

WEEKLY BULLETIN

St. Katherine Ukrainian Orthodox Church | 1600 Hwy 96, Arden Hills, MN 55112 | Church Hall Tel: 651-697-1995

WELCOME !

We feel very privileged to have you worship with us today. As you look for a new home church, we hope you feel special here and consider becoming a part of our Christian family. The text for Divine Liturgy may be found in the Service Book in the Pew. Only those Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves may approach the chalice for Holy Communion, but everyone is welcome to partake of the Holy Bread after the Liturgy. We thank you for joining us in prayer. We also invite you to join us for fellowship in the social hall after the Liturgy.

4 Sunday of The Great Fast

EPISTLE: Hebrews 6:13-20

BRETHREN, when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore to himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by a greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he interposed with an oath, so that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

GOSPEL: Mark 9:17-31 At that time, a man came to Jesus kneeling and saying: "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 he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him; and



when the spirit saw him, 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! All things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "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 he had entered the

house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting." They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he 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 when he is killed, after three days he will rise."

Meditation: What kind of faith does the Lord expect of us, especially when we meet challenges and difficulties? Inevitably there will be times when each of us cause disappointment to others. In this gospel incident the disciples of Jesus brought disappointment to a pleading father because they failed to heal his epileptic son. Jesus' response seemed stern; but it was really tempered with love and compassion. We see at once both Jesus' dismay with the disciples' lack of faith and his concern to meet the need of this troubled boy and his anguished father. Jesus recognized the weakness of the father's faith and at the same time challenged him to pray boldly with expectant faith: "All things are possible to him who believes!" God promises us freedom from oppression, especially the oppression of sinful habits and the work of the evil one who tries to rob us of faith, joy, and peace with God. The Lord invites us, as he did this boy's father, to pray with expectant faith. Do you trust in God's unflinching love and mercy?

4 Неділя Великого Посту

В той далекий благословенний час, коли по землі ходив своїми святими стопами наш Господь, Ісус Христос,

кожний обтяжений хворобами, знеможений, хто переживав смуток, страждання міг з твердою вірою і надією приступити до Христа Спасителя і отримати бажане зцілення. Подія оздоровлення Ісусом розслабленого, про яку розповідає нинішнє Євангеліє, подає нам ще одну настанову для доброго проведення Великого посту. Вона навчає нас, що час посту, це час оздоровлення духовного і тілесного, як плід покути, молитви, покаяння і навернення. Піст має допомогти нам оздоровити нашу любов до Бога і зокрема любов до ближніх, взаємні стосунки, спільноту з Богом і ближніми. Внутрішнє оздоровлення людини має перерости в оздоровлення зовнішнє, оздоровлення стосунків з Богом і ближніми, стати практичним здійсненням заповідей любові Бога і ближнього, які нерозривні між собою. Лише сильна любов до Бога може допомогти нам

бачити Його, приятелювати з Ним в особі ближніх. Колись давно у Парижі жив дуже багатий чоловік. Він мав біля п'ятсот приятелів, бо був дуже гостинний і любив кожному допомогти. Коли відчув близькість своєї смерті, склав заповіт, в якому написав, що його похорон має відбутися о шостій годині ранку, на який запрошує всіх своїх приятелів, і кожен, хто прийде, отримає за цю похоронну послугу п'ять тисяч франків. Але своєму слугі він сказав, що про цю останню постанову вони не повинні знати наперед. І ось багатий чоловік помер. Але із п'ятиста запрошених приятелів на похорон прийшло лише десять, іншим не захотілося так рано вставати. А коли вони дізналися про те, що їх чекала велика нагорода, нарікали і казали, що якщо б раніше знали про неї, то і опівночі встали б...

Наука Христа і цей приклад пригадують нам, що ми отримуємо нагороду від

Бога не за добрі слова чи бажання, а за конкретні вчинки. „Не любімо словом, ані язиком, лише - ділом і правдою“ (1 Ів. 3, 18). Кожен, хто отримує Божу любов і ділиться нею з ближніми, отримає в нагороду від Бога духовних товаришів, Божі дари, які будуть супроводити його душу до Царства Небесного. Нехай час Великого посту допоможе нам знайти багато таких духовних приятелів, вірних супутників в дорозі до неба.

Молитва Св. Єфрема Сірина

Господи і Владико життя мого! Духа лінивства, безнадійности, владолюбства та пустомовства не дай мені, (поклін).

Духа ж чистоти, смиренномудрія, терпіння та любови даруй мені рабові Твоєму, (поклін).

О, Господи Царю! Дай мені бачити мої гріхи і не осуджувати брата мого, бо Ти Благословений на віки вічні. Амінь.

CHURCH CALENDAR

APRIL 10 Sunday 4 Sunday Great Fast. Liturgy (Ukrainian- choir).....10 AM
Panachyda b.m. Oksana Bryn

APRIL 16 Saturday Toloka Spring Work around the Church.....10 AM

APRIL 17 Sunday 5 Great Fast. Liturgy (English-choir).....10 AM

APRIL 23 Saturday Lazarus Vesper.....6 PM

APRIL 24 Palm Sunday Liturgy10 AM

• Blessing of willow

• Litia in memory of Chornobyl victims and short presentation in church hall.

APRIL 28 Thursday 12 Passion Gospels..... 6 PM

APRIL 29 Friday Vesper with Burial..... 6 PM

APRIL 30 Saturday. Blessing of Baskets for those, who are unable to attend Midnight Service.....10 AM

APRIL 30 - May 1 Saturday - Sunday. EASTER. PASCHA. Midnight Services starts at **11:30 PM** Following blessings of baskets and communal breakfast.

MAY 2 Bright Monday. Liturgy.....10 AM

MAY 8 St. Thomas Sunday. Liturgy10 AM
MOTHER'S DAY. Cemetery visitation..... 12:30 PM

Lenten Prayer of St. Ephrem

O Lord and Master of my life, take from me the spirit of sloth, despair, lust of power, and idle talk.

But give rather the spirit of chastity, humility, patience, and love to Thy servant.

Yea, O Lord and King, grant me to see my own transgressions, and not to judge my brother, for blessed art Thou, unto ages of ages. Amen.



Our church is accepting donations for Easter Flowers. You can do that in Church Office or directly to Sviatoslav Mirza in Church Entrance.

Perogie & Borscht Dinner Fundraiser.

When: Sunday, April 17th, 11:30am

-2pm. **Place:** St. Michael's & St.

George's Ukrainian Orthodox Church
504 4th Street NE Minneapolis 55413
(ALL proceeds go towards helping the seriously wounded in the war in Ukraine)