

HOLY ANGELS BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH



April 6, 2025

5th Sunday of the Great Fast: St. Mary of Egypt

Our Father among the Saints Eutychius, Archbishop of Constantinople;
the falling asleep of our Father Methodius, Bishop and Teacher of the Slavs

April 6, 2025

Schedule of services for the week of April 7 - April 13

Wednesday, April 9

6:00 PM – Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Friday, April 11

6:00 PM – Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Saturday, April 12 – *Lazarus Saturday*

9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

4:00 PM – Confessions (*Last scheduled confessions before Pascha*)

5:00 PM – Great Vespers

Sunday, April 13 – *Flowery (Palm) Sunday; The Hieromartyr Artemon and his companions*

7:30 AM – Matins

9:00 AM – Divine Liturgy For all parishioners

“For the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Our Savior walked with his disciples and shared that his ministry’s height would come through a descent, becoming the servant of all in the baptism of his Cross. Are you open to giving your life as a servant of all as a priest, deacon, monk or nun?

**Contact the Vocations Office at 602-861-9778
or email: vocations@ephx.org**

Resources for Byzantine Catholic Families

Check out TheByzantineLife.com
for various resources to help families live a
Byzantine Life.

Don’t Wait Until it is too late!

Start arranging your schedule today so that you can be present for as many of the Lenten services as possible. come to what services you can and stay as long as you can.

Put God first.

O Physician of Souls and Bodies, we pray for:

Pope Francis, Barbara Alexander, Maria Amaro, Fr. Dcn Craig Anderson, Janice Andre, Peter Andre, Fr. Christopher Andrews, Harry and Virginia Bowden, Julia Camberos, Kim Camplisson, Patrick Carmack, Fr. Andriy Chirovsky, Dennis Cline, Amy Cohn, Vivian Corr, Maria Cruz, Joe Danscuk, Fr. Daniel Dozier, Gabriel Espedal, Ana Fandrey, Karen Foto, Christine Galgano, Janet Greenwell, Deborah Harris, Michael Havens, Martha Hill, Doris Huber, Rebecca Huber, Gavin Hudspeth, Melissa Hunter, Taylor Kessler, Jacob, Jamie Kohanyj, Pauli Martin, Mila Mina, Maryann Nagrant, Julia Ohnysty, Genevieve Paquette, Sylvia Pasnak, Fr. Lee Perry, Anthony Porrello, Nina Porrello, Fr. Robert Rankin, Margaret Raya, Michael Raya Jr. Rosemary Raya, Maha Salazar, Gretchen Sharpe, Karen Simonich, Debbie Stark, Tava Tomc, Hong Truong, Pat Walsh, Maria Zhukova, Mark Zimmer, Gianna, Nicole, Subdcn Eddie and his wife Viane.

Get your paschal foods now!

Don’t wait till the last minute when the Ethnic Food freezers are almost empty. Buy your paschal foods now.

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR GREAT AND HOLY WEEK

APRIL 14 – APRIL 20, 2025

MONDAY, APRIL 14 - GREAT AND HOLY MONDAY

6:00 PM – Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

TUESDAY, APRIL 15 – GREAT AND HOLY TUESDAY

6:00 PM – Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16 – GREAT AND HOLY WEDNESDAY

9:00 AM – Bridegroom Matins and Holy Mystery of Anointing

6:00 PM – Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts & Holy Mystery of Anointing

THURSDAY, APRIL 17 – GREAT AND HOLY THURSDAY

9:00 AM – Matins of Betrayal

6:00 PM – Vespers Divine Liturgy of St Basil

FRIDAY, APRIL 18 – GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY

9:00 AM – Matins of the Passion (12 Gospels)

6:00 PM – Vespers of the Passion and Procession with the Shroud

SATURDAY, APRIL 19 – GREAT AND HOLY SATURDAY

9:00 AM – Jerusalem Matins

5:00 PM – Vigil Divine Liturgy followed by Blessing of Baskets

SUNDAY, APRIL 20 – THE GLORIOUS FEAST OF PASCHA

THE RESURRECTION IN THE FLESH OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

9:00 AM – Paschal Matins & Divine Liturgy followed by Blessing of Baskets

PLEASE NOTE: (1) One of the precepts of the Church which binds all faithful is that they receive the Holy Eucharist at least once a year during the Paschal Season. In order to receive worthily and not unto condemnation, the faithful are also required to avail themselves of the Holy Mystery of Repentance before receiving Holy Eucharist. The Holy Mystery of Repentance can be received before or after any of the services throughout Great and Holy Week or by appointment. (2) According to the particular law of the Byzantine Catholic Church, Great and Holy Friday is a day of **strict fast**. This means that no meat, meat products, dairy or alcohol may be consumed on this day (abstinence) and the size of the main meal of the day should be less than the other two meals combined (fasting). For those following the full prescriptions of the Lenten Triodion, these rules apply throughout Great and Holy Week. (3) The proper time for the Blessing of the Paschal Foods is immediately after the Divine Liturgy on Pascha. The foods are then taken home to be eaten by family and friends, thus extending the Feast of Pascha into our homes and the world.

St. Mary of Egypt

St. Mary of Egypt 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 had been 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 actually 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 St. Sophronius, Patriarch of Jerusalem and is read during Great Lent along with the Great Canon of St. Andrew.

— OrthodoxWiki.org

Lenten Almsgiving

Every Fast Season, we collect funds to help a worthy designated Non-Profit. This Great Fast we are again collecting for **Mission Society of the Mother of God of Boryonavo**.

Some might remember learning about their mission at Father Chris Zuger's talk in fall of 2023 when he gave a Philip's Fast Retreat here. Collected funds go to the Eparchy of Mukachevo in Western Ukraine, the **Caritas (Catholic Charities)** Office. They assist with rent, food, fuel, and clothing for displaced peoples and give psychological and spiritual support to refugee families and those families of fallen soldiers. The Mission Society is all volunteer and all monies are sent to Ukraine with no overhead.



Please be generous. Skip a movie or other treat and donate those dollars.

Drive ends in next weeks on
Flowery Sunday.

Counters Needed!

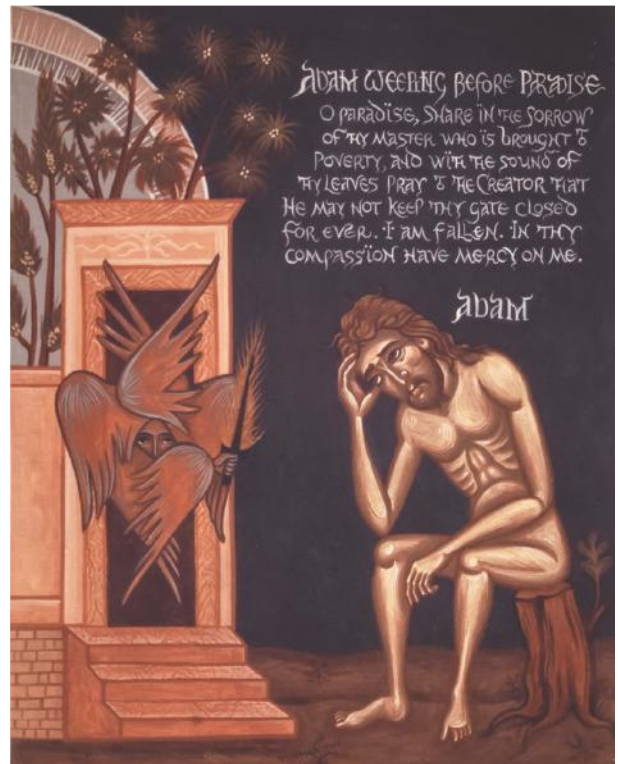
We need at least 2 more volunteers to help count the Sunday collections. If you are interested, please see Bob Greenwell to be put on the schedule.

Open to me the doors of repentance, O Giver of Life; for my soul rises early to pray toward Thy holy Temple, bearing the temple of my body all defiled. But in Thy compassion, purify me by the lovingkindness of Thy mercy.

LAST LENTEN MEAL & SPIRITUAL TALK:

Please join us this coming Friday for the **last SOUP & BREAD** night in the hall after the Presanctified Liturgy.

There is a sign up list in the hall to bring bread or provide soup that evening. Please see Susan Deane for details. There is also need for volunteers to *setup* and *clean up*.



Adam weeping before Paradise:

O Paradise, share in the sorrow of thy master who is brought to poverty, and with the sound of thy leaves pray to the Creator that He may not keep thy gate closed forever. I am fallen. In Thy compassion have mercy on me!

ASK FATHER: 3 QUESTIONS / 3 ANSWERS

Q. How does Confession help prepare me to receive Holy Anointing and Holy Communion?

A. Each Sacrament in the Church has its own unique function in bringing about the healing and restoration of man, who, as we read in Genesis, was tricked by the serpent and became sick and subject to death having been infected with the poisonous venom of sin. According to the Fathers, Confession is the first step on the road to healing, for through Confession man can spit out the devil's deadly poison and purge himself from sin. Then once the poison has been expelled, the spiritual and physical wounds left by the bite can be healed through the anointing of Holy Anointing. And through the reception of the Body and Blood of Christ, the Sustenance of eternal life, man can regain his strength and return to health of body and soul. Yet, just as anointing a snake bite with oil and feeding a man healthy food, will not bring about healing unless the poison is first removed, so too the reception of Holy Anointing and Holy Communion will not profit a man unless he first purges himself of sin through Holy Confession.

Q. How often should I confess my sins?

A. One should confess one's sins and spit out the devil's poison whenever one is spiritually bitten to the point that one's health is in danger. One may reach this point from a single deadly bite, such as murder, adultery, fornication, or some other very serious sin, or from a series of lesser bites, such as anger, over-eating, judging others, or lustful thoughts. As a general rule, the frequency of one's confession should depend on the amount of poison with which one has been infected.

Q. Is it necessary to confess every time I receive Holy Communion?

A. If one receives from the Holy Chalice infrequently, say once or twice a year, then yes, one should go to confession each time before receiving Holy Communion. However, for the frequent communicant, one who receives Holy Communion every Sunday, it is not necessary to confess one's sins before each time one receives, that is, unless one has fallen into a serious sin. In such cases, one should not approach the Chalice until one has first confessed one's sin and fulfilled the advice or penance of one's father confessor. Finally, although it is not necessary for the frequent communicant to confess his or her sins each time he or she approaches the Chalice, confession should be made at least during each of the four fasting seasons, lest the poison received over time through small sins lead to the same spiritual death as that which comes through a single deadly bite.

- Watch your thoughts,
they become words.
- Watch your words,
they become actions.
- Watch your actions,
they become habits.
- Watch your habits,
they become your character.
- Watch your character,
it becomes your destiny.

WISDOM FROM THE FATHERS

Every day you provide your bodies with good to keep them from failing. In the same way your good works should be the daily nourishment of your hearts. Your bodies are fed with food and your spirits with good works. You aren't to deny your soul, which is going to live forever, what you grant to your body, which is going to die.

– *St. Gregory the Great*

- God won't ask what kind of car you drove, he'll ask how many people you drove who didn't have transportation.
- God won't ask the square footage of your house, he'll ask how many people you welcomed into your home.
- God won't ask about the clothes you had in your closet, he'll ask how many you helped to clothe.
- God won't ask what your highest salary was, he'll ask if you compromised your character to obtain it.
- God won't ask what your job title was, he'll ask if you performed your job to the best of your ability.
- God won't ask how many friends you had, he'll ask how many people to whom you were a friend.
- God won't ask in what neighborhood you lived, he'll ask how you treated your neighbors.
- God won't ask about the color of your skin, he'll ask about the content of your character.
- God won't ask why it took you so long to seek salvation, he'll lovingly take you to your mansion in heaven.

All those requesting the Holy Mysteries of Initiation or Crowning must be registered parishioners for at least six months, attend Liturgical Services on Sunday and days of Precept, and support the work and growth of the parish.

Mysteries of Initiation: Requires Pre-Baptismal instruction. The Mysteries of Initiation are celebrated on Saturdays or Sundays within the Divine Liturgy. At least one sponsor must be a Catholic and the other a practicing Christian. Both sponsors must present documentation that they are in good standing with their church.

Mystery of Crowning: Requires Pre-Marriage instruction. Consult Fr. James at least six months prior to making wedding plans. Marriages cannot be celebrated during the fasting seasons of the Church.

Funerals: Contact Fr. James.

Liturgy, Panahida and Eternal Lamp Intentions: Schedule with Fr. James. It is "holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead" (2 Maccabees 12:46) especially on the 9th and 40th days, and on the anniversary of their falling asleep in the Lord.

Holy Mystery of Confession: Confession is available Saturdays from 4:00 - 4:45 PM or by appointment.

Sick calls / Holy Anointing / Hospital Visits: Requested by parishioner, friend, or family.

Call anytime in case of an emergency.

Please submit all Bulletin announcements to Fr. James for approval by Wednesday of each week.

Last Sunday's bulletin is on our website and our Facebook page. There are several weeks of printed bulletins available in the narthex.

Office Hours: Fr. James is available for phone conversations Tuesday - Friday: 10AM - 5PM or call the office to schedule an in person meeting.

Holy Angels Byzantine Catholic Church

2235 Galahad Road

San Diego, CA 92123-3931

Fr. James Bankston, Administrator

Fr. Deacon Jonathan A. Deane

Main: 858-277-2511

Social Hall/Ethnic Foods: 858-268-3458

Email: PastorHASD@gmail.com

Website: www.HolyAngelsSanDiego.com

Facebook: [Holy Angels Byzantine Catholic Church](https://www.facebook.com/HolyAngelsByzantineCatholicChurch)

Parish Advisory Council:

Bruce Bitsko, Nelson Chase, Fr. Deacon Jonathan Deane, Joel Espedal, Bob Greenwell,
Janet Greenwell, Daniele Laman, Olena Bankston

Finance Council:

Al Aparicio, Fr. Deacon Jonathan Deane, Bob Greenwell, Paul Washicko

Bless, O Lord, the worship and Stewardship of your faithful servants:

Adult tithes: \$1050.00; Home Missions Collection: \$200.00; Loose Change: \$667.10;

Non-Parishioners: \$70.00; Church Usage: \$400.00; **Total: \$2387.10**

Vocation Icon: This week: Chase Family
Next week: Chip Stark

THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF PHOENIX

SUBSCRIBES TO THE

Charter for the Protection of Children and Young People

adopted by the United States Catholic Conference of Bishops.

The Eparchy, within all its parishes, institutions and programs, is committed to assuring a safe environment in ministry for its children and vulnerable adults that conforms to the Charter for Protection of Children and Young People.

For additional information regarding the eparchial Safe Environment Program or to report any incidents of concerns, please contact:

Fr. Dcn. Michael Hanafin

Victim Assistance Coordinator

Cell: (480) 307-5182 -- email: vac@ephx.org

- or -

Sbdcn. Paul F. Kilroy

Safe Environment Program Coordinator

Office: (602) 861-9778 ext. 205 -- Cell: (480) 745-0316

email: sbdcnkilroy@ephx.org