

St. John Chrysostom, Col's, OH Parish Weekly Schedule

Sunday April 2
5th Sunday of the Great Fast; St. Mary of Egypt

9:30am Divine Liturgy
For the Faithful

11:15a Children's ECF

~ Coffee and refreshments will be served in the parish hall following the services. Everyone is welcome!

Mon. April 3 9a-1p Office Hours

Wed April 5 9a-1p Office Hours

10a 1st Friday Preparations

7pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
+Rev. Robert Barter by Anonymous

Thu April 6 9a-1p Office Hours

10a 1st Friday Preparations

Fri April 7 9a-1p Office Hours

10a 1st Friday Preparations

4p-6p 1st Friday sale

7pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
+Rev. Al Nanko by John Czynnik

Sat April 8 Lazarus Saturday

9am Divine Liturgy
For the health of Don Krofcheck by Tom Marco and Myroslava Mudrak

**Immediately following Divine Liturgy –
Everyone is needed to clean and decorate
church;**

11a-1p In Hall Pascha Foods Sale; Prepare palms and pussy willows for Sunday; stuff eggs for children's Egg Hunt on Sunday

Sunday April 9

Flowery Sunday

9:30am Divine Liturgy
For the Faithful



St. Barbara, Dayton, OH Monthly Schedule

Saturday April 1
5th Sunday of the Great Fast; St. Mary of Egypt

4pm Divine Liturgy of St. Basil
For the Faithful

~ Coffee and refreshments will be served in the parish hall following the services. Everyone is welcome!

Wednesday April 5

6pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Saturday April 8
Lazarus Saturday; Flowery Sunday

4pm Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom
For the Faithful

~ Coffee and refreshments will be served in the parish hall following the services. Everyone is welcome!

**See Bulletin Insert for Holy Week
and Pascha Schedules for both
St. John Chrysostom, Columbus
and St. Barbara, Dayton**

Thank You!

A big *Thank You!* to the two parishioners who took it upon themselves to clean up the garden areas in front of the hall and gather the loose twigs and sticks into piles around the church. It is greatly appreciated.

Reminders

1. Presanctified Liturgy on **Wednesday** is IN **DAYTON @ 6:00pm**
2. Presanctified Liturgy on **Friday** is IN **COLUMBUS @ 7:00pm**
3. **Vigil at the Tomb** – There is a sign up sheet on the table in the church narthex the Vigil at the Tomb beginning following the services on Good Friday. More than one person or family may sign up for a one hour spot (or more), let us make sure every hour is filled to honor Christ when he asked of His disciples, "...will you watch one hour with Me?"
4. Volunteers are needed to help prepare for the 1st First Friday Sale of 2017 this Friday, April 7th. We were mentioned in last Wednesday's Food Section of the Columbus Dispatch for our pirohis, so we are hoping for a big customer turnout! Please speak with Rose Ann Jirles today if you can help on Wednesday, Thursday (*really need help*) or Friday. You may also call her at 614-296-4289 or email her at jirles@att.net.
5. We need lots of volunteers to help clean and decorate the church for Pascha following the

9am Divine Liturgy this Saturday, April 8th. We also need a few people in the hall to help prepare the palms and pussy willows and stuff the eggs for the Children's Egg Hunt on Sunday April 9th.

6. The Easter Foods Sale is Saturday, April 8th from 11am until 1pm.
7. Children's Easter Egg Hunt next Sunday following Divine Liturgy

Eastern Christian Formation

Children's ECF Class Schedule:
April 2 & 23, May 7 & 21



This is a reminder from me to all members of St. John Chrysostom and St. Barbara.

One of the duties of a priest and Pastor is the bringing of the Holy Eucharist to those who may be unable to attend the Divine Liturgy when it is offered as well as praying with and blessing those who may be ill. The illness does not have to be a dire one, even something like recovering from a surgery or a chronic illness that may be just leaving you feeling weak. Please do not think that it is a bother for me to come visit and bring Christ to you or pray with you for healing, this is one of things I do enjoy doing as it gives me a chance to get to know you on a one to one basis.

If you are in this situation, please call the office (614-882-7578) or my cell (330-631-5045) and I will gladly come and bring you the Holy Eucharist and visit with you for awhile.

I would like to schedule these visits during the week to fit everyone's schedules and so

that I may be in the hall following Divine Liturgy on Sundays with the entire parish. I would not mind scheduling this as a regular weekly or bi-weekly visit, if that is what you would like.

May the rest of your journey through Great Lent be filled with God's Grace and know that you are always in my prayers.

~ Fr. Bob

Volunteer Schedules

Collection Counting

April 2 Kathy Krofcheck
 April 9 Jerry Stasek
 April 16 Office
 April 23 Mark Frye
 April 30 Alex Rakowsky

Church Cleaning

April 8 ALL CLEAN
 April 22 John Clear/Keith Nissen

“When you make the sign of the cross on the forehead, arm yourself with a saintly boldness, and reinstall your soul in its old liberty; for you are not ignorant that the cross is a prize beyond all price.



Consider what is the price given for your ransom, and you will never more be slave to any man on earth. This reward and ransom is the cross. You should not then, carelessly make the sign on the forehead, but you should impress it upon your heart with the love of fervent faith. Nothing impure will dare to molest you on seeing the weapon, which overcomes all things.”

~ St. John Chrysostom

Fifth Sunday in Lent St Mary of Egypt

God's Hidden Saints

AS THE GREAT FAST draws to a close, we are presented with the story of St Mary of Egypt. Her *Life*, by St Sophronios, Patriarch of Jerusalem, is read on the Thursday of Repentance, along with the Great Canon of St Andrew of Crete. On the fifth and last Sunday in the Great Fast, Mary herself is commemorated. The story of her early dissolute life, her remarkable conversion, and the asceticism which characterized the rest of her days made her the classic model of repentance in both East and West.

The second figure in St Sophronios' *Life* stands in complete contrast to his principal subject. St Zossima (April 4) is described as a devout monk in an unnamed Palestinian monastery. While Mary lived a free-wheeling and undisciplined life before her conversion, Zossima had been raised in the monastery since his infancy. This practice was not uncommon before the modern age.

We are told in the *Life* that Zossima "... had been through the whole course of the ascetic life and in everything he adhered to the rule once given to him by his tutors concerning spiritual labors. He had even added much himself in his efforts to subject his flesh to the will of the spirit." Thus, while Mary was indulging her every carnal desire, satisfying her "insatiable desires and irrepressible passions" (as she described it), Zossima was learning to subject his passions to the spirit.

The *Life* insists that "he had not failed in his aim. He was so renowned for his spiritual life that many came to him from neighboring monasteries and some even from afar." Zossima, we are told, "never ceased studying the Divine Scriptures.... his sole aim being to sing of God and to practice the teaching of the Divine Scriptures."

Zossima's Dilemma

When Zossima, by then a hieromonk, had spent some 50 years in the monastery, he came to think that he had attained a certain level in the ascetic life beyond his fellows. He knew that he had not exhausted the spiritual life, but did not know where to go from here. "Is there a monk on earth who can be of use to me and show me a kind of asceticism that I have not accomplished? Is there any man to be found in the desert who has surpassed me?"

Was Zossima displaying pride? He was not self-satisfied with his achievements nor was he condescending to others less advanced than himself. He more resembled the young man whom Christ told to keep the Commandments and who replied, "I have kept all these things since my youth. What do I still lack?" (Mt 19:20) Zossima wanted to deepen his spiritual life but was frustrated that he could not find a

spiritual mentor who could help him progress. By way of response, an angel appeared to him and counseled him that there are always unknown struggles in the spiritual life greater than the challenges he had already faced. "That you may know how many other ways lead to salvation, leave your native land like the renowned patriarch Abraham and go to the monastery by the River Jordan." There he would eventually encounter, not a monk or even another man, but a woman whose witness renewed his spiritual life as well as the lives of



countless believers ever since. Zossima remained in his monastery and lived to be over 100. It would be his obedience to tell Mary's story to the world.

Zossima was not told to imitate Mary's radical asceticism but to recognize "how many other ways lead to salvation." In this his story resembles that attributed to St Anthony the Great, who lived in solitude in Egypt. "It was revealed to Father Anthony in the desert that there was one who was his equal in the city. He was a doctor by profession and whatever he had beyond his needs he gave to the poor, and every day he sang the Trisagion with the angels."

Ways Leading to Salvation Today

As the Great Fast draws to a close, we may feel that we have lived its call to prayer, fasting and almsgiving to the full. Yet there are in our midst others who, like St Mary of Egypt, call us by their example to examine the possibilities of

stretching our spiritual muscles further than we imagine possible.

Los Angeles attorney Tony Tolbert recalls how there was always room in his family home for someone down on their luck. This memory prompted him to move back into his parents' house and offer the use of his own fully furnished home for one year so a homeless family could regroup and move on with their lives. Felicia Dukes was living with three of her children in a single room at a family shelter, but her oldest son was over the age limit and could

not stay with them. The family was reunited due to Tolbert's stunning offer and could begin rebuilding their lives. "You don't have to be Bill Gates or Warren Buffet or Oprah," Tolbert said. "We can do it wherever we are, with whatever we have, and for me, I have a home that I can make available."

When Palm Beach physician Richard Lewis died, friends and colleagues gathered at a local mortuary to pay their respects. They were astonished when the doors opened to admit a group of physically and mentally disabled people who came in to join them. Unknown to anyone – including his own twin brother – Dr Lewis had been supporting six group homes in the area caring for the disabled.

Swedish tourists Annis Lindkvist and her sister Emma were visiting Edinburgh, Scotland when a chance meeting changed their lives. Jimmy Fraser, unemployed and homeless after his marriage failed was begging in the street when the women asked him for directions. They struck up an acquaintance and, ultimately a friendship. The women obtained a passport for Fraser and paid for his flights so that he could join their family for Christmas. The women took him sightseeing and to a hockey match as well as to Midnight Mass. "People promise you things all the time on the street," Fraser reflected, "but they never materialize ... Being homeless is cold, lonely and depressing and you get a lot of abuse from people. This was an incredible act of kindness!" The women are arranging a similar visit for Easter.

The extraordinary acts of these secular "Marys" bring to life the following words by the nineteenth century Russian saint, John of Kronstadt: "And God reveals His hidden saints so that some may emulate them and others have no excuse for not doing so. Provided they live a worthy life, both those who choose to dwell in the midst of noise and hubbub and those who

dwell in monasteries, mountains and caves can achieve salvation. Solely because of their faith in Him, God bestows great blessings on them. Hence those who because of their laziness have failed to attain salvation will have no excuse to offer on the day of judgment.

"If you love your neighbor, then all of heaven will love you. If you are united in spirit with your fellow creatures, then you will be united with God and all the company of heaven; if you are merciful to your neighbor, then God and all the angels and saints will be merciful to you. If you pray for others then all of heaven will intercede for you. The Lord our God is holy; be holy yourself also."

~ Office of Educational Services, Eparchy of Newton



Prayer List

For the sick in our parish families, please remember in your prayers:

The Priest Eugene Linowski	The Priest Msgr. John Cody
Ron Doctor	Julia Fedeczko
Charlene Grabner	Julie Fultz
Esther Imhoff	Ev Houston
Victor Lonzrick	Donald Krofcheck
Paul Mech	Joe Martin
John Oshinski	Mic O'Halloran
Maria Rakowsky	Michelle Pomales
Bernie Turanchik	Dennis Stinich

That the Lord God, for the glory of His name, visit his sick servants with His Holy Spirit and cure every illness and affliction, let us pray.

o Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, despondency, lust for power and idle talk.

But grant unto me, Thy servant, a spirit of chastity, humility, patience and love.

Yea, o Lord and King, grant me to see mine own faults and not to judge my brothers and sisters. For blessed art Thou unto ages of ages. Amen



Jennifer Boniface	Jack Hummel	Esther Imhoff
Donovan Koval	Rebecca Krofcheck	Rev. Eugene Linowski
Paul Mech	Matthew Mnich	Maria Morris
Bohdan Rakowsky	Ruth Turanchik	

Stephen & Jennifer Boniface
Celebrating 10 years crowned in Marriage

Bill & Margo Hospodar
Celebrating 47 years crowned in Marriage

Martin & Joan Hummel
Celebrating 7 years crowned in Marriage

Paul & Sharon Mech
Celebrating 33 years crowned in Marriage

Willard & Mildred Woryk
Celebrating 28 years crowned in Marriage

May God grant them all many Happy and Blessed Years!