

5th Sunday of Lent

April 22nd - April 28th, 2024

April 22, 2024 Monday

2pm. CFD SET UP & PREP
4:30pm. Family Dinner (CFD)

April 23, 2024 Tuesday

12pm. Synaxis
6pm Pysanky Egg Making

April 24, 2024 Wednesday

12pm Synaxis
6pm. Pre-Sanctified Liturgy
8pm. OCF @ SU

April 25, 2024 Thursday

12pm. Synaxis
8:45pm. Panera Bread Recovery
9pm. Food Recovery

April 26, 2024 Friday

9am. Pre-Sanctified Liturgy
11am. Schools Pick Up Dinners
11:15am. Outreach Street Food Ministry

April 27, 2024 Saturday

8:30am. Baptisms and Chrismations
9:30am. Lazarus Saturday Liturgy
11am. Breakfast
11:20am. Church Cleaning Party
5pm. VIGIL for Palm Sunday

April 28, 2024 Sunday Palm Sunday

8:15am. Ridesharing
8:45am. Holy Confessions
9am. Choir Rehearsal
9:10am. 3rd & 6th Hour
9:30am. Divine Liturgy followed by Procession
11:15am. Agape Meal
6pm. Bridegroom Matins



April 22nd - April 28th, 2024. Tone 5
Fifth Sunday of Lent.

The Weekly

On St. Mary of Egypt



Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church

401 Hamilton Street
Syracuse, NY 13204

Fr. Ambrose Inlow's Cell: (315) 418-5738
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sspeterandpaulsyracuse.com

Announcements



Welcome all visitors!

Please join us after the service for Coffee Hour. Please introduce yourself to Fr. Ambrose and others as we would love to meet you! We are delighted to have you here with us.

Please fill out your information at <https://www.sspeterandpaulsyracuse.com/new> as we would love to keep you connected with our events.

If you are not Orthodox Christian, please do not approach the chalice during the distribution of Holy Communion. Please, however, come up and kiss the cross at the end of the service and introduce yourself to Fr. Ambrose.

An agape meal rotation schedule is being put together. If you would like to join the rotation please see Jessica Gressel. Any help with the Coffee Hour / Agape Meals is welcomed!

At Coffee Hour please donate what you can in the donations box. \$2 per meal is suggested. We are in need of plates, cups, coffee, utensils, etc... Please donate!

To make a confession simply come early to any Divine Liturgy, stay after at any vespers service, or make an appointment.

Communion is for Orthodox Christians who have prepared by prayer, fasting from midnight on, reconciliation, and a recent confession. For the reception of communion it's also good to arrive on time to Divine Liturgy and not later than the reading of the Holy Gospel.

If you or someone is admitted into the hospital or needs emergency pastoral assistance, then please call Fr. Ambrose at 315-418-5738. Make sure to put Fr. Ambrose as one of your hospital contacts to ensure that he is easily able to come and visit.

Please consider donating for Paschal Flowers. In your donation, please include those whom you would like to commemorate in memory of.

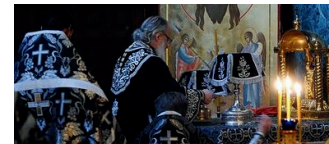
Some of the Sunday School Ladies have been practicing the Hymn of Kassiani, which will be sung on Holy Tuesday evening at 6pm during Holy Wednesday Matins.

Important Upcoming Services and Events



Pan-Orthodox Vespers Tonight

6pm at St. George Macedonian Orthodox Church.



Pre-Sanctified Liturgies

This Wednesday evening at 6pm, followed by a lenten meal, and this Friday at 9am.



Family Dinner

Monday, April 22nd from 4:30pm-6pm. Preparation will be today at 11:55am. Come and help at the dinner anytime after 2pm.



Pysanky Egg Making

April 23rd from 6pm - 8pm down in the church parlor. Both children and adults are invited to come and make their own Pysanky Egg.



Baptisms & Chrismations

Saturday, April 27th at 8:30am, followed by Lazarus Saturday Divine Liturgy and Church Clean up Party.



Holy Week

Sunday, April 28th to Pascha on May 5th. See attached schedule.

2024 Stewardship

Ss. Peter and Paul parish is supported entirely through the generosity of its members, friends, and benefactors.

If you are active in your support of Ss. Peter and Paul, thank you! If you are new to Ss. Peter and Paul and/or regularly attend, please consider making a regular offering (weekly or monthly) in support of our parish and its projects.

By contributing to the General Fund in 2024 you are supporting the mission and activities in the parish, which include divine services, outreach, evangelism, church school, parish social activities, community efforts, and many more. There are so many things that are happening at Ss. Peter and Paul and contributing to the General Fund helps to advance this mission.

The best way to give is by check (or cash) placed in an envelope in the offering baskets.. We also have an online giving system (Breeze) as a way to offer your tithes and offerings.

The Impactful Ministries of Ss. Peter and Paul

- Free Family Dinner for the entire community. 4th Monday of every month.
- Food Recovery Ministry: during the school semester a team of us recover up to 500 lbs of cooked food every week.
- Elementary School Outreach - we then take the recovered food and give it to families at local elementary schools.
- Church School Ministry - every Sunday, after Liturgy, during the school year, we have Church School lessons for grades pre-k through 12th.
- Hospitality Team Ministry
- Choral Ministry
- Senior Moment Lunches
- Altar Server Ministry
- Synaxis Meetings during Fasting Periods..
- Foundation Classes
- Ladies Nights
- Men's Fellowship Dinners and Outings
- Family Potluck Events
- Educational Field Trips for Children
- plus much more....

Please support the present and future ministry of Ss. Peter and Paul Orthodox Church!

What's My Weekly Tithe?

Weekly Income	10%	5%	4%	2%
\$200	\$20	\$10	\$8	\$4
\$500	\$50	\$25	\$20	\$10
\$750	\$75	\$37	\$30	\$15
\$1,000	\$100	\$50	\$40	\$20
\$1,500	\$150	\$75	\$60	\$30
\$2,000	\$200	\$100	\$80	\$40

On St. Mary of Egypt by St. Justin Popovich

The 5th Sunday in Great Lent, the Sunday which is the week of great vigils, and ascetic struggles, the week of lamentations and sighs, is also the Sunday of the greatest among the women saints, our holy mother Mary the Egyptian. She spent forty-seven years in the desert and the Lord gave her something which He gives only rarely to one of the saints. For years on end, she tasted neither bread nor water. When she was asked about this by Abba Zosimas, she answered: 'We do not live by bread alone' (Matth. 4, 4). The Lord fed her in a particular way and introduced her to the life of a hermit, to the struggles of an ascetic. And the result? The saint transformed her hell into paradise!

She overcame the devil and ascended to God on high. How? Through what? Through prayer and fasting, through prayer and fasting. Because fasting, fasting combined with prayer, is a power that overcomes everything. One wonderful hymn from Great Lent says: "Let us follow the Savior of our souls, Who has shown us victory over the devil through fasting". There's no other weapon, no other means. Fasting! This is the way to defeat the devil, every devil. An example of this victory is Saint Mary the Egyptian.

What divine power fasting is! It's nothing less than crucifying the body, crucifying your very self. As long as there's a cross, victory is assured. The body of Mary, a former harlot from Alexandria, surrendered to enslavement to the devil. But when she embraced the Cross of Christ, when she took this weapon into her hands, she overcame the devil.

Fasting is the resurrection of the soul from the dead. Fasting and prayer open our eyes so that we see and understand our true self, as we really are. We then realize that every sin in our soul is our grave, our tomb, our death. We understand that sin within our soul does nothing other than turn everything that belongs to our soul into corpses: our thoughts, our feelings, our intentions. They're a succession of graves. And then the cry of lamentation pours out from the soul: 'Before I am lost at the end, save me'.

This is our cry during this holy week: 'Lord, before I'm lost completely, save me'. This is how we prayed to the Lord during 5th week. We cried aloud in prayers given to us in the Great Canon by our holy father Saint Andrew of Crete.' Lord, before I am lost at the end, save me'. This cry affects all of us, all those who carry sins. And who doesn't? It's impossible to examine yourself and not find somewhere, in some corner of your soul, in some cranny, a sin that perhaps you've forgotten. Every sin you haven't repented over is your grave, your death. And if you want to be saved and to raise yourself from your tomb, cry out in the prayers of lamentation of Great Lent: 'Lord, before I am lost at the end, save me'. Let's not fool ourselves; let's not be deceived. If there's even one sin left in your soul that you haven't repented over, that sin will bring you into the kingdom of hell. There's no place for sin in the kingdom of heaven.

If you want to gain the kingdom of heaven, take care to cast off all sin. Root out all sin through repentance. Because nothing escapes our repentance. Christ gave such power to holy repentance. Look. Since repentance was able to save such a promiscuous woman as Saint Mary the Egyptian once was, how can it not save other sinners, every sinner, even the greatest sinner and criminal? Yes, Great Lent is the battle-ground where, through prayer and fasting, we Christians defeat the devil, overcome all sins, conquer the passions and guarantee immortality and eternal life for ourselves. In the lives of the saints and true Christians there are innumerable examples that show us that it really is only through prayer and fasting that we Christians can overcome the demons, all those who torment us and want to drag us down into the kingdom of evil, of hell. Ah, this holy fast! It's the fast of our holy virtues. Every holy virtue raises your soul and mine from the dead.

A collection of colorful, intricately decorated Ukrainian Easter eggs (Pysanky) in shades of red, orange, yellow, and white, with various geometric and floral patterns.

Pysanky Egg Making

TUESDAY, APRIL 23RD
FROM 6PM - 8PM.
ADULTS, YOUTH, AND
CHILDREN ARE WELCOME!

HERE @ THE CHURCH

SEE BRENDA GELOFF
FOR MORE DETAILS



BAPTISMS ON
LAZARUS
SATURDAY,
FOLLOWED BY
ANNUAL CHURCH
CLEANING PARTY

Saturday, April 27th

Baptisms @ 8:30am

Divine Liturgy @ 9:30am

followed by breakfast, then

Annual Church Cleaning Party