



ST. MARY'S HOLY DORMITION

Scripture Readings

Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20

Brethren, when God made a promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no one greater, He swore by Himself, saying, "Surely blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply you." And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. For men indeed swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is for them an end of all dispute. Thus God, determining to show more abundantly to the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us. This hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which enters the Presence behind the veil, where the forerunner has entered for us, even Jesus, having become High Priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1

At that time, one of the crowd answered and said, "Teacher, I brought You my son, who has a mute spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it throws him down; he foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth, and becomes rigid. So I spoke to Your disciples, that they should cast it out, but they could not." He answered him and said, "O faithless generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I bear with you? Bring him to Me." Then they brought him to Him. And when he saw Him, immediately the spirit convulsed him, and he fell on the ground and wallowed, foaming at the mouth. So He asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. And often he has thrown him both into the fire and into the water to destroy him. But if You can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" When Jesus saw that the people came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it: "Deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, come out of him and enter him no more!" Then the spirit cried out, convulsed him greatly, and came out of him. And he became as one dead, so that many said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when He had come into the house, His disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" So He said to them, "This kind can come out by nothing but prayer and fasting." Then they departed from there and passed through Galilee, and He did not want anyone to know it. For He taught His disciples and said to them, "The Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill Him. And after He is killed, He will rise the third day."

March 26th, 2023 ST JOHN CLIMACUS FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

MAR Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 3rd - Madalyn Schulte
- 3rd - Cris Brooks
- 4th - Zach Stevens
- 5th - Nicole Fischer
- 6th - Larry Don Meier
- 6th - Fr. Stephen: Priesthood Anniversary
- 8th - Jedidiah Leithead
- 8th - Brileigh Gardner
- 9th - Chris Dumler
- 9th - Harold & Dee Eurich
- 10th - Brilee Herron
- 11th - Polly Mikita
- 12th - Butch Sakala
- 13th - Robin Mikita
- 15th - Fr. Stephen: Diaconate Anniversary
- 17th - LeAnn Perry
- 17th - Ashlynn Stevens
- 18th - Riggin Fuchs
- 25th - Lacie Leithead
- 31st - Alex Baril

SCHEDULE

- Mar 29th - Presanctified Liturgy (6:00 PM)
- Apr 1st - Reader's Vespers (5:00 PM)
- Apr 2nd - Divine Liturgy (9:30 AM)
- Pan Orthodox Lenten Vespers (6:00 PM)

WISDOM

"Let your prayer be completely simple. For both the publican and the prodigal son were reconciled to God by a single phrase."

-St. John Climacus of the Ladder

WEEKLY JOKES

At the therapist's office, I asked my wife, "You are going to bring up my obsession with predicting the future, aren't you?" Her: "Yes". Me: "I knew it!"

I've opened a gym, where the instructors would go from door to door, to tell people about the benefits of joining it. I've named it Jehovah's Fitness.

WELCOME! IT IS GOOD TO BE HERE!

The Come and See Challenge:

Have you brought someone NEW this month?
Have you gone to Great Vespers at least once this month?
When was the last time you went to Confession?

Choir Rehearsals for Lent/Holy Week/Pascha

Today and until Holy Week, the choir will be rehearsing after Coffee Hour every week. Choir members, please remember to stay. If anyone else is interested in joining the choir, this is the best time to join. We would love to have more singers, youth included.

Let Us Attend: 2023 Lenten Theme

Our Lenten Theme this year is Let Us Attend. You should make every effort to come to as many services as you can. This may require sacrificing other activities in order to fulfill this task. However, that is why this year's theme is so crucial as Lent is a time more so than every to put our attention and focus onto God. Please make the divine services a priority and not an afterthought or "if I'm not busy".

Bookstore in the Hall

In our bookstore in the Hall, we have some new arrivals relating to Lent and such that are available for purchase. Our bookstore is specifically for our parish. We receive the books from Holy Theophany but we do make money on the books. There are plenty of good books for sale as well as service texts and such. If you are looking for a particular book that we do not have, we can order it at a great price.

Spring Rummage Sale (April 1st)

The Methodist church in town will be holding their annual spring rummage sale at the Whittemore Hall, Calhan Fairgrounds from 8:30 AM to 2:00 PM. Lunch and Pastries will be served. There will be a raffle to win a quilt.

Lazarus Saturday Liturgy Lesson (April 8th)

Reminder to all that on Lazarus Saturday, the day before Palm Sunday, we will have our annual Proskedia and Divine Liturgy lesson. This is a good service to come to because Fr. Stephen explains different aspects of both services and you get an inside look on how why we pray the way we do. Please make every effort to be there (Kids, especially).

Upcoming Cleanups / Parish Council (April 2nd and 8th)

We will be having our annual cleanup of the church, grounds, and hall on Saturday the 8th after Liturgy. Parish Council will also meet that day after Liturgy briefly for our monthly meeting. Please join us for the cleanup. We also are asking that older youth help clean up the bar the week prior on the 2nd after Coffee Hour.

Skee Balls Missing, Please Return

The Skee balls are missing from the skee ball table at the rectory. We need them back immediately as we are only borrowing the table. If you know where they are please, return them. No one will be made if they were taken or broken, we just need them back. Thank you.

St. Ambrose Donations (Bin in the Hall, please donate)

St. John Climacus of The Ladder:

This Sunday commemorates St. John of the Climax (6th century) who is the writer of the book called The Ladder (climax) of Paradise. This book contains 30 chapters, with each chapter as a step leading up to a faithful and pious life as the climax of a Christian life. The spirit of repentance and devotion to Christ dominates the essence of this book, along with the monastic virtues and vices. He was an ascetic and writer on the spiritual life as a monk-abbot of Sinai Monastery. These steps of the ladder as set forth by St. John are to be practiced by the Christian especially during this period of the Great Lent. Each step leading to the top step of the ladder, is the climactic essence of the true meaning of a Christian life.

Prayer List

Living:

Abp. Benjamin, Abp. Melchisedek, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Dennis, Anna, Muriel, Sheila, Meryl, Harold, Vern, Tammy, Stephanie, Daron (Basil), Steve, Litsa, Jill, Leilani, the child Lilliana, Carl, Christina, Lindy, Pina, John, Johnny, Jeremy, Preston, Ian, Emmary, Sabrina with child, Loren, George, Nicole, Mark, Mark, Betty, Alicia, Richard, Tiana, Will, Ann Marie, Marcie, Brenda, Serge, Jamie, infant Gideon, Iryland, Patricia, Casey, Varoon, Bruce, Alice, Christina, Danny, Cassi with child, Jerry, Infant Dominic, Roberta, Leonard, Kyriacou, Annabelle, Devin, Georgianna, Morgan with child, Natalie, Wendy, Judy

Special prayers for Leonard who is still recovering from knee surgery and a blood clot.

Departed:

Tom, Robbie, Harry Peter, Roland, Valarie, Cody

Youth:

Mario Kart Tourney (Today):

On you mark! Get set! Letsa Go! We will once again be hosting a Mario Kart Tournament for the kids to enjoy after Liturgy today.

Volunteers Needed:

1) Coffee Hour (2023 List up to end of May in the Hall)

2) Church Clean Up (2023 List up to May in the Hall. It is now weekly, not bi-weekly. Please sign up if you have not signed up before)

3) Church School: We could use a few extra subs. Please see Fr. Stephen if interested.