



**St George the Great Martyr
Orthodox Church - Weekly Bulletin**

Sunday, March 17 2019

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SUNDAY: MARCH 17 TONE 1 First Sunday of Great Lent
Sunday of Orthodoxy Venerable Alexius, the Man of God

Tone 1 Troparion *(Resurrection)*

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, / while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, / Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, / granting life to the world. / The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life:/ “Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ! / Glory to Thy ^Kingdom!// Glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou who lovest of mankind!”

Tone 2 Troparion *(Sunday of Orthodoxy)*

We venerate Thy most pure image, O Good One; / and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ our God. / Of Thy good will Thou wast pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh / and deliver Thy creatures from bondage to the Enemy. / Therefore with thankfulness we cry aloud to Thee: / “Thou hast filled all with joy, O our Savior,//for Thou alone hast come to save the world.”

Tone 8 Kontakion *(from the Lenten Triodion)*

No one could describe the Word of the Father; / but when He took flesh from thee, O Theotokos, He accepted to be described, / and restored the fallen image to its former state by uniting it to divine beauty.// We confess and proclaim our salvation in words and images.

Procession—Troparion — Tone 1

O Lord, save Thy people, / and bless Thine inheritance. / Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / over their adversaries. / And by virtue of Thy Cross, / preserve Thy habitation.

John 1:43-51 (*Gospel*)

The following day Jesus wanted to go to Galilee, and He found Philip and said to him, “Follow Me.” Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, “We have found Him of whom Moses in the law, and also the prophets, wrote – Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph.” And Nathanael said to him, “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” Philip said to him, “Come and see.” Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, “Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit!” Nathanael said to Him, “How do You know me?” Jesus answered and said to him, “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you.” Nathanael answered and said to Him, “Rabbi, You are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!” Jesus answered and said to him, “Because I said to you, ‘I saw you under the fig tree,’ do you believe? You will see greater things than these.” And He said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.”

Annunciation to the Most Holy Theotokos

March 25th is the celebration of the Annunciation to the Theotokos. It is one of the twelve Great Feasts of the Church. When the Annunciation falls within the days of the Great Fast (as it does this year) we celebrate with a Vespereal Divine Liturgy in the evening, after our normal Lenten fasting. If you are preparing to receive the Eucharist, you should fast completely from no later than 12 pm. After the Liturgy, wine and fish is permitted.

ST. ERHRAIM'S PRAYER

The prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian is repeated many times during each service. It is a prayer of true repentance: it shows that we want to make a change in our lives. When we say our own prayers at home, we should add the Prayer of St. Ephrem during Lent.

O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power and idle talk.

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience and love to Thy servant.

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own sins, and not to judge my brother, for Thou art blessed unto ages of ages. Amen

The First Sunday of Lent

The First Sunday of Lent is called the Sunday of Orthodoxy. It is the day we celebrate the return of icons to the Churches. At one time in the history of the Church, the emperor and his followers tried to abolish the use of icons in the Church. They said that people were worshipping them as idols; they therefore tried to abolish all veneration of icons. A long controversy resulted and some faithful priests, monks and faithful people suffered and were persecuted for wanting to preserve the use of icons. Finally, a large Church council was called, and the leaders of the Church decided that the icons were an important part of our belief about Jesus Christ. They defined the right way to use icons, saying that the icon should be honored or venerated, but not worshipped as an idol in itself.

Calendar of Events – Starting today: March 17

Sunday	03/17	9:10am - Hours; 9:30am - Divine Liturgy Sunday of Orthodoxy—Procession
Monday	03/18	
Tuesday	03/19	
Wednesday	03/20	6:00pm - Presanctified Liturgy
Thursday	03/21	
Friday	03/22	6:00pm - Akathist
Saturday	03/23	Memorial Saturday 9:10am - Hours; 9:30am - Divine Liturgy 6:00pm - Great Vespers and Confessions
Sunday	03/24	9:10am - Hours; 9:30am - Divine Liturgy

Weekly announcements

- ◆ There are NO Office Hours all through Lent. Please call Father to schedule an appointment as needed.
- ◆ Lenten evening services begin at **6pm**. Presanctified Gifts Liturgy is celebrated on **Wednesday evenings** and we sing an Akathist to The Mother of God, on **Friday evenings**. We normally share a small **potluck meal and friendship after Presanctified services** at the hall.
- ◆ Next Saturday morning at 9:30am, is **Memorial Saturday**. Please make sure Dn George has an updated list of your departed. Our tradition is to share koliva after the service.
- ◆ **Next Monday, 3/25 is the Annunciation to the Theotokos. Vespers and Litya will be on Sunday, 3/24 at 6pm and Vespersal Divine Liturgy for the feast will be at 6pm on 3/25.**

Please keep our brothers and sisters in your prayers this week:

Living: Souraya, Alice, Basil, Christina, Eddie, Juan, Ruth, Nicholas, Dragosh, Sonia, Doreen, Peter, Denise, Traci and the child to be born of her. Matushka Joan, Michaela, Marius, Jordan, Nelly-Mary, Debrutu, Jerry, Gloria

Departed: ND Donald, ND Leonard