

ALL SAINTS ORTHODOX CHURCH
OLYPHANT, PENNSYLVANIA
SUNDAY OF THE HOLY CROSS
MARCH 18, 2012

St. Cyril of Jerusalem; St. Nikolai of Zhicha



Hebrews 4:14-5:6 (*Epistle*) Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest taken from among men is appointed for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also subject to weakness. Because of this he is required as for the people, so also for himself, to offer sacrifices for sins. And no man takes this honor to himself, but he who is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was He who said to Him: "You are My Son, Today I have begotten You." As He also says in another place: "You are a priest forever According to the order of Melchizedek";

Mark 8:34-9:1 (*Gospel*) When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His

Father with the holy angels. And He said to them, “Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power.

ALL SAINTS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Services & Activities

Sunday, March 18

Sunday of the Holy Cross

9:00 am Divine Liturgy

Mission Vespers:

4:00 pm St. John Baptist, Edwardsville

Monday, March 19

9:00 am Pierogies

Tuesday thru Friday

Food Preparation for Lenten Food Sale

Wednesday, March 20

3:00 pm Akathist

6:00 pm Presanctified Liturgy

**Friday, March 23
Saints**

7:00 pm Pannihida—All Departed of All

**Saturday, March 24
Olga Paulishak**

9:00 am Memorial Divine Liturgy/40days

5:00 pm Confession

5:30 pm Pannihida – 40 days Ann Peregrim

6:00 pm Great Vespers for Annunciation/Litiya

Sunday, March 25

The Annunciation of the Mother of God

9:00 am Divine Liturgy

Mission Vespers:

4:00 pm Holy Annunciation, Berwick

**** CHOIR PRACTICE: Sat. March 31: 6:30 pm**

***** We will be hosting Mission Vespers, Sunday, April 1, 4:00 pm**

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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, Gregory, 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 departed members and family members and friends of All Saints, the newly departed:** (among them the Archpriest Joseph Kreta, Archpriest Michael Romanchak, Matushka Barbara Pavelchak, Matuska Joanne Pianovich, Matushka Eleanor Krell, Ann Peregrin, Olga Paulishak , Lieutenant General John Yeosock, Susan Scochin, Matushka Natalie Kiryluk Breyan, John Sanko). 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 THIS FRIDAY, MARCH 23 NOON-6PM. 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.

BAKE SALE will be held the day of the Lenten Food Sale. Please help and bring baked goods on Thursday or Friday morning.

PUSSY WILLOWS: Please start gathering FOR PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 8.

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 Rucks, Chartoryky & Oakley families for coffee hour today and to the Brzuchalski & Hudanish families for coffee hour next week.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST IN NANTICOKE RELIEF FUND

ESTABLISHED: 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). (Cupcake fundraiser www.facebook.com/conspicuouscupcakes).

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.

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. March 9-10 winners: Barbara Santeralli & Dale.

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: 3/11/12: \$776.00; TITHE:\$405.00; LOOSE: \$67.00; 2nd Collection (Supplies): \$63.00

Donation for the Flowers for the Cross in memory of Ruday Chmiel by Florence Chmeil; Donations for White Altar Coverings in memory of Michael Castelgrande and Susan Scochin by Stafursky family, in memory of William Lopatofsky by Linda Stuchlak, and from Jacob & Sonia Lopatofsky.

The Third Sunday Of Great Lent: Sunday Of The Veneration Of The Holy Cross: Services include a special veneration of the Cross, which prepares the faithful for the commemoration of the Crucifixion during Holy Week.

The commemoration and ceremonies of the Third Sunday of Lent are closely parallel to the feasts of the Veneration of the Cross (September 14) and the Procession of the Cross (August 1). Not only does the Sunday of the Holy Cross prepare us for commemoration of the Crucifixion, but it also reminds us that the

whole of Lent is a period when we are crucified with Christ. As we have “crucified the flesh with its passions and desires” (Galatians 5:24), and will have mortified ourselves during these forty days of the Fast, the precious and life-giving Cross is now placed before us to refresh our souls and encourage us who may be filled with a sense of bitterness, resentment, and depression. The Cross reminds us of the Passion of our Lord, and by presenting to us His example, it encourages us to follow Him in struggle and sacrifice, being refreshed, assured, and comforted. In other words, we must experience what the Lord experienced during His Passion - being humiliated in a shameful manner. The Cross teaches us that through pain and suffering we shall see the fulfillment of our hopes: the heavenly inheritance and eternal glory. As they who walk on a long and hard way and are bowed down by fatigue find great relief and strengthening under the cool shade of a leafy tree, so do we find comfort, refreshment, and rejuvenation under the Life-giving Cross, which our Fathers “planted” on this Sunday. Thus, we are fortified and enabled to continue our Lenten journey with a light step, rested and encouraged. Or, as before the arrival of the king, his royal standards, trophies, and emblems of victory come in procession and then the king himself appears in a triumphant parade, jubilant and rejoicing in his victory and filling those under him with joy, so does the Feast of the Cross precede the coming of our King, Jesus Christ. It warns us that He is about to proclaim His victory over death and appear to us in the glory of the Resurrection. His Life-Giving Cross is His royal scepter, and by venerating it we are filled with joy, rendering Him glory. Therefore, we become ready to welcome our King, who shall manifestly triumph over the powers of darkness. The present feast has been placed in the middle of Great Lent for another reason. The Fast can be likened to the spring of Marah whose waters the children of Israel encountered in the wilderness. This water was undrinkable due to its bitterness but became sweet when the Holy Prophet Moses dipped the wood into its depth. Likewise, the wood of the Cross sweetens the days of the Fast, which are bitter and often grievous because of our tears. Yet Christ comforts us during our course through the desert of the Fast, guiding and leading us by His hand to the spiritual Jerusalem on high by the power of His Resurrection. Moreover, as the Holy Cross is called the Tree of Life, it is placed in the middle of the Fast, as the ancient tree of life was placed in the middle of the garden of Eden. By this, our Holy Fathers wished to remind us of Adam’s gluttony as well as the fact that through this Tree has condemnation been abolished. Therefore, if we bind ourselves to the Holy Cross, we shall never encounter death but shall inherit life eternal.

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 permitted **Annunciation, March 25 & Palm Sunday, April 8:** Fish, Wine & Olive Oil Permitted