

OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2022
SUNDAY, April 10th – FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Saint Mary of Egypt

Epistle Reading: Hebrews 9:11-14 and Galatians 3:23-29
Gospel Readings: Mark 10:32-45 and Luke 7:36-50

Troparion, tone 8

In thee, O Mother, was exactly preserved what was according to the divine image; for thou didst take the cross and follow Christ; and by thy life, didst teach us to ignore the flesh, since it is transitory, but to care for the soul as an immortal thing. Therefore, thy spirit, Saint Mary, rejoices with the Angels.

We pray for our entire church family and those who do not have a family or church family, and our special prayers are for the sick and suffering and for the health and salvation of others:

The Archpriests Samuel and Joseph, Archimandrite Joseph, Protopresbyter Christos, the priest Gregory, Mark Benda, Matushka Ellen, Emily Anastasia, Gabriel, Zoe, Nadine Olsen, Anastasia, Sophia Eptamenitis, Edward, Taisa, Konstance & Elaine Engelsman, Maria Higginbotham, Valentina Bobrowski, Anna Konoleva, Erika Dobrzynski, Andrew John Lihou, Marie Biancarelli, Joshua and Daniel Buccieri, Emma Matthews, Stephanie, Kristy, Victor Szemetylo, Helen, Bonnie Shaffner, Helen Schweizer, Zoran Pejovic, Sunny Hunsicker, Ioana and Carmen. Amen!!!

***** To amend the prayer list, speak with Mary Osinski*****

Follow us on



And remember to use:



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(848)228-1563

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www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org
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The Weekly Bulletin
HOLY SPIRIT
ORTHODOX CHURCH

www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org

April 10th of 2022

5th Sunday of Great Lent: Saint Mary of Egypt - She began her life as a young woman who followed the passions of the body, running away from her parents at age twelve for Alexandria. There she lived as a harlot for seventeen years, refusing money from the men that she copulated with, instead living by begging and spinning flax. One day, however, she met a group of young men heading toward the sea to sail to Jerusalem for the veneration of the Holy Cross. Mary went along for the ride, seducing the men as they traveled for the fun of it. But when the group reached Jerusalem and went towards the church, Mary was prohibited from entering by an unseen force. After three such attempts, she remained outside on the church patio, where she looked up and saw an icon of the Theotokos. She began to weep and prayed with all her might that the Theotokos might allow her to see the True Cross; afterwards, she promised, she would renounce her worldly desires and go wherever the Theotokos may lead her. After this heart-felt conversion at the doors of the church, she fled into the desert to live as an ascetic. She survived for years on only three loaves of bread and thereafter on scarce herbs of the land. For another seventeen years, Mary was tormented by "wild beasts—mad desires and passions." After these years of temptation, however, she overcame the passions and was led by the Theotokos in all things. Following 47 years in solitude, she met the priest St. Zosima in the desert, who pleaded with her to tell him of her life. She recounted her story with great humility while also demonstrating her gift of clairvoyance; she knew who Zosima was and his life story despite never having met him before. Finally, she asked Zosima to meet her again the following year at sunset on Holy Thursday by the banks of the Jordan. Zosima did exactly this, though he began to doubt his experience as the sun began to go that night. Then Mary appeared on the opposite side of the Jordan; crossing herself, she miraculously walked across the water and met Zosima. When he attempted to bow, she rebuked him, saying that as a priest he was far superior, and furthermore, he was holding the Holy Mysteries. Mary then received communion and walked back across the Jordan after giving Zosima instructions about his monastery and that he should return to where they first met exactly a year later. When he did so, he found Mary's body with a message written on the sand asking him for burial and revealing that she had died immediately after receiving the Holy Mysteries the year before (and thus had been miraculously transported to the spot where she now lay). So Zosima, amazed, began to dig, but soon tired; then a lion approached and began to help him, that is, after Zosima had recovered from his fear of the creature. Thus St. Mary of Egypt was buried. Zosima returned to the monastery, told all he had seen, and improved the faults of the monks and abbot there. He died at almost a hundred years old in the same monastery. Later, the story of Mary's life was written down by Saint Sophronius, Patriarch of Jerusalem.

Service Schedule

Great Vespers: 5 pm Saturdays
Hours: 9:45am Sundays
Divine Liturgy: 10:00am Sundays

Confessions: Will be heard every Saturday evening after Vespers or by appointment.

Call, text or email Father Michael at (848)228-1563 or holyspiritwantagenj@gmail.com

Monthly calendar at www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org

Dates to Remember

Saturday 9th of April

Divine Liturgy at 9 am
Annual Clean-up after the Divine Liturgy
Great Vespers at 5 pm

Sunday 10th of April

Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great at 10 am

Friday 15th of April

Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts at 7 pm

Saturday 16th of April

LAZARUS SATURDAY
Divine Liturgy at 9 am
Great Vespers at 5 pm

Sunday 17th of April

ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM
PALM SUNDAY
Divine Liturgy at 10 am
Bridegroom Matins at 5 pm

Announcements

Welcome!

Everyone is welcome to visit and worship with us, and especially during Great Lent, to experience the beauty of Vespers each Saturday at 5:00 pm and/or Divine Liturgy each Sunday at 10:00 am. During Great Lent, a liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts is offered each Friday at 7:00 pm. Fellowship and light Lenten meal follows Divine Liturgy and the Liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts.

Saint Mary of Egypt

On the fifth Sunday of Great and Holy Lent, Saint Mary of Egypt is commemorated on this day and is celebrated with the Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great. Her feast day is celebrated on the day of her repose, April 1st. On Thursday, the Life of Saint Mary of Egypt was read at Holy Spirit Orthodox Church during the Great Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete.

Pray for our Catechumens

Please remember in your prayers Asia Booker Sanchez, Kristen and Hazel Steiner in your prayers as they are entering their first Great Lent and preparing for the sacrament of the Holy Chrismation which will take place on Holy Saturday 23rd of April 2022.

Keep Offerings Current

Offerings can be made at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. The collection basket is located on the table by the exit. You are also welcome to send your donation via mail to Holy Spirit Orthodox Church, 102 Route 284, Wantage, NJ 07461 or using "Donate" button on the website of our church www.holyspiritorthodox.org.

Donation of Red Eggs for Pascha

Please volunteer to offer red eggs to Holy Spirit Orthodox Church to be distributed at Pascha. There's a sign-up sheet in the narthex. For more information on how to dye eggs or how many eggs are needed, speak with Mark Benda or Nadine Olsen.

Holy Spirit Clean-up Day

Please plan to attend annual Holy Spirit Clean-up Day which will take place on April 9th, 2022 after the Divine Liturgy. If April 9th turns out to be rainy day the annual Clean-up Day will be postponed for April 16th.

Vigil at the Tomb of Christ

An ancient tradition in the Orthodox Church is the Vigil at the Tomb of Christ. The Holy Friday Vigil at Christ's tomb is our opportunity to help keep watch over our Lord's body as He descends into Hell to loosen the bonds of death. What better way to understand the death and resurrection of Jesus than to participate in the Vigil by His tomb? The Church has given us this opportunity to watch and wait with the countless saints and myriads of angels as our Lord conquers death. If you would like to participate in this ancient tradition and read the Psalm over the tomb of Christ, please sign up at the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. The time period will be divided by 2-hour intervals, and you are more than welcome to share your spot with another person.