

A WORD FOR THE DAY

Let us not be overcome by unbelief and give ourselves up to all kinds of cares, anxieties, imaginations, daydreaming, subterfuges, and maneuvering to guard ourselves from our enemies and to work against their ill will or evil intentions. This is forbidden by the Lord who says, "I tell you not to resist an evil person." When oppressed by difficult and painful circumstances, let us have recourse to God in prayer; for in His complete power are we and our enemies and our circumstances and the circumstances of all men. He can by his absolute power and supremacy dispose of and arrange everything; He can instantly overcome and annihilate all the greatest difficulties. Let us pray for our enemies with great care, and by this prayer obliterate the malice from their hearts and replace it with love. "He who prays for people who offend and wrong him crushes the demons; but he who resists or opposes the former is wounded by the latter," says St. Mark the Ascetic.

St. Ignatius Brianchaninov, The Arena

In the Orthodox world view, the home and the family constitute the first and most important area of Christian life, of application of Christian principles to daily existence. It is certainly the home, the very style and spirit of family life, and not the school, not even the Church, that shapes our fundamental world view, that shapes in us that fundamental orientation of which we may not even be aware for a long time, but which ultimately will become a decisive factor. Dostoevsky's "staretz" Zosima—from the *The Brothers Karamazov*—says: "A man who from his childhood can remember good things is saved for his whole life." It is very significant that he makes this remark after recalling his mother taking him to the Pre-sanctified Liturgy, the beauty of the service, the unique Lenten melody of "Let my prayer be set forth in Thy sight; as incense..." The wonderful effort of religious education which is being made today in our church schools will mean very little unless it is rooted in the home and family life.

Fr. Alexander Schmemmann, Great Lent: Journey to Pascha

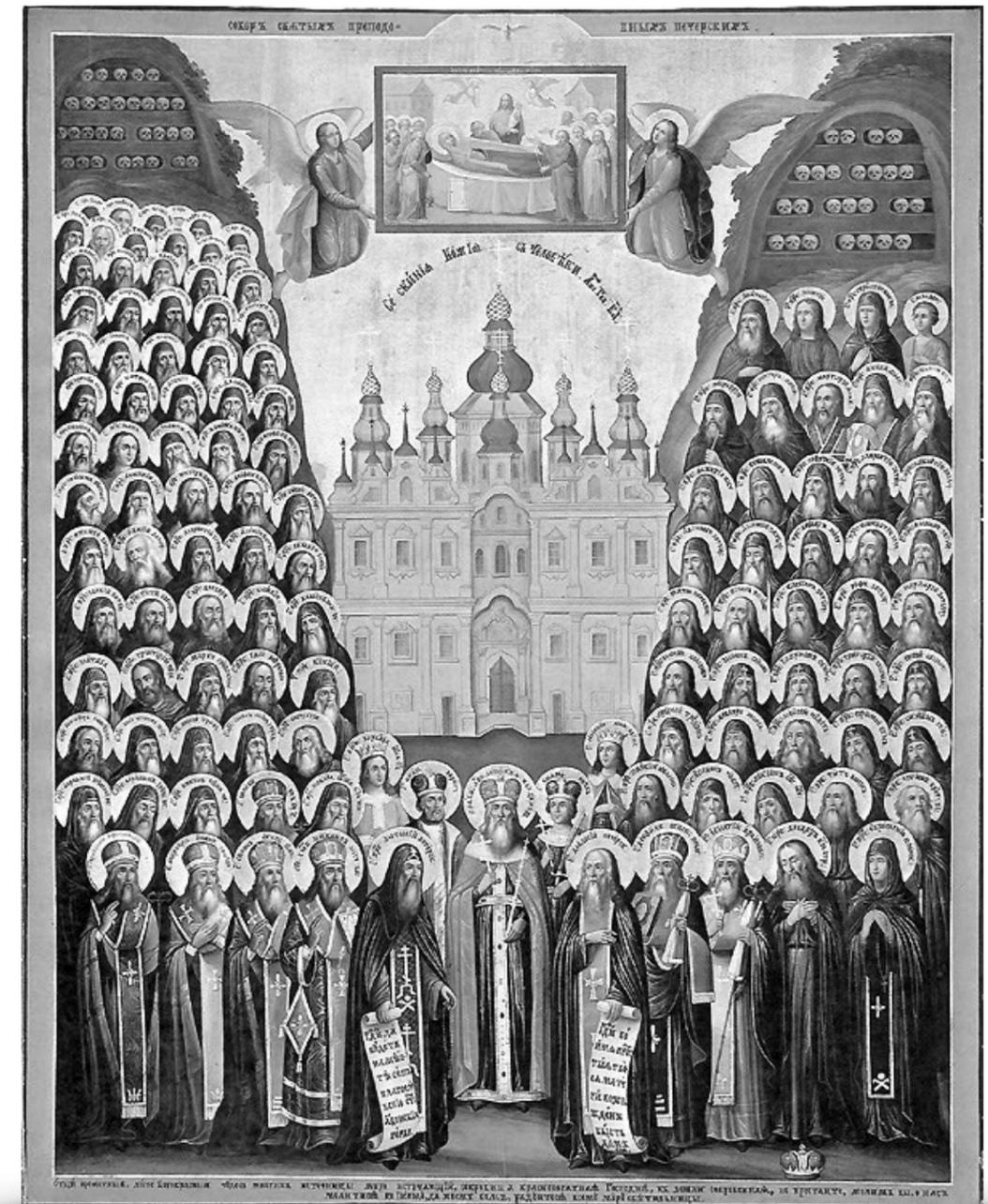
ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish Of The New England Diocese ✦ Orthodox Church In America

March 12, 2107

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – Tone 5. St. Gregory Palamas.

Synaxis of the Venerable Fathers of the Kiev Caves Lavra. Ven. Theophanes the Confessor, of Sigriane (818). Righteous Phineas, grandson of Aaron (ca. 1500 B.C.). St. Gregory Dialogus, Pope of Rome (604). Ven. Simeon the New Theologian (1021).



Synaxis of the Fathers of the Kiev Caves Lavra

Divine Services

Wednesday, March 15th...Presanctified Liturgy 6:30 p.m.
 (followed by Lenten Pot-Luck)

Friday, March 17th.....Small Compline and Akathist to the Life-Giving Cross
 (followed by Study Group) 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 18th...Great Vespers..... 6:00 p.m.
 (followed by Confessions)

Sunday, March 19thDivine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great10:00 am
3rd Sunday of Lent: Veneration of the Cross (Hours 9:40 a.m.)

Today's Readings

Epistle: Hebrews 7:6 - 8:2; (Saint) Hebrews 1:10 -2:3
 Gospel: John 10:9-16; (Saint) Mark 2:1-12

For Next Week, March 12th

Hours and Thanksgiving PrayersSteve Nikitas
 Epistle:Emilie Goudey
 Coffee Hour.....Irina Trioufanova

Sunday Mission Vespers Services				
	Albany Brotherhood 5:00 p.m.		Connecticut Deanery 4:00 p.m.	
Mar. 12	St. Basil	909 River St., Troy, NY	St. Alexis	108 E. Main St., Clinton, CT
Mar. 19	Christ the Savior	349 Eastline Rd., Balston Lake, NY	St. Nicholas	5458 Park Ave, Bridgeport, CT
Mar. 26	St. Nicholas	1304 North St. Pittsfield, MA	Sts Peter & Paul	50 Shady Crest Rd., Meriden, CT
Apr. 2	St. George	55 Main St., Glens Falls, NY	Three Saints	26 Howard Ave., Ansonia, CT
Apr. 9	New Skete	273 New Skete Lane, Cambridge, NY	All Saints	205 Scarborough St., Hartford, CT

For the health and well-being of Archpriest Joseph and Matushka Julia, Abdullah, David, Tony, Stanislav, Leonard, Timothy, Helen, Fenaeda, Raya, Irina, Katia, Dennis, Svetlana, Konstantin, Vladislav, Galina, Nancy, Maria, Al, Mercy, and Michael.

March Birthdays

March Birthdays: Alla Gadoury (03), Alla Chelukhova (11), Leonard Madzy (19) Sean Salinovici (22), Luke Salinovici (22), Grace Makdisi (23), Andrea Fiscu (24), Richard Goudey (28), Koren Ahlen (29)

Announcements

Many Years! Alla Gadoury (March 3rd), Alla Chelukova (March 11th)

Gift Cards for Shut-ins. Please remember to sign the greeting cards in the back of the Church. We are collecting donations for our shut-ins to spend on gift cards instead of baskets. The donation box is marked and in the back of the church, as well. Thank you.

Seminaries Month: For the month of March, our parish is collecting monies to support our OCA Seminaries. This month we are collecting for St. Vladimir's Orthodox Theological Seminary. Please be generous in your support! Our seminaries truly need our support.

Catechism Sessions will be held during coffee hour in the Church throughout Great Lent beginning today. We have people eager to learn more of the basics of the Orthodox Faith, and this time of Lent is an appropriate time to offer instruction in the Faith. Indeed, we have those amongst us who are seeking to enter the Orthodox Church either by baptism or chrismation. All parishioners are welcome. It was the practice of the early Church to offer instruction to those seeking illumination (baptism) during Lent, and all the faithful were invited to participate with those being catechized.

Upcoming Events

Pre sanctified Liturgy Wednesday/Study Group Friday. This Wednesday, and all the proceeding Wednesdays of Lent, we will have Presanctified Liturgy followed by a Lenten pot-luck meal. On Friday, we will celebrate and Akathist to the Life-giving Cross. Why? Because the third Sunday of Lent is the Sunday of the Cross—already the halfway point of Great Lent! All weekday services begin at 6:30pm.

March 26th at 5:00pm, St. Andrew's Brotherhood Visitation. We will have a pan-Orthodox Vespers served on Sunday, March 26th at 5:00pm (Sunday of St. John Climacus). Following Vespers our parish will host a Lenten meal for our visitors.

Children's Retreat on Lazarus Saturday. Like Last year, on the Saturday before Holy Week begins, Lazarus Saturday, we will celebrate the Divine Liturgy at 9am. Following the Liturgy, we will host a retreat for our children. We will prepare palms for Palm Sunday, have a luncheon, bake bread, and have an educational session on Confession, followed by confessions. The retreat is open to both children and adults. Remember, as well, that our Orthodox spirituality asks that we make a good confession before Pascha. This way, we turn our hearts and minds, in humility, to our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ, so that he may truly enter our lives and being—so that his resurrection may be our true joy, and that we may continue to grow in the love that he has offered us.

Last Sunday's Collection.....	\$1,142
Budget 2017.....	\$96,142
Progress Towards Budget.....	\$12,762
Syrian Fundraiser.....	\$100
<i>(additional donations)</i>	