

SAINT LUKE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH  
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA - ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON  
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SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2019  
**VENERATION OF THE CROSS**  
THIRD SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT

**Epistle Reading**  
Hebrews 4:14-5:6

**Gospel Reading**  
Mark 8:34-9:1

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

**Troparion for Veneration of the Cross**

O Lord, save Your people, and bless Your inheritance. Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians over their adversaries. And by virtue of Your Cross, preserve Your habitation!

**Kontakion** Now the flaming sword no longer guards the gates of Eden; it has mysteriously been quenched by the wood of the Cross! The sting of death and the victory of hell have been vanquished; for You, O my Savior, have come and cried to those in hell: “Enter again into paradise.”

Before Thy Cross, we bow down in worship, O Master,  
and Thy holy Resurrection, we glorify!

**St. Luke Annual Assembly & Lenten Soup Social - Today**

- Our Annual Assembly will be convened today following Divine Liturgy and a Lenten Luncheon. There will be reports from Fr. John, the Board of Trustees, Audit Board, committees and ministries, plus an election of officers. All parishioners are encouraged to come, hear the update on the Building Campaign and be a part of the stewardship of our community.
- A variety of Lenten Soups will be prepared by volunteers from our Sisterhood. All luncheon donations will be matched by the Sisters up to \$500 with half each going to the faithful Orthodox people of the OCA Dioceses of Alaska and Mexico.

**Welcome to Our Guests**

We offer a warm welcome to all guests. Please sign the guest book at the entrance and pick up a welcome folder. Join us for Coffee Hour. We look forward to meeting you and answering any questions you may have about St. Luke parish life and the Orthodox Faith.

**Sacrament of Confession**

Fr. John will be available to hear confessions at 6PM before each Wednesday service and at other times by appointment. Plan to come before Holy Week.

**Liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts – Wednesday, April 3**

Pre-Sanctified Liturgy will be served every Wednesday throughout Lent at 7PM. Preparation to receive the Eucharist begins after the midday meal. Please bring a Lenten food to share afterwards. Discussion will follow on the “Four Pillars for the Fulfillment of the Apostolic Work of the Church”.

**Memorial Saturday and Great Vespers – April 6**

This coming Saturday, a Memorial Service (Panikhida/Parastas) will be offered at 4:30PM prior to the First Saturday of the Month Great Vespers. Names of the departed may be added to the Prayer List at the Candle Table.

**Great Feast of the Annunciation & First Sunday of the Month – April 7**

**Potluck Coffee Hour:** Bring a Lenten (no meat, no dairy) main dish, side dish, salad or dessert to share at Coffee Hour next week.

**Food for the Needy:** Next Sunday’s collection of food for the homeless and low income families is a time for us to follow the Lenten discipline of charitable giving. We may be hungry during Lenten fasting. They are hungry every day. Please help.

**Metropolitan Tikhon’s Lenten Video Messages - <https://oca.org/media/video>**

His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon is offering a series of weekly reflections on the themes in the Triodion hymns. The videos each run a few minutes in length.

**St Matthew Church Trip to St Tikhon’s Monastery – Monday, May 27**

St. Matthew Church in Columbia, MD invites us to join them on a one day round trip to St. Tikhon’s Monastery Annual Memorial Day Pilgrimage, leaving at 6AM and returning at 9PM. Find details on the flyer posted in the social hall.

**God Grant You Many Years! Mnogaja ljeta!**

God bless Mark Mamula on his retirement. Many happy years to him and Sue!