

ALL SAINTS ORTHODOX CHURCH  
OLYPHANT, PENNSYLVANIA  
**SUNDAY OF ST. GREGORY PALAMAS**  
**MARCH 11, 2012**

**Saint Sophronius, Patriarch of Jerusalem**



Hebrews 1:10-2:3 (*Epistle*) And: "You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, And the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You remain; And they will all grow old like a garment; Like a cloak You will fold them up, And they will be changed. But You are the same, And Your years will not fail." But to which of the angels has He ever said: "Sit at My right hand, Till I make Your enemies Your footstool"? Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation? Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, how shall we escape if

we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him.

Mark 2:1-12 (*Gospel*) And again He entered Capernaum after some days, and it was heard that He was in the house. Immediately many gathered together, so that there was no longer room to receive them, not even near the door. And He preached the word to them. Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men. And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying. When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you." And some of the scribes were sitting there and reasoning in their hearts, Why does this Man speak blasphemies like this? Who can forgive sins but God alone? But immediately, when Jesus perceived in His spirit that they reasoned thus within themselves, He said to them, "Why do you reason about these things in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Arise, take up your bed and walk'? But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins - He said to the paralytic, I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house. Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence

of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

**ALL SAINTS ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
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### **Services & Activities**

**Sunday, March 11                      Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas**

**9:00 am    Divine Liturgy**

**Mission Vespers:                      4:00 p.m. St. Michael, Jermyn**

**Wednesday, March 14    3:00 pm Akathist**

**5:00 pm            Confession**

**6:00 pm            Presanctified**

**Liturgy/Pot Luck**

**Friday, March 16                      7:00 pm            Akathist**

**Saturday, March 17    5:00 pm            Confession**

**6:00 pm            Great**

**Vespers/Choir Practice**

**Sunday, March 18                      Sunday of the Holy Cross**

**9:00 am    Divine Liturgy**

**Mission Vespers:                      4:00 p.m. St. John Baptist,**

## **Edwardsville**

**\*\*CHOIR PRACTICES: Sat. March 10, 4pm, Sat. March 17 & 31: 6pm**

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### **===== ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Please remember in your prayers all of the parishioners of All Saints,** their families, neighbors, and friends, especially Laura, Michael, Justin, Liam, Andrew, Allen, Cory Joseph, Michael, George, all those serving in the Armed Forces, all missionaries (especially Christina), all clergy, monastics, and seminarians, the sick and suffering, those in nursing homes, hospitals and prisons, especially for those for whom we have been asked to pray, **and all the newly departed:** (among them the Archpriest Joseph Kreta, Archpriest Michael Romanchak, Matushka Barbara Pavelchak, Matuska Joanne Pianovich, Matushka Eleanor Krell, Ann Peregrim, Olga Paulishak , Lieutenant General John Yeosock, Susan Scochin, Matushka Natalie Kiryluk Breyan). If you would like Fr. Gabriel to remember the living or the departed at the Divine Liturgy, please give the names to Fr. Gabriel to remember at the Proskomedia.

**LENTEN FOOD SALE COMING: FRIDAY, MARCH 23 NOON-5PM. FOOD PREPARATION WILL BEGIN WITH PIEROGIES ON MONDAY, MARCH 19, AND CONTINUE TUESDAY, MARCH 20-THURSDAY, MARCH 22. There is a sign-up sheet on the candle desk for the Lenten Food Sale for orders.**

**WHITE ALTAR COVERS NEEDED. Please give your donations to Joni Rezanka.**

**PLEASE HELP WITH COFFEE HOUR! PLEASE FORM A NEW COFFEE HOUR TEAM OR JOIN A COFFEE HOUR TEAM! This is an important part of our parish outreach. See Julie Cohen.**

**Thank you to the Scochin & Skorupa families for coffee hour today and to the Rucks, Chartoryky & Oakley families for coffee hour next week.**

### **ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST IN NANTICOKE RELIEF FUND**

**ESTABLISHED:** As the Diocese looks to the long-term needs of the Sexton family and the parish, His Grace, Bishop Tikhon, has established the “St John the Baptist in Nanticoke Relief Fund” for the purpose of providing for the ongoing process of restoration. Donations to this fund can be sent to the Diocesan Center (144 St Tikhon’s Road, Waymart, PA, 18472) where they will be directed to the specific areas of need in consultation with Fr. Adam and the Parish Council. A dedicated checking account has been established and checks should be made out to “St John the Baptist in Nanticoke Relief Fund.” His Grace further encourages the clergy and the faithful of the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania to be generous in their support of this cause and has requested that a special collection be held in all parishes of the Diocese on the Sunday of the Cross (March 18).

**HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH, WILKES-BARRE: LENTEN FOOD SALE (TAKE-OUT ONLY) FRIDAY MARCH 30: 11AM-6PM. Call Fr. David @ 835-6540 or Deborah Mills @822-5975 or e-mail [dmilz9@ptd.net](mailto:dmilz9@ptd.net).**

**T SHIRTS (ALL SAINTS) AVAILABLE \$10 EACH & RECONSECRATION ORNAMENTS AVAILABLE \$3 OR 2 FOR \$5.**

**Lottery drawing every two weeks: \$100 to church, \$50 each Friday and Saturday.**

**SPONSORSHIPS: Bulletin (\$30): Ruth & Brian Brown , Web-Site (\$25): George & Mary Ann Scochin, Shut-in mailings (\$25): Linda Stuchlak --Thank you to all of our Donors and Sponsors!**

**SAMPLE PLEDGE CARDS: Please prayerfully consider handing in your pledge card as soon as possible to help us with budgeting for 2012.**

**WEEKLY COLLECTION: 3/4/12: \$829.61.00; LOOSE:**

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**\$130.00; 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection (Pierogies): \$64. Tithe: \$20.00**

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## **Second Sunday in Lent: St. Gregory Palamas**

*Planting the doctrines of Orthodoxy, uprooting the thistles of wicked opinion, O blessed one, and growing well the plant of faith with the rain of thy sayings, thou didst offer to God, like a good farmer, ears a hundred fold.--Orthros of the Feast, Tone 1* On the second Sunday of Lent, we celebrate the triumph of the teachings of St. Gregory Palamas, who upheld the Orthodox doctrine that humans can know God not through the intellect alone, but through experience of God's uncreated energies. The Council of Blachernae in 1351 which upheld St. Gregory's teachings was considered a second Triumph of Orthodoxy. *"...every day we should stand in awe of Him, as He is with us, and do what is pleasing before Him. If we are unable now to perceive Him with our physical eyes, we can, if we are watchful, see Him continuously with the eyes of our understanding, and not just see Him, but reap great benefits from Him. This vision destroys all sin, demolishes all evil, and drives away everything bad. It gives birth to purity and dispassion, and bestows eternal life."--St. Gregory Palamas (www.antiochian.org)*

This divine Father, who was from Asia Minor, was from childhood reared in the royal court of Constantinople, where he was instructed in both religious and secular wisdom. Later, while still a youth, he left the imperial court and struggled in asceticism on Mount Athos, and in the Skete at Beroea. He spent some time in Thessalonica being treated for an illness that came from his harsh manner of life. He was present in Constantinople at the Council that was convened in 1341 against Barlaam of Calabria, and at the Council of 1347 against Acindynus, who was of like mind with Barlaam; Barlaam and Acindynus claimed that the grace of God is created. At both these Councils, the Saint contended courageously for the true dogmas of the Church of Christ, teaching in particular that divine grace is not created, but is the uncreated energies of God which are poured forth throughout creation: otherwise it would be impossible, if grace were created, for man to have genuine communion with the uncreated God. In 1347 he was appointed Metropolitan of Thessalonica. He tended his flock in an apostolic manner for some twelve years, and wrote many books and treatises on the most exalted doctrines of our Faith; and having lived for a total of sixty-three years, he reposed in the Lord in 1359. His holy relics are kept in the Cathedral of Thessalonica. Since works without right faith avail nothing, we set Orthodoxy of faith as the foundation of all that we accomplish during the Fast, by celebrating the Triumph of Orthodoxy the Sunday before, and the great defender of the teachings of the holy Fathers today.

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Traditional Orthodox Fasting Rules for Great Lent until Pascha, April 15, 2012)

**Weekdays:** Fasting from Meat, Poultry, Dairy, Eggs, Fish, Olive Oil, Wine.

**Saturdays & Sundays** (also March 26, 28,29,30, & Holy Thursday, April 12): Wine & Olive Oil  
**Annunciation, March 25 & Palm Sunday, April 8:** Fish, Wine & Olive Oil Permitted