

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RITE OF MUTUAL FORGIVENESS

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWS DIVINE LITURGY

GREAT LENT BEGINS

Mon. March 18	6:30 pm	Canon of St. Andrew of Crete
Tues. March 19	6:30 pm	Canon of St. Andrew of Crete
Wed. March 20	6:30 pm	Canon of St. Andrew of Crete
Thurs. March 21	6:30 pm	Canon of St. Andrew of Crete
Sat. March 23	3:30 pm	<i>Understanding the Times class</i>
	5 pm	Great Vespers
	6 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sun. March 24	9 am	Divine Liturgy for the Triumph of Orthodoxy <i>with procession of icons</i>
Wed. March 27	6:30 pm	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy w potluck
Sat. March 30	3:30 pm	<i>Understanding the Times class</i>
	5 pm	Great Vespers
	6 pm	Choir Rehearsal
Sun. March 31	9 am	Divine Liturgy - Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas

REMEMBER, PRAY FOR PEACE

PRAY FOR EACH OTHER,

AND PREPARE



ASONA TEXT ALERTS

Sign up easily! **Text ASONA to 84576**

And get on our parish text alerts list, and stay up to date via email or text alerts. Text STOP to 84576 to stop text notifications at any time. There is no charge for this service, but carrier message and data rates may apply.

ALL SAINTS OF
ORTHODOX

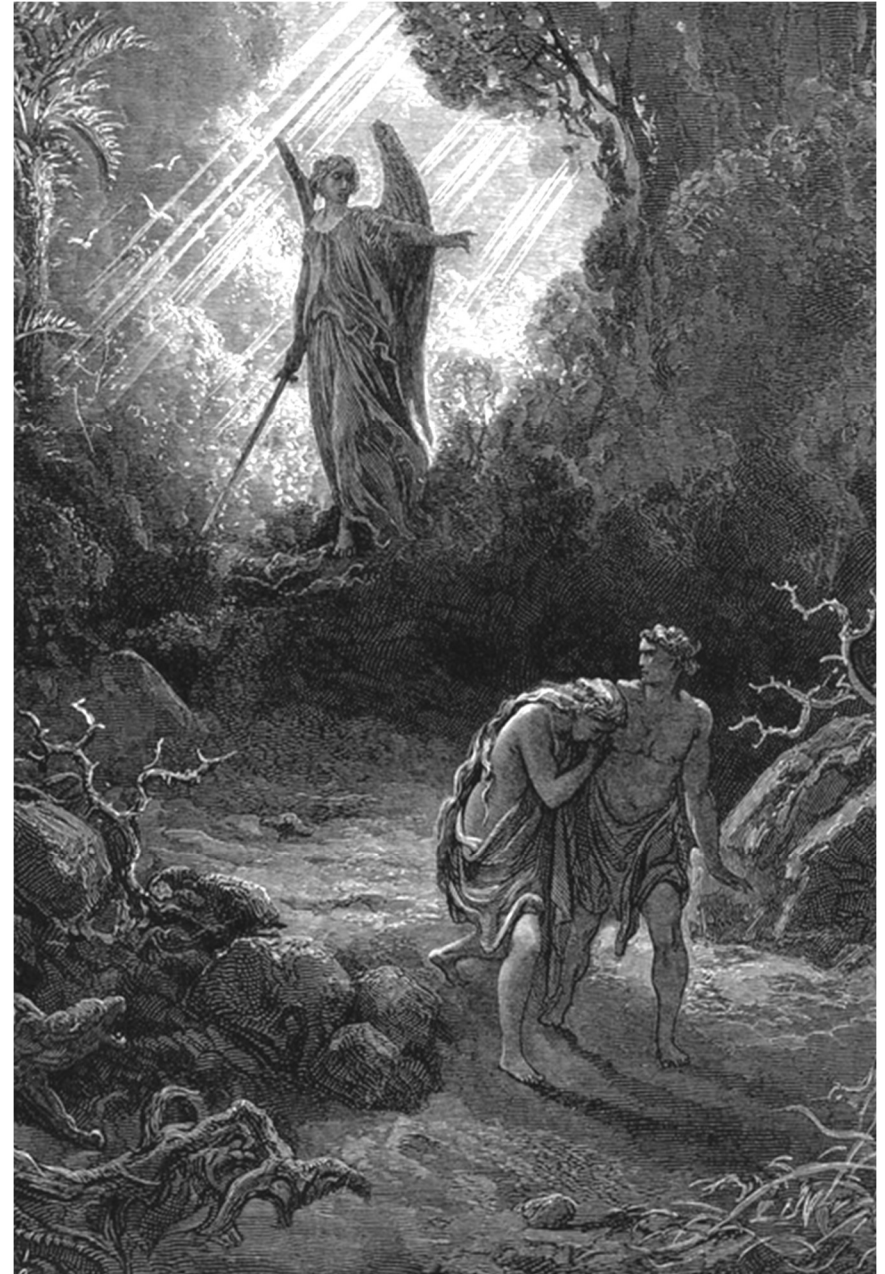


NORTH AMERICA
CHURCH

SUN. MARCH 17, 2024

FORGIVENESS SUNDAY

TONE 8





Prokeimenon in Tone 8 (Ps 75)

Pray and make your vows / before the Lord, our God!
In Judah God is known; His name is great in Israel.

EPISTLE : ROMANS 13:11-14:4

Brethren, do this, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation is nearer than when we first believed. The night is far spent, the day is at hand. Therefore let us cast off the works of darkness, and let us put on the armor of light. Let us walk properly, as in the day, not in revelry and drunkenness, not in lewdness and lust, not in strife and envy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts. Receive one who is weak in the faith, but not to disputes over doubtful things. For one believes he may eat all things, but he who is weak eats only vegetables. Let not him who eats despise him who does not eat, and let not him who does not eat judge him who eats; for God has received him. Who are you to judge another's servant? To his own master he stands or falls. Indeed, he will be made to stand, for God is able to make him stand.+

Alleluia in Tone 6 (Ps 91)

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praises to Thy Name, O Most High.
To declare Thy mercy in the morning, and Thy truth by night.

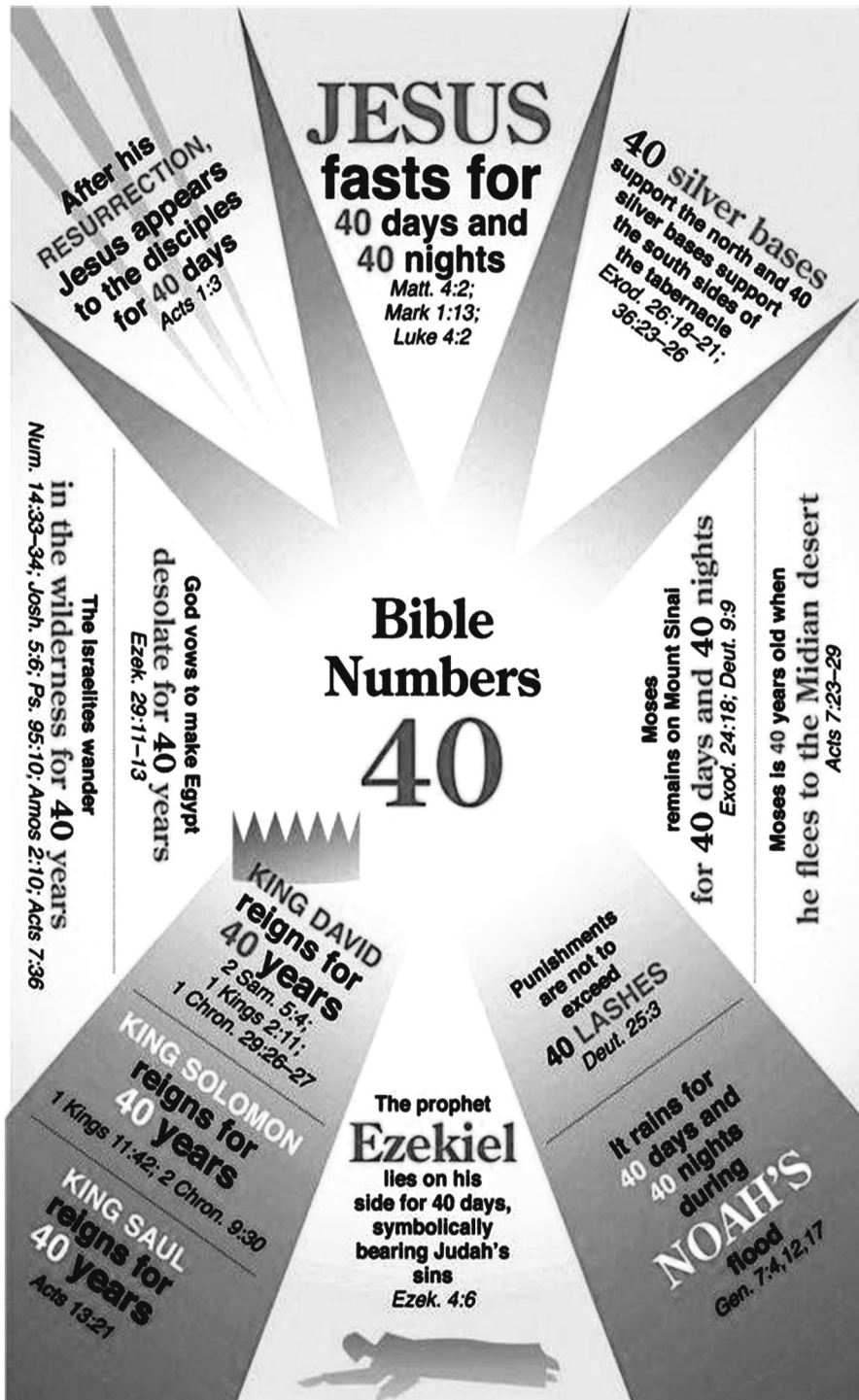
GOSPEL: MATTHEW 6:14-21

THE LORD SAID, "For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses. Moreover, when you fast, do not be like the hypocrites, with a sad countenance. For they disfigure their faces that they may appear to men to be fasting. Assuredly, I say to you, they have their reward. But you, when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you do not appear to men to be fasting, but to your Father who is in the secret place; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you openly. Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."+

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The Rite of Mutual Forgiveness
will begin immediately at the end of Liturgy





GREAT LENT



The period of preparation leading up to Holy Week and Pascha. Observance of Great Lent is characterized by abstention from many foods, intensified private and public prayer, personal improvement, and almsgiving.

- Sunday of the Triumph of Orthodoxy** - the service is to commemorate the triumph of Faith, and restoration of icons for use in services and private devotional life of Christians. Services often include the clergy or the faithful triumphantly processing around the church, holding icons of their patron or parish saints.
- Sunday of St. Gregory Palamas** - by prayer and fasting human beings can become participants of the uncreated light of God's divine glory even in this life. The spiritual theme adds to the First Sunday of Great Lent's theme, faith. In addition to faith, one needs *effort*.
- Sunday of the Veneration of the Holy Cross** - the spiritual theme starts to change from personal faith, and personal effort, to Christ. The Church fathers equate the life-giving cross with the tree of life and plant it in the middle of the Lenten pilgrimage. The focus is on victory, not suffering.
- Sunday of St. John Climacus** - This Sunday's theme is St John's witness to the real spiritual struggle needed for entrance into God's Kingdom.
- Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt** - This Sunday's theme has three parts. First, no amount of past sin and wickedness can keep a truly repentant person from God. 2nd, Christ himself has come to call sinners to repentance and to save them from their sins (Luke 5:32). 3rd, in St. Mary we see that it is never too late in life, or in Lent, to repent. Christ will gladly receive all who come to him with sincere repentance, even at the eleventh hour.

The original purpose of the pre-Pascha fast (now known as Great Lent) was the fasting of catechumens who were being prepared for baptism and entry into the Church. However, it quickly became a time for those who were already Christian to prepare 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, most of all, of return to the great commandments of loving God and neighbors.



UNDERSTANDING THE TIMES

**Class taught by the Rev. Dr. Dcn Joseph Macpherson
held Saturdays 3:30 pm at ASONA**

In 1892 the U.S. Supreme Court unanimously held that America is a Christian nation. Not so anymore! Today Marxist/Leninism and Post-modernism dominate the culture. But, what exactly are these worldviews? And where exactly do they disagree (or agree) with our 1,990-year-old Christian worldview?

Join us for a study of the 10 subjects that comprise a worldview: theology, biology, law, politics, philosophy, psychology, sociology, ethics, economics, and history.

News headlines and stories and politicians' proposals suddenly make crystal-clear sense when you know and understand what Christianity, Marxist/Leninism, and Postmodernism each say about these ten subjects — and how the subjects fit together to form a seamless whole.

YOU WILL NOT WANT TO MISS THESE PRESENTATIONS.

Saturdays 3:30 pm at
All Saints of North America Orthodox Church
You can contact him at: dcnjoseph@protonmail.com



**About our own Deacon Joseph Macpherson
who will be running the class.**

You see him every week serving at the Altar, but did you know that

He is a convert to Orthodoxy, and Orthodox Deacon in ROCOR, Dcn. Joseph will share the deep understanding of world events from an Orthodox Christian worldview

Dcn. Joseph's education includes

- Juris Doctor - Chapman University School of Law, Orange, CA,
- Master's degree in Applied Mathematics from Purdue University.
- Bachelor of Science, Mathematics; summa cum laude from Grand Canyon Univ. in Phoenix.

He has worked for the Arizona Attorney General's Office, Arizona Behavioral Counseling, Northrop Grumman, and his family firm, The MacPherson Group,

He is an annual presenter at annual law seminar (2017-2021), and a member of Arizona, California, and D.C. Bars.

He currently teaches courses at Grand Canyon Univ.