

SAINT LUKE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA - ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON
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MARCH 29, 2020
ST. JOHN OF THE LADDER
FOURTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT

Epistle Readings

Hebrews 6:13-20
Ephesians 5:9-19

Gospel Readings

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.

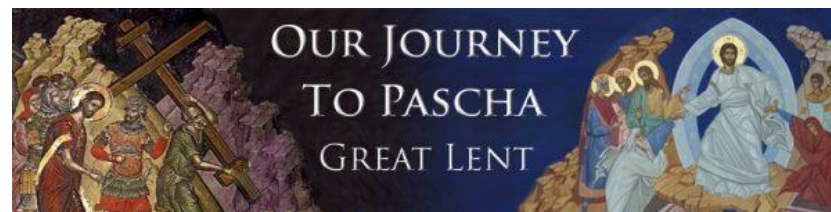
The Fourth Sunday of Lent is dedicated to Saint John of the Ladder (St. John Climacus), the author of the work, The Ladder of Divine Ascent. The abbot of Saint Catherine's Monastery on Mount Sinai in the 6th century, this saint stands as a witness to the arduous effort needed for entrance into God's Kingdom. The spiritual struggle of the Christian life is a real one, as St. Paul stresses: "not against flesh and blood, but against . . . the rulers of the present darkness . . . the hosts of wickedness in heavenly places . . ." St John encourages the faithful in their efforts for, according to the Lord, only "he who endures to the end will be saved."

Faith Resources during the Pandemic

<https://www.oca.org>

<https://www.ancientfaith.com>

<https://myocn.net>



Holy Days of Great Lent and Pascha

Sunday, April 5	Fifth Sunday of Lent ~ St. Mary of Egypt
Tuesday, April 7	Feast of the Annunciation
Saturday, April 11	Lazarus Saturday
Sunday, April 12	Palm Sunday ~ Christ's Entry into Jerusalem
Thursday, April 16	Holy Thursday ~ Mystical (Last) Supper
Friday, April 17	Great and Holy Friday ~ Crucifixion and Burial of Christ
Saturday, April 18	Holy Saturday
Sunday, April 19	PASCHA ~ Great Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord
Monday, April 20	Bright Monday

St. Luke Safety Net

A new Faith in Action parish ministry is now in place during the Corona Virus Pandemic to help us support one another spiritually and socially. Volunteers have stepped forward to make phone calls, send email and arrange for delivery of food to those who are quarantined, especially if alone. Anyone in need or anyone who would like to help may contact Tatjana Jovanic: jovanic.tatjana@yahoo.com.

Prayer Chain for the Pandemic

Join a worldwide common prayer chain, originating from Mount Athos, that asks everyone from 10:00-10:15 every evening to offer up the Jesus Prayer - "Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy upon Your world." Each time zone around the world will offer the prayer in their own local time of 10PM, so that we form a never-ending prayer chain around the world. (From Fr. Luke Veronis)

Lenten Prayer Partners

To those who are participating in the Lenten Prayer Partners ministry and to all St. Luke faithful, please pray for Fr. John, Pda. Kitty, and all our fellow parishioners.