

### *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.

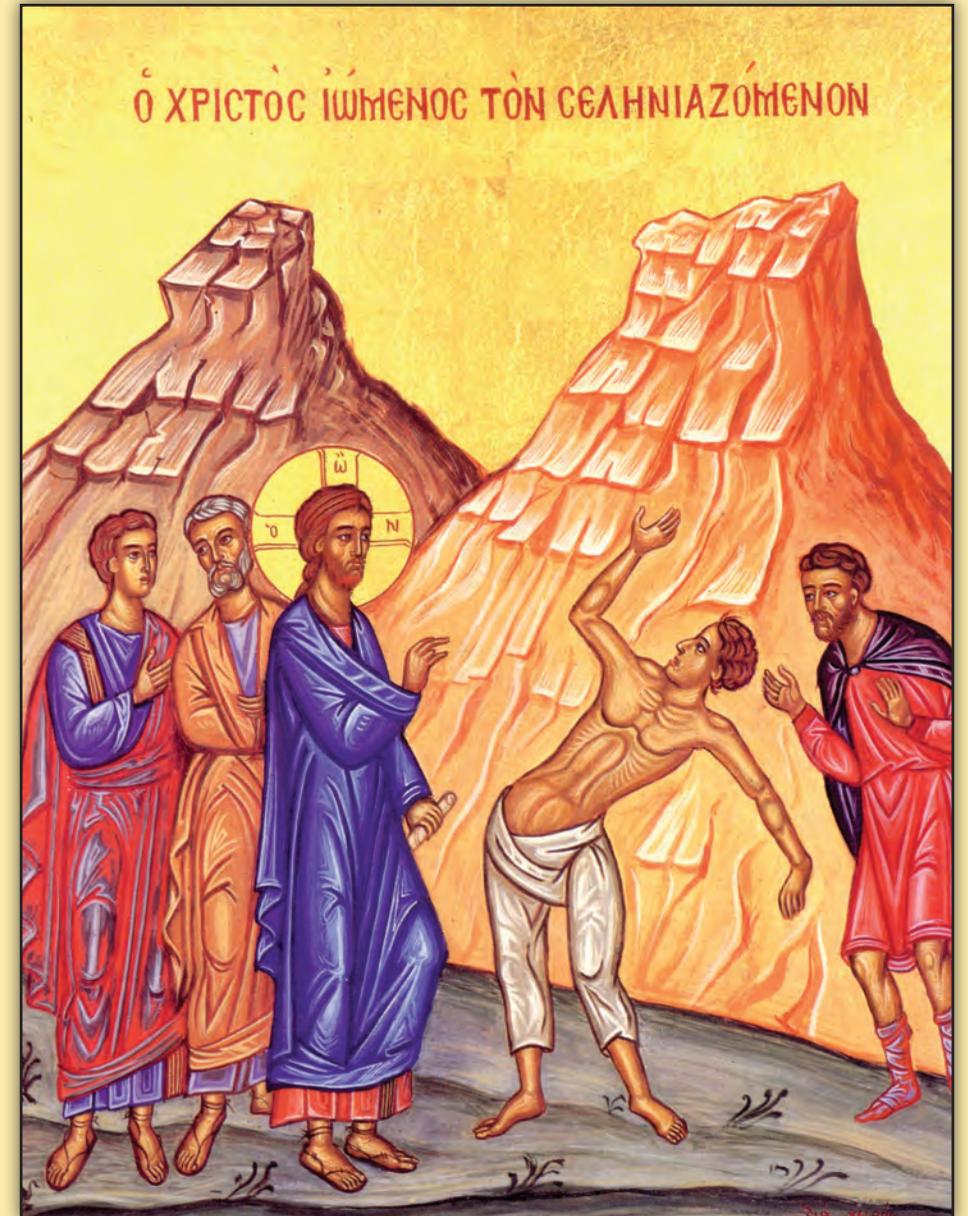
We start to make our way toward Jerusalem. At the end of today's Gospel already there is the prediction of the passion, the death and the resurrection of Christ, giving a little hint in the Gospel that the course of Lent is moving now towards Jerusalem. We have gone through several weeks now of spiritual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

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST SUNDAY OF ST. JOHN CLIMACUS



*Icon of Healing the Boy with a Demon*

**UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE HOLY FAMILY**

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**IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY PLEASE CALL: 202-262-5040**

**Pastoral Care entrusted to:**

Father Robert Hitchens – Administrator

Father Mykola Dziurakh – Parochial Vicar

**Sunday – March 15, 2026**

**Glory to Jesus Christ – Glory to Him Forever + Слава Ісусу Христу – Слава на віки**

**Confessions are available before the Divine Liturgies**

**All Services will be Live Streamed at 9:00 AM and 11:30 AM**

**Platform: <https://www.facebook.com/holyfamilyshrine/>**

<b>Saturday March 14</b> <b>5:30 p.m.</b>	<b>Great Vespers</b>
<b>Sunday March 15</b> <b>9:00 a.m.</b> <b>11:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Fourth Sunday of the Fast Great Fast – John of the Ladders</b> (+Rosaline Wilson from Family) (For the Parish)
<b>Wednesday March 18</b> <b>7:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts</b> ( )
<b>Friday March 20</b> <b>5:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts</b> (Health of Fr. Robert from Rosary Altar Society)
<b>Saturday March 21</b> <b>10:00 a.m.</b> <b>4:00 p.m.</b>	<b>Akathistos Saturday</b> <b>Divine Liturgy (Sorokousty)</b> <b>Akathist of the Mother of God</b>
<b>Sunday March 22</b> <b>9:00 a.m.</b> <b>11:30 a.m.</b>	<b>Fifth Sunday of the Fast Great Fast – Mary of Egypt</b> (+Daria Rogalsky from the Romaniuk Family) (For the Parish)

**FIRST CONFESSION 2026 PREPARATION**

Preparation for First Confession has begun. Classes will be held on Sundays. Please contact Olya Mulvey at [olya.kroytor@gmail.com](mailto:olya.kroytor@gmail.com) to learn more. All children must attend Divine Liturgy with their families on a weekly basis during their preparation. The SPRING SEMESTER class schedule is as follows: March 15, 22, and March 28 - Lazarus Saturday - First Confession.

**SPIRITUAL REGULATIONS FOR THE GREAT FAST 2026**

Although our Church traditionally prescribed abstinence from meat and dairy products in days gone by for the entire duration of the Great Fast, the following are the minimal Lenten regulations today: Abstinence from meat and all dairy products on Good Friday. Abstinence from meat only on all Fridays of the Great Fast as well as Holy Saturday. It is also traditional to voluntarily abstain from meat on Wednesdays during the Great Fast. Everyone should receive the Holy Mysteries of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist during the period from the onset of Great Fast to the Wednesday before Ascension Thursday. The Fasting and Abstinence regulations are not binding on persons 60 or older, the very poor, sick, nursing or pregnant women, children below the age of 14, and those who engage in physically very hard labor. However, all are urged, if able to do so, to observe the fasting and abstinence regulations.

***Everyone, regardless of age, is encouraged to observe the GREAT FAST as piously as possible!***

**2026 EASTER BAZAAR AND BASIC PYSANKA WORKSHOP SATURDAY MARCH 21**

**Buffet Luncheon:** “Traditional Ukrainian” – 10:30 a.m. until the food is gone. **Easter Bazaar:** 10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Traditional Ukrainian arts and crafts, pysanka kits, how-to books, videos, traditional foods & baked goods, and smoked & other meats. **Basic Pysanka Workshop:** Learn to decorate Easter Eggs the traditional Ukrainian way. Detailed A/V presentation, personalized instruction, materials & supplies included. Workshop Fee: \$40 (adults only). Attendance limited to 60. Individuals. Workshop registration/payment is required in advance at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/pysanka-workshop-easter-bazaar-tickets-1983830783276?aff=oddttdcreator>

**SPECIAL SHOWING OF BEYOND THE STATISTICS SUNDAY MARCH 22 AFTER BOTH LITURGIES**

Join us for a special showing of a film about the forcibly displaced Ukrainian Families in search of freedom. Free for everyone. Sponsored by the Archeparchy of Philadelphia Social Outreach Ministry.

**PRAYER LIST**

Our prayer list of the sick or elderly and friends of our parish: **Theresa Aranda, Liana Arnold, Valarie Balthis, Barbara Blendy, Bluey Family, Yevhenia Borys, Terry Boyle, Taisia Bullard, Mary Connors, Veronica Cosio, Darlene Dossick, Robert Dulaine, Solomia Dutkewych and Theresa, Ruth Fedack, Bernard F, Myroslava Futey, Lilian Garland, Thomas Gutmann, H.H., Josie Hacker, Robert Harnest, Catherine Hetmansky, Vanessa Hetmansky, Bernadell Rita Higgins, Ellen Hitchens, Janet Hitchens, Fr. Robert Hitchens, Boris Hlynsky, Daniel Horeczko, Oksana Horszynska, Ihor Hulawyj, Nila Iwaskiw, Sarah Kelt, LTJG Lydia Kowalskyj USN, Dorothy Kozmoski, Suzanne Krumpelman, Mr. Marko, Melissa Martin, Paul Marynowych, Irene Nagurney, Myron Nagurney Jr, Michele Pretka Litvak, Yaroslava L., Mufada and Family, Sallie Miller, John Moeller, Deborah Pickering, Alexandra Pohorecka, Patricia Pylypec, Ron#119, Michael Joseph Radigan, Ivanna Richardson, Roman Rusynko, Chris Saboe, Lisa Schaible, Christopher Sell, Teresa Sherwood, Shliakhta Bogdana, Shliakhta Mark, Shliakhta, Andrew, Larry Sosnowich, Lindsey Sydnor, Thomas Sydnor, Lisa Pretka Turner, Gloria and Luis Vega, Fr. George Worschak, and Paul Yarrish.** If you know of someone who should be on this list, please email or call with the name of the individual. Our intercessory prayer for the sick and the aged is truly helpful and comforting. In your Christian Charity, kindly remember our sick parishioners in your prayers and perhaps a card or note.

**Lenten Mission 2026 – March 25, 27 and 29**

**Fr. Yuriy Schurko, Dean of Theology and Philosophy at the Ukrainian Catholic University, will offer our 2026 Lenten Mission. Please join us on the Feast of the Annunciation on March 25 at 6PM for the Vespereal Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, Friday March 27 at 5PM for the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts, and on Palm Sunday for Divine Liturgy at 9AM and 1130AM. Confessions will be available during all of the services. Let us spiritually prepare for Easter 2026!**