



Our Lady of Perpetual Help

Our Lady of Perpetual Help Byzantine Catholic Church

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Rev. Myron Badnerosky – Pastor Emeritus

Liturgical Schedule

for the Week of March 18, 2018

Saturday, March 17 ~ Vigil – 5th Sunday of the Great Fast

St. Mary of Egypt

5:30 PM +George Latzanich by wife Theresa

Sunday, March 18 ~ 5th Sunday of the Great Fast

St. Mary of Egypt

9:00 AM For the Parish Family of OLPH

Followed by Advisory Committee Meeting

All Invited

Wednesday, March 21~ James of Catania - Confessor

7:00 PM Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Friday, March 22 ~ Nicon & Others – Venerable Martyrs

NOON Lenten Moleben

Saturday, March 24 ~ Lazarus Saturday

8:30 AM Divine Liturgy

+Michael Fushille

**Vigil – Flowery/Palm Sunday
and Feast of the Annunciation**

5:30 PM +Edward Zapala by wife Mary

Sunday, March 25 ~ Flowery/Palm Sunday

and Feast of the Annunciation

9:00 AM For the Parish Family of OLPH

Festal Anointing in celebration of Flowery Sunday
following the weekend Divine Liturgies.

CANDLE DEDICATION FOR MARCH

Sanctuary

In Memory of Robert C. Donatelli
by Grandson Robert P. Donatelli

Tetrapod

In Memory of Theresa Sudik
by Michael & Maura Sudik

Altar of Preparation

Dubinsky & Nazarey Family

In Thanksgiving by Betty Dubinsky

Offertory – March 10 & 11, 2018

	Saturday	Sunday	Total
Regular	\$639.00	\$915.00	\$,1554.00
Lent	\$20.00	\$50.00	\$70.00
Candles	0	\$32.00	\$32.00
Building Fund	\$7.00	\$50.00	\$57.00
Flowers	\$38.00	\$50.00	\$88.00
Total	\$704.00	\$1097.00	\$1801.00
Attendance	31	46	77

A Gentle Reminder

Please no food, drinks (other than water if necessary) or cell phone use during the celebration of the Divine Liturgy.

PUSSYWILLOWS – Palm Sunday (Flowery Sunday ~ March 25) is quickly coming upon us. If you have pussywillows, please drop them off at the church by March 24. Thank You!

Advisory Committee Meeting – Our Advisory Committee Meeting will be on **Sunday, March 18** following the Divine Liturgy. All are welcome – this is the perfect opportunity to see what is happening at OLPH and to express your opinion.

Rada Knife Sale * Back By Popular Demand

Catalogs with order forms are available for Rada Knife Products on the table in the vestibule with the previous week's bulletins. Becky Zadnik is running this fundraiser and will be available to take your orders. This cutlery makes excellent gifts for weddings, showers, and birthdays and even as a treat for yourself. All the proceeds benefit OLPH. The sale will continue to Easter Sunday.

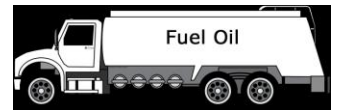
The Prayer of St. Ephrem the Syrian

O Lord and Master of my life, keep from me the spirit of indifference and discouragement, lust of power and idle chatter. Instead, grant to me, Your servant, the spirit of wholeness of being, humble-mindedness, patience, and love. O Lord and King, grant me the grace to be aware of my sins and not to judge my brother; for You are blessed now and ever and forever. Amen



HELP!!!

Due to the extreme cold our fuel costs have skyrocketed. We are using in two weeks what we used in three weeks last year. Please consider making a special donation in your energy envelope to help us make up this cost of keeping you comfortable in church. **To put things in perspective – the energy costs for our buildings for the first two months of the year were \$9,917.38 and our offertory was \$14,529.00. This means that 68% of our collection was just to cover fuel. As a result we are running at a deficit for the first two months of the year. Want to know more about our financial condition? Come to the Advisory Committee Meeting next week for additional details.**



LENTEN ENVELOPES – Please use your Lenten Envelopes to make sacrificial gifts to OLPH to assist with the extraordinary winter costs due to weather, low attendance and a shortfall in giving.

KNIGHTS OF COLUMBUS EASTER FOOD BASKETS – If you know of anyone (even yourself) who could use a special basket of Easter foods, the Knights will be distributing the prior to Easter. Please let Fr. Ed or Dr. Dan Tisak know.

New Byzantine Prayer App! Eastern Christian Publication, the supplier of our Sunday Bulletin covers has just announced a new app for Smartphones. It included an icon and the Troparia for the Saint of the Day, a short reflection from the book *Java With Jesus*, quotes for the day from a wide range of religious figures, the Daily Hours and Daily Vespers with changeable parts updated every day, the weekly Sunday bulletin image and commentary, the monthly electronic version of *Theosis Magazine* and an educational introduction to *Byzantine Daily Prayer*. The app is FREE and available in both the Apple Store for iPhone and iPads and from Google Play for Android devices. Search for ECPubs and install with a few clicks. This is great for enhancing your spiritual reading and prayer during the Great Fast.

SAY HELLO If you see someone in church that you do not know – stop and say hello and welcome them to OLPH. Your friendly greeting will help them to decide to make OLPH their spiritual home. Make sure you introduce newcomers to Fr. Ed. Don't be shy!

Easter Confessions

Fr. Ed is available for Confession on Saturdays from 4:45 to 5:15 and Sundays from 8:15 to 8:45. He is also available before and after the services on Wednesday and Friday and during Holy Week after all services.

If these times are not convenient for you, please make an appointment with Fr. Ed.

Saturday, March 24

Following the 8:30 Divine Liturgy for Lazarus Saturday
Volunteers needed to clean up

the grounds of OLPH to make it attractive for Easter. Bring your rakes, brooms, shovels and whatever you like to use for yard work.

Don't Forget To Check
Our Website

For Up to the Minute News About
OLPH!

olphbyz.com

On the site you will find weekly bulletins, special announcements, cancellations, schedule changes, educational materials and pictures of our events – just to name a few things. Thanks to Michael Sudik, our website is one of the best in the Eparchy.



EASTER RECIPES

Please contribute your special Easter recipes to the cookbook project. Just drop them in the box.

GREAT & HOLY WEEK Liturgical Schedule

Great & Holy Wednesday, March 28
7:00 PM – Liturgy of Presanctified
Gifts

& Holy Anointing

Great & Holy Thursday, March 29
7:00 PM – Vespers & Liturgy
of St. Basil

Great & Holy Friday, March 30
7:00 PM – Burial Vespers &
Procession

Great & Holy Saturday, March 31
7:00 PM

Resurrection Matins & Divine Liturgy
(all one service)

followed by the blessing of baskets
The GREAT Day – Easter, April 1

9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy
followed by the blessing of baskets
*Festal Anointing after
the Easter Divine Liturgies*



If you know of anyone who is homebound, please call them and ask if they would like a visit from Fr. Ed. Then let him know and he will visit them.

INFORMATION ABOUT THE EASTER SERVICES

**Resurrection Matins & Divine Liturgy
Saturday, March 31 – 7:00 PM**

These services are the most important of the Liturgical Year. This is the culmination of your Lenten Journey; it is what makes our prayer, fasting and alms giving complete. We will celebrate Matins and Divine Liturgy as one service. The Matins portion with the procession takes the place of what is the beginning of the



Liturgy and after that we continue as usual with the singing of "All you who have been baptized" and the readings. Fr. Ed hopes that the church will be jam-packed with hundreds of people singing Christ is Risen! Invite your family and friends for this beautiful celebration. **Please note that there is NO 5:30 Divine Liturgy on this day.**

Easter Sunday Divine Liturgy will be at 9:00 AM with the Blessing of baskets following.

BLESSING OF BASKETS

The blessing of the Easter Baskets will take place in the Church. Please keep your baskets in your car and you will have the opportunity to bring them in after the services.



St. Mary of Egypt Commemorated on the 5th Sunday of the Great Fast

Mary was born somewhere in Egypt in 344, and, for unknown reasons, left home at the age of 12, settling in Alexandria. She quickly became adept at using her body to get what she wanted, though she never accepted money for her “services.”

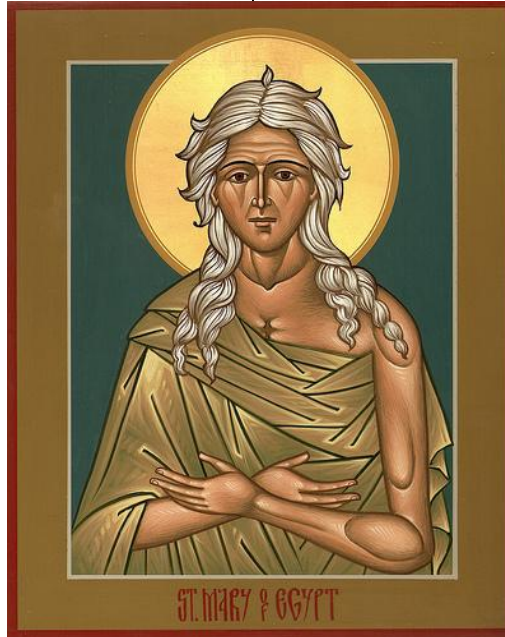
Mary lived this way for 17 years. One day she saw a large group of people and discovered that they were headed to Jerusalem on a pilgrimage for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross. She decided to join the pilgrims, with every intention of using her skills as a seducer during the pilgrimage; in fact, she started by seducing her way on to the boat for the journey.

On the actual feast day, she joined the crowd as it processed to the church to honor the relic of the True Cross. She attempted to follow the other people into the church but something strange and inexplicable happened. She could not enter. Something was holding her back. No matter how hard she tried she could not get past the entrance. Mary walked to the side of the church, fell down on her knees and began to cry.

Mary looked to her side and saw an icon of the Blessed Virgin. As she looked at it the realization of her sinful life impacted her. Remorse overwhelmed her. She prayed to the Blessed Virgin to help her, pleading for forgiveness. When she tried to walk into the church again, she entered without a problem. She kissed the relic of the True Cross and begged the Virgin Mary to not forsake her.

As she left the church a stranger stopped her saying, “Please, take these,” and handed Mary three coins. Mary purchased three loaves of bread and headed for the desert. She did this because the Virgin Mary had told her that was where she would find peace. Along the way, she stopped at a church alongside the Jordan River.

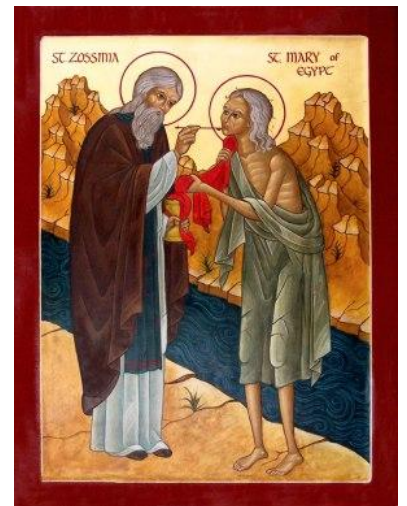
The church was actually the Monastery of St. John the Baptist. It was here she was baptized into the faith and received the sacraments of Penance and Holy Eucharist. She then moved into the desert and was not seen by anyone for 47 years. This is when a priest by the name of Father Zosimas came into her life.



Father Zosimas was out in the desert because it was the custom for him and his brethren to spend the 40 days of Lent fasting and praying, returning home on Palm Sunday. He was stunned when he came across this dirty, unkempt, raggedy woman. Her hair was pure white, the years in the desert having taken their toll on her emaciated body. She begged him to give her a cloak to cover herself. Father Zosimas did as she asked and the woman hurriedly tried to garner some dignity.

The priest asked her if she would tell him why she was in the desert and share what had happened to her. Slowly but surely, Mary began to open up and before long had told Father about her life as a “prostitute” and how hard life had been for her, alone in the desert. Father Zosimas cried. He realized that the woman, who told him her name was Mary, had achieved a level of holiness all the greater after her previous sinful life.

Mary asked Father Zosimas if he would return the following Holy Thursday with Communion for her. He agreed and, one year later, came to meet her again. She asked him once more to come again the following year. He agreed.



A year later, when Zosimus returned again, he found Mary’s body. Next to it was a note stating that she had died in 421, on the same night she had received Holy Communion. Father buried her incorrupt body where he had found it. That was her wish. Upon returning to the monastery he shared his story with his brethren who preserved it through oral tradition until St. Sophronius wrote it down.

St. Mary of Egypt is honored on the fifth Sunday of the Great Fast. She is the patroness of chastity, temptations of the flesh, and skin diseases.

St. Mary of Egypt, pray for us all especially today as sins of the flesh are so prevalent.