

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church

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Divine Liturgy: 10:30 AM
Feast Day Liturgy: 8:00 AM
Confession: before Divine Liturgy
Church School: 10:30 AM

Fifth Sunday of Great Lent

April 21st, 2013

HOLY BREAD: Protinitza Gordana Petrovic
CAKE & COFFEE : Olivera Medovic with family
COLLECTION & USHERS: Men of St. George
ALTAR HELPERS: Zoran Zivadinovic

READER: Adam Meador

WELCOME! We would like to welcome our visitors with us today. We invite you to follow the Divine Liturgy, which begins on page 28 of the Blue Service Books. **WE REGRET THAT THE DIVISION OF CHRISTIANITY DOES NOT PERMIT US TO OFFER COMMUNION TO NON-ORTHODOX OR THOSE OF THE CHURCH WHO ARE UNPREPARED.** However, please come forward at the end of the Divine Liturgy to venerate the Cross and receive the Antidoron - blessed bread - as a token of love and fellowship. **PLEASE RESPECT THE HOLY LITURGY BY ARRIVING TO CHURCH ON TIME AND PARTAKING IN THE LITURGY TOGETHER WITH THE ENTIRE CONGREGATION.** The prosperity of our Church is in your hands! Please remember to leave your contact information by signing the guest book before you leave the Church.

EPISTLE: (Hebrews 9:11-14) But Christ being come an high priest of good things to come, by a greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this building; Neither by the blood of goats and calves, but by his own blood he entered in once into the holy place, having obtained eternal redemption for us. For if the blood of bulls and of goats, and the ashes of an heifer sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies to the purifying of the flesh: How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without spot to God, purge your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

GOSPEL: (Luke 7:36-50) And one of the Pharisees desired him that he would eat with him. And he went into the Pharisee's house, and sat down to meat. And, behold, a woman in the city, which was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at meat in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster box of ointment, and stood at his feet behind him weeping, and began to wash his feet with tears, and did wipe them with the hairs of her head, and kissed his feet, and anointed them with the ointment. Now when the Pharisee which had bidden him saw it, he spoke within himself, saying, This man, if he were a prophet, would have known who and what manner of woman this is that touched him: for she is a sinner. And Jesus answering said unto him, Simon, I have somewhat to say unto thee. And he saith, Master, say on. There was a certain creditor which had two debtors: the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty. And when they had nothing to pay, he frankly forgave

them both. Tell me therefore, which of them will love him most? Simon answered and said, I suppose that he, to whom he forgave most. And he said unto him, Thou hast rightly judged. And he turned to the woman, and said unto Simon, Seest thou this woman? I entered into thine house, thou gavest me no water for my feet: but she hath washed my feet with tears, and wiped them with the hairs of her head. Thou gavest me no kiss: but this woman since the time I came in hath not ceased to kiss my feet. My head with oil thou didst not anoint: but this woman hath anointed my feet with ointment. Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little. And he said unto her, Thy sins are forgiven. And they that sat at meat with him began to say within themselves, Who is this that forgiveth sins also? And he said to the woman, Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace.

REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

HEALTH OF: Geneva Jokich, Jennie Pjanich, Zora Droca, Spaso Droca, Heather Komnenovic, Ninko Stakic, Ranko Tepsic, Stacy, Irma Riordan

DEPARTED: +Stanisa Bojic, +Ruzica Jovanovic; +Ionel Dumitru

POMEN/MEMORIAL SERVICE: IMO of beloved wife +Florence, mother +Iconie, father +Todor Stoini Sr., offered by Todor Stoini Jr.

PRAY FOR THE CHRISTIANS THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

PASTORAL VISITATIONS: Ranko Tepsic

SUNDAY **April 21** **Divine Liturgy 10:30 AM**
Cake & Coffee: Olivera Medovich with family

SATURDY **April 27** **LAZARUS SATURDAY (VRBICA)**
Vesper Service at 5:00 PM
Your participation on VRBICA is **really necessary**. On that day, children should be *together* with their parents in Church. With branches in our hands and song on our lips, we will celebrate the **“Glorious Entrance of our Lord Jesus Christ into the City”** of Jerusalem.

SUNDAY **April 28** **Divine Liturgy 10:30 AM-PALM SUNDAY**
Light Lunch: Dusica Bojic with Petrovic family
IMO of +Stanisa Bojic

**LAZARUS SATURDAY "VRBICA: APRIL 27, 2013
VESPER SERVICE @ 5:00 PM**



On the eve of Palm Sunday, on Lazarus Saturday, we will be sanctifying willow twigs and distributing them to the people. This consecrated willow will be taken home by people and placed alongside the Saint's icon and Vigil lamps. The children with willow branches in their hands, along with the congregation, will engage in a

procession around the church. This tradition reminds us of the joyful days when children were shown to be the most faithful to Christ. He is their shepherd and like lambs of Christ, they will be wearing little bells around their necks. Christ's glorious entry into Jerusalem and the greetings that He received from the children will echo on the streets around our churches. The Orthodox Church of Jerusalem has preserved the tradition to serve liturgy on Lazarus Saturday to recall the solemn entry of Christ in Jerusalem. It looks like this: the Patriarch, accompanied by people singing "Glory to God in the highest," climbing the mountain Elion to Bethany, where Jesus performed the blessing of the olive trees. Then, accompanied by pious followers the Patriarch distributes branches and flowers. From Bethany, they go first to the places that have witnessed the Ascension of Christ. During the walk, people enthusiastically sing "Hosanna in the highest, blessed is who is coming in the name of God." People then pass through Gethsemane, and they go to Golgotha where they leave their branches. After that, they go to the Church of the Resurrection. The ritual ends where it began. Jerusalem's custom of wearing a twig in the procession and the act of consecration of branches spread over the entire Christian Orthodox world, and we, as the guardians of the Holy Orthodox Tradition, adopted this custom and celebrate these events wearing twigs of willow. Hence, the name of this holiday, "Vrbica". Vrbica is a variable feast and follows the biggest Christian holiday of Easter.

PLEASE COME WITH YOUR CHILDREN!!!

NEW DRIWAY SIGN INSTALED



Thank you to Ilija Rokvic for donating the material, to Sasa Krsmanovic who made the sign, and to Zoran Zivadinovic on setting it up!

+Every parishioner is a missionary for the St. George Church.

St. George Serbian Orthodox Church

WEEKLY BULLETIN

April 21, 2013

Today, on the fifth Sunday of Great Lent, we commemorate St. Mary of Egypt. St. Mary had lived a life of debauchery and on many occasions, sold her body for necessities such as food and travel. She departed her land and upon arriving in the Holy City, followed the crowd that was thronging towards the Church of the Resurrection, it being the day of the Exaltation of the Cross. But, when she reached the threshold of the Church, an invisible force prevented her entering in spite of repeated efforts on her part, although the other pilgrims were able to go in without hindrance. Left alone in a corner of the Narthex, she began to realize that it was the impurity of her life that was preventing her approaching the holy Wood. She burst into tears and smote her breast and, seeing an icon of the Mother of God, made this prayer to her: "O Sovereign Lady, who didst bear God in the flesh, I know that I should not dare to look upon thine icon, thou who are pure in soul and body, because, debauched as I am, I must fill thee with disgust. But, as the God born of thee became man in order to call sinners to repentance, come to my aid! Allow me to go into the church and prostrate before His Cross. And, as soon as I have seen the Cross, I promise that I will renounce the world and all pleasures, and follow the path of salvation that thou wilt show me." She felt herself suddenly freed from the power that had held her and was able to enter the Church. There she fervently venerated the Holy Cross and then, returning to the icon of the Mother of God, declared herself ready to follow the path that the Virgin would show her. A voice replied to her from on high: "If you cross the Jordan, you will find rest." As we reflect upon St. Mary's life, we can also consider 1 Corinthians 6:20 "you were bought at a price, therefore honor God with your bodies, and your Spirit, for they are His." When we think about the unfortunate way that St. Mary used her body...but through repentance was saved and the fact that our Salvation was bought with a price - Christ's body being sacrificed on the Cross for our sins... we must ask and think about honoring God with our bodies and spirit with a focus on our Talents. Are there specific tasks that we can complete to help our Church? Does our profession provide the opportunity to assist our parish? Can we extend the daily labor that we do to include God's house? Whether a painter, doctor, carpenter, lawyer, gardener, accountant or any other skills - can we provide them as Stewardship to our Church?



We are called to honor and love God, to provide for and support His Church.

Fill out the "STEWARDSHIP" form for 2013. Please give your time and talents!