



PARISH BULLETIN

HOLY ARCHANGHEL MICHAEL'S ROMANIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH

No. 252/28 March 2021



**Second Sunday of Great
Lent; Sunday of St.
Gregory Palamas**

*Thy Kingdom. Glory to Thy
dispensation, O only Friend of man.*

Seasonal Kontakion. Mode Pl. 4.

*To thee, the Champion Leader, we
thy flock dedicate a feast of victory
and of thanksgiving, as ones rescued
out of suff'rings, O Theotokos. But as
thou art one with might which is
invincible, from all dangers that can
be do thou deliver us, that we may
cry to thee: Rejoice, thou Bride
unwedded.*

Prokeimenon. Mode 1.

Psalm 32.22,1

Let your mercy, O Lord, be upon us.

Verse: Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous.

The reading is from St. Paul's Letter to the
Hebrews 1:10-14; 2:1-3

Resurrectional Apolytikion. Mode 1.

*When the stone was sealed by the
Jews and the soldiers were guarding
Thine immaculate body, Thou didst
arise on the third day, O Saviour,
granting life unto the world. For
which cause the powers of heaven
cried out to Thee, O Life-giver: Glory
to Thy resurrection, O Christ. Glory to*

*"IN THE BEGINNING, Thou, Lord,
didst found the earth in the
beginning, and the heavens are the
work of thy hands; they will perish,
but thou remainest; they will all grow
old like a garment, like a mantle thou
wilt roll them up, and they will be
changed. But thou art the same, and
thy years will never end." But to*

what angel has he ever said, "Sit at my right hand, till I make thy enemies a stool for thy feet?" Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to serve, for the sake of those who are to obtain salvation?

Therefore we must pay closer attention to what we have heard, lest we drift away from it. For if the message declared by angels was valid and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard him.



The Gospel According to Mark 2:1-12

At that time, Jesus entered Capernaum and it was reported that he was at home. And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer room for them, not even about the door; and he was preaching the word to them. And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him; and when they had made an opening, they let down the pallet on which the paralytic lay. And when Jesus saw their faith, he

said to the paralytic, "My son, your sins are forgiven." Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, "Why does this man speak thus? It is a blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you question thus in your hearts? Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your pallet and walk? But that you may know that the Son of man has authority on earth to forgive sins"-he said to the paralytic-"I say to you, rise, take up your pallet and go home." And he rose, and immediately took up the pallet and went out before them all; so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

Word of the week – Reflection Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas

This divine Father, who was from Asia Minor, was from childhood reared in the royal court of Constantinople, where he was instructed in both religious and secular wisdom. Later, while still a youth, he left the imperial court and struggled in asceticism on Mount Athos, and in the Skete at Beroea. He spent some time in Thessalonica being treated for an illness that came from his harsh manner of life. He was present in Constantinople at the Council that was convened in 1341

against Barlaam of Calabria, and at the Council of 1347 against Acindynus, who was of like mind with Barlaam; Barlaam and Acindynus claimed that the grace of God is created. At both these Councils, the Saint contended courageously for the true dogmas of the Church of Christ, teaching in particular that divine grace is not created, but is the uncreated energies of God which are poured forth throughout creation: otherwise it would be impossible, if grace were created, for man to have genuine communion with the uncreated God. In 1347 he was appointed Metropolitan of Thessalonica. He tended his flock in an apostolic manner for some twelve years, and wrote many books and treatises on the most exalted doctrines of our Faith; and having lived for a total of sixty-three years, he reposed in the Lord in 1359.

His holy relics are kept in the Cathedral of Thessalonica. A full service was composed for his feast day by the Patriarch Philotheus in 1368, when it was established that his feast be celebrated on this day. Since works without right faith avail nothing, we set Orthodoxy of faith as the foundation of all that we accomplish during the Fast, by celebrating the Triumph of Orthodoxy the Sunday before, and the great defender of the teachings of the holy Fathers today.

St. John Climacus (March 30th)

This Saint gave himself over to the ascetical life from his early youth. Experienced both in the solitary life of the hermit and in the communal life of cenobitic monasticism, he was appointed Abbot of the Monastery at Mount Sinai

and wrote a book containing thirty homilies on virtue. Each homily deals with one virtue, and progressing from those that deal with holy and righteous activity (praxis) unto those that deal with divine vision (theoria), they raise a man up as though by means of steps unto the height of Heaven. For this cause his work is called "The Ladder of Divine Ascent." The day he was made Abbot of Sinai, the Prophet Moses was seen giving commands to those who served at table. Saint John reposed in 603, at eighty years of age. See also the Fourth Sunday of the Fast.

St. Joseph the Hymnographer (April 3rd)

Saint Joseph was from Sicily, the son of Plotinus and Agatha. Because Sicily had been subjugated by the Moslems, he departed thence and, passing from place to place, came with Saint Gregory of Decapolis (see NOV. 20) to Constantinople, where he endured bitter afflictions because of his pious zeal. Travelling to Rome, he was captured by Arab pirates and taken to Crete, whence he later returned to Constantinople. He became an excellent hymnographer and reposed in holiness shortly after 886 (according to some, it was in 883). The melismatic canons of the Menaion are primarily the work of this Joseph; they bear his name in the acrostic of the Ninth Ode. He also composed most of the sacred book known as the Paracletike, which complements the Octoechos. For this reason, Joseph is called par excellence the Hymnographer.

From goarch.org



Liturgical Schedule for this week

Monday <i>March 29</i>	3:00 pm	Presanctified Liturgy
Tuesday <i>March 30</i>	3:00 pm	Presanctified Liturgy
Wednesday <i>March 31</i>	6:00 pm	Presanctified Liturgy
Thursday <i>April 1</i>	3:00 pm	Presanctified Liturgy
Friday <i>April 2</i>	3:00 pm	Presanctified Liturgy
Saturday <i>April 3</i>	10:00 am 5:00 pm	Divine Liturgy & Memorial Vespers
Sunday <i>April 4</i>	9:00 am 10:00 am	Matins Divine Liturgy – Sunday of the Holy Cross



Announcements:

- **Happy name day** to Mary Grabosky (St. Mary – April 1st).
- **Happy birthday** to Paul Goulas (March 31st).
- **School snack drive:** Please bring individually-wrapped snacks for the local schools.
- **Church cleaning:** Please sign up for a time.

