

ST. MARY

OF EGYPT



The Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox Church Of McKeesport & Duquesne, Pa
901 Hartman Street, McKeesport, Pa. 15132 **Our Web-site:** stsavapa.org*

*(PLEASE VISIT OUR Parish Website, and Also Our Facebook & Twitter Pages!)

Very Rev. (Stavrophor) Stevan Rocknage, Parish Priest

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APRIL 14th – The 5th Sunday Of Great Lent - St. Mary of Egypt – Tone 5
(Remembering St. Euthymius the Wonderworker & The New-Martyr Michael)

Today's Epistle Reading:

EPISTLE: Hebrews 9: 11-14

Today's Gospel Readings:

MATINS: Mk 16: 1-8/**LITURGY:** Lk. 7: 36-50

Sunday Troparion: "Let us, the faithful, praise and worship the Word; coeternal 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!"

Sunday Kontakion: "Thou didst descent into hell, O my Savior, shattering its gates as almighty; resurrecting the dead as Creator, and destroying the sting of death. Thou hast delivered Adam from the curse, O Lover of Man, and we all cry to Thee: 'O Lord, save us!' "
(The Troparion for St. Mary of Egypt will also be sung!)

Spiritual Food:

A One-Man Revolution

One day St. Ambrose, Archbishop of Milan, refused to give the Sacrament of Communion to Emperor Theodosius because the latter had ordered the population of Thessalonica to be massacred. The emperor protested, "Why should I be rejected," he asked, "when David who was both murderer and an adulterer was not rejected by God?" St. Ambrose turned to Emperor Theodosius and said, "You have imitated David in his crime; now imitate him in his repentance."

The first sermon Jesus ever preached was not long; it was very short, only one sentence long: "Repent, for the kingdom of God is at hand." It is said that the whole Gospel of Jesus can be summed up in this one word: **REPENT!**

What is repentance? Robert Frost called it a "one-man revolution." It is just that: a revolution not against the world or other people but against the evil in oneself.

For Pondering

The path to God is a daily cross. No one has ascended to heaven by way of ease. We know where the easy way leads. -- St. Isaac of Syria

Today's Special Announcements and Upcoming Events For Our Parish:

- (1) **TODAY: We will take our normal Monthly Collection for the needy!**
- (2) **TONIGHT:** Pittsburgh Deanery Vespers at St. Nicholas in Johnstown – the Bus leaves the parking lot at 2:30PM – Come pray with us!
- (2-A) **WEDNESDAY: Pre-Sasnctified Liturgy** – 6:30PM – Confession at 5:45!
(Pot-Luck Dinner after – please stay for the fellowship!)
- (3) Our LAST Fish-Fry is this FRIDAY from 12 to 6 PM – You are needed!
- (4) **Please pray for the health and well-being of our following loved ones within our parish:**
Donna Moss-NH Katie Repasky Violet Petrovich Ann Vunovic-NH
Beverly Stipanovich Sandy Miller Keith Bedell Margaret Ivkovich Melva Buzzelli-NH
V. Rev. Adam Yonitch V. Rev. Paul Lazor V. Rev. Joseph Cervo Helen Mochan
Vlade Baskot-NH Melva Dandrea Matthew Schaffer John Ratesic
- (5) **Also pray for the souls of those fallen asleep in the Lord:**
+ Mark Vojnovich +Nick Trbovic +Stella Stipanovich +Ann Suzich
+Lucy Pcholinski +Protas Dr. Filipovic , Den Pavichevich, St Stepanov/
+Rastko Trbuhovich,+Vaso Sokolovic/Zvonko Kotorcevich +Carl Magdic
+Ray Moss +Ann Cervo +Helen Lia +Alex Stipanovich +Dan Ikach
+Sophie Vranesevic +Louise Zivkovich +Mimi Pavlovich +Nick Pilipovich
+Kh. Stefanie Yazge +Mika Rocknage +Sharon Young +Amy Pacura
+Betty Perich +Dorothy Shumkaroff +George Medich +Arlene Crnkovich +Helen Medic
- (6) Please SHARE with your friends regarding our ONCD Program that: NOW is the Time to start signing up to be a part of the Focus Groups for Phase Two! Sign up at the Tutors' Desk...or go to our St Sava Web-page at): stsavapa.org/oncd.html
- (7) **MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**
 - **St. Cyril of White Lake Food Drive:** bring in donated goods – basket in foyer of Entrance!
 - **THIS Weekend:** Lazarus Saturday – Confessions this Friday at 6 PM – Liturgy with Procession around the Church at 9:30AM on Saturday – Luncheon after! (Need help Putting the palms/pussy-willows together this Friday night!)
 - **SIGN-UP TO GUARD THE TOMB:** Back of the Church! (Good Friday & Holy Saturday)
 - **Sunday, May 5th:** Baptism of Nathaniel Dushan Rocknage – after Liturgy!
 - **Sunday, May 12th:** MOTHER'S DAY – Come celebrate with us!
 - **Sunday, May 19th:** Parastos for +Nick Trbovic and +Mark Vojnovich – after Holy Liturgy!
- (8) **PALM SUNDAY:** our Church Health Team has a short presentation for you – be here!

☪ ☪ ☪ FROM SINNER TO SAINT ☪ ☪ ☪

The story of **ST. MARY OF EGYPT** is one of the great epics of repentance to be found in our Church. Since repentance is a primary theme of the great Fast, it is no wonder that commemoration of this sinner who became a saint is made on the Fifth Sunday of Lent.

Mary was born in Egypt some fifteen hundred years ago. At the age of 12, she left home and went to the city to be free from parental bounds and to taste the delights of the world. It wasn't long before she forgot all she was ever taught about morality, purity and virtue. For seventeen years she led a shameful life.

Finally, she learned the bitter truth: the world with all its sin cannot satisfy the deep yearnings of the human soul, and Mary came to despise her life. She attempted to enter a church, but encountered an "invisible" barrier. She poured out her soul in sorrow and repentance. At last, the burden of sin was lifted and she was able to enter. She then crossed over the Jordan and sought peace in the wilderness of the desert.

Zosimus, a monastic who spent the Great Fast in the desert, found her one day and learned her amazing story. She had spent 47 years alone in the desert, except for the times in the Fast that Zosimus came and brought the Eucharist for her. The final time he came he could not locate her, but found these words traced in the desert sand: "Abba Zosimus, bury here the body of the sinner, Mary . . ." And so Zosimus returned to the monastic community and preserved the story of this truly penitent soul.

Schedule Of Services/Events – April Through June - 2019!

Friday, April 19th - Eve Of Lazarus Saturday - Confessions for Church-School Families - 6 PM

(Following Confessions - please stay after and help put palms and pussy-willows together!)

Saturday, April 20th - LAZARUS SATURDAY - Divine Liturgy at 9:30 AM - Procession w/Children!

(Luncheon for Church-school children and families after - join us!)

- Festal Vigil for Palm Sunday – with Confessions at 5 PM - JOIN US!

Sunday, April 21st - PALM SUNDAY - Matins at 9:15 AM; Liturgy at 10 AM!

(Bridegroom Matins at Holy Trinity Cathedral at 5 PM - Join us)

Monday, April 22nd - Great & Holy Monday - Bridegroom Matins at 6:30 PM!

Tuesday, April 23rd - Great & Holy Tuesday - Bridegroom Matins at 6:30 PM!

Wednesday, April 24th - Great & Holy Wednesday - Pre-Sanctified Liturgy - 9:30 AM!

(LAST DAY TO RECEIVE HOLY CONFESSION!)

Wednesday, April 24th - HOLY UNCTION SERVICE at Holy Trinity at 7 PM - Come and Be Anointed!

Thursday, April 25th - Great & Holy Thursday - Vespers Liturgy at 9:30 AM - Join Us!

(Matins of Holy Friday and 12 Gospel Readings - 7 PM, followed by Setting-up of Tomb Of Our Lord)

GREAT & HOLY FRIDAY - April 26th - 10 AM - Royal Hours/3 PM - Burial Vespers/7 PM -

(Matins of Great & Holy Saturday with Procession around the Church)

GREAT & HOLY SATURDAY - April 27th - 9:30 AM - Liturgical Change from 'dark' to "WHITE"!

(Join us after to decorate the Church for Pascha!)

SUNDAY, April 28th - PASCHA - the Resurrection of Our Lord - 6:30 AM 'Paschal Rush Services!'

(The Tradition Continues - join us for this electrifying service that takes us through Nocturne, Matins and Paschal Liturgy - then join us downstairs for the wonderful AGAPE meal celebration!)

- Don't forget to bring in your food baskets, red-dyed eggs, and candy for the Children!

Monday, April 29th - BRIGHT MONDAY - 9:30 AM Paschal Liturgy! (Youth Group Luncheon)

Sunday, May 5th - THOMAS Sunday - 2nd Sunday of Pascha - 9:15 Matins/10 AM Liturgy!

(Baptism of Nathaniel Dushan Rocknag - after Church)

Sunday, May 12th - 3rd Sunday of Pascha - 9:15 Matins/10 AM Liturgy! (Mothers' Day)

Thursday, June 6th - ASCENSION OF OUR LORD - 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy!

Saturday, June 15th - All Souls' Saturday - Parish Parastos at 9:30 AM - followed by Blessing Of Graves at McKeesport-Versailles Cemetery....Festal Vigil of Pentecost - 6 PM!

Sunday, June 16th - PENTECOST - Holy Trinity Kolo Slava Day - Festal Liturgy at 10 AM!

Monday/Tuesday - June 17th and 18th - Pentecost Services at 9:30 AM! (Blessing graves by appointment)