St. Sophia’s Greek Orthodox Church
Syracuse, New York

Weekly Bulletin
Sunday, April 14, 2024
Sunday of St. John Climacus
BRETHREN, when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore to himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by a greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he interposed with an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.
Πρὸς Ἐβραίους 6:13-20

Προκείμενον, Ἡχος δ’
ΨΑΛΜΟΙ 103.24,1

Ὡς ἐμεγαλύνθη τὰ ἔργα σου Κύριε,
pάντα ἐν σοφίᾳ ἐποίησας.

Στίχ. Εὐλόγει ἡ ψυχή μου τὸν Κύριον.

Πρὸς Ἐβραίους 6:13-20 τὸ ἀνάγνωσμα

Αδελφοί, τῷ Ἀβραὰμ ἐπαγγειλάμενος ὁ θεός, ἐπεὶ κατ’ οὐδενὸς εἶχεν μείζονος ὀμόσαι, ὤμοσεν καθ’ ἕαυτον, λέγων, Ἡ μὴν εὐλογῶν εὐλογήσω σε, καὶ πληθύνων πληθυνῶ σε. Καὶ οὕτως μακροθυμήσας ἐπέτυχεν τῆς ἐπαγγελίας. Ἄνθρωποι μὲν γὰρ κατὰ τοῦ μείζονος ὀμνύουσιν, καὶ πάσης αὐτοῖς ἀντιλογίας πέρας εἰς βεβαίωσιν ὁ ὅρκος. Ἐν ὧν περισσότερον βουλόμενοι ὁ θεός ἐπιδείξαι τοῖς κληρονόμοις τῆς ἐπαγγελίας τὸ ἀμετάθετον τῆς βουλῆς αὐτοῦ, ἐμεσίτευσεν ὅρκῳ, ἵνα διὰ δύο πραγμάτων ἀμεταθέτων, ἐν οἷς ἀδύνατον ψεύσασθαι θεόν, ἰσχυρὰν παράκλησιν ἔχωμεν οἱ καταφυγόντες κρατῆσαι τῆς προκειμένης ἐλπίδος· ἢν ὃς ἀγκυράν ἔχομεν τῆς ψυχῆς ἀσφαλῆ τε καὶ βεβαίαν, καὶ εἰσερχομένην εἰς τὸ ἐσώτερον τοῦ καταπετάσματος· ὅπου πρόδρομος ὑπὲρ ἡμῶν εἰσῆλθεν Ἰησοῦς, κατὰ τὴν τάξιν Μελχισεδὲκ ἀρχιερεὺς γενόμενος εἰς τὸν αἰῶνα.
At that time, a man came to Jesus kneeling and saying: "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him; and when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he would not have any one know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, after three days he will rise."
Ἐκ τοῦ Κατὰ Μᾶρκον 9:17-31
Εὐαγγελίου τὸ Ἀνάγνωσμα

Τῷ καιρῷ ἑκείνῳ, ἄνθρωπος τις προσήλθε τῷ Ἰησοῦ λέγων, διδάσκαλε, ἤνεγκα τὸν υἱόν μου πρὸς σε, ἔχοντα πνεῦμα ἄλαλον. καὶ ὅπου ἂν αὐτὸν καταλάβη, ῥήσσει αὐτὸν, καὶ ἀφρίζει καὶ τρίζει τοὺς ὀδόντας αὐτοῦ, καὶ ξηραίνεται· καὶ ἐπὶ τοῖς μαθηταῖς σου ἤγειρεν τὸν πατέρα αὐτοῦ πόσος χρόνος ἐστίν ὡς τοῦτο γέγονεν αὐτῷ; ὁ δὲ εἶπεν αὐτῷ· σπάξαν αὐτὸν καὶ ζησάντα τοὺς ὀδόντας αὐτοῦ, καὶ πεσὼν ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς ἐκυλίετο. καὶ ἰδὼν αὐτὸν εὐθέως τὸ πνεῦμα ἐσπάραξεν αὐτόν, καὶ πεσὼν ἐπὶ τῆς γῆς ἐκυλίετο ἀφρίζων. καὶ ἐπηρώτησε τὸν πατέρα αὐτοῦ· πόσος χρόνος ἐστίν ὡς τοῦτο γέγονεν αὐτῷ; ὁ δὲ εἶπεν αὐτῷ· μήτηρ καὶ γενεὰ μου· καὶ μηκέτι εἰσέλθῃ εἰς αὐτόν. καὶ κράζαν αὐτὸν εἰς πῦρ καὶ εἰς ὕδατα, ἵνα ἀπολέσῃ αὐτόν· ἀλλὰ εἴ τι δύνασαι, βοήθησον ἡμῖν σπλαγχνισθεὶς ἐφ᾿ ἡμᾶς. ὁ δὲ ᾿Ιησοῦς εἶπεν αὐτῷ· τοῦτο τὸ γένος ἐν οὐδενὶ δύναται ἐξελθεῖν εἰ μὴ ἐν προσευχῇ καὶ νηστείᾳ. Καὶ ἐκεῖθεν ἐξελθόντες διὰ τῆς Γαλιλαίας, καὶ οὐκ ἦθελεν ἵνα τις γνῶνῃ ἐδίδασκε γὰρ τοὺς μαθητὰς αὐτοῦ καὶ ἠμαρτούσιν αὐτόν, καὶ ἠμαρτούσιν αὐτὸν, καὶ ἠμαρτούσιν τῇ τρίτῃ ἡμέρᾳ ἀναστῆσαι.
Resurrection Apolytikion in the Fourth Tone

When the tidings of the resurrection from the glorious angel was proclaimed unto the women disciples, and our ancestral sentence also had been abolished, to the apostles with boasting did they proclaim that death is vanquished evermore and Christ our God has risen from the dead, and granted to the world His great mercy!

Τὸ φαιδρὸν τῆς Ἀναστάσεως κήρυγμα, ἐκ τοῦ Ἀγγέλου μαθοῦσαι αἱ τοῦ Κυρίου Μαθήτριαι, καὶ τὴν προγονικὴν ἀπόφασιν ἀπορρίψασαι, τοῖς Ἀποστόλοις καυχώμεναι ἔλεγον· Ἐσκύλευται ὁ θάνατος, ἠγέρθη Χριστὸς ὁ Θεός, δωρούμενος τῷ κόσμῳ τὸ μέγα ἔλεος.

For St. John Climacus, mode 4

With the rivers of your tears you made the barren desert bloom; and with your sighs from deep within, you made your labors bear their fruits a hundredfold; and you became a star, illuminating the world by your miracles, O John, our devout father. Intercede with Christ our God, for the salvation of our souls.

Τὰς τῶν δακρύων σου ῥοαῖς, τῆς ἐρήμου τὸ ἄγονον ἐγεώργησας, καὶ τοῖς ἐκ βάθους στεναγμοῖς, εἰς ἑκατὸν τοὺς πόνους ἐκαρποφόρησας, καὶ γέγονας φωστήρ τῇ οἰκουμένῃ, λάμπων τοῖς θαύμασιν, Ἰωάννη Πατὴρ ἡμῶν ὅσιε, πρέσβευε Χριστῷ τῷ Θεῷ, σωθῆναι τὰς ψυχὰς ἡμῶν.

Apolytikion for the Church in the Plagal First Mode

Like a most fruitful olive tree you did blossom forth in the folds of the Lord, Sophia, martyr most pious! And to Christ you did bring sweetest fruit: the tender sprouts of your womb, through divine martyrdom, Agape, along with Hope and Faith. The God-minded with whom do you pray to God for all of us.

Kontakion for the Theotokos during Lent

O Champion General, I your City now inscribe to you triumphant anthems as the tokens of my gratitude, being rescued from the terrors, O Theotokos. Inasmuch as you have power unassailable, from all kinds of perils free me, so that unto you I may cry aloud: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

Τῇ ὑπερμάχῳ στρατηγῷ τὰ νικητήρια, Ὡς λυτρωθεῖσα τῶν δεινῶν εὐχαριστήρια, Ἀναγράφω σοι ὡς ἐλευθέρωσα τὸ κράτος ἀπροσμάχητον, Ἐκ παντοῖων με κινδύνων ἐλευθέρωσαν· Ἶνα κράζω σοι· Χαῖρε νύμφη ἀνύμφευτε.
Sunday—April 14, 2024

Trisagions
Gus Columbus (14 Years)
Panagiota Stamatakos (37 Years)
PODCAST

TELLING THE STORY

Sunday Gospels Revised

Telling the Story consists of short fiction inspired by the Sunday Gospel readings. Using the settings of the gospel stories at will as contemporary and historical settings to bring a fresh and unexpected look at the biblical text—Start date: March 2024

https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/tellingthestory
JOIN US TODAY
FOR COFFEE HOUR

A special thank you to the following members of our community who have volunteered to donate their time today to serve coffee:

Anastasia Ioannidis & Peter Lemonides

PHILOPTOCHOS EVENTS

Easter Basket Raffle
Baskets will be displayed and tickets can be purchased on Sundays - April 14th, April 21st and April 28th. We will have the drawing on Palm Sunday—April 28th.

Tickets:
$10 for 20 tickets & a door prize ticket
$5 for 8 tickets & a door prize ticket
Funds raised will be utilized for our numerous philanthropic projects.

Tsoureki Sale
Mark your calendars for Palm Sunday—April 28th when we will have our annual Tsoureki Sale (Greek Easter Bread)
Church Services & Events for Today & the Upcoming Week

**Today ~ Sunday of St. John Climacus**
- 8:45 am Orthros
- 10:00 am Divine Liturgy

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY**
- 6:00 pm Lenten Vespers
  at St. Luke Ukrainian Orthodox Church

**Thursday—April 18, 2024**
- 6:00 pm Choir Rehearsal

**Friday—April 19, 2024**
- 6:00 pm Fifth Akathist Hymn

**Saturday ~ April 20, 2024**
- **FESTIVAL BAKING**
  - 8:00 am to 3:00 pm Pasta Flora
  - 10:00 am Romanian Liturgy
  - 5:00 pm Great Vespers

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**Father David is Out of Town**
**Monday, April 15 to Friday, April 19**
Please Join Us!

2024 PAN-ORTHODOX LENTEN VESPERS

Schedule of Services  ~ 6:00 pm on Sundays followed by a Fasting Meal

April 14, 2024
Sunday of St. John Climacus
St. Luke’s Ukrainian Orthodox Church
3290 Warners Road ~ Warners, NY 13164

April 21, 2024
Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt
St. George Macedonian Orthodox Church
5083 Onondaga Road ~ Syracuse, NY 13215
TODAY

General Assembly Meeting
GOYA
BOTTLE & CAN DRIVE

Saturday - April 27th
11:00 am to 2:00 pm

Proceeds for GOYA
End of the Year Trip
PALM FOLDING

After the Liturgy
Saturday—April 27th

You will be shown how to fold Palm Crosses if you have never done it before!