



# **Saint Mary Orthodox Christian Church**

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**Rev. Father Peter Smith, Pastor**

Website Address: [www.stmarywichita.org](http://www.stmarywichita.org)

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**Tone 4**

**Sunday, April 6, 2008**

**Eothinon 1**

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## **THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT Commemoration of our Holy Father John of the Ladder**

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### **Apolytikion of the Resurrection in Tone 4**

Having learned the joyful message of the Resurrection from the Angel, the women Disciples of the Lord, cast from them their parental condemnation, and proudly broke the news to the Disciples, saying, Death hath been spoiled. Christ God is risen, granting the world great mercy.

### **Apolytikion of Saint John in Tone 8**

With the streams of thy tears, thou didst cultivate the barrenness of the desert; and by thy sighings from the depths, thou didst bear fruit a hundredfold in labors; and thou becamest a luminary, shining with miracles upon the world, O John our righteous Father. Intercede with Christ God that our souls be saved.

### **Apolytikion of the Nativity of the Theotokos ~ Tone 4**

Thy nativity, O Theotokos, hath proclaimed joy to the whole universe; for from thee shone forth the Sun of Justice, Christ our God; annulling the curse and bestowing the blessing, abolishing death and granting us life everlasting!

### **Kontakion of Great Lent in Tone 8 AUTOMELON (Original Melody)**

To thee the champion leader, I thy servant offer thanks of victory, O Theotokos, thou who hast delivered me from terror. As thou hast power invincible, free me from every danger that I may cry unto thee: Rejoice, O bride without bridegroom.

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**THE READING IS FROM THE EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL TO THE HEBREWS  
(6:13-20)**

**The Prokeimenon:** *The saints shall boast in glory, and they shall rejoice upon their beds. (Verse) Sing unto the Lord a new song; His praise is in the Church of the saints.*

**BRETHREN**, when God made promise to Abraham, because He could swear by no greater, He swore by Himself, saying, “Surely blessing I will bless thee, and multiplying I will multiply thee.” And so, after he had patiently endured, he obtained the promise. For men verily swear by the greater, and an oath for confirmation is to them an end of all strife; Wherein God, willing more abundantly to show unto the heirs of promise the immutability of His counsel, confirmed it by an oath, that by two immutable things, in which it was impossible for God to lie, we might have a strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us; which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and steadfast, and which entereth into that within the veil, whither the Forerunner is for us entered, Even Jesus, made an High Priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

**The Alleluarion:** *It is good to give praise unto the Lord, and to chant unto Thy Name, O Most High. (Verse) To proclaim in the morning Thy mercy, and Thy truth by night.*

**A WARM WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS**

Welcome to Saint Mary Orthodox Christian Church! We thank you for worshipping with us today and pray that your visit has been a blessing. Please fill out the Visitors Card, give it to one of the ushers before the end of today’s Divine Liturgy, and tell us how we may serve you further. While we rejoice that you have chosen to worship with us, we must point out that the Orthodox Church does not practice “Open Communion,” but rather follows the ancient Christian practice of offering Holy Communion only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves with prayer, fasting, and a recent confession of sins. Please join us for coffee and fellowship in our parish hall next door so that we may offer you hospitality and have the joy of greeting you properly. If you would like to learn more about the Orthodox Faith, please let us know – we’ll be happy to share our Faith with you.

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**THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO THE SAINT MARK**  
**(9:17-31)**

**A**t that time, a man came to Jesus, kneeling down and saying unto Him, "Teacher, I brought my son to You, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked Your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And Jesus answered him, "O faithless generation, how long am I able to be with you? How long am I able to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to Him; and when the spirit saw Jesus, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if You can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, He rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when Jesus had entered the house, His disciples asked Him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And Jesus said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went out from there and passed through Galilee. And Jesus would not have any one know it; for He was teaching His disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him; and after He is killed, He will rise on the third day."

**The Lenten Fasting Disciple** –During the Great Fast of Lent we not only reduce the *amount of food* we eat each day (in Lent, about one and a half meals per day) we also change the *kinds of foods* we eat, abstaining from all meat, poultry, fish, eggs, dairy products of all kinds, wine (alcohol) and oil. Wine and oil are allowed on the weekends of the Great Fast and fish, wine and oil is permitted on the great feast of Palm Sunday. May God grant you a blessed fast.

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**HOLY BREAD (PROSPHORA) OFFERINGS**

**Holy Bread (Prospora) & Coffee Hour offered by:** Marie Patterson

**The Orthodox servants of God, that they may have mercy, life, peace, health, salvation and visitation:** Marie, Megan, Tara, and Beverly.

**The Orthodox servants of God departed this life in the hope of resurrection unto life eternal:** Laura, Robinia, Virginia.

**YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED**

*In your Christian mercy, please remember the following people in your prayers this coming week: Ray Lamone, Niki Salome, Frances Barkett, Amy Von Achen, Katherine Cook, Joyce Laham, C. Anna Cook, Louise Casey, Anita Stevens, Terrie Ferris, Richard Henry, Yvonne Nassif, Anna Whaley, Thomas Nightingale Sr., Robin Khoury, Rebecca, Carri, Carl Rogers, Kh. Marsha Flora.*

*May God remember all of them and us in His mercy.*



**2008 Parish Life Conference** The 2008 Diocese of Wichita and Mid-America (DOWAMA) Parish Life Conference (June 18 – 22) is rapidly approaching. Believe it or not, now is the time to begin thinking about registration and making those hotel reservations. This year's conference is being hosted by Ss. Constantine and Helen Orthodox Church of Dallas, TX and will introduce something new. This year, the conference will end on Saturday, allowing all of the clergy to return to their parishes in time for services on Sunday. Look for additional hotel and registration information in the foyer or go to [www.DOWAMAPLC.org](http://www.DOWAMAPLC.org) to download forms or register online. Also, St. Mary will be hosting the Parish Life Conference in 2009, so attending this year's conference will help us see how they work these days and plan for next year.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS .....**

**Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations:** Samantha Abdayem (Apr 6), John Abdayem (Apr 9), Leslie Namee (Apr 9), Nicholas Smith (Apr 10), Grace Abou-Faissal (Apr 11). May God grant them good health and many years!

**Donations for flowers to adorn our Church on Holy Pascha** will be gratefully accepted by our treasurer Mrs. Judith Shippy. Kindly make your donation before Palm Sunday so we will be able to plan.

**FFHP** – Today you may again pick up your *Food For Hungry People* boxes and canisters in the foyer of the Church. Please make use of this simple but very effective way to help those who regularly go without the most basic of needs, food.

**The Lord's Diner:** Our next opportunity to serve is coming soon, Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. **We need you!!** To learn more about supporting this good work and to sign up for a team, please see Deanna Ferris after Liturgy or call her at 204-4548 and she will be happy to answer your questions. This is an important ministry of our parish and is always in need of a few more hands, so don't be shy!

**Study Bibles Have Arrived:** Orthodox Study Bibles, including the complete Old Testament, are now available in our parish bookstore. Stop in and get yours today!

**Confessions:** Each of us, to be spiritually healthy, should have a regular habit of confession however; the frequency of your confessions should be discussed with your priest. As a minimum, the Church asks that we confess during the four canonical fasts (the Nativity fast, the Apostle's fast, the Dormition fast & the Great Fast of Lent.). For your convenience, Fr. Peter will hear confession each Saturday evening after Great Vespers & by appointment.

**ST. MARY SPRING GRADUATES** ~ If you are a member of St. Mary Church and will be graduating this Spring, please let us hear from you. Send your name, home phone no., and e-mail address to: [thescrollnews@yahoo.com](mailto:thescrollnews@yahoo.com) You'll be sent a Graduate Information form by e-mail. These forms are due no later than May 11, 2008. We'll be featuring our St. Mary Grads in the next issue of The Scroll. We hope to hear from you soon!

**LOOKING AHEAD AT SAINT MARY .....**

**April Item of the Month for the Food Panty is Canned Fruit.**

**The Scroll:** If you didn't get the April/May issue last week, there are copies available in the wall rack in the foyer.

**5<sup>th</sup> Week of the Great Fast**

**Monday, April 7<sup>th</sup>**

*6:30 p.m. Great Compline*

**Wednesday, April 9<sup>th</sup>**

*6:30 p.m. Little Compline, Canon of Repentance & Life of Saint Mary of Egypt*

**Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup>**

*6:00 p.m. Ninth Hour & Typika  
6:30 p.m. Presanctified & Lenten Potluck*

**Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup>**

*6:30 p.m. Little Compline & Akathist (V)*

**Saturday, April 12<sup>th</sup>**

*5:00 p.m. Ninth Hour, Great Vespers & Confession*

**Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Holy Bread & Coffee Hour:** *Richard & Sonia Laham*  
**Greeters:** *Jerry & Helen Stitt*  
*9:15 a.m. Orthros*  
*9:30 a.m. Church School*  
*10:30 a.m. Liturgy of St. Basil the Great*

**Presanctified Potluck Meals and Greeter Schedules**

**Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup>**

*Scroll / Sunday School Teachers in charge of set-up and clean-up  
Greeter: Deanna Ferris*

**Wednesday, April 16<sup>th</sup>**

*Joint Presanctified Liturgy at St. George ~ No services at St. Mary*

**Thank you Fr. Josiah** for taking time away from your family and Parish to provide us with a great Lenten Retreat. May God Grant you many years!