



Saints Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Church

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April 21, 2024. Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast. Tone 5. **Venerable Mother Mary of Egypt.** Hieromartyr Januarius, Bishop of Benevento, and his companions: Festus, Prochlus, and Sosius; Deacons; Desiderius, Reader; and Eutychius and Acutius – laymen, at Pozzuoli.

“I do not want to go to hell, for no other reason than not to grieve Christ, Who would see me in hell and grieve. Let us not do good to expect wages like a hireling; let us do good out of love for Christ. We must guard against the calculating human spirit of selfishness, of self interest and self love. We must keep in mind that Christ sees us, He is observing us, and we must ever be vigilant not to grieve Him. Otherwise, our faith and our love become worn out and frayed.”

- Saint Paisios the Athonite

SIXTH 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	24	Great Lenten Hours & Typika	9:00 am
		Holy Unction	6:00 pm
Fri	26	Compline & Canon of Lazarus	6:00 pm
Sat	27	Forefeast of Palm Sunday	
		Great Vespers & Litya	6:00 pm

Holy Unction Service: “The Holy Oil heals pain and is a cause of light and a source of cheerfulness. Therefore, the blessed oil used in anointing indicates also the mercy that comes from God, and the healing of disease, and the illumination of the heart, for it is manifest to anyone anywhere that prayer and fasting brings about everything. The Holy Oil is a symbol of these things.”

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 a third class this Thursday, April 26, 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.

Lenten Mission Vespers Service: TODAY Sunday, April 21, at Saint John the Baptist, **New Kensington**. Vespers are at 6:00 pm. Come to pray in perhaps the most beautiful Church in our Archdiocese.

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.

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 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.

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.