## St. Nicholai of Zicha's Reflection on St. Mary of Egypt

Why is it that much is said and written about the sufferings of holy men and holy women? Because the saints alone are considered victors. Can anyone be a victor without conflict, pain and suffering? In ordinary earthly combat, no one can be considered victorious or heroic who has not been in combat, endured much or suffered greatly. The more so in spiritual combat, where the truth is known, and where self-boasting not only does not help at all but, indeed, hinders it. He who does not engage in combat for the sake of Christ, either with the world, with the devil or with one's self, how can he be counted among the soldiers of Christ? How then is it with Christ's fellow victors? St. Mary spoke about her savage spiritual combat to Elder Zosimas: "For the first seventeen years in this wilderness, I struggled with my deranged lusts as though with fierce beasts. I desired to eat meat and fish, which I had in abundance in Egypt. I also desired to drink wine, and here I did not have even water to drink. I desired to hear lustful songs. I cried and beat my breast. I prayed to the All-pure Mother of God to banish such thoughts from me. When I had sufficiently wept and beat my breast, it was then that I saw a light encompassing me on all sides, and a certain miraculous peace filled me."

 $\sim$  From the Prologue of Ochrid, Composed by St. Nicholai of Zicha, Former Rector of St. Tikhon's Seminary

# "Let us Attend!"



"And wait for me on the banks of the Jordan adjoining the inhabited parts of the land, so that I can come and partake of the Lifegiving Gifts...."

> A PARISH BULLETIN OF ALL SAINTS ORTHODOX CHURCH Olyphant, Pennsylvania 10 April 2022– Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast

> > Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt

## Bulletin, Sunday, 10 April 2022

### FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT — Tone 1. St Mary of Egypt.

Martyrs Terence, Pompeius, Africanus, Maximus, Zeno, Alexander, Theodore, Macarius, and 33 others, beheaded at Carthage (3rd c.). Martyrs James (Jacob) the Presbyter, and Azadanes and Abdicius—Deacons, of Persia (ca. 380). Hieromartyr Patriarch Gregory V of Constantinople.

Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14 (Sunday); Galatians 3:23-29 (Saint)

Gospel: Mark 10:32-45 (Sunday); Luke 7:36-50 (Saint)

Our souls and minds are strengthened and fortified by the regular reading of the Holy Scriptures. Daily readings can be found on the parish's wall calendar, or online by visiting the OCA's daily reading page https://www.oca.org/readings.

#### Schedule of Services:

Monday, 11 April 2022 – 9:30AM– Lenten Hours and Typika. Wednesday, 13 April 2022 – 6PM Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, followed by Lenten Potluck Agape Meal.

Friday, 15 April 2022 – 4:45–5:45PM Confessions with Fr. Michael Evans; 6PM Vespers of Lazarus Saturday.

Saturday, 16 April 2022. 9:30AM- Divine Liturgy for Lazarus Saturday. Main Celebrant, His Eminence Archbishop Mark. Preparation of Palm and Willows following Liturgy; 4PM Vespers with Litya for the Entrance of the Lord into Jerusalem. Sunday, 17 April 2022: Entrance of the Lord into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday) – 9:30AM Divine Liturgy, Followed by Coffee Hour Agape

**Announcements** ~ Our thanks to Father David Hester and Khouria Anne for being with us today. May God richly bless you both.

 $\sim$  A warm welcome to all visitors. Please join us downstairs following the Liturgy for our Agape fellowship.

~ Following Liturgy on Lazarus Saturday, we will be putting Palms and pussy willow branches together to be blessed for Palm Sunday and will be decorating the Church in preparation for the Feast. Helping hands after Liturgy on that Saturday will be greatly appreciated

 $\sim$  Donations are needed for flowers for Pascha. Please consider making a special contribution to beautify the temple for the Feast of Feasts.

 $\sim$  The parish's thanks to the Stuchlak family and Joseph and Helen Semon for their donations in memory of +George and +Barabara Schlasta; to the Peregrim family for a donation in memory of +Michael Peregrim, and to the Stuchlak family and Anna and Vera Paulishak for donations in memory of +Johanna Hoynak. Memory Eternal.

 $\sim$  Our thanks to David and Linda Mikulak for their donation towards the Flowers for the Veneration of the Cross in Memory of + Claudia Mikulak. Memory Eternal.

 $\sim$  Our thanks for donations for Altar candles given by Martha Prestys in memory of + Mary Prestys and by Dorothy Mayday in memory of deceased members of the Mayday and Sheruda Families.