



Saints Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Church

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April 14, 2024. Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast. Tone 4. **Sunday of St John Climacus “of the Ladder.”** Holy Hierarch Martin the Confessor, Pope of Rome. Martyrs Anthony, Eustathius and John of Vilnius (Lithuania – 1347). Martyr Ardalion the Actor (4th c.).

“Do not think that if a person is currently outside the Church he is there forever. The Great Shepherd has more sheep and must bring them, and He is seeing to this. The world’s story is not over, and the cycles of time are not yet completed. For the Great Shepherd is walking invisibly on the earth, searching for His scattered sheep and gathering them into His sheepfolds in order to water them with His blood and feed them with His flesh, so that they might pass through the door and enter the great pastures of heaven.”

- The Priest-Martyr Daniel Sysoev (+2009)

FIFTH WEEK OF THE HOLY FAST

WELCOME! If this is the first time visiting us, we welcome you! To begin, we want you to know this much about us: You are always welcome here. It is our joy and honor to have visitors join us for prayer and worship. You won’t be asked to do anything which would make you uncomfortable. Our children worship with us. If you have young children, they are welcome here, too. If you need to move to the back of the church for any reason, you are not disturbing us. We expect our children to be raised in the church, and to do that, they have to be in church. If you are an Orthodox Christian, and you have prepared yourself to receive Holy Communion according to your spiritual father’s directions, please be sure to introduce yourself to Father Michael before the service. We hope you enjoy your visit. Our prayer is that you might return to pray here, serve here, and help lead others to the Orthodox Faith. If you have any questions, don’t be afraid to ask!

Divine Services

Wed	17	Great Lenten Hours & Typika	9:00 am
Thr	18	9 th Hour & Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (AT SAINT JOHN’S, BLACK LICK)	6:00 PM
Fri	19	9 th Hour & Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts Akathist to the Theotokos follows	10:00 am
Sat	20	Great Vespers & Confessions	6:00 p

Many Years! Kenna Seraphina Bogolea was baptized this past Sunday, April 7. Many years to her parents, family, sponsors and loved ones. We rejoice with all!

Parish Community Lenten Alms: We will continue to collect for the families affected by the tragic Guy Street fire throughout the Lenten season. All funds are sent directly to a special account in the charge of the Elliot Credit Union (make checks payable to Elliott Community FCU). May the Lord have mercy and repay!

Other Forthcoming Parish Needs: Of course, more **roof repairs**; **Paschal flowers** for the Lord's Tomb and the Church; and **Cemetery upkeep**.

Note: Current Financial Report has been posted on the bulletin board in the hall. Take a look at it to be fully aware of the financial needs now and to plan for the future.

Adult Class: "Preparing for Holy Week": Father Michael will offer the second class this Wednesday, April 17, at 6:00 pm, to explain the Holy Week. We will follow Father Alexander Schmemmann's paper, "A Liturgical Explanation of Holy Week," which can be found on stnicholasmarin.org. All are welcome.

Parish Education Class: Our next Parish Education class for the children (includes the babies/toddlers and older class with Ryan!) will be next Sunday, April 21, following a quick snack at lunch.

Lenten Mission Vespers Service: Next Sunday, April 20, at Saint John the Baptist, **New Kensington**. Vespers are at 6:00 pm

Kiosk EVEN MORE New Items: The Kiosk has been stocked with **EVEN MORE** new books to help you through Lent and during the Paschal season. There are gift items (small icons, car decals, prayer cards to saints and for various intentions, candle holder,) also available, along with **EVEN NEWER** Pascha cards to send to your fellow Orthodox. Of special note: we have received four 35-knot and four 100-knot prayer ropes, handmade by Fr. Joel Brady's father. These are exceptional quality and can be a prayer aid during this Lenten season and after. Stop and peruse our shop.

Pre-Pascha Church Cleaning Day; Saturday, April 20, 9:00 AM: *Remember our Cleaning Day!* We will start at 9 am and wipe down the iconostasis, clean the pews and kneelers, dust and polish the nooks and crannies. Two non-Orthodox friends of the parish have volunteered to come and help clean and beautify the Church! **Have you signed up on the bulletin board downstairs?**

Paschal Agape Meal: As is our custom, following the Divine Liturgy and post-Communion prayers on Great and Holy Pascha, we will come together in the Hall for our Agape meal! Ham and coffee/water/soda will be provided by the Church, as well as a few side dishes. Bring your Pascha basket with you at night and place it on the tables in the Hall. Father will come down to bless the baskets after post-Communion prayers and THEN: Time to celebrate our Risen Lord with great food, great drink and great company. Information/suggestions for creating your family's Pascha basket are available in handouts. Or, speak with Matushka Susanne or Father Michael.

Easter Egg Hunt: **Parents** Vicki has generously offered to donate fillable eggs, AND to fill them for our first Easter Egg Hunt for the children. The Hunt is scheduled for Sunday, May 12, weather-permitting, following the Divine Liturgy, around the outside of the Church property. You may donate candy for the eggs; see Vicki. It's time for you to discuss coordinating the hiding of the eggs and the Hunt, and the clean-up/collection of the eggs—for next year!

2024 Trapeza (Lunch) Schedule: **2024 monthly Trapeza schedules are posted on the bulletin board in the Hall.** Volunteers are needed for the coming months. Lenten cookbooks are available and can be purchased from our bookstore in the vestibule to help to prepare a delicious Lenten meal.

Coin Boxes: Are you adding to your coin boxes during Lent? Extra boxes are available at the desk.