

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR ...

The health and salvation of –

Mitered Archpriest Alexander	John
Hieroschemamonk Ambrose	Vivian
Archpriest Eugene	Jung Sook
Archpriest Michael	Thomas
Priest John	Randall
Priest Benjamin	Don
Reader Aleksei	Norma
Monk Philaret	James
Elizabeth • Virginia • Joshua	Matthew
Phoebe • Kyra • Kyra • Ignatius	Ivars
Anne • Anna • Iraida • David	infant Maximiliano
Thomas • John • Theodore • Roman	Keith
Joseph • Kira • John • Ephrosynos	
Bede • Victoria • Maria • Gianoula	
Catechumens Rebecca and Dea	

The repose and salvation of –

Vadim (February 29)	Daisy (February 28)
George (March 6)	

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

This Wednesday, March 25, 6:00 PM – Vespers Divine Liturgy for the Annunciation

This Thursday, March 26, 6:30 PM – The Services of the Church

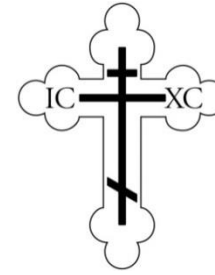
This Friday, March 27, 5:45 PM – Typica & Presanctified Liturgy

PAN-ORTHODOX VESPERS NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 29

5:00 PM @ St Elias Orthodox Church, Arvada

6:00 PM @ St. John the Baptist 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 22, 2020
Veneration of the Holy Cross



Sundays at 9:00 AM – Hours & Divine Liturgy, followed by agape potluck
Wednesdays at 6:00 PM – Evening Prayers & Saints of the Day
Saturdays at 5:30 PM – Great Vespers
Other services as announced

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The Sunday of the Cross

In the services for this Sunday the Holy Church glorifies the holy cross and the fruits of the death of the Savior on the cross. She will carry out the holy cross into the middle of the temple for veneration, and is why the Sunday is called the Veneration of the Cross. In the hymns for this day the holy Church, inviting us to honor the holy cross, tenderly appeals: “now the angelic hosts gather in reverence and bear aloft the honored Wood, and calling together all the faithful for the veneration. Come therefore and illumined by the fast, let us fall down before it with joy and fear”. “Cleansed by abstinence let us draw near, and with fervent praise let us venerate the all-holy Wood on which Christ was crucified, when He saved the world in His compassion”. “Come, faithful, and let us venerate the life-giving tree, on which Christ, the King of Glory voluntarily stretched out his hands. He raised us up to the ancient blessedness, whom the enemy despoiled of old through pleasure, making us exiles far from God. Come, faithful, and let us venerate the tree whereby we have been counted worthy to crush the heads of our invisible enemies. Come, all kindred of the nations, let us honor in hymns the Cross of the Lord”.

The purpose of instituting the Holy Cross in the service on the third Sunday will be revealed as a beautiful comparison by the Holy Church to the tree of life in paradise, the tree which sweetened the bitter waters of Marah, the tree with the canopy of leaves under whose shade tired travelers seeking the eternal promised land may find coolness and rest. Thus, the Holy Church offers the Holy Cross for spiritual reinforcement to those going through the ascetic effort of the fast, just as food, drink and rest serve as bodily reinforcement. This spiritual reinforcement is given as the representation of the love of God to man for whom the Son of God turned Himself over to death on the cross. It is especially necessary in the middle of our effort because now our ascetic efforts already have lost much of the freshness of its power and however yet cannot hopefully enliven itself for the near and successful ending of our ascetical effort. Having concentrated all that is the most severe and sorrowful in the worship services of the previous weeks, especially during the first, that may both frighten the sinner and apparently touch the hardest of human hearts, now in the middle of the large and difficult arena of the Holy Forty Day Fast the Holy Church offers the Holy Cross for great comfort and encouragement as needed for raising the flagging strength of those fasting.

Wherefore nothing can both console, encourage, and inspire the fatigued, or perhaps even the Christian weakened in spirit so much as the presentation of the eternal divine love of the Savior who turned Himself over to the struggle on the cross for the sake of our salvation.

*excerpted from S. V. Bulgakov, Handbook for Church Servers, 2nd ed. (Kharkov, 1900)
Translated by Archpriest Eugene D. Tarris*

ALSO THIS WEEK: Ven Martyr Nikon and 199 disciples with him in Sicily (March 23); Forefeast of the Annunciation (March 24); ANNUNCIATION OF THE MOST-HOLY THEOTOKOS (March 25); Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel; St Larissa, Martyr of Crimea (March 26); Martyr Matrona of Thessalonica (March 27); Memorial Saturday; Ven. Hilarion the new, Abbot of Pelecete (March 28).

*** fasting all week; fish, wine, and oil allowed on Wednesday, and wine and oil allowed on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday ***

Epistle: Hebrews 4:14-5:6 (Sunday)

Gospel: Mark 8:34-9:1 (Sunday)

Troparion - Tone 7 (Resurrection)

By Thy *Cross*, Thou didst destroy death! / To the thief, Thou didst open Paradise! /
For the *myrrh*bearers, Thou didst change weeping into joy! /
And Thou didst command Thy disciples O Christ God, /
To *proclaim* that Thou art risen, /// Granting the world great mercy!

Troparion – Tone 1 (Cross)

O Lord, save Thy people, / And bless Thine inheritance, /
Grant victories to the Orthodox Christians / Over their adversaries, /
And by virtue Thy Cross, /// Preserve Thy habitation.

Kontakion – Tone 7 (Cross)

The fiery *sword* no longer guards the gate of Eden, /
For in a strange and glorious way the wood of the Cross has quenched its flames. /
The *sting* of death and the victory of hell are now destroyed, /
For Thou art come, my Saviour, crying unto those in hell: /// “Return again to Paradise.”

“O God Almighty, Lord of heaven and earth, and of all creation visible and invisible, in Thine ineffable goodness, look down upon us, Thy people gathered in Thy Holy Name. Be our helper and defender in this day of affliction. Thou knowest our weakness. Thou hearest our cry in repentance and contrition of heart. O Lord who lovest mankind, deliver us from the impending threat of the Corona Virus. Send Thine angel to watch over us and protect us. Grant health and recovery to those suffering from this virus. Guide the hands of physicians and preserve those who are healthy. Enable us to continue to serve our suffering brothers and sisters in peace that together we may glorify Thy most honorable and majestic name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.”