

SAINT LUKE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH  
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA - ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON  
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SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2018  
*St. John of the Ladder*  
FOURTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT

**Epistle Reading**  
Hebrews 6:13-20  
Ephesians 5:9-19

**Gospel Reading**  
Mark 9:17-31  
Matthew 4:25-5:12

*Christ is in our midst!  
He is and ever shall be!*

**Troparion for St. John of the Ladder**

Dweller of the desert and angel in the body, you were shown to be a wonder-worker, our God-bearing Father John. You received heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil, and prayer: healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to you by faith. Glory to Him who gave you strength! Glory to Him who granted you a crown! Glory to Him who through you grants healing to all!

**Kontakion**

The Lord truly set you on the heights of abstinence, to be a guiding star, showing the way to the universe, O our Father and Teacher John.

**Sacrament of Confession**

Fr. John encourages us to prepare and come for Confession during Great Lent. He will be available to hear confessions at 6PM before each Wednesday service or at other times by appointment.

**From the Lenten Triodion:** Come, let us purify ourselves with alms and mercy to the poor, not blowing a trumpet or publicizing what we do in charity, lest our left hand know what our right has done, and vainglory steal from us the fruit of almsgiving. But let us plead in secret with the One Who knows our secrets, crying out: "Father, forgive us our trespasses, for You are the Lover of mankind!"

**Welcome to Our Guests**

We offer a warm welcome to all guests who with us today. Please join us for Coffee Hour after Divine Liturgy. We look forward to meeting you and answering any questions you may have about the Orthodox Faith and St. Luke parish life. You are always welcome in our worship, fellowship, study and charity outreach.

**Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts – Wednesday, February 28**

Pre-Sanctified Liturgy will be served on Wednesday at 7PM followed by a Lenten potluck supper and discussion. Fasting to receive the Eucharist begins after lunch.

**St. Luke 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Assembly & Lenten Soup Social - Sunday, March 25**

- Our Annual Assembly will be convened next Sunday following Liturgy and a Lenten luncheon. Clergy, Board of Trustees, committee and ministry reports will be presented. Elections will take place for the Board of Trustees and Audit Board. All parishioners are encouraged to attend. Everyone's viewpoint is important as we discuss administrative affairs and plan for our future.
- A group of Sisterhood members will prepare a variety of Lenten Soups for the social hour. All donations will be matched by the Sisters up to \$500 to benefit Dr. Bill Black, Orthodox Christian Mission Center (OCMC) missionary to Kenya.

**OCMC Benefit Dinner and Raffle – Sunday, April 22**

A Pan-Orthodox celebration of Orthodox missionaries is planned for April 22 at Saint Katherine Greek Orthodox Church, 3149 Glen Carlyn Rd., Falls Church, VA 22041. The evening will begin with Vespers at 4:30PM followed by a wine reception and dinner along with music and raffles. The guest speaker will be Fr. George Liacopoulos, Ph.D., of Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Church, Egg Harbor, NJ. Tickets are \$60; student rate is \$30; tables of ten are \$500. For tickets: Nia Vroustouris - evroustouris@gmail.com or Linda Jouvanis - ljouvanis@gmail.com.

**Metropolitan Tikhon's Lenten Video Messages**

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon is offering a series of weekly reflections on the themes in the Triodion hymns sung on Mondays of Great Lent. Each reflection, running a few minutes in length, is posted at <https://oca.org/media/video>.

**God Grant You Many Years!**

God bless Father Deacon Patrick on the twelfth anniversary of his ordination! We extend greetings to Rebecca Karabin on her 14<sup>th</sup> birthday, to Hossana Aberra, Esteban De La Riva, and to Nelly Mudrezow who is celebrating her 92<sup>nd</sup> birthday!