

# THE ST. ELIZABETH'S PARISH NEWS

## St. Elizabeth's Orthodox Mission

2265 E. Cherokee Dr. Woodstock, GA  
A Parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese  
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople



Reverend Father Matthew Dutko, Pastor

Phone: 607-206-0384

Email: FatherDutko@gmail.com

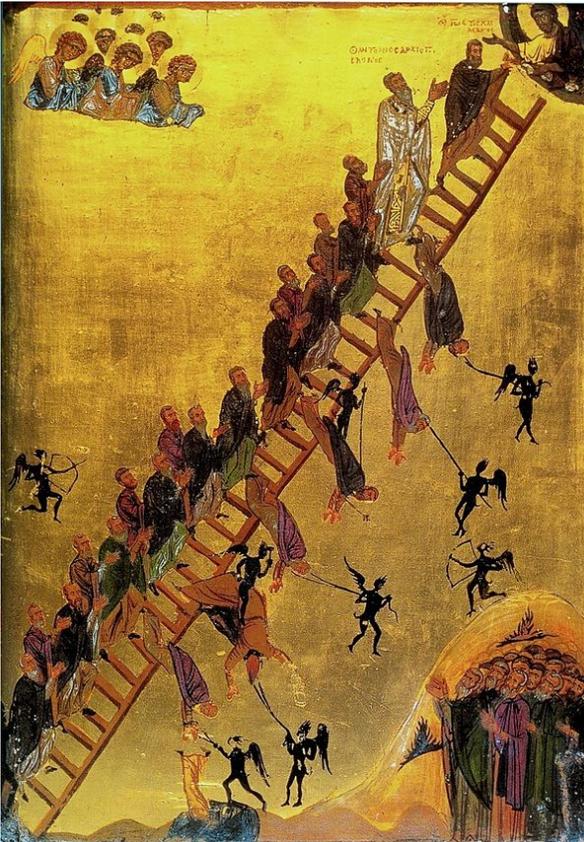
Sunday March 26th 2016

4th Sunday of Lent

Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20

Gospel: Mark 9:16-30

### Sunday of St. John of the Ladder



# Welcome

**Welcome to all of our visitors!** If you have never been to an Orthodox Church before you are about to partake in the Divine Liturgy. The Liturgy is the *work of the people* and that means that all of your prayers are necessary! We hope you will stay and join us for coffee hour in the atrium. Please ask Fr. Matthew any questions you might have! May God's blessings be upon all of you!

### Weekly Schedule for the fifth week of Lent:

**Tuesday 3/28 6:30AM**– Daily Lenten Matins

**Wednesday 3/29 7PM**– Presanctified Liturgy

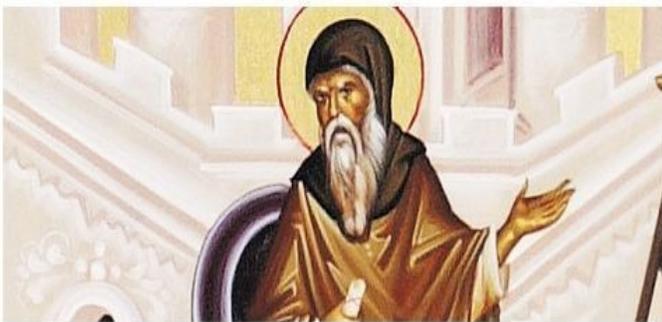
**Friday 3/31 6PM**– Moleben to the Cross

**Sunday 4/2 10AM**– Divine Liturgy



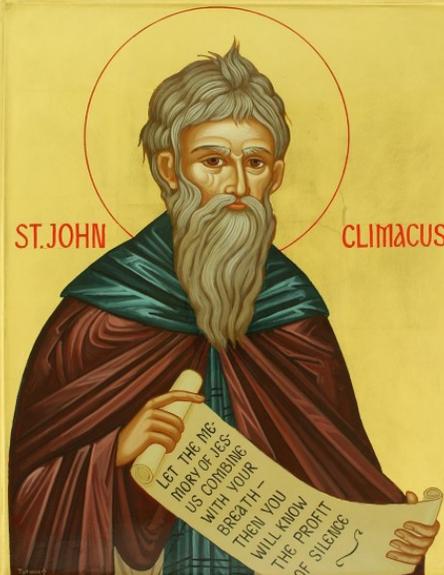
**Tropar Tone 7:** Blue Book page 99 Red Book page 114

**Tropar and Kondak of St. John of the Ladder-** Blue book pg. 183, Red Book pg. 206.



*"As long as anger lives, she continues to be the fruitful mother of many unhappy children."*

~ St. John Climacus



**Do not make any judgements, and you will travel no quicker road to the forgiveness of sins.**  
-St. John Climacus



*Come and worship the Lord with the spirit of repentance and thanksgiving at a Lenten service!*

- **Panachida this morning** for the newly departed servants of God Alma, Bo, and Sadie.
- **Confessions**– Don't wait until Holy Week! Come for Confession a half an hour before any service except Sunday Divine Liturgy. If you need to receive Confession on a Sunday please see Fr. Matthew to make arrangements!
- **Coffee Hour**– Thank you to Cora James for providing this weeks Coffee Hour. **Next Sunday is Potluck!**
- **Palms, Willows, and Paschal Flowers**– If you would like to make a special donation for palms, pussy-willows, or paschal flowers please make a donation and note it on a check or envelope for either **Palm Sunday or Easter** depending on which you would like to give towards. **The Paschal Flowers** this year will be white *Easter Lilies*. These lilies are plantable! If you would like to donate one for the health of, or in memory of a departed loved one, you can take it home after Pascha and plant it in your garden! **Order forms for Easter Lilies are available on the bulletin board by the coffee pot.**
- **The Next Two Sundays there will be a special collection for the Ecumenical Patriarchate.** Each year our Diocese sends a collective give to our beloved Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew. This is a free will offering that our parish, along with all the others in the Diocese will send to Constantinople as a whole. A basket will be offered the next two Sundays at the end of the Divine Liturgy. If you would like to write check, please write **"Patriarchate"** in the memo line.
- **Camp Nazareth Survey**– We all know how important it is to help keep our young people connected to their faith. How important youth ministry is. Our children have an amazing opportunity each year to learn about and grow in their faith among their fellow Orthodox Christian peers at Camp Nazareth. The cost to get our children all the way to Mercer, PA can become quite expensive. Because of this, next week an anonymous survey will be offered in the bulletin to gauge interest in our ability to help our kids make it to camp. I ask that everyone please participate and fill out this survey so that we, as a parish family can prepare as best we can to make it possible for every child who wants to go to Camp Nazareth to have that opportunity.
- **A Parish Wide Meeting will be held on Sunday April 30th Following the Divine Liturgy.**

**Why We Pray for the Departed**- Death, for Orthodox Christians, is always a tragedy, something which distorts the goodness and beauty of God's creation. By His own example at the tomb of His friend Lazarus we see that death is always tragic, even for the One Who conquers death. Christ came to proclaim new life, to acknowledge that death is not a transition into eternal oblivion, to announce that "through [Him] God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep" (1 Thess 4:14). We also believe that "if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His. ...If we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him" (Rom 6:5,8). ...Orthodox Christians pray for the dead so that the Lord will have mercy on their souls, that He will grant them eternal rest "in the bosom of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob," that He will extend His unfathomable love upon them, and that He will receive them into that state "in which there is neither sickness, nor sighing, nor sorrow, but life everlasting." Saint Paul clearly teaches that those who have gone before us are still members of the Body of Christ, the Church. And it is the duty of the members of the Church to pray for one another. Just as the living continually beseech God to have mercy on them—and may rightly offer prayers to God on behalf of their living spiritual sisters and brothers as well as request prayers on their own behalf from others—so too we have the duty to pray for all members of the Body of Christ, even those who have departed this life and still "belong to Christ." One will find that the early Christians, surrounded as they were by death as a result of official persecution on the part of the Roman Empire, took great care to honor the dead, to bury them with great care and reverence—to the point of offering the Eucharistic celebration on their graves, which is one of the earliest indications of the veneration of their relics!—and to remember them especially on the anniversary of their deaths which were seen as "birthdays" into eternal life. In asking God to have mercy on the souls of the departed, we also ask God to have mercy on us who are still in this life, and we recognize that we too shall die. All members of the Church, living as well as faithful departed, cry before the throne of God, "Lord, have mercy on us." -<https://oca.org/questions/teaching/mary-prayer-death>

Evelyn Melnikoff, Fr. John and Pani Betty Jean Baranek, Fr. James Gleason, The Paccio Family, Johanna, James, Herbert and Mary Schleinig, Patricia James+ (Blessed Repose), Anna, Basil, David, Dianna, Denise, Alex, Jason, Athanasia, Ethel, Kathy, Lester, Sally, Jack, Angela, Tyler, Maria, Jeff, Lesley, Page Family, Stephen (Blessed Repose), The Blonar Family, Anna (Blessed Repose), Louise, Emma Rae, The Floyd Family, Phillip (Blessed Repose), Zachary, George, Fred and Helen Mileshko, Robin, Michael, Dean, Margaret, Jenny (Blessed Repose) and Keith, Peter (blessed repose), Bishop Gregory and his family, Bryan +(Blessed Repose), Rick, the James Family, Fr. Scott, Rebecca Cooper (Blessed Repose), Fr. Paul Herbert (Blessed Repose), Joseph, Boris, Maria+ (Blessed Repose), Maria Starcova, Ernie +(Blessed Repose), Fr. Hazuda, Janis, John Haddad, David Novak, Suzette Gardenhour, Bob, David, Michelle, Stephen, James, Brian Paul, George Smisko+ (Blessed Repose), Kathy, Mike, Helen S+ (Blessed Repose), Bob+ (Blessed Repose), Debbie, Alma+ (Blessed repose), Ken, The Hayes and Boucher families, Bo+ (Blessed Repose), Sadie+ (Blessed Repose) Through the prayers of the Birthgiver of God and Ever-Virgin Mary, St. Elizabeth, The Holy Fathers, and all the Saints, may our Lord God and Saviour Jesus Christ have mercy on us and save us!

