

**PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR ...**

*The health and salvation of –*

Abducted Bishops Paul & John	Pauline
Hieroschemamonk Ambrose	Ann
Archpriest Eugene	Stefan
Priest James	John
Reader Aleksei	Vivian
Monk Philaret	Jung Sook
Matushka Mary	Thomas
Matushka Mary Sara	Cheyenne
Andrea	Nancy
Virginia • Thomas	Randall
Justina	Rose
John	Don
Euphrosynos	Norma
John	Nancy
Catechumen Rebecca	James
Catechumen Jennifer	

*The repose and salvation of –*

Jacqueline (February 18)

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

**This Wednesday, March 8, 6:00 PM –  
Presanctified Liturgy & Lenten Potluck**

*This Saturday, March 11 – 4:00 choir practice and 5:30 Great Vespers*

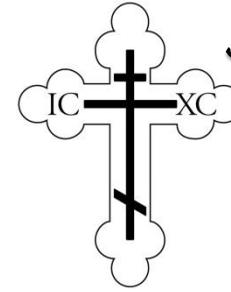
**Next Sunday, March 12 – Parish Council**

**PAN-ORTHODOX VESPERS NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 12**

**5:00 PM @ Holy Transfiguration Cathedral, Denver**

**6:00 PM @ St. Michael's 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 5, 2017**

**The Triumph of Orthodoxy**



*Icon procession in Agros, Cyprus*

Sunday Hours & Divine Liturgy at 9:10 AM, followed by agape potluck  
Other services as announced

Rev. Alexander Vallens, *Rector*  
[priest@sttikhonparker.org](mailto:priest@sttikhonparker.org)

(303) 305-8443

19035 East Plaza Drive, Parker, Colorado 80134

[www.sttikhonparker.org](http://www.sttikhonparker.org)

## The Sundays of Great Lent

Each Sunday in Lent has two themes, two meanings. On the one hand, each belongs to a sequence in which the rhythm and spiritual “dialectics” of Lent are revealed. On the other hand, in the course of the Church’s historical development almost each lenten Sunday has acquired a second theme. Thus on the first Sunday the Church celebrates the “Triumph of Orthodoxy” – commemorating the victory over Iconoclasm and the restoration of the veneration of icons in Constantinople in 843. The connection of this celebration with Lent is purely historical: the first “triumph of Orthodoxy” took place on this particular Sunday. The same is true of the commemoration on the second Sunday of Lent of St. Gregory Palamas. The condemnation of his enemies and the vindication of his teachings by the Church in the 14th Century was acclaimed as a second triumph of Orthodoxy and for this reason its annual celebration was prescribed for the second Sunday of Lent. Meaningful and important as they are in themselves, these commemorations are independent from Lent as such and we can leave them outside the scope of this essay....

As to the first and essential theme of lenten Sundays, it also is primarily revealed in the scriptural lessons. To understand their sequence, we must once more remember the original connection between Lent and Baptism – Lent’s meaning as preparation for Baptism. These lessons are therefore an integral part of the early Christian catechesis; they explain and summarize the preparation of the catechumen for the Paschal mystery of Baptism. Baptism is the entrance into the new life inaugurated by Christ. To the catechumen, this new life is as yet only announced and promised, and he accepts it by faith. He is like one of the men of the Old Testament who lived by their faith in a promise whose fulfillment they did not see. This is the theme of the first Sunday. After having mentioned the righteous men of the Old Testament, the Epistle (Heb. 11:24-26; 32-40; 12-2) concludes:

*... and these all, though well attested by their faith, did not receive what was promised since God has foreseen something better for us.*

What is it? The answer is given in the Gospel lesson of the first Sunday (John 1:43-51):

*... you shall see greater things than these... truly, truly I say unto you, you will see heaven open and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man.*

This means: you catechumens, you who believe in Christ, you who want to be baptized, who are preparing yourselves for Pascha – you shall see the inauguration of the new age, the fulfillment of all promises, the manifestation of the Kingdom. But you shall see it only if you believe and repent, if you change your mind, if you have the desire, if you accept the effort.

*from Great Lent, by Protopresbyter Alexander Schmemmann*

**Also this week:** 42 Martyrs of Ammoria in Phrygia (March 6); Holy Hieromartyrs of Cherson: Basil, Ephraim, Capito, Eugene, Aetherius, Elpidius, and Agathodorus (March 7); St. Theophylactus, Bishop of Nicomedia (March 8); HOLY 40 MARTYRS OF SEBASTE (March 9); Martyr Quadratus and those with him (March 10); MEMORIAL SATURDAY; St Sophronius, Patriarch of Jerusalem (March 11).

**\* LENTEN FAST ALL THIS WEEK; WINE AND OIL ALLOWED ON SATURDAY \***

**Epistle:** Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2 (Sunday)

**Gospel:** John 1:43-51 (Sunday)

### Troparion – Tone 4 (Resurrection)

When the women disciples of the Lord learned from the angel /  
The joyous message of Thy Resurrection; /  
They cast away the ancestral curse /  
And elatedly told the apostles: /  
Death is overthrown! / Christ God is risen, ///  
Granting the world great mercy.

### Troparion – Tone 2 (Triodion)

We venerate Thy most pure image, O Good One, /  
And ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ our God. /  
Of Thy good will Thou wast pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh /  
And deliver Thy creatures from bondage to the enemy. /  
Therefore with thankfulness we cry aloud to Thee: /  
Thou hast filled all with joy, O our Savior, ///  
For Thou didst come to save the world.

### Kontakion – Tone 8 (Triodion)

The uncircumscribed Word of the Father became circumscribed, /  
Taking flesh from thee, O Theotokos, /  
And He has restored the sullied image to its ancient glory, /  
Filling it with the divine beauty. /  
This our salvation *we* confess in deed and word, ///  
And we depict it *in* the holy ikons.