

SAINT LUKE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH
ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA - ARCHDIOCESE OF WASHINGTON
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MARCH 17, 2024

CHEESEFARE SUNDAY (FORGIVENESS SUNDAY)

EXPULSION OF ADAM FROM PARADISE

ST. NIKOLAI OF ZICHA

FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE LENTEN TRIODION

Epistle Reading

Romans 13:11-14:4

Gospel Reading

Matthew 6:14-21

**CHRIST IS IN OUR MIDST!
HE IS AND EVER SHALL BE!**

Troparion (Resurrection)

You descended from on high, O Merciful One! You accepted the three-day burial to free us from our sufferings! O Lord, our Life and Resurrection, glory to You!

Troparion (St. Nikolai)

O golden-tongued preacher proclaiming the risen Christ, everlasting guide of the cross-bearing Serbian people, resounding harp of the Holy Spirit, and dear to monastics who rejoice in you, pride and boast of the priesthood, teacher of repentance, master for all nations, guide of those in the army of Christ as they pray to God, Holy Nikolai teacher in America and pride of the Serbian people, with all the saints, implore the only Lover of mankind to grant us peace and joy in his heavenly kingdom!

Kontakion (St. Nikolai)

Born at Lelich in Serbia, you served as archpastor at the church of Saint Nahum in Ochrid. You presided on the throne of Saint Sava at Zicha, teaching the people of God and enlightening them with the Gospel, bringing them to repentance and love for Christ. And for His sake you endured suffering at Dachau. Therefore, Nikolai, we glorify you as one newly well pleasing to God.

Kontakion (Forgiveness Sunday)

Master, Teacher of wisdom, Bestower of virtue, you teach the thoughtless and protect the poor: Strengthen and enlighten my heart. Word of the Father, let me not restrain my mouth from crying to you: Have mercy on me, a transgressor, O merciful Lord!

Memory Eternal+ Većnaja Pamjat+

Grant rest eternal with the Saints in blessed repose to the soul of Protodeacon Sergius Miller on the second anniversary of his falling asleep in the Lord.

Welcome to all guests via livestream and in person today. We invite you to stay for Coffee Hour. If you are interested in learning about the Orthodox Faith and St. Luke parish life, feel free to talk with Fr. John or Deacon Stefan. Please come again!

Cheesefare Sunday, Forgiveness Vespers and the Beginning of Great Lent

- Today is the last day for eating dairy products until Pascha. Fr. John has Lenten Guidelines for us and will answer questions on personal fasting disciplines.
- Vespers begins at 1PM. It is a time for prayer and mutual forgiveness to help us spiritually begin the Fast. **“Forgive me.” “God forgives, I forgive.”**

OCMC Mission Sunday – Today

The Assembly of Canonical Orthodox Bishops of the USA designates today as a time for the Church to pray for and support OCMC missionaries in countries around the world. We can donate to the Orthodox Christian Mission Center and consider volunteering for a short-term mission team. See <https://www.ocmc.org/>.

Lenten Prayer Partners

Today adults and children may select a Prayer Partner for Lent. If you wish to participate, drop your name in the Prayer Partner basket, and draw a name. You will pray for that person during Lent. We keep the name secret until Pascha on May 5.

Service Schedule for the First Week of Great Lent – March 18-21 at 7PM

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

7PM Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

Wednesday

7PM Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts followed by a Lenten Potluck Supper

Archdiocesan Vigil for the Great Feast of Annunciation – Sunday, March 24 - 6PM

Join His Beatitude Metropolitan Tikhon and the clergy and faithful of the Archdiocese of Washington in celebrating the great Feast of Annunciation with responses sung by the Archdiocesan Choir. Come to St. Mark Orthodox Church, 7124 River Rd., Bethesda, MD.

“Knowing St. Nikolai: Memories of an American Saint” – Tues., March 26 at 7PM

The Annual St. Nikolai Velimirovich Lecture will be livestreamed on [YouTube.stots.edu](https://www.youtube.com/stots.edu).

Visitation of the Wonderworking Sitka Icon of the Theotokos – March 27 at 6:30PM

The first stop of a nine-stop tour of the healing icon will be at St. Mark’s in Bethesda.

St. Luke Annual Assembly and Sisterhood Lenten Soup Social – Sunday, April 7

All parishioners are invited to the parish annual meeting on April 7 following Divine Liturgy to hear about the administrative and spiritual health of our parish. See Pres. Ron Kecman with any questions. The Sisterhood will host a Lenten Soup Social beforehand.

God Grant You Many Years! Mnogaja Ljeta!

God bless Deacon Stefan on the 2nd anniversary of his Ordination and Deacon Patrick Gariano on his 18th anniversary. God bless those celebrating their birthdays: Hossana Aberra, Becca Karabin and Jillian Rogers. Barbara Lane and Jay Gibbs joyfully announce the birth of their second grandson Jonah. Many Years to all!