



# St. Xenia Parish News

170 North Lowell Street, Methuen, MA 01844

March - April 2015

## While There Is Time

*By Bishop Augoustinos of Florina*

*"In an acceptable time I have heard thee..."*  
—Isaiah 49:8, 2 Cor 6:2

I ask, dear friends, that you pay close attention to these words. We will spend some time in interpreting them; they are a prophecy by Isaiah and those of you who will comprehend them will become the "lottery's grand prize winners." Otherwise I am left with no alternative and I wash my hands...

What is the meaning of these words? I will start my interpretation from a little further away.

When a person intends to travel internationally, he prepares his passport and arranges for a visa from the intended destination country's embassy accordingly. Generally speaking, all travelers inquire about the departure time of the bus, train, ship or airplane and make every reasonable effort to ensure that they are on time, with their ticket in hand. Similarly, a young man who plans to study at a university ensures that he prepares and submits the necessary application forms, as required by the educational institution of his choice. It is likewise for the businessman who has borrowed funds for his business and is obliged to submit monthly payments; he makes every effort to be on time and to not cause any issues with his lender. What I am trying to say is that as we always make the necessary time to ensure that we obtain our passport, purchase our ticket, pay our loan, and attend to all of our other duties related to employment, marriage and family, similarly there is adequate time for a different obligation, more important than any which life presents us.

What is this obligation? Well, God did not create us for travel and business, for degrees and titles, for dowries and weddings. These things have nothing to do with our main purpose. What is our true purpose? The above verse says it clearly. As there is always time for all worldly matters, there is likewise plenty of time for this most important matter. However, which one of us truly understands this? One may say that it is necessary for an angel to descend from Heaven and inject within our heart some of the faith and love that our saints possess; only then might it be possible for us to truly feel and comprehend the Apostle's words.

"In an acceptable time I have heard Thee." In other words the time that we spend in this world is truly priceless; it is time for the purpose of salvation. Our life may last 20, 40, 60 or 80 years; what can we do during this time? Why do we ask? Why do we not open the Holy Scriptures, the Synaxarion, or even visit a cemetery where the bodies of many lie buried? Why do we not look in the stars in the sky and then, searching within our heart, ask ourselves: "Why did we come to this world?" What is it that we ought to accomplish within the span of our earthly life? Well, I am about to tell you, just make sure you are paying attention:

You my young lady, that spends so much time in front of the mirror or stay up during all hours of the night entertaining yourself, draw near and listen to me. And you, my young man, who spends your day running around in your car or motorcycle, draw near and listen to me as well. And you, my dear housewife, who spends hours window shopping in the malls, come near me as well. All of you, why are you wasting so much of your time? I do not ask for much; I only ask that you set aside some of your time each day for prayer, to kneel and speak with God.

I am also talking to you, the husband, who spends hours upon hours studying those papers with the fine print. I see you on the train or bus or at home either in front of the TV or staring at magazines and newspapers. What is it that you find in them? Please forgive my language, but have you ever seen a man use a stick to dig up or disturb cow droppings? Not really; because such an act would bring forth offensive odors and stench. Draw near my fellow Christian and if you are a baptized Orthodox man, than open up your Bible each day and spend some time reading it with your wife and children so that all of your eyes may open.

What else? Take a pen and paper and start counting the hours. One entire week comprised of 168 hours. From all these hours, what does God ask of you? Simply just one or two hours to attend the weekly Sunday Liturgy; to be in church from the moment you hear "Blessed is the Kingdom of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit" all the way to "Through the prayers of the Holy Fathers, Lord

Jesus Christ have mercy on us and save us, Amen.” If the priest asks us to attend an all-night vigil who goes? If, however, the devil calls us to join him in the dark entertainment centers of the evening, then many run to be with him through midnight and beyond. While in church, though, they all ask “How much longer until it's over?”

In the end my fellow Christians, every new year God grants you a new cycle of 365 days. Every year is like a long *komboloi* (worry beads) with 365 beads. Every day is represented by a golden bead. Yes, my fellow Orthodox Christian, it is truly made of gold since we all know too well that “time is money;” From all these 365 days dedicate at least one day and approach the spiritual clinic through the sacrament of Holy Confession. When you lose your physical health, I see you running to doctors and hospitals. For your soul, however, do you do anything? Thus my child, from all these 365 days, pick a day or two and seek a confessor, go and kneel in front of him and confess your offenses.

So you see my child, it is unfortunate but true. There is such great unwillingness to dedicate five minutes for prayer, a few minutes to study the Holy Bible, an hour or two to attend the weekly Liturgy a day or two for confession. What can we then expect from God?

My brethren, as you can see, I have taken a hold of the valuable coin on which is inscribed “In an acceptable time I have heard Thee...” and I peeled it apart so all of us can comprehend these words. Now that this deed is completed, which one of you will take the time to establish his or her timetable and itinerary. Which one of you will rise in the morning and instead of standing in front of the bathroom mirror will take the time to seek the spiritual mirror contained within our Holy Bible and read it? Which one of you will kneel at home to pray? Which one of you will make it a point to start coming to church every Sunday? Which one of you will make it a point to seek and find a spiritual father for confession?

It is within the time afforded to us by God in this life of ours that these deeds must be completed. You must also take note that time is of the essence, even though it appears that we have plenty of time. Our church reminds us of this every day; “That we complete the remaining time of our lives in peace and repentance, let us ask of the Lord.” What is the duration of our life going to be? How much longer will we live? Is it perhaps possible that this current year is the last one of our earthly life? What am I saying? Could this current month be our last one? Perhaps even this next week or next day may end up being our last one... Do you doubt me? Well, just open the newspaper and read the obituary section...

There was a mayor of Athens once who organized a large party to celebrate his birthday, inviting politicians, ministers and many others. They all gathered in happiness. The table was set with the finest foods; flowers were everywhere; the music was playing. In his pocket he even had

the papers ready with the speech he would deliver. He was standing by the door having his picture taken as he greeted each of his guests. But before he made it to the table, his call arrived. He could have never expected it to come at that time, but it did come, as lightening from a clear sky! What type of lightening? A heart attack... He fell down, never to get up again; they lifted him and carried him away with their hands... He was truly gone. As far as his guests, none of them sat around to enjoy the meal. They were all beside themselves. Those of you who were raised in small villages may have seen the following, several chickens grazing in the meadow when suddenly a hawk appears out of nowhere and plunges among them, snatches one of them and quickly disappears. The remaining chickens become greatly agitated. This is exactly; my brethren, how death appears—like a hawk that snatches lives away. He snatches you in the store, in the street, in the town square, during a wedding, during a baptism, during elections, wherever he finds you! He snatches the elderly as well as babies from their cribs.

My brethren, how much longer shall we remain senseless? How much longer shall we refuse to consider eternity?

“In an acceptable time, I have heard thee...” In a very old book, I read that there was a king a long time ago who had the following custom. Throughout his entire kingdom and whenever he came near a city with his army, he carried two flags; a white one and a black one. When he approached the city; he raised the white flag which meant that as long as that flag was raised, a soldier did not have permission to disturb anything, not even the hair on a person's head! All of the city's inhabitants had also the ability to request favors from the king, whatever they desired. This, however, was for a short duration only and it had a very definitive time limit. As soon as time was up, the black flag was raised and then mothers would weep for their children; in homes and in fields, to people and to animals alike, fire, murder, blood everywhere...

Do you comprehend what I am telling you? Christ, our good King, raises His white flag over this world through His Holy Cross. Let all the sinful come, all people, all nations, while there is time (“In an acceptable time...”)! The time will soon come that the white flag of love and mercy will be lowered and then all gates will be shut. The day will come that you will arrive only to find the Church door closed. You will keep knocking but not even the chanter will be there to answer. The stars and the sun will be extinguished and the rivers will dry up. The moment of judgment and justice will be upon us all!

My brethren, as long as we remain in this vain world, let us repent, let us weep, and let us all beg for God's mercy; May God deem us worthy to spend the rest of our life “in peace and repentance,” through the intercessions of our Holy Theotokos and all the saints. Amen.

St. Xenia of St. Petersburg Orthodox Church is a parish of the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia, under the omophorion of Met. HILARION of Eastern America & New York. The parish newsletter is published bi-monthly under the direction of the Rev. Michael Crowley. In order to ensure timely delivery to our far-flung parish, please submit all notices by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication to Father Michael at [frmichael@stxenia.org](mailto:frmichael@stxenia.org). Thank you.

**Rector:**

V. Rev. Michael Crowley  
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Confessions on Saturday during Vigil, on Sunday during the Hours, and by appointment.

**Parish Council**

President: Rev. Michael Crowley	(978) 204-0428
Fr. Constantine Desrosiers	(603) 775-0320
Dcn. Alexander Doohovskoy	(978) 369-4486
Starosta: John Kekis	(978) 456-9865
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Treasurer: Dimitri Nikshych	(603) 659-0015
Sisterhood: Pamela Ann Reed	(978) 254-5043
Cemetery: Natalie Pishenin	(978) 658-5564
Choir Director: Laryssa Doohovskoy	(978) 841-5960
David Nettleton	(203) 895-7636
Alexis Rodzianko	(603) 275-8251
Anthony Sarantakis	(978) 263-2016
Peter Danas	(978) 459-9541
Roberto Gonzalez	(978) 692-1229

**Trapeza Schedule**

\* = strict fast

Trapeza can be whatever you would like to prepare. Some parishioners prefer to make a big lunch, but this isn't necessary, especially during the summer. As long as there is enough food for about 150 people, anything is appreciated. Donuts, fruit and pastries are as acceptable as soup and sandwiches. **Note: If you are preparing anything containing nuts or other allergens, please put a small label to that effect in front of your dish. Nut allergies are especially fatal to small children.**

A note about Trapeza etiquette: Standing, even for short periods of time, is often extremely difficult for older people and expectant mothers. It would be an act of Christian charity to allow them to collect their meal first and to be seated. It should go without saying that this courtesy should also be extended to visiting clergy.

**March**

- \* 1 Katia Fredette, Natasha Kirichuk
- \* 8 Pam Reed, Carolyn Savage, Diane Mendez
- \* 15 Josephine Kniaziuk, Mariana Haven
- \* 22 Vera, Tanya Nikshick, Tania Sciaudone
- \* 29 Kot Engalichev, Lidia Lynch, Anna Johnson

**April**

- \*5 Pot Luck (Palm Sunday)
- 12 PASCHA
- 19 Laryssa, Masha Doohovskoy, Ann Marie Hakim
- 26 Johanna Crowley, Matushka Nancy

**Dress Code for Church:** Please keep in mind that a certain standard of dress is expected in church. **Women and girls** should wear skirts or dresses (no pants!) at least knee length, blouses with a modest neckline and at least short sleeves – nothing sleeveless – and a scarf or hat on their heads. **Men and boys** should wear clothing best described as businesslike or “business casual,” collared shirts and long trousers, no t-shirts (especially with writing on them) or shorts. No one should wear tank tops (sometimes an issue in the summer). Remember, we should always show respect in church, both for God and for our fellow parishioners. Thank you.

### **Sisterhood News:**

The Sisterhood will meet on March 1, 2015 during Trapeza to plan Lenten and Paschal events. Please see Pam Reed, for more information.

**Congratulations** to the newly-illuminated Fischer Family – Amy (Brigid), Henry (Michael) and Misia (Nina), who were received into the Church on February 7, 2015. Many years to all!

**Please Remember In Your Prayers...**Michael Emelianoff, Dimitry Emelianoff, and Lilly Dombrowski. Please also note that Lilly always appreciates visitors and cards.

**St. John of Damascus Church School News:** Please remember, the Church website has a page dedicated to the church school:

<http://www.stxenia.org/churchschool.html>

There you can find information about dates for our special events, pictures from past events, and curriculum guidelines broken down by age group.

Our Sunday school has nearly 50 students this year with 12 or so teachers. The children are being offered a range of instruction from Old Testament to the Services and Feasts and the Saints. Amy Elizabeth has helped a great deal in the organizing and developing of the curriculums and every Sunday the teachers are there offering instruction and guiding the children along in their studies. The parents should be sure to support this effort wherever the needs arise. One area which we should always be aware of is the maintenance of the basement areas. Sometimes the teachers may not have time to clean up as well as they would like or the children may play in the basement after Sunday School and we need to be sure these areas are picked up, cleaned and respected.

**Some class changes:** The middle school and high school students will get their food at Trapeza and then head down stairs for class. This will allow them to stay for the Sermon and be the first in line for food.

We are also working on restructuring the 8-10 year old classes and are looking for another teacher to help. Please look for more information forthcoming.

**Vacation Church School:** Will be held July 9th, 10th and 11<sup>th</sup> - Thurs, Fri and Sat. with Saints Peter and Paul falling on a Sunday July 12. Please mark your calendars, more on this will be forthcoming.

**St. Seraphim Camp:** Registration for the Aug 2-9, 2015 camp will begin in the spring. Since 1994, with the blessings of the ever-memorable Metropolitan Lavr, St. Seraphim Camp, through God's grace, has served thousands of youth from throughout the eastern US and beyond and is currently the largest Russian Orthodox camp in the West.

For more information, please see:  
<http://www.stseraphimcamp.com/index.html>

**Choir News:** The choir is always looking for capable singers. If you are interested in singing in the choir, please see Laryssa Doohovskoy. Choir members are strongly encouraged to attend as many of the schedule rehearsals as possible! We meet after Trapeza on Sundays.

**The St. Xenia Children's Choir** began rehearsing in October. All children are invited to participate! We meet every other week from 3:30 – 5:00 pm. Dinner is provided at 5pm, Vigil begins at 5:30.

The remaining classes are March 7, March 21, April 4, April 18, May 2, and May 16. The children are now ready to sing "Virgin Theotokos, Rejoice" at the end of Vespers and most Saturday nights we sing this 3 times in a row!

Please see Laryssa Doohovskoy for more information.

### **News & Events:**

-Fr. Michael will be holding classes on Saturday afternoons during Children's Choir rehearsal.

-**Project Tikhvin** plans are developing for 2015. A group of young adults will travel to Russia to work on the restoration of the Monastery of the Entrance of the Mother of God in Tikhvin. This year we have been invited to have a youth choir to sing services as well as perform in a northern Russian village folk festival which draws thousands of people from across the area south of Lake Ladoga. We will also visit St. Petersburg and Moscow. We will be in Russia for about three weeks at the end of June until mid-July. We need to have a list of participants by just after Nativity. All participants must be 18 or older. The cost per person will be approximately \$1,200.00 and that will include airfare, lodging, much transportation and many meals. For further detailed information please contact Fr. Alexis Duncan at [fr.alexis.duncan@gmail.com](mailto:fr.alexis.duncan@gmail.com)

### **Sainted Sophronios, Patriarch of Jerusalem,**

**March 24/March 11,** was born in Damascus. From his youthful years he distinguished himself by his piety and his love for the classical sciences. He advanced especially in philosophy, for which they were wont to call him the Wise. But the future hierarch sought out a higher wisdom in the monasteries, and in conversations with the wilderness-dwellers. He arrived in Jerusalem at the monastery of Saint Theodosios, and there he became close with the Priest-Monk John Moskhos, becoming his spiritual son and devoting himself to him in obedience. They journeyed together through the monasteries, and they wrote down descriptions of the lives and precepts of the ascetics found there. From these jottings was afterwards compiled their reknown book, the "Leimonarion" or "Spiritual Meadow", which was highly esteemed at the Seventh Ecumenical Council.

To save themselves from the devastating incursions of the Persians, Saints John and Sophronios quit Pal-

estine and withdrew to Antioch, and from there they went to Egypt. In Egypt Saint Sophronios became seriously ill. During this time he also decided to become a monk and so he accepted tonsure from the Monk John Moskhos. After the return to health of Saint Sophronios, they both decided to remain in Alexandria. There they were fondly received by the holy Patriarch John the Merciful (Comm. 12 November), to whom they rendered great aid in the struggle against the Monophysite heresy. At Alexandria, Saint Sophronios' eyesight was afflicted, and he recoured with prayer and faith to the holy UnMercenaries Cyrus and John (Comm. 31 January), and he received healing in a church named for them. In gratitude, Saint Sophronios then wrote the Vita of these holy unmercenaries.

When the barbarians began to threaten Alexandria, the holy Patriarch John, accompanied by Saints Sophronios and John Moskhos, set out for Constantinople, but along the way he died. Saints John Moskhos and Sophronios with eighteen other monks then set out for Rome. At Rome the Monk John Moskhos also died (+ 622). His body was conveyed by Saint Sophronios to Jerusalem and buried at the monastery of Saint Theodosios.

In the year 628 the Jerusalem patriarch Zacharias (609-633) returned from the Persian Captivity. After his death, the patriarchal throne was occupied for a space of two years by Saint Modestos (633-634, Comm. 18 December). After the death of Saint Modestos, Saint Sophronios was chosen patriarch. Sainted Sophronios toiled much for the welfare of the Jerusalem Church as its primate (634-644).

Towards the end of his life, Saint Sophronios with his flock lived through a two year siege of Jerusalem by the Mahometans. Worn down by hunger, the Christians finally consented to open the city gates, on the condition that the enemy spare the holy places. But this condition was not fulfilled, and holy Patriarch Sophronios died in deep grief over the desecration of the Christian holy places.

Written works by Patriarch Sophronios have come down to us in the area of dogmatics, and likewise his "Excursus on the Liturgy", the Vita of the Nun Mary of Egypt (Comm. 1 April), and also about 950 tropars and stikhi-verses from Pascha to the Ascension. While still a priest-monk, Saint Sophronios made review and corrections to the "ustav-rule" of the monastery of the Monk Sava the Sanctified (Comm. 5 December). And the "tri-odic song"

of the saint for the Holy Forty Day Great Lent is included in the composition of the contemporary Lenten Triodion.

**Saints Herodion (Rodion), Agabus (Ahab), Asinckritos, Rufus, Phlegontos and Hermas, April 21/April 8,** are among the Seventy Disciples, chosen by Christ and sent by Him to preach (Sobor-Assemblage of Seventy Disciples -- Comm. 4 January).

The holy Disciple Herodion was a kinsman of the Apostle Paul and his companion on many journeys. When Christianity had spread to the Balkan Peninsula, the Apostles Peter and Paul established the Disciple Herodion as Bishop of Patara. The Disciple Herodion zealously preached the Word of God and converted many of the Greek pagans and Jews to Christianity.

Enraged by the preaching of the disciple, the idol-worshippers and Jews with one accord fell upon Saint Herodion, and they began to beat him with sticks and pelt him with stones. One of the mob struck him with a knife, and the saint fell down. But when the murderers were gone, the Lord restored him to health unharmed.

After this, Saint Herodion continued to accompany the Apostle Paul some years further. When the holy Apostle Peter was crucified (+ c. 67), the Disciple Herodion at the same time also and with Saint Olympos was beheaded by the sword.

The holy Disciple Agabus was endowed with the gift of prophecy. He predicted (Acts 11: 27-28) the famine during the time of the emperor Claudius (41-52), and foretold the suffering of the Apostle Paul at Jerusalem (Acts 21: 11). The Disciple Agabus preached in many lands and converted many pagans to Christ.

The Disciple Rufus (Ruphus), to whom the holy Apostle Paul gives greeting in the Epistle to the Romans (Rom. 16: 11-15), was bishop of the Greek city of Thebes. The Disciple Asinckritos (Rom. 16: 14) -- was bishop in Hyrcania (Asia Minor). The Disciple Phlegontos -- bishop in the city of Marathon (Thrace). The Disciple Hermas -- bishop in Dalmatia (there is yet another Disciple from the Seventy by the name of Hermas, who occupied a cathedra-seat in the Thracian city of Philippopolis).

All these disciples for their intrepid service to Christ underwent fierce sufferings and were found worthy of a martyr's crown.



**ST. XENIA ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
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(phone) (978) 204-0428



**MARCH 2015**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 (Feb 16) <b>Triumph of Orthodoxy. Tone 5</b>  9:30 Hours and Divine Liturgy  <b>Fast: wine &amp; oil</b>	2 (Feb 17) <b>GM Theodore the Tyro</b>  <b>Fast</b>	3 (Feb 18) <b>St. Leo the Great, pope of Rome</b>  <b>Fast</b>	4 (Feb 19) <b>App Archippus and Philemon of the 70, and M Apphia</b>  <b>Fast</b>	5 (Feb 20) <b>Ven. Leo, bp. of Catania</b>  <b>Fast</b>	6 (Feb 21) <b>Ven. Timothy of Symbola</b>  <b>Fast</b>	7 (Feb 22) <b>Holy MM at the gate of Eugenius at Constantinople</b>  5:30 All-Night Vigil  <b>Fast: wine &amp; oil</b>
8 (Feb 23) <b>Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas, Tone 6</b> 9:30 Hours and Divine Liturgy  <b>Fast: wine &amp; oil</b>	9 (Feb 24) <b>1st and 2nd Findings of the Head of St. John the Baptist</b>  <b>Fast</b>	10 (Feb 25) <b>St. Tarasius, abp. of Constantinople</b>  <b>Fast</b>	11 (Feb 26) <b>St. Porphyrius, bp. of Gaza</b>  6:30 Presanctified Divine Liturgy  <b>Fast</b>	12 (Feb 27) <b>Ven. Procopius the Confessor of Decapolis</b>  <b>Fast</b>	13 (Feb 28) <b>Ven. Basil the Confessor</b>  <b>Fast</b>	14 (Mar 1) <b>M Eudocia of Heliopolis</b>  5:30 All-Night Vigil  <b>Fast: wine &amp; oil</b>
15 (Mar 2) <b>Adoration of Cross. Tone 7</b>  9:30 Hours and Divine Liturgy  <b>Fast: wine &amp; oil</b>	16 (Mar 3) <b>M Eutropius of Amasea</b>  Clergy Retreat in Lakewood  <b>Fast</b>	17 (Mar 4) <b>Ven. Gerasimus of the Jordan</b>  Clergy Retreat in Lakewood  <b>Fast</b>	18 (Mar 5) <b>M Conon of Isauria</b>  Clergy Retreat in Lakewood  <b>Fast</b>	19 (Mar 6) <b>42 MM of Ammoria in Phrygia</b>  <b>Fast</b>	20 (Mar 7) <b>Ven. Paul the Simple of Egypt</b>  <b>Fast</b>	21 (Mar 8) <b>Ven. Theophylactus, bp. of Nicomedia</b>  5:30 All-Night Vigil  <b>Fast: wine &amp; oil</b>
22 (Mar 9) <b>Sunday of the St. John Climacus. Tone 8</b> 9:30 Hours and Divine Liturgy  <b>Fast: wine &amp; oil</b>	23 (Mar 10) <b>M Codratus and comp.</b>  <b>Fast</b>	24 (Mar 11) <b>St. Sophronius, patriarch of Jerusalem</b>  <b>Fast</b>	25 (Mar 12) <b>Ven. Theophanes the Confessor</b>  6:30 Matins with Canon of St Andrew of Crete <b>Fast</b>	26 (Mar 13) <b>MM Africanus, Publius, and Terence of Carthage</b>  <b>Fast</b>	27 (Mar 14) <b>Ven. Benedict of Nursia</b>  6:30 Matins with Akatist  <b>Fast</b>	28 (Mar 15) <b>5th Saturday of the Great Lent: Laudation of the Mother of God</b>  5:30 All-Night Vigil  <b>Fast: wine &amp; oil</b>
29 (Mar 16) <b>Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt. Tone 1</b>  9:30 Hours and Divine Liturgy  <b>Fast: wine &amp; oil</b>	30 (Mar 17) <b>Ven. Alexis the Man of God</b> <b>Ven. Patrick of Ireland</b>  <b>Fast</b>	31 (Mar 18) <b>St. Cyril, abp. of Jerusalem</b>  <b>Fast</b>	Apr 1 (Mar 19) <b>MM Chrysanthus and Daria</b>  <b>Fast</b>	Apr 2 (Mar 20) <b>M Photina the Samaritan Woman and her sons</b>  <b>Fast</b>	Apr 3 (Mar 21) <b>Ven James the Confessor, bp of the Studium</b>  <b>Fast</b>	Apr 4 (Mar 22) <b>HM Basil of Ancyra</b>  5:30 All-Night Vigil  <b>Fast: wine &amp; oil</b>



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**APRIL 2015**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Mar 29 (Mar 16)</b> <b>Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt. Tone 1</b>  9:30 Hours and Divine Liturgy  <b>Fast: wine &amp; oil</b>	<b>Mar 30 (Mar 17)</b> <b>Ven. Alexis the Man of God</b> <b>Ven. Patrick of Ireland</b>  <b>Fast</b>	<b>Mar 31 (Mar 18)</b> <b>St. Cyril, abp. of Jerusalem</b>  <b>Fast</b>	<b>1 (Mar 19)</b> <b>MM Chrysanthus and Daria</b>  <b>Fast</b>	<b>2 (Mar 20)</b> <b>M Photina the Samaritan Woman and her sons</b>  <b>Fast</b>	<b>3 (Mar 21)</b> <b>Ven James the Confessor, bp of the Studium</b>  <b>Fast</b>	<b>4 (Mar 22)</b> <b>HM Basil of Ancyra</b>  5:30 All-Night Vigil  <b>Fast: wine &amp; oil</b>
<b>5 (Mar 23)</b> <b>PALM SUNDAY</b>  9:30 Hours and Divine Liturgy  <b>Fast: fish, wine, &amp; oil</b>	<b>6 (Mar 24)</b> <b>Holy Monday</b>  6:30 Bridegroom Matins  <b>Fast</b>	<b>7 (Mar 25)</b> <b>ANNUNCIATION</b>  9:30 Vesperal Divine Liturgy 6:30 Bridegroom Matins  <b>Fast: fish, wine, &amp; oil</b>	<b>8 (Mar 26)</b> <b>Holy Wednesday</b>  6:30 Matins  <b>Fast</b>	<b>9 (Mar 27)</b> <b>Holy Thursday</b>  9:30 Vesperal Divine Liturgy 6:30 Matins with 12 Gospels  <b>Fast</b>	<b>10 (Mar 28)</b> <b>Holy Friday</b>  10:00 Royal Hours 4:30 Vespers w/taking down from the Cross 6:30 Matins w/Lamentations <b>Fast</b>	<b>11 (Mar 29)</b> <b>Holy Saturday</b>  9:00 Vesperal Divine Liturgy 10:00 Reading of Acts of the Apostles 11:30 Midnight Office, Matins and Divine Liturgy of Pascha <b>Fast: wine &amp; oil</b>
<b>12 (Mar 30)</b> <b>PASCHA</b>  12:00 Agape Vespers  <b>Fast free</b>	<b>13 (Mar 31)</b> <b>Bright Monday</b>  9:30 Hours & Divine Liturgy of Pascha  <b>Fast free</b>	<b>14 (Apr 1)</b> <b>Bright Tuesday</b>  <b>Fast free</b>	<b>15 (Apr 2)</b> <b>Bright Wednesday</b>  <b>Fast free</b>	<b>16 (Apr 3)</b> <b>Bright Thursday</b>  <b>Fast free</b>	<b>17 (Apr 4)</b> <b>Bright Friday</b>  <b>Fast free</b>	<b>18 (Apr 5)</b> <b>Bright Saturday</b>  5:30 All-Night Vigil  <b>Fast free</b>
<b>19 (Apr 6)</b> <b>2nd Sunday of Pascha: Antipascha, St. Thomas Sunday</b> 9:30 Hours and Divine Liturgy	<b>20 (Apr 7)</b> <b>Ven George the Confessor</b>	<b>21 (Apr 8)</b> <b>App of the 70: Herodion, Agabus, Asyncritus, Rufus, Phlegon, Hermes</b>	<b>22 (Apr 9)</b> <b>M Euppsychius of Caesarea</b>  <b>Fast</b>	<b>23 (Apr 10)</b> <b>MM Terence, Pompeius, Africanus, Maximus, Zeno, Alexander, Theodore</b>	<b>24 (Apr 11)</b> <b>HM Antipas, bp of Pergamus</b>  <b>Fast</b>	<b>25 (Apr 12)</b> <b>Ven Basil the Confessor</b>  5:30 All-Night Vigil
<b>26 (Apr 13)</b> <b>3rd Sunday of Pascha: The Myrrh-bearing Women. Tone 2</b> 9:30 Hours and Divine Liturgy	<b>27 (Apr 14)</b> <b>St. Martin the Confessor, pope of Rome</b>	<b>28 (Apr 15)</b> <b>App Aristarchus, Pudens, and Trophimus of the 70</b>	<b>29 (Apr 16)</b> <b>VMM Agape, Irene, and Chionia in Illyria</b>  <b>Fast</b>	<b>30 (Apr 17)</b> <b>HM Simeon, bp in Persia, and those with him</b>	<b>May 1 (Apr 18)</b>	<b>May 2 (Apr 19)</b>  5:30 All-Night Vigil