

St. George Melkite-Greek Catholic Church

1617 West State Street Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233-1246

"An Eastern Church in communion with the Church of Rome"

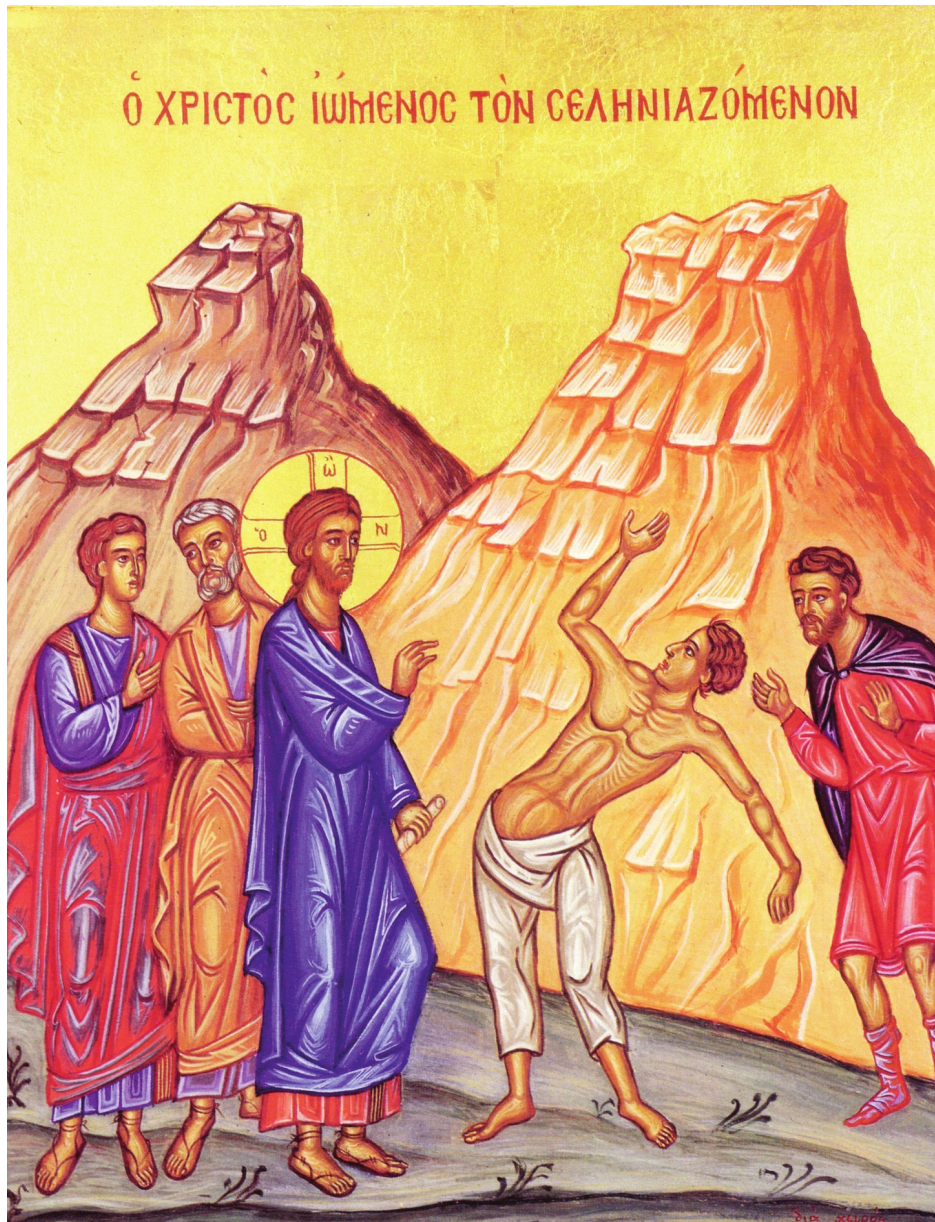
Rectory and Office: (414) 342-1543

The Rt. Rev. Paul G. Frechette, Pastor

Website: byzantinemilwaukee.com

Facebook: [fb.me/ByzantineMilwaukee](https://www.facebook.com/ByzantineMilwaukee)

March 14, 2021 — Fourth Sunday of Lent (Sunday of St. John Climacus)



Icon of Healing the Boy with a Demon

March 14, 2021 — Fourth Sunday of Lent (Sunday of St. John Climacus)

Divine Liturgy

Livestreams and recordings of services on the parish's Facebook page: [facebook.com/pg/ByzantineMilwaukee/videos/](https://www.facebook.com/pg/ByzantineMilwaukee/videos/). An account is not needed.

Intention: Health of JOHN Kalinowski (req by Fr. Philaret)

Troparia

1. **Resurrection (Tone 8):** O Merciful One, Who came down from on high and endured burial for three days in order to save us from suffering. O our Life and our Resurrection, glory to you.
2. **St. John Climacus:** Your abundant tears made the wilderness to sprout and bloom, and your deep sighs of love made your labors fruitful a hundredfold; you became a shining star showering miracle upon the world. Holy Father John, pray to Christ God that He may save our souls.
3. **St. George:** O Great among the saints and glorious martyr, George, since you are a deliverer of captives, a doctor for the sick and a noble attendant to kings, intercede for us to Christ God, that he may save our souls!
4. **Kontakion of Annunciation:** Triumphant leader to you belongs our prize of victory! And since you saved us from adversity, we offer you our thanks. We are your people O mother of God! So, as you have that invincible power, continue to deliver us from danger that we may cry out to you Hail, O Virgin and bride ever pure.

Prokimenon: The Lord will give strength to his people; the Lord will bless his people with peace.

Stichon: Give to the Lord. You sons of God, give to the Lord glory and praise.

Epistle: Heb 6:13-20

Brethren, when God made his promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater to swear by, he swore by himself, saying, "I will surely bless you, and will surely multiply you (Gn.22: 14)." And so, after patient waiting, Abraham obtained the promise. For men swear by one greater than themselves, and an oath given as a guarantee is the final settlement of all their disagreements. Hence God, meaning to show more abundantly to the heirs of the

promise the firmness of his will interposed an oath, so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to deceive, we may have the strongest comfort—we who have sought refuge in holding fast the hope set before us. This hope we have as a sure and firm anchor of the soul, reaching even behind the veil where our forerunner Jesus has entered for us, as he became a high priest forever according to the order of Melchizedek.

Alleluia: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to your name, O Most High!

March 14, 2021 — Fourth Sunday of Lent (Sunday of St. John Climacus)

Stichon: To proclaim your kindness at dawn and your faithfulness throughout the night.

Gospel: Healing of a Demoniac, Mk 9:17-31

At that time one of the crowd came to Jesus and bowed to him saying: "Master, I have brought to you my son, who has a dumb spirit; and whenever it seizes him it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth; and he is wasting away. And I told your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." And he, answering him, said, "O unbelieving generation, how long shall I be with you? How long shall I put up with you? Bring him to me." And they brought him to him; and the spirit, when it saw Jesus, immediately threw the boy in convulsions, and he fell down on the ground and rolled about foaming at the mouth. So he asked his father, "How long is it since this has come upon him?" And he said, "From his infancy. Oftentimes, it has thrown him into the fire and into the waters to destroy him. But if you can do anything have compassion on us and help us." But Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to the man of faith." At once the father of the boy cried

out and said with tears, "I do believe; help my unbelief." Now when Jesus saw that a crowd was rapidly gathering, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You deaf and dumb spirit, I command you, go out of him and enter him no more." And crying out and violently convulsing him, it went out of him, and he became like one dead, so that many said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand, and raised him and he stood up. And when he had come into the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind can be cast out in no way except by prayer and fasting." And leaving that place, they were passing through Galilee, and he did not wish anyone to know it. For he was teaching his disciples, and saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and having been killed, he will rise again on the third day."

Stewardship

Last week: ordinary collections=\$1,113; donations=\$430. Thanks for your generosity!

Owed to eparchy (assessment, retirement and medical insurance): \$18,092.71.

Want to automate donations? One-time or monthly payments via **PayPal**: [byzantinemilwaukee.com/donate](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?url=https://www.byzantinemilwaukee.com/donate). Use your bank's **online billpay** (payee information): St. George's Syrian Congregation · 1617 W State St · Milwaukee, WI 53233-1246; phone: (414) 342-1543; email: info@byzantinemilwaukee.com.

Shepherd's Care

Among the various disciplines and customs associated with Great Lent, there are three which are inter-connected, often called the "pillars" or "hinges" of Lent. These are

March 14, 2021 — Fourth Sunday of Lent (Sunday of St. John Climacus)

prayer, fasting, and alms-giving. In our eparchy there is a communal emphasis on alms-giving called “Shepherd’s Care.” Each one of the faithful, and each family, is asked to make a real effort towards feeding the hungry, relieving those who are suffering, clothing the naked, etc. We strive to connect our fasting and abstinence with care for the poor, by a daily offering. At the end of the Fast all of the offerings are collected at church and the proceeds are then sent to the Eparchy to be distributed by our Bishop to the needy both at home and abroad. It is a powerful means of allowing our other practices – prayer and fasting—to bear fruit. Whatever our humble efforts may be, we are able to unite them as a Church, family to family, parish to parish, and share in the work of God’s mercy to the “least of our brethren” wherever they are.

Donations for the Shepherd’s Care may be placed in the specially marked basket in the nave or sent to the parish office.

Prayer List

Please remember—All those who are sick and in need: Alice Herro*, Nick Langenfeld, Barb & Bruce Moden (sister- and brother- in-law of Jan Taylor), Eva Nora (niece of the Noras), Bob Peterson, Joe Radanovich, the Rebholz family, Eva Saseen (Theresa and Janelle Herro’s niece), Jan Taylor, Kathy Tomaz, John Zambo and Kathy Zambo. For those we have been asked to pray for: Justin & Krysten Hager (Jan Taylor).

* Please particularly remember Alice Herro who has been having health issues recently.

Schedule for This Week

Wednesday: 6pm Great Compline

Thursday: *Thursday of Repentance*
Father Cyril, Archbishop of Jerusalem

Friday: 6pm Little Compline and Akathist

Saturday: *Saturday of the Akathist Hymn*

Sunday: *Fifth Sunday of Lent*
10:30am Divine Liturgy

Coming Up

The Annunciation: March 25th

Holy Resurrection: April 4th

Palm Sunday: March 28th

City Mask Ordinance

It is our understanding that the city requires us to require wearing of masks when in the church building by anyone at least three-years old. Please help us by wearing one, taking it off, temporarily, for receiving communion. According to the Milwaukee Health Department, the best way to prevent coronavirus disease 2019 is to avoid being exposed

March 14, 2021 — Fourth Sunday of Lent (Sunday of St. John Climacus)

to the virus and to avoid exposing other people. You can find more information about the ordinance in the form of an FAQ from the health department:

city.milwaukee.gov/Coronavirus/Prevention

Journeying to Pascha

Jesus continues today his work of healing and exorcism, and that is appropriate for this time of Lent, because Lent is a time for healing and exorcism. It is a time for us to heal the wounds of our souls—self-inflicted wounds due to our complacency and laziness and self-indulgence. It is time to get rid of those demons of our own sinful habits and anything that keeps us away from God and from living that abundant life that Christ came to give us.

We start to make our way toward Jerusalem. At the end of today's Gospel already there is the prediction of the passion, the death and the resurrection of Christ, giving a little hint in the Gospel that the course of Lent is moving now towards Jerusalem. We have gone through several weeks now of spiritual preparations, Scripture texts, prayers and activities. Now our focus is starting to turn towards

Jerusalem. That will be made more explicit in next Sunday's Gospel, but we are already getting a hint of it now.

There are only three weeks now until Easter, two weeks until Palm Sunday, when we are really liturgically accompanying Christ into the mystery of His Passion.

So it is coming soon, and we have to start turning towards Jerusalem. We have to get focused, we have to get recollected, we have to really revive our Lenten prayer and fasting so that we can make the rest of this journey and be fruitful and overcome the demons and find healing for the wounds of our souls—and go with Christ to his Passion and, through the mystery of His Cross, come to that great, transfiguring, glorious celebration of His Resurrection.

Text and cover-icon courtesy of Eastern Christian Bulletin Service
PO Box 3909 – Fairfax, VA 22038-3909
www.ecbulletin.com – Ph: 703-691-8862 – Fax: 703-691-0513