

A WORD FOR THE DAY

The Lord is love; and He commanded us to love one another, and to love our enemies; and the Holy Spirit instructs us in this love. The soul that has not come to know the Holy Spirit does not understand how it is possible to love one's enemies, and will not accept this commandment; but the Lord has pity on all, and he who would be with the Lord must love his enemies.

The man to whom the Lord is known through the Holy Spirit becomes like unto the Lord, as St. John the Divine said, 'We shall be like him; for we shall see him as he is,' and we shall behold His glory.

You will say that a great many people are suffering every kind of adversity, and from evil men; but I entreat you, humble yourself under the mighty hand of God, and grace will be your teacher and you yourself will long to suffer for the sake of the love of the Lord. That is what the Holy Spirit, Whom we have come to know in the Church, will teach you.

St. Silouan the Athonite

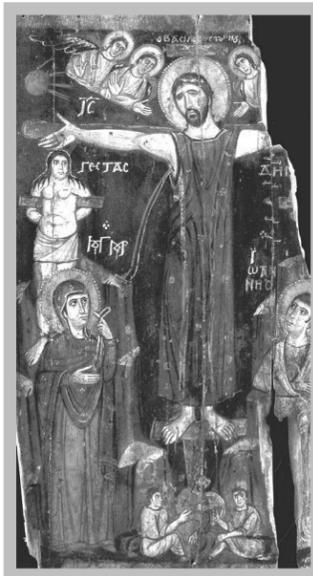
The disciples, not knowing what they asked for, wanted to be on the right hand and the left hand of Jesus when he comes in his glory. What such a request actually entails is revealed when we see Jesus positioned or rather enthroned, between two thieves, one on his right hand and the other on his left, on the Cross.

Christ comes into his glory on the Cross. This demolishes all our conceptions of what glory is, all our assumptions about honor and power. Indeed, it turns on its head our image of who and what God is: God is not a despot who exercises his power by imposing his will, who glorifies in the subservience of his subjects, or who responds to their petty requests.

No, God reveals his power in weakness, his wisdom in folly, his glory on the Cross, and his irresistible will in the love he makes manifest in this way.

The reading we heard today culminates in this very point. Jesus specifically says: the Son of man came to serve and give his life as a ransom for all, and so whoever would be the first must be the slave of all.

Fr. John Behr, The Cross Stands While the World Turns.



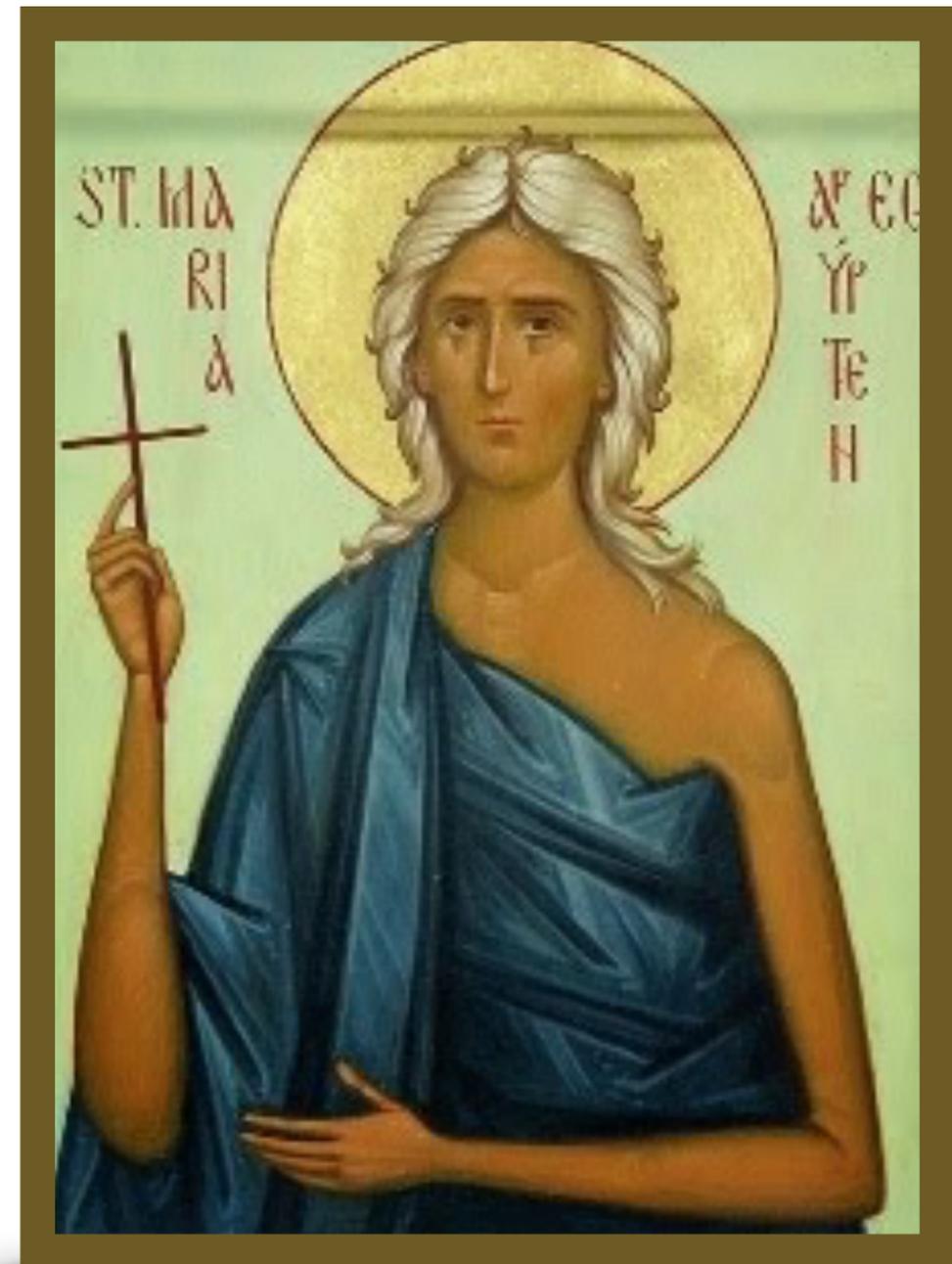
ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

April 2 2017

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT — Tone 8. St Mary of Egypt.

Ven. Titus the Wonderworker (9th c.). Martyrs Amphianus (Apphianus) and Edesius (Aedesius) of Lycia (306). Martyr Polycarp of Alexandria (4th c.).



Divine Services

Wednesday, April 5thPresanctified Liturgy 6:30 p.m.
(followed by Lenten Pot-Luck)

Friday, April 7th.....Matins of the Raising of Lazarus6:30 p.m.
(followed by Study Group)

Saturday, April 8thBaptismal Liturgy of St, John Chrysostom9:00 a.m.
(followed by pot luck meal)

Sunday, April 9thDivine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great.....10:00 a.m.
Palm Sunday
(Hours 9:40 a.m.)

Bridegroom Matins of Great and Holy Monday.....6:00 pm

Today's Readings

Epistle: Hebrews 9:11-14

Gospel: Mark 10:32-45

Next Week's Readings

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9

Gospel: John 12:1-18

For Next Week, April 9th

Hours and Thanksgiving PrayersLucian Radulescu

Epistle:Tanya Bogaevskaya

Coffee Hour.....Matushka Mary

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.

April Birthdays

April Birthdays: Serge Kim (4/29)

Announcements

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.

Youth Rally Charity Month. For the month of April, we will be collecting for the Diocese Youth Rally led by Fr. John Hopko. Our children have attended this wonderful summer week in the past. We hope you will give generously to this worthy event.

Catechism Sessions will continue today during coffee hour. Please come over to the church to listen to what our Orthodoxy spirituality and practice is all about.

Pascha Flowers: There is a collection box in the back of the church for Pascha flowers. The flowers will decorate the grave of our Lord on Holy Friday. Please help to fill our church with the beauty and fragrance of Holy Pascha.

Upcoming Events

Baptism of Fred Feingold. Our parishioner, Fred, will be baptized on Lazarus Saturday. This means we will celebrate a baptismal liturgy on Saturday, April 8th, at 9am. Please be there to support our soon-to-be newest member of our parish. After the baptism, during our children's retreat, we will have a pot-luck meal, both in celebration of the Raising of Lazarus and for the baptism of Fred.

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 that our Mother, the Church, 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. Why do we confess our sins? We confess our sins so that we may grow in Christ and learn to love as Christ loved. We confess our sins to show that we love Christ's light, and we want that light to enter into our own souls.

Last Sunday's Collection	\$1,199
Budget 2017	\$96,142
Progress Towards Budget.....	\$17,769