

St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America Diocese of Los Angeles and the West

Mailing Address: 4718 Horsehaven, Post Falls, Idaho 83854-6668 - Church Phone: (208) 777-1128

Fr. Basil Caldaroni: (208) 818-2646 – Email: frbasil@caldaroni.net

Church Website: <http://www.stjohnorthodox.org>

Send announcements for the bulletin and/or website to bulletin@stjohnorthodox.org

Send announcements to be emailed to all members to announce@stjohnorthodox.org

Veneration of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross

March 27, 2011



The commemoration and ceremonies of the Third Sunday of Lent are closely parallel to the feasts of the Veneration of the Cross (September 14) and the Procession of the Cross (August 1). Not only does the Sunday of the Holy Cross prepare us for commemoration of the Crucifixion, but it also reminds us that the whole of Lent is a period when we are crucified with Christ.

As we have “crucified the flesh with its passions and desires” (Galatians 5:24), and will have mortified ourselves during these forty days of the Fast, the precious and life-giving Cross is now placed before us to refresh our souls and encourage us who may be filled with a sense of bitterness, resentment, and depression. The Cross reminds us of the Passion of our Lord, and by presenting to us His example, it encourages us to follow Him in struggle and sacrifice, being refreshed, assured, and comforted. In other words, we must experience what the Lord experienced during His Passion - being humiliated in a shameful manner. The Cross teaches us that through pain and suffering we shall see the fulfillment of our hopes: the heavenly inheritance and eternal glory.

As they who walk on a long and hard way and are bowed down by fatigue find great relief and strengthening under the cool shade of a leafy tree, so do we find comfort, refreshment, and rejuvenation under the Life-giving Cross, which our Fathers “planted” on this Sunday. Thus, we are fortified and enabled to continue our Lenten journey with a light step, rested and encouraged.

Or, as before the arrival of the king, his royal standards, trophies, and emblems of victory come in procession and then the king himself appears in a triumphant parade, jubilant and rejoicing in his victory and filling those under him with joy, so does the Feast of the Cross precede the coming of our King, Jesus Christ. It warns us that He is about to proclaim His victory over death and appear to us in the glory of the Resurrection. His Life-Giving Cross is His royal scepter, and by venerating it we are filled with joy, rendering Him glory. Therefore, we become ready to welcome our King, who shall manifestly triumph over the powers of darkness.

The present feast has been placed in the middle of Great Lent for another reason. The Fast can be likened to the spring of Marah whose waters the children of Israel encountered in the wilderness. This water was undrinkable due to its bitterness but became sweet when the Holy Prophet Moses dipped the wood into its depth. Likewise, the wood of the Cross sweetens the days of the Fast, which are bitter and

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES & EVENTS

Sunday, March 27 – Holy Cross - Orthros 9:00am; Divine Liturgy 10:00am; Sunday School following Liturgy; Lunch following

Monday, March 28 – Great Compline 6:00pm followed by Study Group at Townsend's

Wednesday, March 30 – Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts followed by Lenten Meal 7:00pm

Friday, April 1 – Spritual Circle 9:30am; Little Compline with Akathist 7:00pm

Saturday, April 2 – Great Vespers 6:00pm

Sunday, April 3 – Commemoration of John Climacus, Author of “The Ladder” - Orthros 9:00am; Divine Liturgy 10:00am; Sunday School following Liturgy; Lunch following

EPISTLE READERS

Mar 27- Joy Corey

April 3 - Sbdcn. Barnabas Schaefer

April 10 - Tabitha Townsend

April 17 - Sbdcn. Mark (Eric) Townsend

CHURCH CLEANING

Week of Mar 28 – Schaefer

Week of April 4 - Goolsby

Week of April 11 - Townsends

Week of April 18 - Fellegy/Holman

LUNCHEON & CLEANUP

Mar 27 - Team 3 - Garbinski, Tourous, Jenkin, Weddle, Ayres, O'Daniel

April 3- Team 4 - Townsend, Rush, Caldaroni, Sanman, Handeen, Stillman

April 10 - Team 5 - Poland, Schaefer, Gallatin, Nolan, Johnson

April 17 - Team 1 - Tsalaky, Ayoub D., Ayoub M., Vlahos

PRAYERS FOR THE LIVING:

Paul Truebenbach, Bill Brisbane (Nanette's father), Ken Ayoub, Mike Kerr, Katrina (Mike Kerr's wife), Tonja (Lavonne Ayoub's sister), Kh. Cindy Horton, Ben Horton, Bonnie (Jenny Dancy's Mother), Susan and parents Coo and Lou (friends of Jenny Dancy), Bill & Karen (Thomas Craffey's parents), Elena & Vitaly w/reposed son Stefan (friends of Teccas), Russell & Samantha & newly reposed infant (Chelsea Stillman's brother & wife & baby), Teri Hundt (sister of Tiffany Gallatin), Robin and her unborn baby girl (Joanna Townsend's cousin), Inna Epling, Jim Ayres, Moses Kemper, Pam, Susan, Marc (Jenny Dancy's sister-in-law and friends), Crystal, Riley, Emily, Boston, Caleb, Anders and Cindy (family of Bartimaeus), Mike Allen, Tammy (cousin of Nanette Sanman), Patricia, David, Bonnie, Stori, Brooke and Endin (family of Trudy Olinger), Jacob Hunter (Dan Monaghan's cousin in Afghanistan), Pamela Olsen, Mat. Michaela Fenn (wife of Fr. Mark Fenn), Fr. Michael Lewis, Jill Foss (friend of Jeane Wood), Nancy Corey (Ed Corey's sister), Moses Kemper, Jamie Landers, Nikolai Kupcow, Lynda (Michelle Fellegy's mother), George Kucera.

PRAYERS FOR THE DEPARTED:

Jack (Dianne Nolan's father), Dominic & Pasquale (brother and brother-in-law of Lucille Horton), Milic Milojevic, Wilma Young (Steve Wood's mother), Marvel (mother of Mary Jo Neyman), Michelle Bonasera (friend of John Charles), Gene (Sbdcn. Barnabas' Uncle)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bake Sale Update: We need your help. On Thursday, April 14th, beginning at 9:00 a.m., the ladies of St. John's will be packaging the baked goods for distribution on Saturday, April 16th. We need as many hands as possible to help package on the 14th. If you are able to arrange your schedule so as to be able to come out and help, it would be much appreciated. Please let Joy Corey know if you intend on being there. Also, anything you can do to get the bake sale flyers out to the public would be appreciated. We need to sell all the baked goods, especially since we have cut in half the number of choices of baked items this year. Giving them as gifts for Pascha or using them as hostess gifts when you go to someone's home for dinner is a great way to advertise St. John's wonderful baked goodies. These people might want to order them in the future as a result. If you have not been able to help bake because of work and time restrictions, then purchasing an item or two is a great way to help participate and to feel that you have contributed to the success of the bake sale. God bless everyone and many thanks for your contributions of time, money, supplies, energy and love.

St. Herman of Alaska Scholarship Fund - St. Herman's Scholarship Fund has been established to help students who wish to pursue, or are currently pursuing, full time study in an institution of learning (two or four year college or university) or a vocational institute. Each year one or more students, depending upon funding in the scholarship account, will be selected to receive a stipend. In order to be eligible for the stipend, a student should be a member in good standing at St. John the Baptist Orthodox Church in Post Falls or at Christ the Savior Orthodox Church in Spokane or at Holy Myrrhbearers Orthodox Church in Bonners Ferry, and a full time student at a high school or college with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 on a 4 point scale. Academic excellence, financial need and church/community service will be taken into account in the awarding of the stipend. Please see Fr. Basil or Barbara Garbinski for an application form. June 13th is the deadline.

Welcome Baby Handeen! Glory to God and congratulations to Holly, Bjorn, and Lajla (now big sister) Handeen who have a brand new baby girl, Vanja Valkyrie Handeen (VAHN-ya means "God is gracious"). She arrived at 10:50am on March 18th, is 20" long, and weighs 7 lbs. 3 oz. May God grant the Handeens and sweet Vanja many, many blessed years!

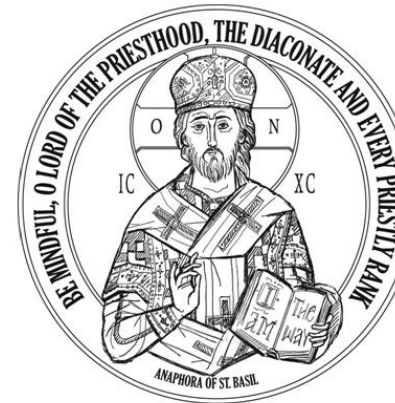
Bishop JOSEPH to Consecrate Holy Myrrhbearing Women Mission Saturday May 7th

Beloved in Christ ~ Christ is in our midst! All our dear brothers and sisters in Christ are invited to join our joyful celebration of the consecration of the Holy Myrrhbearing Women Temple by Bishop JOSEPH on Saturday, May 7th. In addition, there will be a Consecration Banquet following at 1:00pm at Trinity Lutheran Church in Bonners Ferry, (following the Hierarchical Liturgy with Bishop JOSEPH). The committee would like to announce the sale of banquet tickets at the cost of \$15.00 each. There is no separate cost for children, but please contact me if financial assistance is needed for your family. We want everyone to share the joy of the festal banquet without financial considerations preventing them from doing so. The entree for the banquet will be chicken. Please contact Gayle Goodsen to order tickets and/or with any questions regarding the banquet. She can be reached at 208-267-1915 or by email at gaylegoodsen@yahoo.com. Prepayment is required (tickets will either be sent to you or will be waiting for you at the door) and the deadline is Sunday, April 17th (Palm Sunday). Please feel free to share this information, as we'd love to have all our beloved brethren attend! All of My Love in Christ, Fr. Gregory+

often grievous because of our tears. Yet Christ comforts us during our course through the desert of the Fast, guiding and leading us by His hand to the spiritual Jerusalem on high by the power of His Resurrection.

Moreover, as the Holy Cross is called the Tree of Life, it is placed in the middle of the Fast, as the ancient tree of life was placed in the middle of the garden of Eden. By this, our Holy Fathers wished to remind us of Adam's gluttony as well as the fact that through this Tree has condemnation been abolished. Therefore, if we bind ourselves to the Holy Cross, we shall never encounter death but shall inherit life eternal.

ANNOUNCEMENTS



CREATIVE ARTS FESTIVAL WORKSHOPS AT ST. JOHN

Our Bishop JOSEPH, as well as our priest Fr. Basil have requested that ALL children in the parish participate in the Creative Arts Festival this year, with the theme, **"BE MINDFUL, O LORD OF THE PRIESTHOOD, THE DIACONATE AND EVERY PRIESTLY RANK"** from the Anaphora of St. Basil.

To this end, we have scheduled **Art and Writing/Poetry Workshops for four Sundays**, after lunch from Noon to 1:30pm. Please make every effort to have your children participate in this blessed activity.

Please be discussing the topic with your children, and ask what they've been learning in Sunday School about it.

WORKSHOP SCHEDULE:

- March 13 - Art Workshop
- March 20 - Art Workshop (finishing projects)
- March 27 - Writing + Poetry Workshop
- April 3 - Writing + Poetry Workshop

Children are **WELCOME** to work on entries at home and bring in. **Due Date to St. John is April 10th.** (Entries must be mounted and post-marked by April 15th.)

Sisterhood Lenten Basket

During Lent the Sisterhood will have a basket on the lunch table for donations to be given to the Convent of St. Thekla at the Antiochian Village. This is a National Sisterhood project. The funds collected will be used to build a Convent on the grounds of the Antiochian Village. Money will be collected through Palm Sunday. Please be generous in donating to this worthwhile project.

APOLYTIKION FOR THE HOLY CROSS IN TONE ONE

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance, granting to Thy people victory over all their enemies, and by the power of Thy Cross preserving Thy commonwealth.

KONTAKION FOR THE ANNUNCIATION (AND GREAT LENT) IN TONE EIGHT

To thee, the Champion Leader, do I offer thanks of victory, O Theotokos, thou who hast delivered me from terror; but as thou that hast that power invincible, O Theotokos, thou alone can set me free: from all forms of danger free me and deliver me, that I may cry unto thee: "Hail, O Bride without Bridegroom."

THE ANTI-TRISAGION HYMN

Before Thy Cross we bow down in worship, Master, and we glorify Thy Holy Resurrection. (THRICE)

THE EPISTLE

O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance. To Thee, O Lord, have I cried, O my God.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (4:14-5:6)

Brethren, since we have a High Priest, Who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we have not a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but One Who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is bound to offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. And one does not take the honor upon himself, but he is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not exalt Himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by Him Who said to Him, "Thou art My Son, today I have begotten Thee"; as He says also in another place, "Thou art a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek."

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (8:34-9:1)

The Lord said, "If any man would come after Me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for My sake and the Gospel's will save it. For what does it profit a man, to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? For what can a man give in return for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of man also be ashamed, when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels." And Jesus said to them, "Truly, I say to you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Kingdom of God come with power."

INLAND NORTHWEST TEEN RETREAT



With Fr. Andrew Welzig

SATURDAY ~ APRIL 9, 2011

9 AM - 8 PM

Come join us - FREE!

9:00 AM	Orthros	Morning Prayers
10:30 AM	Session 1	The Glory of the Lenten
NOON	Lunch	Lenten Taco Bar
1:30 PM	Session 2	Lenten Journey and Life
3:00 PM	Break	A Time for reflection
3:30 PM	Session 3	Lenten Journey and You
5:00 PM	Break	Snacks/ Relaxation/
6:00 PM	Vespers	Evening Service
7:00 PM	Fire on Father	Bring it on! Fr Andrew and Fr Basil

@ St John the Baptist Orthodox Church

4718 E Horsehaven Ave, Post Falls, ID

PLEASE Register at:

lavonne@relaxedyou.com or 208-591-5644