



March 8th, 2026
2nd Sunday of Great Lent — Tone 6
St. Gregory Palamas

Scripture Readings

Hebrews 1:10-2:3 (Epistle 304)

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 7)

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!"

Many Years!

anniversaries

9th - Harold & Dee Eurich

birthdays

3rd - Madalyn Schulte
 3rd - Cris Brooks
 4th - Zach Stevens
 5th - Nicole Fischer
 6th - Larry Don Meier
 8th - Jedidiah Leithead
 8th - Brileigh Gardner
 9th - Chris Dumler
 10th - Brilee Herron
 11th - Polly Mikita
 12th - Butch Sakala
 13th - Robin Mikita
 17th - LeAnn Perry
 17th - Ashlynn Stevens
 18th - Darla Leithead
 18th - Riggan Fuchs
 25th - Lacie Leithead
 31st - Alex Baril

Calendar

March 8th Mission Vespers
 — Sunday 6:00p
 (St. Mary's, Calhan)

March 11th Presanctified Liturgy
 — Wednesday 6:30p

March 13th Prayers for Rain | Study
 — Friday 6:30p

March 14th Vespers
 — Saturday 6:30p

March 15th Divine Liturgy
 — Sunday 9:30a

March 15th Mission Vespers
 — Sunday 6:00p
 (Archangel Michael, Co Spgs)

St. Gregory Palamas

The Second Sunday of Great Lent is dedicated to Saint Gregory Palamas and is often called a second "Triumph of Orthodoxy." Originally this Sunday commemorated Saint Polycarp of Smyrna, but after Gregory's canonization in 1368 the Church placed his memory here to highlight the victory of Orthodox teaching about the spiritual life.

Saint Gregory was born in Constantinople in 1296 during the reign of Andronicus II Palaiologos. Although he received an excellent education and was expected to enter imperial service, he chose the monastic life instead. Around the age of twenty he went to Mount Athos, where he embraced the ascetic life and was formed in the tradition of hesychasm—a practice of inner stillness and continual prayer rooted in the teachings of the desert fathers such as Evagrius Ponticus and Macarius of Egypt.

Later Gregory was ordained a priest in Thessalonica, combining pastoral ministry with a life of prayer and solitude. In the 1330s he became the chief defender of the hesychast monks when the scholar Barlaam of Calabria attacked their teaching. Barlaam rejected the monks' claim that the divine light experienced in prayer was the same uncreated light revealed at Christ's Transfiguration.

In response, Gregory wrote theological works—most famously The Triads—defending the distinction between God's unknowable essence and His divine energies through which He truly reveals Himself. At a council in Constantinople in 1341, held in Hagia Sophia, his teaching was upheld and Barlaam's views condemned.

Gregory later became Archbishop of Thessalonica and continued preaching and guiding the faithful until his repose in 1359. By commemorating him on the Second Sunday of Lent, the Church proclaims that the goal of the Christian life is not merely intellectual knowledge of God, but real participation in His grace through prayer and purification of the heart.

Troparion | Tone 6 (Resurrection)

The Angelic Powers were at Thy tomb; the guards became as dead men. Mary stood by Thy grave, seeking Thy most pure body. Thou didst capture hell not being tempted by it. Thou didst come to the Virgin, granting life. O Lord, Who didst rise from the dead, glory to Thee.

Troparion | Tone 8 (St. Gregory Palamas)

O light of Orthodoxy, teacher of the Church, its confirmation, O ideal of monks and invincible champion of theologians, O wonderworking Gregory, glory of Thessalonica and preacher of grace, always intercede before the Lord that our souls may be saved!

Kontakion | Tone 8 (St. Gregory Palamas)

Holy and divine instrument of wisdom, joyful trumpet of theology, together we sing thy praises, O God-inspired Gregory. Since thou now standest before the Original Mind, guide our minds to Him, O Father, so that we may sing to thee: "Rejoice, preacher of grace!"

Kontakion | Tone 4 (Lenten Triodion)

Now is the time for action! Judgment is at the doors! So let us rise and fast, offering alms with tears of compunction and crying: "Our sins are more in number than the sands of the sea; but forgive us, O Master of all, so that we may receive the incorruptible crowns!"

Prayer List

Living: Met. Tikhon, Abp. Benjamin, Bp. Vasily, Fr. Andreas, Fr. Anthony, Fr. Zechariah, Fr. Dennis, Fr. Silouan, Mother Cassiana, Dcn. Herman Combs & Family, Dcn. Tikhon Krueger & Family

Charlie, Anita, Chad, Jan, Harold, Libbie and the Infant Lawrence, Toni Dell, Tyler, David, Victor, Kyla, Tony, Diane, Betty, Muriel, Child Gerhard & Meryl, Tammy, Litsa, Lillian, Carl, Christina, Lindy, John, Alicia, Patricia, Danny, Jerry, Roberta, Wendy, Judy, Jill, Beverly, Infant Dominic, Joseph, Jackie Joan, Trisha, Lee, Carol, Ethan, infant Adalynn, Nauvlet, Austin, Brian, Josh, Mother Magdalena, Kodiak, Miriham, Cheri, infant Gus, April, Madalyn, Makenzie, MaKiya, Hannah, Haylee, Keith, Samantha, Christina, Jake, Jetlyn, Lauren, Bob, Georgianna, Clint, Murl, Carolyn, Millie, child Charlotte, Cathy.

Departed: Jack, Melvin, Alana

Those with child: Mka. Lindsey

Those who are confined: Basil, Hannah, Theodore

Commemorations

St. Gregory Palamas, Synaxis of the Venerable Fathers of the Kiev Caves Lavra, St. Theophylactus Bishop of Nicomedia, Ven. Lazarus of Murom, Ven. Athanasius of Murom, Apostle Hermes of the Seventy, Hieromartyr Theodoretus of Antioch, Ven. Dometius, the Kursk-Root Icon of the Mother of God.

Sports!

Following the agape meal in the hall today, you are all warmly invited to the Calhan school gymnasium to participate in the weekly gathering of parish faithful, for sporting activities. Begins at 1p and will repeat every Sunday until further notice. Come out for the fellowship!

Presanctified Liturgy

We will have Presanctified Liturgy, Every Wednesday during Lent, at 6:30p — followed by a Lenten potluck in the hall, please bring a dish to share!

Great Lent Classes

Sunday's after Liturgy through Lent, Fr. George will offer classes based on the book 'Great Lent' by Fr. Alexander Schmemmann.

Mission Vespers

Every Sunday evening during Lent we will travel to an Orthodox parish in the local area, for Mission Vespers. The second Mission Vespers will be held this evening (6:00p March 8th) right here at St. Mary's. All Mission Vespers services will be served at 6:00p (Note: this is different than our usual evening service time). Next week's Mission Vespers will be hosted at Archangel Michael in Colorado Springs.

