

**PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR ...**

*The health and salvation of –*

Abducted Bishops Paul & John	Pauline
Hieroschemamonk Ambrose	Ann
Archpriest Eugene	Stefan
Archpriest Dimitrie	John
Priest James	Vivian
Priest John	Jung Sook
Subdeacon James	Thomas
Reader Aleksei	Cheyenne
Reader Sergei	Nancy
Monk Philaret	Randall
Matushka Priscilla	Rose
Marie • Virginia • Thomas	Don
John • Luke • Katherine	Norma
Catechumen Rebecca	James

*The repose and salvation of –*

Archpriest Paul (March 5)	Allen (March 7)
Matushka Mary (February 12)	
Helene (March 8)	

*Please let Father know if there are any names you would like added to the list.*

**This Wednesday, March 21, 6:00 PM – Matins with  
Great Canon & the Life of St. Mary of Egypt**

**This Saturday, March 24, 4:00 PM – choir practice**

**This Saturday, March 24, 5:30 PM – Great Vespers & Litya**

**Next Sunday, March 25 – Church School**

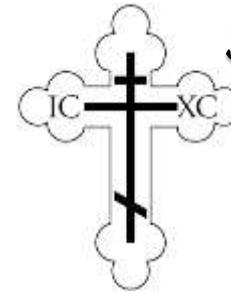
**Friday, March 30, 6:30 PM – Presanctified Liturgy & Lenten Potluck**

**PAN-ORTHODOX VESPERS NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 25**

**5:00 PM @ St Spyridon Greek Orthodox Church, Loveland**

**6:00 PM @ St. John Greek Orthodox Church, Pueblo**

*A mission parish under the omophorion of His Eminence Benjamin,  
Archbishop of San Francisco and the Diocese of the West,  
Orthodox Church in America*



**ST TIKHON ORTHODOX  
CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

**Sunday, March 18, 2018**

**St John Climacus**



*The cave of St John Climacus in the Valley of Tholas (Wadi Et-Tlah), Sinai*

Sunday Hours & Divine Liturgy at 9:10 AM, followed by agape potluck  
Wednesdays at 6:30 PM – Evening Prayers & Saints of the Day  
Other services as announced

Priest Alexander Vallens, *Rector*  
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## St John Climacus (St John of the Ladder)

John Climacus is the author of “The Ladder of Divine Ascent.” John came to Mt. Sinai as a sixteen year old youth and remained there, first as a novice under obedience, and afterwards as a recluse, and finally as abbot of Sinai until his eightieth year. He died around the year 563 A.D. His biographer, the monk Daniel, says about him: “His body ascended the heights of Sinai, while his soul ascended the heights of heaven.” He remained under obedience with his spiritual father, Martyrius, for nineteen years. Anastasius of Sinai, seeing the young John, prophesied that he would become the abbot of Sinai. After the death of his spiritual father, John withdrew into a cave, where he lived a difficult life of asceticism for twenty years. His disciple, Moses, fell asleep one day under the shade of a large stone. John, in prayer in his cell, saw that his disciple was in danger and prayed to God for him. Later on, when Moses returned, he fell on his knees and gave thanks to his spiritual father for saving him from certain death. He related how, in a dream, he heard John calling him and he jumped up and, at that moment, the stone tumbled. Had he not jumped, the stone would have crushed him.

At the insistence of the brotherhood, John agreed to become abbot and directed the salvation of the souls of men with zeal and love. From someone John heard a reproach that he talked too much. Not being angered by this, John however remained silent for an entire year and did not utter a word until the brothers implored him to speak and continue to teach them his God-given wisdom. On one occasion, when 600 pilgrims came to the Monastery of Sinai, everyone saw an agile youth in Jewish attire serving at a table and giving orders to other servants and assigning them. All at once, this young man disappeared. When everyone noticed this and began to question it, John said to them, “Do not seek him, for that was Moses the Prophet serving in my place.” During the time of his silence in the cave, John wrote many worthwhile books, of which the most glorious is “The Ladder.” In this book, John describes the method of elevating the soul to God, as ascending a ladder. Before his death, John designated George, his brother in the flesh, as abbot. George grieved much because of his separation from John. Then John said to him, that, if he [John] were found worthy to be near God in the other world, he would pray to Him that George would be taken to heaven that same year. And, so it was. After ten months George succeeded and settled among the citizens of heaven as did his great brother, John.

**Also this week:** *Martyrs Chrysanthus and Daria, and those with them (March 19); The Holy Fathers who were slain at the Monastery of St Sabbas: Ven John, Sergius, Patrick, and others (March 20); St James the Confessor, Bp of Catania; Martyr Photina, the Samaritan woman, and her sons: Martyrs Victor and Joses, and two others (March 21); GREAT CANON OF ST ANDREW OF CRETE; Hieromartyr Basil of Ancyra (March 22); Martyr Nikon and 199 disciples with him in Sicily (March 23); SATURDAY OF THE AKATHIST TO THE MOST-HOLY THEOTOKOS; FOREFEAST OF THE ANNUNCIATION; Ven. Zachariah the Recluse (March 24).*

*\* Lenten fast all week; wine and oil allowed on  
Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday \**

**Epistles:** Hebrews 6:13-20 (Sunday) / Ephesians 5:9-19 (Saint)

**Gospels:** Mark 9:17-31 (Sunday) / Matthew 4:25-5:12 (Saint)

### Troparion - Tone 8 (Resurrection)

Thou didst descend from on *high*, O Merciful One! /  
Thou didst accept the *three*-day burial to free us from our sufferings! ///  
O Lord, our Life and Resurrection: glory to Thee!

### Troparion – Tone 1 (St John)

O John our father, *saint* of God, /  
Thou wast revealed as a citizen of the desert, /  
An angel in body and a *worker* of miracles. /  
Through fasting, vigil and prayer thou hast received heavenly gifts of grace, /  
And thou healest the sick and the souls of those that *turn* to thee with faith. /  
Glory to Him Who gave thee strength; /  
Glory to *Him* Who crowned thee; ///  
Glory to Him Who through thee grants healing to all.

### Kontakion – Tone 4 (St John)

Truly the Lord has set thee as a fixed star in the firmament of abstinence, /  
Giving light to the ends of the earth, ///  
O father John our teacher.

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## THE LADDER OF DIVINE OF ASCENT

*If you don't already own this spiritual classic  
(highly recommended), you can read it online here:*

<http://www.prudencetrue.com/images/TheLadderofDivineAscent.pdf>

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