

# St Michael's Orthodox Church

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

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## March 16, 2025 – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Great Lent

*on which we remember St Gregory Palamas, defender of Hesychasm (the silent prayer of the heart)*

**PLEASE TAKE the LENT & PASCHA CALENDAR from the candle stand in addition to this bulletin.**  
**That calendar IS our Service Schedule, until Pascha.**  
**(It is two pages, for both March and April 2025.)**

*Coffee Hour is offered by: (all coffee hours are Lenten until Pascha)*

March 16: Millie Telep & \_\_\_\_\_ (need volunteer)

March 23: Mat. Dolores & Marilyn Petorak

March 30: Ruthie Lasichak & Roxanne Neutts

April 6: Vickie Kravitsky & Charette Radionoff

April 13 (*Palm Sunday*): Susan Schlasta & Deborah Bernosky

April 20: PASCHA

## Announcements

We need to have an extra **Parish Council Meeting this Tuesday**, March 18.

THANK YOU to everyone who has offered donations and prayers for our Flower Drive. So far, prayers have been offered **in memory of**: Henel & Nicholas Myshak, Olga & Andrew Grancey, Alex & Elizabeth Hockin, Rebecca and John Hanchak, and members of the Leschak and Keklock families. And **for the health of**: Camille Palese; George & Marilyn Petorak; Josh Petorak; and Rdr. Jon & Anna Marie Black. **If you still want to make an offering, please do so soon. You may place it in the collection basket, mail it to the Church address, or use our online DONATE button.**

## In your prayers

**The ill and the afflicted**: Fr. Daniel Donlick, Fr Gregory White, Pdn. Gabriel Petorak, Dn Geoffrey LoBalbo, Mat. Myra Kovalek, Gregory Hansen, Olga Krutz, Maryanne Krisa, Michael Krisa, Barbara Mosley, Mary Ann Serafini, Alexis Meholic, Tom Shaw, George Petorak, Sandy Gillott, Debbie Jadick, Susan Schlasta, Evan Kraky, Laura Piwowarski, Karen Abercia, Daniel Kitchura, Mark Klapatch, Gregory Klapatch, Jerry Soroka.

**Homebound**: John Drutarosky, Theresa Krenitsky, Barbara Palubniak, Peggy Petrilak, Nicholas Mattise, Jerry & Marilyn Soroka, Paul Kostiak, Dolores Brophy, Paul Mosley, Adam & Mary Ann Serafini, Florence Zielinsky.

**The newly-departed**: Archbishop Anastasios of Albania (1/25). Archpriest Paul Harrilchak (3/12). Priest Jonas Worsham (3/8). Karen (Dippel) Wisneski (1/26). Helen Meholic (1/27).

## Hymns of the Day

### *Resurrection (Tone 5)*

Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word, /  
co-eternal with the Father and the Spirit, / born for  
our salvation from the Virgin; / for He willed to be  
lifted up on the Cross in the flesh, / to endure death, /  
and to raise the dead // by His glorious Resurrection.

### *St Gregory Palamas (Tone 8)*

O light of Orthodoxy, teacher of the Church, its  
confirmation, / O ideal of monks and invincible  
champion of theologians, / O wonderworking Gregory,  
glory of Thessalonica and preacher of grace, // always  
intercede before the Lord that our souls may be saved!

### *St Gregory Palamas (Tone 8)*

Holy and divine instrument of wisdom, / joyful trumpet of  
theology, / together we sing thy praises, O God-inspired  
Gregory. / Since thou now standest before the Original Mind,  
guide our minds to Him, O Father, // so that we may sing to  
thee: "Rejoice, preacher of grace!"

### *2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent (Tone 4)*

Now is the time for action! / Judgment is at the doors! / So  
let us rise and fast, / offering alms with tears of compunction  
and crying: / "Our sins are more in number than the sands of  
the sea; / but forgive us, O Master of all, // so that we may  
receive the incorruptible crowns!"

## Today's Scripture

*Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3*

*Brethren:* To the Son, God says, "You, LORD, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the work of Your hands. They will perish, but You remain; and they will all grow old like a garment; like a cloak You will fold them up, and they will be changed. But You are the same, and Your years will not fail."

But to which of the angels has He ever said: "Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies Your footstool"? Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for those who will inherit salvation? Therefore we must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away. For if the word spoken through angels proved steadfast, and every transgression and disobedience received a just reward, how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him?

*2<sup>nd</sup> Epistle: Hebrews 7:26-8:2 (St. Gregory Palamas)*

*Brethren:* Such a High Priest was fitting for us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and has become higher than the heavens; who does not need daily, as those high priests, to offer up sacrifices, first for his own sins and then for the people's, for this He did once for all when He offered up Himself. For the law appoints as high priests men who have weakness, but the word of the oath, which came after the law, appoints the Son who has been perfected forever.

Now this is the main point of the things we are saying: We have such a High Priest, who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in the heavens, a Minister of the sanctuary and of the true tabernacle which the Lord erected, and not man.

*Gospel: Mark 2:1-12*

*At that time,* Jesus entered Capernaum and it was reported that he was at home. And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer room for them, not even about the door; and he was preaching the word to them. And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and when they had made an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic lay. And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "My son, your sins are forgiven."

Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, "Why does this man speak thus? It is a blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you question thus in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your pallet and walk? But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins'-he said to the paralytic-"I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home." And he rose, and immediately took up the pallet and went out before them all; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

*2<sup>nd</sup> Gospel: John 10:9-16 (St. Gregory Palamas)*

*Jesus said:* "I am the door; if any one enters by me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly. I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hireling and not a shepherd, whose own the sheep are not, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees; and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hireling and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd; I know my own and my own know me, as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep, that are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will heed my voice. So there shall be one flock, one shepherd."