

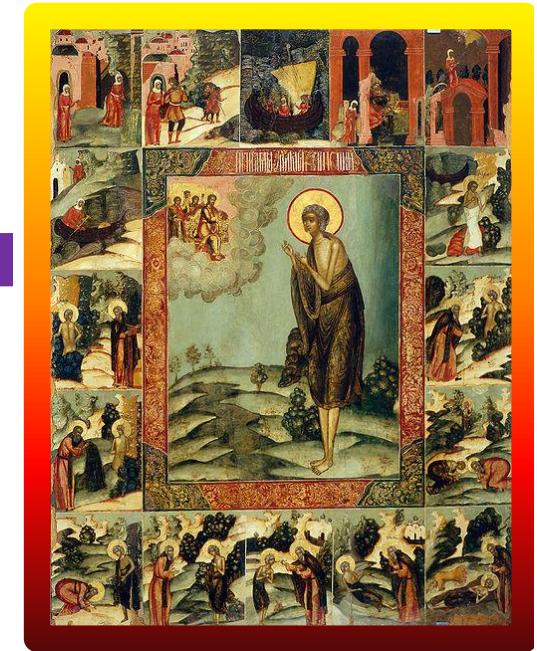
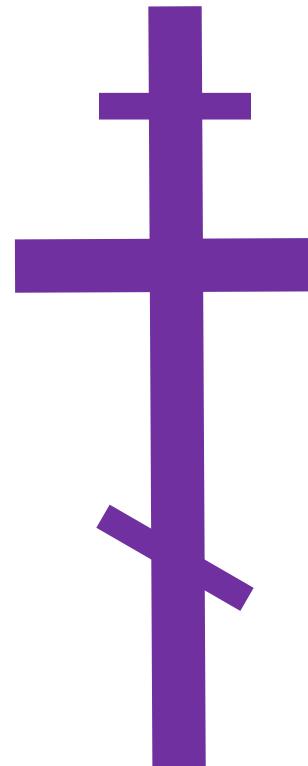
# Saintly Notes

## St. Mary of Egypt (April 1)

The biography of this wonderful saint was written by St. Sophronius, the Patriarch of Jerusalem. Once, during the Honorable Fast [Lenten Season], a certain priest-monk (Heiromonk), the Elder Zosimus, withdrew into the wilderness beyond the Jordan, a twenty-day trek. Suddenly, he caught sight of a human being with a withered and naked body whose hair was as white as snow and who began to flee from the sight of Zosimus. The elder ran for a long while until this person crouched down in a brook and cried out: "Abba Zosimus forgive me for the sake of the Lord. I cannot face you for I am a naked woman." Zosimus then tossed his outer garment to her which she wrapped around herself and then showed herself to him. The elder was frightened upon hearing his name spoken from the mouth of this woman he did not know. Following his prolonged insistence, the woman related her life story. She was born in Egypt and at the age of twelve began to live a life of debauchery in Alexandria where she spent seventeen years in this perverted way of life. Driven by the adulterous flame of the flesh, one day she boarded a boat which was sailing for Jerusalem. Arriving at the Holy City, she wanted to enter the church in order to venerate the Honorable Cross but some invisible force restrained her and prevented her from entering the church. In great fear, she gazed upon the icon of the All-Holy Mother of God in the vestibule and prayed that she be allowed to enter the church to venerate the Honorable Cross, all the while confessing her sinfulness and uncleanness and promising that she would go wherever the All-Pure One would direct her. She was then permitted to enter the church. Having venerated the Cross she again entered the vestibule and, before the icon, gave thanks to the Mother of God. At that very moment she heard a voice saying: "If you cross over Jordan you will find real peace!" Immediately she purchased three loaves of bread and started out for the Jordan where she arrived that same evening. The next day she received Holy Communion in the Monastery of St. John and crossed over the Jordan river. She remained in the wilderness for forty-eight years in great torment, fear and struggle with passionate thoughts as though with wild beasts. She fed on vegetation. Afterward, when she stood for prayer, Zosimus saw her levitate in the air. She begged him to bring her Holy Communion the following year on the shore of the Jordan where she would then come to receive it. The following year, Zosimus arrived on the shore of the Jordan in the evening with Holy Communion. He wondered how this saint would cross the Jordan. At that moment, in the light of the moon, he saw her as she approached the river, made the sign of the cross over it and walked upon the water as though upon dry land. After Zosimus administered Holy Communion to her, she begged him to come the following year to the same brook where they had first met. Zosimus came and discovered her lifeless body on that spot. Above her head in the sand was written: "Abba Zosimus, bury the body of the humble Mary on this site; render dust to dust. I died on April 1, the same night of the saving-suffering of Christ, after having received Communion of the Divine Mysteries." From this inscription Zosimus first learned her name and the other and awesome miracle was that, she, on that same night the previous year, when she received Holy Communion, arrived at this brook which took him twenty days to travel. Thus, Zosimus buried the body of this wonderful saint, Mary the Egyptian. When he returned to the monastery Zosimus related the entire history of her life and the miracles which he had personally witnessed. Thus, the Lord knows how to glorify penitent sinners. St. Mary is also commemorated on the Fifth Sunday of the Honorable Fast (Fifth Sunday in Lent). The Church holds her up as an example to the faithful during these fast days as an incentive for repentance. She died about the year 530 A.D.

(The Prologue from Ochrid)

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Great Lent  
(Commemoration of Our Righteous Mother Mary of Egypt)  
April 1, 2012



All Saints Orthodox Church



# 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Great Lent

## (Commemoration of our Righteous Mother Mary of Egypt)

All Saints Orthodox Church, Raleigh NC  
(www.all saintsnc.org)  
919-859-1332

The V. Rev. Nicholas R. A. Sorensen, Archpriest  
The Rev. David Keim, Deacon

April 1, 2012

### The Saints Whom We Remember

Martyrs Gerontios and Basilides; Venerable Euthymios, wonder-worker of Suzdal

### This Week's Schedule

Today:	8:00a Orthros; 9:00a Church School; 10:00a Divine Liturgy
Monday:	<b>Church Office Closed</b>
Tuesday:	10:00a Akathist for Our Children
Wednesday:	9:30a 3 <sup>rd</sup> Hour Prayers; 6:30p Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts; 8:00p Lenten Soup/Bread Supper
Friday:	6:30p St. Lazarus Canon
Saturday:	10:00a Divine Liturgy; 12:00noon Church School Lunch, Palm Cross making, and Children's Confessions; 5:30p Great Vespers
Sunday:	<b>Palm Sunday;</b> 8:00a Orthros; 9:00a Church School; 10:00a Divine Liturgy; 5:30p Bridegroom Orthros

### First Antiphon

**Refrain:** Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

### Second Antiphon

**Refrain:** O Son of God, *Who art risen from the dead*, save us who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

### Third Antiphon for the Resurrection (Tone 1)

While the stone was sealed by the Jews, and the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst arise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. For which cause the heavenly powers cried aloud unto Thee, O giver of life. Glory to Thy Resurrection O Christ, glory to Thy kingdom, glory to Thy providence, O Thou Who alone art the lover of mankind.

### Little Entrance

- † **Entrance Hymn:** "Come, let us worship and bow down before Christ . . . Alleluia."
- † **Resurrectional Troparion (Tone 1):** See above.
- † **Troparion of All Saints (Tone 4):** As with fine porphyry and royal purple Thy Church has been adorned with Thy martyr's blood shed throughout all the world. She cries to Thee, O Christ God, send down Thy bounties on Thy people, grant peace to Thy habitation and great mercy to our souls.
- † **Kontakion for Annunciation and Great Lent (Tone 8):** To thee, our captain, Queen of war, the battle trophies won, thy people rescued by thine aid from peril, dedicate as our offering of thanksgiving, O Theotokos. As thou hast might which none by war

can overcome from all forms of danger hast thou delivered me, that I may cry unto thee: O Virgin unwedded bride.

### The Trisagion

Holy God, Holy Mighty . . . (3x)

### Scripture

#### for today and next Sunday

- Today: (See insert)
- Next Sunday (April 8):  
Epistle: Phil. 4:4-9  
Gospel: John 12:1-18

### Megalynarion (Tone 8)

In thee rejoiceth, O full of grace . . .

### Communion Hymn (Tone 8)

Praise the Lord from the heavens . . .  
Alleluia.

### Post-Communion Hymn

"We have seen the true light . . ."

### Parish Notes

#### Altar Servers Today

Del Dillard, Noah Keim, Micah Keim, Asa Keim, Roger Jones, Josiah Webster

#### Special Attention

- **Services of Great Lent.** Your Lenten preparation for Pascha will be greatly aided by attending as many of these Lenten weekly services as possible.
- **Confessions During Great Lent.** The Sacrament of Confession is offered here at All Saints during Great Lent (as is true as is true all year) by appointment only. **As in the past, this Sacrament will not be offered during Holy Week. Please plan ahead.**
- **Remember Church School and Adult Class.** Please come and study the Orthodox Christian Faith. Classes for Preschool thru Adults.

- **Adult Class to Study Great Lent by Fr. Alexander Schmemann.** All Adults in our parish are welcome to attend. Class begins about 9:15am in the Nave.

- **Remember Food for the Hungry.** "People give all sorts of reasons to excuse their lack of charity. Some may say, 'hard times.' But if the times are hard for those who have a sufficiency, how much harder are they for the poor? This pretext alone should lead one to give all the more generously."

- **Children's Books Needed.** We are collecting gently-used children's books for a free clinic that gives a book to each child who comes in needing medical attention. Books for newborns through young adult readers are needed. A basket has been set up under the Book Drive bulletin board in the parish hall. Please place your books in the basket through Sunday, April 1. If you have questions, please ask Kh. Barbara.

- **Palm Sunday and Holy Week Is One Week Away.** Plan now to attend as many of the special services as possible. Schedules for Holy Week are available in the Narthex and on our web page ([www.all saintsnc.org](http://www.all saintsnc.org))

## Today's Epistle and Gospel Readings

### Prokeimenon:

Make your vows to the Lord our God, and perform them.

*God is known in Judah; His Name is great in Israel.*

### †Epistle: Heb. 9:11–14

Brethren, when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), He entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, Who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

### †Gospel: Mark 10:32–45

At that time, Jesus took His twelve Disciples, and began to tell them what was to happen to Him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, and deliver Him to the Gentiles. And they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit upon Him, and kill Him; and after three days He will rise." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Him, and said to Him,

"Teacher, we would that thou shouldest do for us whatsoever we shall desire" And Jesus said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" And they said to Him, "Grant us to sit, one at Thy right hand and one at Thy left, in Thy glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to Him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized. But to sit at My right hand or at My left is not Mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. And Jesus called them to Him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be servant of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

## Today's Epistle and Gospel Readings

### Prokeimenon:

Make your vows to the Lord our God, and perform them.

*God is known in Judah; His Name is great in Israel.*

### †Epistle: Heb. 9:11–14

Brethren, when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation), He entered once for all into the Holy Place, taking not the blood of goats and calves but His own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, Who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

### †Gospel: Mark 10:32–45

At that time, Jesus took His twelve Disciples, and began to tell them what was to happen to Him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, and deliver Him to the Gentiles. And they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit upon Him, and kill Him; and after three days He will rise." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Him, and said to Him,

"Teacher, we would that thou shouldest do for us whatsoever we shall desire" And Jesus said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" And they said to Him, "Grant us to sit, one at Thy right hand and one at Thy left, in Thy glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to Him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized. But to sit at My right hand or at My left is not Mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. And Jesus called them to Him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be servant of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

## A Word from Our Fathers

“PHYSICAL FASTING, essential as it is, is not only meaningless, it is truly dangerous if it is disconnected from the spiritual effort—from prayer and concentration on God. . . . The entire Lenten worship is a constant reminder of the difficulties, the obstacles, and the temptations that await those who think that they may depend on their will power and not on God.”

(Fr. Alexander Schmemann, *Great Lent*)

## A Word from Our Fathers

“PHYSICAL FASTING, essential as it is, is not only meaningless, it is truly dangerous if it is disconnected from the spiritual effort—from prayer and concentration on God. . . . The entire Lenten worship is a constant reminder of the difficulties, the obstacles, and the temptations that await those who think that they may depend on their will power and not on God.”

(Fr. Alexander Schmemann, *Great Lent*)