

# THE BASILIAN

March 2022

Volume 22, Issue 3

## The Joy of Great Lent

*(The following writing is an excerpt from The Orthodox Faith series written by the late Protopresbyter Thomas Hopko (1939-2015). The excerpt can also be accessed from the OCA webpage at [oca.org](http://oca.org) under The Orthodox Faith Volume 2. The italicized paragraph below are my words).*

The season of Great Lent is the time of preparation for the feast of the Resurrection of Christ. It is the living symbol of man's entire life which is to be fulfilled in his own resurrection from the dead with Christ. It is a time of renewed devotion: of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. It is a time of repentance, a real renewal of our minds, hearts and deeds in conformity with Christ and his teachings. It is the time, most of all, of our return to the great commandments of loving God and our neighbors.

In the Orthodox Church, Great Lent is not a season of morbidity and gloominess. On the contrary, it is a time of joyfulness and purification. We are called to "anoint our faces" and to "cleanse our bodies as we cleanse our souls." The very first hymns of the very first service of Great Lent set the proper tone of the season:

*Let us begin the Lenten time with delight . . . let us fast from passions as we fast from food, taking pleasure in the good words of the Spirit, that we may be granted to see the holy passion of Christ our God and his holy Pascha, spiritually rejoicing.*

*Thy grace has arisen upon us, O Lord, the illumination of our souls has shown forth; behold, now is the acceptable time; behold, now is the time of repentance (Vespers Hymns).*

It is our repentance that God desires, not our remorse. We sorrow for our sins, but we do so in the joy of God's mercy. We mortify our flesh, but we do so in the joy of our resurrection into life everlasting. We make ready for the resurrection during Great Lent, both Christ's Resurrection and our own.

*My brothers and sisters in the Lord, I pray that Fr. Hopko's words will inspire us to be joyful about this beautiful season of Great Lent. If we take Lent, seriously, it has the power to transform our lives, to bring us closer to God, and thereby help us experience more profoundly God's presence, peace, love and purpose. Let us attend the services of Lent, participate in the sacrament of Confession, be charitable, fast from foods but also fast from gossip, judging others and harboring ill-will and hatred towards others. All these negative attributes drag us down and rob us of the joy of communion with our Lord. Lent has the power to free us from these negative and evil forces. Knowing all this, let us enter into the season of Lent with great joy.*

*With love in Christ,  
Fr. Panagiotis*



**ATTENTION PARISHIONERS OF ST. BASIL'S:**  
**INFORMATIONAL TOWN HALL MEETING**  
**REGARDING THE ACQUISITION**  
**OF AN ASSISTANT PRIEST**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 13**  
**FOLLOWING THE DIVINE LITURGY IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL**

**IN ADDITION--SUNDAY, APRIL 3: VOTE TO APPROVE DONATION FOR ASSISTANT  
PRIEST AT SPRING PARISH ASSEMBLY**

Beloved Faithful of St. Basil's,

As has been announced in previous Parish Assemblies, our parish received an incredibly generous donation of \$400K a few years ago. One of the donor's optional preferences was that this gift "be applicable to the entire St. Basil's community in growing the parish size or aiding in the promotion of our faith". Towards that end, the Parish Council approved a portion of the donation be used for the George Papageorge "Life From the Heart" series in early 2020. However, the majority of the donation has yet to be spent. Last year, the Parish Council approved using the remaining funds, as well as the remaining Pastoral Assistant funds, to acquire and secure an Assistant Priest for four years. A vote to approve the use of these funds will take place at the Spring Parish Assembly on Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The Parish Council established a Committee, led by George Chimiklis, to, among other things, lead the effort in informing the parish of the reasons and benefits of having an Assistant Priest, as well as receiving feedback and responding to questions and concerns. Towards that end, an informational Town Hall meeting will take place on Sunday, March 13<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall following the Divine Liturgy.

In addition, if you wish to send any concerns or questions in advance of the Town Hall meeting and Spring Assembly, please e-mail Committee Chairman George Chimiklis at: [gchimiklis@yahoo.com](mailto:gchimiklis@yahoo.com) and cc: Fr. Pete at [frsotiras@gosaintbasil.org](mailto:frsotiras@gosaintbasil.org).

We cannot overstate our gratitude to our anonymous donor for this tremendous blessing that we have been gifted for the mission of furthering the Good News of salvation in Jesus Christ through His Church!

With love in Christ,

Fr. Panagiotis and George Chimiklis



# OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2022

Created by Fr. Jonathan Bannon (ACROD)

SUNDAYS	THEMES / GOSPEL READING	HOW TO PARTICIPATE:
Fast - Free Week <b>FEBRUARY 13th</b>	 <i>TRIODION WEEKS</i> <b>Publican and the Pharisee</b> Epistle: 2 Timothy 3: 10-15 Gospel: Luke 18: 10-14	Show compassion on the poor and distressed. Trust in God, not yourself and ask for His help before every task this week.
Normal Fast Week <b>FEBRUARY 20th</b>	 <b>The Prodigal Son Returns!</b> Epistle: 1 Corinthians 6: 12-20 Gospel: Luke 15: 11-32	Schedule a Confession. Every morning say, "Today I will be humble." Use up/freeze meats this week.
Meatfare <b>FEBRUARY 27th</b> FAREWELL TO MEAT TODAY	 <b>The Last Judgement</b> Epistle: 1 Corinthians 8: 8-9:2 Gospel: Matthew 25: 31-46	Pray facing East this week. Christ is returning from the East and we wait for Him! Use up/freeze dairy this week.
Cheesefare <b>MARCH 6th</b> FAREWELL TO CHEESE TODAY	 <b>Adam and Eve are cast from Paradise!</b> <i>FORGIVENESS SUNDAY</i> Epistle: Romans 13: 11-14:4 Gospel: Matthew 6:14-21	Ask each other for forgiveness each evening this week before bed.
1st Sunday of Lent <b>MARCH 13th</b>	 <i>GREAT LENT BEGINS WITH FORGIVENESS VESPERS</i> <b>SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY</b> Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26, 32-12:2 Gospel: John 1:43-51	Bring an icon to church for a procession.
2nd Sunday of Lent <b>MARCH 20th</b>	 <b>ST GREGORY PALAMAS</b> Epistle: Hebrews 1:10-2:3 Gospel: Mark 2:1-12	Bring a prayer rope to be blessed today! Use it and pray the Jesus Prayer each day this week.
3rd Sunday of Lent <b>MARCH 27th</b>	 <b>VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS</b> <i>HALF WAY TO PASCHA!</i> Epistle: Hebrews 4: 14-5:6 Gospel: Mark 8: 34-9:1	Wear your cross to church and kiss the cross each morning with a bowl!
4th Sunday of Lent <b>APRIL 3rd</b>	 <b>ST JOHN of the LADDER</b> Epistle: Hebrews 6:13-20 Gospel: Mark 9: 17-31	Every time you climb stairs this week ask St. John to help you reach Paradise with the sign of the cross!
5th Sunday of Lent <b>APRIL 10th</b>	 <b>ST MARY of EGYPT</b> Epistle: Hebrews 9: 11-14 Gospel: Mark 10: 32-45	Ask the Theotokos to offer you and the world pure thoughts and ideas this week.
FLOWERY (PALM) SUNDAY! <b>APRIL 17th</b> GREAT WEEK BEGINS	 <i>GREAT AND HOLY WEEK</i> <b>ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM</b> Epistle: Philippians 4: 4-9 Gospel: John 12: 1-18	Place your palm branches and pussywillows behind an icon at home and in your car!
GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY <b>APRIL 22nd</b>	 <b>GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY</b> <i>JESUS DIES ON THE CROSS</i> CHECK WITH YOUR PARISH FOR ROYAL HOURS AND VESPERS SCHEDULE	Refrain from TV, Internet & Phones to honor Christ's Death.
FEAST OF FEASTS! <b>APRIL 24th</b> NO FASTING!	 <i>BRIGHT WEEK</i> <b>HOLY PASCHA! (CHRIST IS RISEN!)</b> Epistle: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: Jan 1:1-17	Greet everyone with "CHRIST IS RISEN!" & say it before good morning and goodnight!



# Religious Education

## Happy Spring!

The flowers, and our gardens, are blooming and growing. So too, should our children's spiritual education. Our teachers are continuing to nurture and grow our youth's knowledge of our Lord. Part of that includes reading and discussing passages from the Gospel, playing Saint themed board games, coloring pictures, and singing hymns. It's truly wonderful to witness the growth, and lively participation. As we approach Great Lent and Pascha, we have several upcoming events critical to our faith, that are important for our children to participate in:

**March 13th:** Sunday of Orthodoxy - if your child(ren) has/have a special icon to process with, please have them bring it; if you do not wish to bring your own, we have several to loan out.

**April 16th:** Lazarus Saturday - I encourage all students and parents to join us in Liturgy and learn to make palm crosses. This is a great opportunity to learn to make these beautiful symbols of Palm Sunday. Sunday school students will practice for Palm Sunday

**April 17th:** Palm Sunday - participation with Palm fonds

**April 22nd:** Holy Friday To be announced

**April 24th:** Pascha - no classes; please enjoy the Agape Service with your families.

With love,  
Anastasia Cook & Religious Education teachers



# Philoptochos

March 7 Great Lent begins. On Wednesday, March 9, please bring a lenten dish to share with everyone, as Philoptochos has traditionally sponsored the first Presanctified Lenten pot-luck. Drop off the dish in the hall.

Our February general meeting was held @ Macaroni Grill, everyone had a delicious meal, and many items were discussed. We thank everyone who attended and enjoyed the fellowship and the meal.

We are sending off our commitments to National & Metropolis, and hope to send our local obligations soon.

Palm Sunday Lunch will be hosted by Philoptochos this year, if you wish to help underwrite the meal, please contact Eleni.

A tea at Hidden Tea Room was presented as a possibility to be held in May.

## Save the Date

**March 9:** Philoptochos sponsored Presanctified dinner.

**March 13-**Tray for OCMC

**March 27-**Tray for Holy Cross Seminary

### **Board meeting:**

Sunday March 20 after coffee hour- Fireside Room

### **General Meeting:**

To be announced

Still time to become a part of this important ministry of the Church

Contact Eleni:

Philoptochos @gosaintbasil.org



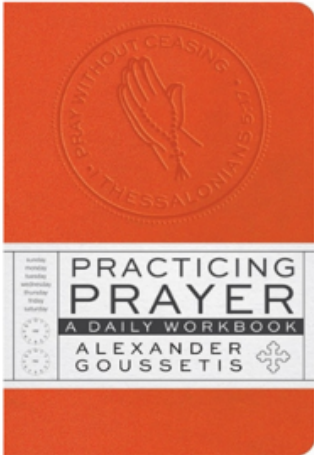
## EPITAFIO FLOWERS

If you would like to donate towards flowers for the Epitafio, please send a check to the church with the words "Epitafio flowers" in the memo.



# Health & Wellness

Adult Book Fellowship Feb-Mar 2022



This book is not about prayer:  
"It is an invitation to participate  
In a personal and dynamic  
relationship with God."

Alexander Goussetis

## Cultivating a Life of Prayer

FRIDAYS | 6:30-8:00 PM  
Via Zoom (link in Email or text)

FEB 4 / FEB 11 / FEB 18 / FEB 25

MARCH 4 / MARCH 11

Health & Wellness + Adult Book Fellowship  
Patricia Manuse  
patriciamanuse@gmail.com | C: 209-337-5401

*Patty Manuse is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and works as a mental health clinician for the county of San Joaquin. Patty completed a Master of Divinity from Holy Cross School of Theology and earned advanced training in clinical pastoral education at Community Hospitals of Fresno. Patty completed her academic pursuits with a Master of Social Work from CSU, Sacramento.*

Together We will  
explore various topics:

Exploring Your Past,  
Parts 1 & 2

A Look Back  
Living in the Present

Intercession: Part 1,  
Part 2 & Part 3

Preparation for  
Confession &  
Preparation for the  
Eucharist

A Look Ahead &  
The Daily Hours.

Annotated Bibliography.  
Putting It All Together.

## Myrrh Bearer Ministry

We are pleased to announce an expansion of our parish's Myrrh-bearer's ministry that traditionally takes place on Holy Friday and Saturday evenings. Geared to our young and teenage girls from 2nd grade through high school, this ministry will allow them to help with the readings, hold candles and participate in the processions. The Myrrh-bearers will be seated in one of the first pews with a ministry leader, awaiting to do their part at the appropriate time. Previous experience is not required. Participants will also be required to wear a robe similar to a choir robe. For those interested in participating, or parents interested in assisting, please contact Teri Blum at: [blumteri@yahoo.com](mailto:blumteri@yahoo.com).





Craving for something sweet? Come by for

# FRAPPY HOUR!

March 6 during Coffee Hour \$5



## COFFEE HOUR HOSTING

Co-Host with a friend  
Sponsor with a donation



Call the Church office 209-478-7564 or  
sign up during Coffee Hour

# Stewards

Dean & Ruth Alexander  
Kiki Allison  
Angelo & Olympia Anagnos  
James Anagnos  
Popi Anagnos  
Steve Anagnos  
Buck & Mary Bandy  
Becky Bennetto  
Paul & Stephanie Bestolarides  
Ted & Kelly Bestolarides  
James & Terri Blum  
John & Sunday Borges  
Jim & Mary Bravos  
Ted Carademos  
Steve & Jodie Chiarchianis  
Tom & Deana Chiarchianis  
Shalen & Anastasia Cook  
Robert & Rula DuBois  
Jessica Emery  
Alexandros & Lindsey Economou  
Gabriel & Emily Enescu  
Fred & Katy Everly  
Steve & Mary Facaros  
Michael & Edna Fields  
Bill & Susan Filios  
Ray & Anastasia Fulton  
Michael & Patti Frangadakis  
George & Kathleen Galas  
Aaron & Helen Garner  
Veronica Gatrousis  
Mono Geralis  
Mourad & Janette Goriye  
Stella Graham  
Abed & Saba Hanania  
William & Sylvia Heinrich  
Jacob & Tania Holman  
Eric & Ashlyn Howard  
Ken & Maria Joachimen  
Barbara Johns  
Sandy Jouthas  
Kosta & Dimitra Kapiniaris  
George & Kathy Kaplanis  
Anna Karelis  
Joanna Karelis

Alan & Angelina Keigly  
Grace Koulouris  
Peter & Lori Koulouris  
Nasi & Katie Koutsoulis  
Dessie Ksidakis  
C. W. & Dena Kuchulis  
Anastasios Laios  
Alexandra Leonidou  
Jim & Stacey Lofas  
Michael & Beth Louis  
Harriet Lucas  
Litsa Mandarakas  
Michelle Manos  
Patricia Manuse  
Ernie & Josie Marcopoulos  
Angela Mariani  
Gary & Deanna Mariani  
Michael & Jill Mariani  
Wasfi & Dalal Hanania  
Michaael Mckiever  
Dimitrios & Niki Natsis  
Fotios & Astrini Natsis  
Kimberly Palacioz  
JoAnne Panagopoulos  
Vicki Papachristos  
Lenna Papadimatos  
Chris Papas  
Chris W. Papas  
Andy & Jennifer Pappas  
John S. & Paula Pappas  
Don & Cynthia Pascarella  
George Pascut  
Katina Perris  
Dean & Marie Poullos  
Antonia Prescott  
  
Ray & Georgiana Rishwain  
Jim & Evie Robinson  
Michael & Rodo Rodarakis  
Alexis & Barry Ruhl  
Theoni V. Salcedo  
John & Rose Siliverdis  
Pat Simpferfer  
Tracey Sittig

John & Evette Sola  
Nagui Sorour  
Fr. Panagiotis & Pres. Angie  
Sotiras  
Thomas Spanos  
Bill & Maria Stamos  
ShamlaTounou  
Phyllis Trachiotis  
Mike & Amber Tsarnas  
Eraclis & Marianthe Tsirelas  
Joann Tsirelas  
John Tsirelas  
Niki Tsirelas  
Juan & Kelly Valenzuela  
Donna Vasiliou  
Rodama Veziris  
Miro & Nada Vicijan  
Davis VonTrachtenberg  
Steve Walton  
Carla Wolf  
Ethel Xanttopulos  
Bobbe Xenos  
Elpida Zahos

## Basilian Angels

Angelo & Olympia Anagnos  
Dea & Ron Berberian  
Lex & Lindsey Economou  
C. W. & Dena Kuchulis  
Alexandra Leonidou  
Harriet Lucas  
Dean & Marie Poullos  
Alexis & Barry Ruhl  
Steve Walton



# **GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION**

**&**

## **ANNUNCIATION OF THE THEOTOKOS**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 27 2022**

**following the Divine Liturgy  
Religious and Cultural Program  
featuring the St. Basil Youth**

**Complimentary Meal donated by The Lodi Hellenic Society  
Please RSVP by Wednesday, March 23 (209-478-7564)**



**St. Basil Scholarship Committee**

**Scholarship Applications will be Available  
Monday, March 7th**

**Applications for the 2022 Scholarships will be available by email, or pick-up in the Church Office, starting Monday, March 7th. The deadline for submission to the Church Office will be Friday, April 15th before close of business. Applications which arrive in the office after this date cannot be considered.**

**St. Basil Scholarship Committee**



# Mission in Arizona

Our San Francisco Metropolis has six missions in the diocese. Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Church in Flagstaff Arizona was established 40 years ago. Through the years they have never had a full time priest. In the early years they had many rented spaces and several visiting priests. The 60 dedicated families have endured, pulling together, reaching a goal to purchase a church seven years ago. It is small with acreage and no mortgage!

They continue to work towards having a full time priest assigned to their Flagstaff church. Northern Arizona is very rural, dotted with small towns and Indian reservations. Some of the visiting priests drive as much as 4 plus hours for services.

It was the Outreach and Evangelism Ministry's goal to help them with some of their many renovations and to show the love we share as a family in Christ. They extend a heart-felt "thank you" to us, their sister church, St. Basil, for the recent Advent donation

I thank all who were able to donate. We hope to assist again when the opportunity arises.

The Outreach and Evangelism Ministry continues to grow.

Anyone interested to join our team please contact the church office.

God bless,  
Terri Blum  
Outreach Ministry



## A FILM ABOUT THE LIFE OF ST. NEKTARIOS

Exiled unjustly, convicted without trial, slandered without cause. Man of God depicts the trials and tribulations of Saint Nektarios of Aegina, as he bears the unjust hatred of his enemies while preaching the Word of God.

**1 Night Only**

**Monday, March 21st**

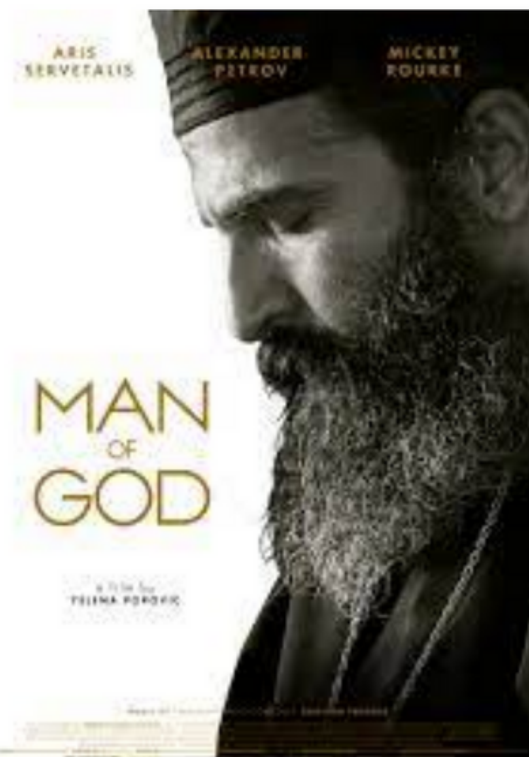
**7PM Show**

**RESERVE YOUR SEAT**

**Regal Stockton City Center**

**222 N El Dorado St,**

**Stockton, CA 95202**





# March 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 6 Forgiveness Sunday 8:15am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy	+ 7 Great Lent Begins 6pm Great Compline	 1 9am Orthros 6pm Journey to Fullness	 2 6pm Presanctified Liturgy Followed by Lenten meal & catechism	 3 9am Orthros	 4 6pm Salutations to the Theotokos	 5 Saturday of Souls 2 No Services at St Basil
 13 Sunday of Orthodoxy 8:15am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy	+ 14 6pm Great Compline	+ 8 9am Orthros 6pm Journey to Fullness	 9 6pm Presanctified Liturgy Followed by Lenten meal & catechism	+ 10 9am Orthros	+ 11 6pm Salutations to the Theotokos	 12 Saturday of Souls 3 8:30am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy
20 St Gregory Palamas 8:15am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy	+ 21 6pm Great Compline	+ 15 6pm Presanctified Liturgy Followed by Lenten meal & catechism	+ 16 6pm Presanctified Liturgy Followed by Lenten meal & catechism	+ 17 6pm Presanctified Liturgy Followed by Lenten meal & catechism	+ 18 6pm Salutations to the Theotokos	+ 19 6pm Salutations to the Theotokos
 27 Sunday of the Holy Cross 8:15am Orthros 9:30am Divine Liturgy	+ 28 6pm Great Compline	+ 22 6pm Presanctified Liturgy Followed by Lenten meal & catechism	+ 23 6pm Presanctified Liturgy Followed by Lenten meal & catechism	+ 24 Annunciation of the Theotokos Services in Modesto & Sacramento 6pm Salutations to the Theotokos	 25 Annunciation of the Theotokos Services in Modesto & Sacramento 6pm Salutations to the Theotokos	 26 wine/oil allowed dairy allowed

St Basil Greek Orthodox Church

920 W. March Ln.

Stockton CA 95207

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Instagram: [stbasil\\_stockton](https://www.instagram.com/stbasil_stockton)

Basilian email: [basilian@gosaintbasil.org](mailto:basilian@gosaintbasil.org)

Rev. Fr. Panagiotis Sotiras

[frsotiras@gosaintbasil.org](mailto:frsotiras@gosaintbasil.org)