

Orthodox Church of the  
Resurrection of Christ  
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Sunday, 6 April 2025  
Divine Liturgy Sundays at 9:30 AM  
Confessions 8:45-9:15 AM

St Mary of Egypt  
Предпразд. Благовещения  
Forefeast of the Annunciation

### Upcoming Service Schedule

**Sunday, Apr 6**  
St Mary of Egypt; Forefeast of Annunciation  
Confessions 8:30 AM (or by appointment)  
Liturgy 9:30 AM

**Monday, Apr 7**  
Annunciation - Благовещение  
Liturgy 9:30 AM

**Saturday, April 12 – Lazarus Saturday**  
930 AM Service

**Sunday – Apr 13 PALM SUNDAY**  
(Saturday evening 6:30 PM Vigil)  
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy / Литургия

### HOLY WEEK

**Holy Thursday, 17 Apr 9:30 AM Service**  
6:30 PM Vigil – 12 Gospels

**Holy Friday 18 Apr 3 PM Vespers**  
6:30 PM Matins

**Holy Saturday – Apr 19 9:30 AM Service**  
9 PM Reading Acts of the Apostles  
10 PM – Confessions / Исповедь  
11 PM – Blessing of Easter Baskets  
11:30 PM – Nocturns  
12 Midnight – Procession, **PASCHAL MATINS,**  
**PASCHAL DIVINE LITURGY**

**PASCHA - RESURRECTION OF CHRIST**  
10 AM Paschal Vespers

begun to repent, and you are already forgiven.

The Lord wants us to have sorrow in our hearts. But how can we raise the sorrow of our hearts if there is anxiety, illness, sadness inside a person, if everything in his life is built only on this earth? From misunderstanding and mistrust of God, a person comes to a dead end: he took communion, but he gets worse; God simply has a completely different task: He came to save man and; while man is here on earth, to introduce him to a new life in which there will be no sin. If we do not find Christ in this world, we will never find Him in eternity. Therefore, despite all our good desires and aspirations, we still need to submit our lives to God. It is not easy, but this is our crucifixion. This is our little Golgotha,

Today in the second Gospel we heard about holiness. What is holiness? Here before us are the outstanding teachers of the law, the scribes and Pharisees from the Gospel, and here is the harlot who came to wash the Savior's feet.

*This Gospel is read in memory of Mary of Egypt.* And the life of this saint herself is a model, a tuning fork of life, which the Church gives us and tunes us to a new life. We do not seek to exalt ourselves. We are debtors to God, and we must trust Him to the end. The task of each of us is to grow spiritually, not to be satisfied with the state in which we find ourselves today. But life should be different. It is hard to live differently: we feel sorry for ourselves, we limit God in His love.

We have a very important week ahead: the fast is ending, and we need to enter into the Resurrection through Holy Week. This is a great work. And despite the fact that we live in a world that does not want to hear about Christ and that crucified Him, we need to overcome this world and ourselves, as part of this sinful world. May the Lord strengthen everyone in these days, may God help



Today we hear from the Gospel how the Lord speaks about the sufferings on the cross, about how He is going to Jerusalem to voluntarily, innocently, die; to suffer for the salvation of all mankind. Everything earthly limits a person so much that people do not understand why they were given life on earth. We hear great words in Confession, by which we must live: "Your sins are forgiven..." You have not yet

you to touch real life! And this touch, this sip of inner freedom, a sip of Christ's love, I think, should help us throughout the whole year not to despair, not to lose hope for salvation. (протоиерея Андрея Лемешонка)

В одном из монастырей Палестины подвизался в посте и молитве старец Зосима. Его подвиги были так велики, что он впал в гордость и подумал о себе, что он самый великий подвижник в мире. Тогда он получил откровение от Бога с указанием идти в пустыню, лежащую за Иорданом — ту самую, где проповедовал за несколько веков до того Иоанн Креститель, и там он увидит пример подлинной святости, никому в мире неизвестный...

Придя в пустыню, Зосима встретил старую, почерневшую от солнца женщину, которая поведала ему историю своей жизни.

«В молодости я была грешная женщина, — начала она свой рассказ. — Я родилась в Египте. Покинув родителей в двенадцатилетнем возрасте, я ушла в Александрию и провела там во грехах 17 лет. Однажды я увидела паломников, направлявшихся в Иерусалим на поклонение Гробу Господню, и упросила их меня взять с собою. Сначала меня влекло простое любопытство... В Иерусалиме я направилась в храм, где находился Крест Господень и гроб Христа. Но какая-то сила не пускала меня переступить порог этого храма...

Взор мой упал на икону Богоматери, и я воскликнула: "О, Владычице! Помоги мне. Повели, да отверзнутся и мне двери". В эту минуту я услышала ясно голос: "Если перейдешь через Иордан, та обретишь спасение".

Пресвятая Дева Мария — пример не падшей святости, и к ней приходит раскаявшаяся грешница, становясь в своем покаянии угодной Богу и удостоиваясь от Бога святости, вводящей ее в вечное общение со всеми святыми и Богоматерью. ВЗБРАННОЙ ВОЕВОДЕ ПОБЕДИТЕЛЬНАЯ... Аминь.

## THE WORD BECAME FLESH. (ON THE ANNUNCIATION)

*St. John of Kronstadt*

*Today is revealed the mystery that is from all eternity.*

*The Son of God becomes the Son of man...*

*Now God becomes man, that He may make Adam God.*

*Stichera at Lauds, Tone 2*

The holy Church remembers and celebrates today the wondrous mystery unfathomable to mortal minds: the incarnation of the Creator of the ages and worlds—the Son of God—Who becomes Man. The uncontainable God is contained in the pure womb of the godly maiden, the fleshless is made flesh, the unoriginate is conceived, the unapproachable is become approachable, the Word takes on flesh, the infinitely great becomes small, and the limitless finds boundaries; God is comingled with people and is not ashamed to call them brethren (Heb. 2:11). Thus, the mystery

hidden from the ages, and from the beginning unknown to the angels, the Son of God is now revealed, is made the Son of God, so that in accepting what is worse, that is, our nature, He gives us what is incomparably better—illumination, renewal, and deification.

The reason for such condescension, such diminishment, is our sins. Only the all-good, most wise and almighty God was able to devise such an extreme means of saving perished man, to thus lower Himself in order to heal us of our pride and all manner of sins by His example, and teach us humility, obedience, and every virtue. It is a mystery, I say, that is greatly joyful and exalts the soul!

honored we all are, brothers and sisters, by the incarnation of the Son of God from the Most Pure Virgin; how glorified, gladdened, and consoled! God is with us: He has become our Intercessor, Redeemer, and Savior; the Mother of God has become our Mother by grace, our Intercessor, Defender, and Protection.

And now, what constant consolation for the faithful and repentant there is in the Son of God Who has become incarnate for our sakes! He is the hope, the purification, the illumination and salvation of all repentant sinners;..., a helper in good works, a co-struggler in spiritual battles, the comfort of all the righteous, and eternal life for all who believe in Him. He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live, saith the Lord (Jn. 11:25).

But the incarnation of the Son of God is a mystery both terrible and instructive, if we consider what brought Him down to such self-abasement and to what we people are called and held responsible by His incarnation. On God's part, the reason for becoming Man was His infinite love for us, His creatures ... And on our part, the reason is our sins, our terrible fall, our inescapable eternal destruction.

Thus, what does the incarnation of the Son of God require of us? Unhesitating, sincere, unhypocritical and firm repentance of all our sins, the correction of our hearts, and a righteous, holy life. Ye shall be holy: for I the Lord your God am holy (Lev. 19): That this is precisely what the Lord Jesus Christ requires of us that is, holiness and righteousness, you can be assured of daily by the Lord's Prayer

itself, in which He the Lord teaches us first of all to pray that we might live holily and righteously according to God's will and not our own: "Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven" (Lk. 11:2-4; Mt. 6:9-10).

Thus, this is the indispensable obligation that the incarnation of the Son of God places upon us, brothers and sisters: to live righteously and holily, reverently and honestly, and to depart from all sin, all unrighteousness and impurity. Otherwise, we will be unworthy of the Son of God and His Kingdom, and prepare for ourselves the most onerous condemnation both here and in eternity. Amen. (*Translation by Nun Cornelia (Rees)*)

*Also on the 7<sup>th</sup> we celebrate the memory of St Patriarch TIKHON, confessor of Moscow (1925)*

**PRAYER TO THE HOLY HIERARCH TIKHON  
THE CONFESSOR, PATRIARCH OF MOSCOW**

*O Holy Hierarch Father Tikhon, pray to God for us.*

**Priest:** O good pastor, our fervent intercessor and instructor, holy hierarch Tikhon! Hearken now to the groans and sighs which issue forth from the depths of our hearts, and accept the earnest entreaty we make unto thee; for we know that as a loving father thou abidest ever with us in spirit, watching over us, thy sinful children, and praying to the Lord in our behalf. Wherefore, O favourite of God, as thou hast boldness before the Master Jesus Christ and His all-pure Mother, be thou for us a mediator and advocate, for, now as ever, we stand sorely in need of thine intercession. As thou wast a peer of the apostles, bringing enlightenment to those benighted by heresy and schism, so lead us into the uncreated light of the grace of God, that we may advance from glory to glory, and may find rest with thee and all the saints in the mansions of heaven; and as thou wast a fearless confessor of the truth of the holy Orthodox Faith, so teach us to stand immovable on the rock of faith, unshaken by the surging tides and currents of worldly understandings and temptations; and as thou didst prevail until the end in thine awesome contest against the prince of this world and his evil minions, so do thou aid us, thy sinful and unworthy children, in our daily struggles, that by thy supplications we may escape the malice of the enemy of our salvation and may set at nought the schemes and wiles of those who, having succumbed to his influence, prefer worldly glory, riches and position to humility and all the Christian virtues and a steadfast confession of Christ our true God, Who with the unoriginate Father and His all-holy, good and life-creating Spirit, is worshiped and glorified forever.

**Молитва святителю Тихону, Патриарху Московскому  
и всея Руси**

О пастырю наш добрый, святыи великий патриарше Тихоне, яко град горный ты явился еси — добрая дела твоя и доньше светятся пред человеки. Ве мы, яко ты, предстоя престолу Пресвятыя Троицы, велие имаши дерзновение в молитвах пред Господем. Воззри и ныне на нас, грешных и недостойных чад твоих, к тебе бо, яко имущему велие дерзновение пред Творцем всяческих, ныне припадаем и усердно молимся: умоли Господа, да подаст нам решимость стяжать благочестие отцев наших, его же ты стяжал еси от юности твоея. Ты в житии своем ревностный защититель и хранитель истинныя веры был еси, помози и нам незыблемо соблюсти веру православную. Тихая бо душа твоя зело преуспела в Божественном смиренномудрии, научи и нас разум наш питати не многмятежной мудростию человеческой, но смиренным познанием воли Божией. Ты пред лицом лютых врагов Христовых Истинного Бога дерзновенно исповедал еси, молитвою своею укрепи нас, малодушных, да и мы всегда и всюду противостанем духу безбожия и лести. Ей, угодниче Божий, не презри нас, молящихся тебе, ибо не токмо от бед и скорбей избавление просим, но силы и твердости, великодушия и любви просим, дабы переносить оные напасти, восстающия на ны. Испроси нам неослабное терпение даже до конца жития нашего, мир с Господом и грехов отпущение. Отче святыи! Укроти в стране нашей ветры неверия и смуты, да водворит Господь на земле Российской тишину и благочестие и любовь нелицемерную. Молитвами твоими да сохранит ю от междуусобныя брани, да укрепит Святую Церковь нашу Православную, да не оскудеет она истинными пастырями, добрыми делателями, право правящими слово евангельской Истины. Упаси и заблудшие овцы стада Христова. Наипаче же моли Господа сил, да возродится Русская земля святым покаянием и единым сердцем и едиными усты прославит Дивнаго во святых Своих Бога, в Троице славимаго Отца, и Сына, и Святаго Духа во веки веков. Аминь.