# Forty-eight Days to the "GREAT DAY"



## *Third Sunday of Lent Veneration of the Holy Cross*

*As you bow before the flower-bedecked Cross on the Sacramental Table in your parish church today, look carefully when you venerate it. Here is what you'll see.*

*The traditional Byzantine iconography of the Cross speaks volumes about the King of Glory. At the top, the 'icon made without hands' is depicted. Two angels are looking upon the Crucified Lord (there are those two angels again!) as they carry the instruments of the crucifixion—the crowns of thorns, the nails, the spear and the vinegar-soaked sponge on a stick.*

*The voluntary nature of Christ's Passion is emphasized by His calm face. He is not painted as comforted with pain.*

*The sun, moon, and stars are depicted, the sun at the Lord's right hand and the moon and stars at His left hand. They remind us that they hid their faces behind the clouds and refused to give their light when they beheld the King of Glory crucified.*

*Jesus' Mother and John stand beneath the Cross. And the Blood of Christ flows from His feet over the skull and bones of Adam, buried on Mt. Golgotha.*

*In 2017 Father Jonathan Tobias printed a photo of the parish's beautiful outdoor cross. On it he captured the meaning of the Cross in a farewell retirement message to his flock in East Pittsburgh, PA. He wrote: "For 14 years I'd end up at the Cross when I finished my lawn mowing because I wanted to finish at this point....because in my end is my beginning.*

*Dear Friend: Take note, Let your beginning and end be the Holy Cross today!*

*Forty-eight Days to the "GREAT DAY"*

*Book # 8*

*LENT 2019*

*Very Rev. Protopresbyter Frank Miloro, Chancellor*

# Decorated Cross

*The flowers that beautifully decorate our Cross on this Veneration of the Holy and Life-Giving Cross Sunday was generously donated by*

***Andy and Lee Havalchak***

*In memory of parents*

***Anna and Charles Havalchak***

*And Uncle*

***Andrew Minchie***

*May their memory be eternal! Vichnaja Pamjat!*

*We also thank **Mary Leonard** for decorating the Cross*

*May God grant His servants Andy, Lee, and Mary good health, happiness, and salvation for many blessed years! Mnobaja I Blahaja L'ita!*

## ***SOUTHERN TIER DEANERY LENTEN MISSION SERVICES***

### ***TODAY:***

#### ***4PM TODAY: LENTEN VESPERS TO THE HOLY CROSS***

*Our Saint Mary's Church ~ Painted Post*

***6PM Wednesday, April 10, 2019***

*Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts*

*Saint Mary's Church ~ Endicott*

***6PM Wednesday, April 17, 2019***

*Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts*

*Saint Michael's Church ~ Binghamton*

*All are invited to attend these Lenten services which allow us the opportunity to worship as a Deanery family and to enjoy good fellowship with our brothers and sisters, old friends and perhaps making a new friend or two.*

***MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND PLAN TO JOIN US!  
YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID!***



## **SPECIAL NOTICE — VISITING THE SICK!**

*Because I have been exposed to the FLU (I DO NOT HAVE IT!) and because some of our shut-ins who are home-bound, hospitalized or in nursing facilities are in fragile health, I am suspending visits to our shut-ins for **1 WEEK** effective immediately!*

*In the event of an emergency, I **will make visits** to minister to your loved one whether at home, in the hospital or nursing facility.*

*Thank you for understanding for I do not want to take a chance and pass on the flu to those who are physically weak.*

*In Christ,*

*Father Dan*

*There will be a WOLF in our kitchen and we could use your help!!*



*We have purchased a 36" WOLF Gas Range with 6 Burners for our the kitchen in the Church Hall and will be delivered in a few weeks. The new range will allow our ladies and also our men to begin cooking delicious meals, baking our Christmas and Pascha delicacies' (Paska's, cookies, etc.). The cost of the range is approximately \$6,200.*

*If you would like to help your church by making a donation towards it's cost in memory of **OR** in honor of a loved one or friend please see Rodney or Nancy Gabel and let them know that you would like to help!*



## 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 7<sup>th</sup> through May 30<sup>th</sup> 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.**