

# St Michael's Orthodox Church

*A parish of the Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania*

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**April 14, 2024: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Great Lent. St John of the Ladder.**

## Services & Events

***There are a number of schedule changes this week – please read carefully.***

Saturday, April 13, 6:30 p.m. – Great Vespers, followed by Prayers for Confessions

Sunday, April 14, 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy of St Basil the Great. *St John of the Ladder*. 9<sup>th</sup> Day Memorial Service for Andrew Homish, together with prayers for Steven Susko.

Wednesday, April 17, **9:00 a.m.** – (**Morning**) Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts at **St Basil's, Lord Ave, Simpson**

Wednesday, April 17, 6:30 p.m. – Great Canon, with the Life of St Mary of Egypt

Thursday, April 18 & Friday, April 19 – **No Services**. *Fr John is out of town.*

Saturday, April 20, 6:30 p.m. – Great Vespers, followed by Prayers for Confessions

Sunday, April 21, 9:30 a.m. – Divine Liturgy of St Basil the Great. *St Mary of Egypt.*

*Coffee Hour is offered by:*

April 14: Susan Schlasta & Millie Telep

\*April 21: Millie Telep & Mat. Alexandra

\*April 28: (*Palm Sunday*) Mat. Dolores & Marilyn Petorak

\**may need to swap these days*

May 5: *Great & Holy Pascha*

May 12: Ruthie Lasichak & Roxanne Neutts

May 19: Vickie Kravitsky & Charette Radionoff

## Hymns of the Day

*Sunday Troparion (Tone 4)*

When the women disciples of the Lord / learned from the angel the joyous message of Thy Resurrection, / they cast away the ancestral curse / and elatedly told the apostles: "Death is overthrown! / Christ God is risen, // granting the world great mercy!"

*For St John of the Ladder (Tone 1)*

O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body, / you were a wonderworker, O our God-bearing Father John. / You received heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil, and prayer, / healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to thee by faith. / Glory to Him Who gave thee strength! / Glory to Him Who granted thee a crown! // Glory to Him Who grants healing to all!

*Sunday Kontakion (Tone 4)*

My Savior and Redeemer / as God rose from the tomb and delivered the earth-born from their chains. / He has shattered the gates of hell, / and as Master, // He has risen on the third day!

*Glory ...*

*For St John of the Ladder (Tone 4)*

The Lord truly set thee on the heights of abstinence, / to be a guiding star, showing the way to the universe, // O our father and teacher John.

*Now & ever ...*

*For the Mother of God (Tone 6)*

Steadfast protectress of Christians, / constant advocate before the Creator; / despise not the entreating cries of us sinners, / but in your goodness come speedily to help us who call on you in faith. / Hasten to hear our petition and to intercede for us, O Theotokos, // for you always protect those who honor you!

## Donations

- \$50 was offered in loving memory of Steven Susko, by his family.
- \$50 was offered for Paschal Flowers & Candles, in loving memory of Alex & Elizabeth Hockin, from their families.
- \$500 was offered in loving memory of Andrew Homish, by David Homish and the Homish family.

## Today's Scripture

### *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 9:17-31*

*At that time,* a man came to Jesus, kneeling down and saying unto him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And Jesus answered him, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him; and when the spirit saw Jesus, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And 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!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when Jesus had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And Jesus said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting."

They went out from there and passed through Galilee. And Jesus would not have any one know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and after he is killed, he will rise on the third day."

## Announcements

It is with great sadness but hope in the resurrection that we share with you that **Steven Susko**, brother of John Susko, Sonya Bollinger, and Stephanie Rogowski, reposed in the Lord on Wednesday, April 10, 2024. We offer our condolences to John, Sonya, and Stephanie; along with their entire family. Please keep them in your God-pleasing prayers. *May Steven's memory be eternal!*

### In your prayers... (please see prior bulletins for mailing addresses)

*The Newly-Departed:* Apr. Herman Schick (March 16). Apr. Anthony Karbo (March 19). Andrew Homish (March 26). Edward Hojnicky (April 4). William Hummer (April 6).

Please especially pray for: The Troutman family (Doreen & Harry, along with John Meholic) who lost their home to fire. Fr Gregory White, of Holy Resurrection in Wilkes-Barre, recovering from a heart attack. Dn. Gregory LoBalbo, of St Nicholas in Bethlehem.

*Those who are ill or recovering from illness or injury:* Fr Michael Evans, Fr Joseph Chupek, Fr Peter Telencio, Pdn. Gabriel Petorak, Gregory Hansen, Olga Krutz, Maryanne Krisa, Michael Krisa, Barbara Mosley, Mary Ann Serafini, Alexis Meholic, James Detro.

*Those who are alone or confined:* Eileen Dance, John Drutarosky, Theresa Krenitsky, Nicholas Mattise, Barbara Palubniak, Peggy Petrilak, Peter Senio, Jerry & Marilyn Soroka, Paul Kostiak, Dolores Brophy, Paul & Barbara Mosley, Adam & Mary Ann Serafini.

*Those who grieve for their loved ones:* For Andrew: David, Marlene, Cathy, & Debbie. For Edward: Karen, Stephanie, Fr. Timothy, Ana, Leah. For William: Mat. Alexandra, Fr. John, Harold. For Steven: John, Sonya, Stephanie.