

ST. PAUL THE APOSTLE ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Weekly Bulletin for Week of March 20-26, 2017

TODAY'S SCRIPTURES

EPISTLE: Brethren, Seeing then that we have a great High Priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

For every high priest taken from among men is appointed for men in things pertaining to God, that he may offer both gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can have compassion on those who are ignorant and going astray, since he himself is also subject to weakness. Because of this he is required as for the people, so also for himself, to offer sacrifices for sins. And no man takes this honor to himself, but he who is called by God, just as Aaron was. So also Christ did not glorify Himself to become High Priest, but it was He who said to Him: "You are My Son, today I have begotten You." As He also says in another place: "You are a priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek" (*Hebrews 4:14-5:6*)

GOSPEL: At that time: When He had called the people to Himself, with His disciples also, He said to them, "Whoever desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul? For whoever is ashamed of Me and My words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him the Son of Man also will be ashamed when He comes in the glory of His Father with the holy angels."

And He said to them, "Assuredly, I say to you that there are some standing here who will not taste death till they see the kingdom of God present with power." (*Mark 8:34-9:1*)



ANNUNCIATION
March 25

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

TODAY: THIRD SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT. Veneration of the Cross. Tone 6. Martyrs Chrysanthus and Daria, and those with them at Rome: Claudius, Hilaria, Jason, Maurus, Diodorus the Presbyter, and Marianus the Deacon. St. Innocent of Komel', disciple of St. Nilus of Sora. Martyr Pancharius, at Nicomedia.

Hours: Hood

Greeters: Wheeler/Murphy

Epistle: Jarlson

Coffee: Dresko/Osburn

Post-Communion: Wheeler

CHURCH SCHOOL • LENTEN VESPERS, 5:00 PM; ST. SIMEON CHURCH

TUESDAY, March 21: Parish Council Meeting, 6:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, March 22: Confessions, 5:30 PM; Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, 6:30 PM; SOUP/BREAD

THURSDAY, March 23: Eritrean Service, 8:00 AM; Coffee Chat, 10:00 AM

FRIDAY, March 24: Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, 9:00 AM

SATURDAY, March 25: Divine Liturgy, 9:00 AM; **ANNUNCIATION TO THE THEOTOKOS**
Great Vespers, 5:00 PM; CONFESSIONS; CHOIR REHEARSAL

SUNDAY, March 26: Divine Liturgy, 9:00 AM, **FOURTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT. Leavetaking of the Annunciation. Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel. St. John Climacus (of The Ladder). Tone 7.** Hieromartyr Irenæus, Bishop of Sirmium in Hungary. Martyrs Bathusius and Bercus—Presbyters, Arpilus—Monk, Abibus, Agnus, Reasus, Igathrax, Iscoeus (Iskous), Silas, Signicus, Sonirilus, Suimbalus, Thermus, Phillus (Philgas)—laymen, and the women: Anna, Alla, Larissa, Monco (Manca), Uirko (Virko), Animais (Animaida), Gaatha and Duklida, in the Crimea. St. Malchus of Chalcis in Syria. Ven. Basil the New, Anchorite, near Constantinople. Martyr Montanus, Presbyter, of Singidunum, and his wife, Maxima.

Hours: Huffman

Greeters: Chong/McAuley

Epistle: Stransky

Coffee: Makunen

Post-Communion: Bitsko

CHURCH SCHOOL • LENTEN VESPERS, 5:00 PM; ST. PAUL CHURCH

PARISH CLERGY

Very Rev. John J. Dresko, Rector
860.833.4921 mobile
fatherjohn (at) lasvegasorthodox (dot) com
Rev. Stephen Osburn, Jr., Associate Priest
702.521.6988 mobile

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FASTING/CONFESSIONS

Fasting for the Eucharist on Wednesday: nothing to eat or drink for the whole day if you are physically able. If not, a complete fast must be kept from the noontime meal (no later than 1:00 PM if possible). If you have questions about medications, etc., ask Fr. John!

All pious Orthodox Christians make a lenten journey to the Sacrament of Confession. Confessions during Lent will be regularly heard on Wednesdays one hour before Pre-sanctified Liturgy (5:30 PM) and Saturdays during and after Vespers. Father John does not mind making appointments! **After the Eve of Palm Sunday (April 8), confessions will be heard by appointment only during Holy Week.**

LENTEN VESPERS

Our parish will be hosting the pan-Orthodox community of the Las Vegas Valley for Lenten Vespers next Sunday evening at 5:00 PM. Please join us! A pot-luck menu of soup, salad and bread is being prepared for after the service. A sign-up list is available in the hall if you wish to help.

ANNUAL RETREAT

Our annual Lenten Retreat will be held on Saturday, April 1, at St. John Church. The day begins with Divine Liturgy at 9:00 AM and will end by 3:30 PM, with lunch included. The speaker is His Grace, Bishop Ilya (Katre) of Philomelion (former pastor of St. John's!). The topic is *"When you pray...pray like this..."* The registration is \$15.00 per person. Please let Fr. John know if you plan to attend as we need to plan for lunch. If you plan to pre-pay, checks may be made payable to St. Paul Orthodox Church and given to Fr. John.

CLEANING/GREETING

We need some volunteers to help clean up the church after the Sunday services - sifting the candleboxes, straightening the chairs, scraping the wax in heavily traveled areas of the church, etc.

We also can use some more volunteers to help as greeters on Sunday morning during the liturgy. It is rewarding and a valuable ministry to our parish. Please see Father John to volunteer for either project.

PROJECT MEXICO

Sambusa Sale: *lenten* sambusa are now for sale @ \$2.00 apiece, or \$20 for a bag of ten. They do freeze. Bea Makunen will also be taking orders. All proceeds will help fund the Project Mexico trip.

Hummus Sale: Litsa Osburn is offering her world-famous hummus as a fundraiser for Project Mexico. \$4.00/8 oz. or \$7.00 for 16 oz. See Litsa to order.

There is also a **See's Chocolates** fundraiser for Project

Mexico. **Payment for your See's orders are due to Fr. Stephen no later than next Sunday.**

You can help by using our Amazon "smile" account:
<https://smile.amazon.com/ch/88-0242982>
A gofundme page allows direct donations:
<https://www.gofundme.com/stpaulmexicotrip>

REMEMBER, O LORD...those in need of prayer

Archpriest John (Bruchok)	Peter (Jolevski)
Matushka Mary (Perez)	Alla (Jascolt)
Christopher (Elliott)	Tamra (Christensen)
Michelle (Chong)	Robert (Kuhn)
Laura (Draskovic)	Stacy (Kim)
Madeline (DeSomov)	Kathryn (Kessler)
Anita (Maresca)	Micah (Demko)
Sophie & Natasha (Zonitch)	Ann (Prochko)
Marilyn (Bassell)	David (Poe)
Marteen (Moore)	Child Ally (Hansen)
Christine (Sechrist)	Child Caleb (Bisaccia)

ANNUNCIATION • MARCH 25 (OCA.ORG)

In his Sermon 23 on the day of the Annunciation, Saint Philaret of Moscow boldly stated that "the word of the creature brought the Creator down into the world." He explains that salvation is not merely an act of God's will, but also involves the Virgin's free will. She could have refused, but she accepted God's will and chose to cooperate without complaint or further questions.

The icon of the Feast shows the Archangel with a staff in his left hand, indicating his role as a messenger. Sometimes one wing is upraised, as if to show his swift descent from heaven. His right hand is stretched toward the holy Virgin as he delivers his message.

The Virgin is depicted either standing or sitting, usually holding yarn in her left hand. Sometimes she is shown holding a scroll. Her right hand may be raised to indicate her surprise at the message she is hearing. Her head is bowed, showing her consent and obedience. The descent of the Holy Spirit upon her is depicted by a ray of light issuing from a small sphere at the top of the icon, which symbolizes heaven. In a famous icon from Sinai, a white dove is shown in the ray of light.

DAILY SCRIPTURE READINGS

Mar 20: Is. 14:24-32	Gen. 8:21-9:7	Prov. 11:19-12:6
Mar 21: Is. 25:1-9	Gen. 9:8-17	Prov. 12:8-22
Mar 22: Is. 26:21-27:9	Gen. 9:18-10:1	Prov. 12:23-13:9
Mar 23: Is. 28:14-22	Gen. 10:32-11:9	Prov. 13:19-14:6
Mar 24: Is. 29:13-23	Gen. 12:1-7	Prov. 14:15-26
Mar 25: Hebrews 2:11-18	Luke 1:24-38	

STEWARDSHIP 2017

Stewardship 3/12:	\$ 4,789.00
Total Income 3/12:	\$ 5,427.00
Weekly income needed:	\$ 4,995.27
2017 INC GOAL (11 wks):	\$ 54,947.97
2017 INC ACTUAL:	\$ 73,638.71
Percentage of Budgeted Income:	134.0%