

THE NEW WITNESS TO THE ANCIENT FAITH

A Newsletter of St. Elizabeth Orthodox Church



MARCH 2024



Glory to Jesus Christ!

This month we continue the cycle of liturgical services designed to prepare us for Great Lent—Sunday of the Prodigal Son on March 3rd, Sunday of the Last Judgment on March 10th, and Forgiveness Sunday on March 17th. Lent begins on March 18th. We celebrate the Feast of the Annunciation on March 25th.

Let us perform a spiritual fast!

Let us loose every tie!

Let us flee from the pitfalls of sin!

*Let us forgive our brother's debts
that our transgressions may also be
forgiven!*

Then we will be able to sing:

*"Let my prayer arise in Thy sight
as incense, O Lord!"* ✠

✠ Idiomelon, Tone 3 (from the Lenten Triodion)

Parish Life & Announcements

St. Elizabeth Parish to Host Showing of Film *Sacred Alaska*

On March 16th, our parish will host a free showing of the award-winning documentary, *Sacred Alaska*. The film offers an intimate look into Native Alaskan culture and spirituality, showcasing the profound influence of Orthodox Christianity since it was first introduced by Russian monks in the late 18th Century. From the film's website:

Featuring Aleut, Yupik, and Tlingit elders and clergy, as well as monastics, the film highlights the unique way Native Alaskans have woven their indigenous beliefs with Orthodox traditions, deeply influencing their worldview. Central to this is the concept of learning to become a "real person." Through beautiful cinematography and powerful storytelling, *Sacred Alaska* underscores the profound, sacred bond between the Native Alaskan people, their faith, and the formidable landscape they have called home for thousands of years.

Sacred Alaska will be shown at Kingston's Firehouse Theater on March 16th from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Tickets are free and can be obtained online through Eventbrite here. ➡

If you would like to attend but are unable to reserve tickets online, please contact Fr. John or Matushka Karen Hadley for help.

Since an important goal of this event is to gain greater visibility for our church on the Kitsap Peninsula, every parishioner is encouraged to invite a non-Orthodox friend or family member to the event.

Forgiveness Sunday Vespers & Rite of Mutual Forgiveness

The Great Fast begins this year on March 18th. To begin the season of repentance properly, every member of our parish should plan to attend the solemn and beautiful Rite of Mutual Forgiveness that occurs immediately after Vespers on Forgiveness Sunday the day before. As in past years and to make attendance easier, Forgiveness Sunday Vespers and the Rite of Forgiveness are scheduled to follow the Divine Liturgy and fellowship meal on Sunday, March 17th.

Memorial Saturday

In preparation for the Fast, we will serve the Divine Liturgy for Meatfare Saturday on March 9th. This service includes petitions for the departed and parishioners are encouraged to add the names of loved ones to the list in the narthex for inclusion at the service.

Koliva Classes

Are you interested in learning how to make koliva but don't know where to begin? Have you wanted to contribute to remembering our departed? Can you follow a recipe? If so, please consider joining a new ministry team that can be called on to make this dish of

wheat berries, honey, dried fruit, and spices when we remember the departed at a panhikidas and funeral services.

Christine Adam will be teaching two classes on how to make koliva—on Sunday, March 3rd after our fellowship hour (around 12:45 p.m.), and on Saturday, March 9th at 8:45 a.m. For the second class, you will need to bring your own cooked and dry wheat berries and ingredients. For more information, please contact Christine at christineadam.choirdirector@gmail.com.

Men's Fellowship During Lent

Our parish men's fellowship meets every other Saturday morning at 9:00 a.m., and during the Great Fast we will be reading Alexander Schmemmann's book *Great Lent*. All men in the parish are welcome and encouraged to join in the reading together of this illuminating work. Our next meeting will be Saturday, March 23rd.

Women's Fellowship

The women's fellowship group will be meeting on Tuesday, March 5th at 6:30 p.m. We will continue with Chapter 6 of *The Scent of Holiness* by Constantina Palmer. You can email Terri with any questions at adkinsterri7@gmail.com.

Lenten Confessions

To receive holy communion at Pascha and beyond, it is necessary for each grown member of the parish to make at least one sacramental confession during the course of the Fast. Father John is as always available to hear confessions on Saturdays following the evening service without need of an

appointment, and at any other time during the week by appointment. In addition, he will be available for confessions from 5:00-6:00 by appointment on Lenten Wednesdays prior to the Presanctified Liturgy.

Pan-Orthodox Lenten Sunday Vespers

Pan-Orthodox Lenten Sunday Vespers will be served at various parishes throughout the Seattle area as always at 5:00 p.m. from Orthodoxy Sunday through Mary of Egypt Sunday. The first will be held on March 24th at Three Hierarchs Romanian Church in Mountlake Terrace.

Barrel Vault Iconography

Pledges are still being invited for the iconography in our vaulted ceiling. We received more than the amount needed to fulfill our initial goal for the lines of saints on either side of the lower part of the vault. We have therefore expanded our goal to include an icon of the Ascension over the altar. Depending on donations, additional icons of Great Feasts of the Lord are also possible in the upper part of the vault from the altar area all the way back to the rear wall.

Pre-Lenten Women's Retreat, Carpooling Opportunity

This year's pre-lenten women's retreat will be held on Saturday, March 2nd at Holy Resurrection in Tacoma. If you are interested in carpooling, Jamie Telegin will be attending and can fit five more people in her car. If you live near Silverdale and are

interested in carpooling, contact Jamie at teleginj@gmail.com.

New Ancient Faith Kids Channel

Ancient Faith has a new digital media division called Ancient Faith Kids. They have a great YouTube channel to help inspire kids on their journey to fully knowing Jesus Christ. You can check it out at <https://www.youtube.com/@ancientfaith4kids>.

Bookstore News

Be on the lookout for the following new titles arriving soon at our bookstore from Ancient Faith Publishing:

Journey to Reality: Sacramental Life in a Secular Age by Zachary Porcu:

Most books aimed at introducing Orthodoxy to the non-Orthodox begin by explaining basic points of doctrine and practice that differ from what the average reader may be familiar with. But for the average American, this approach doesn't go deep enough. In order to be able to fully understand Orthodox doctrine and practice, we have to unlearn an entire secular worldview and become participants in a sacramental worldview instead—a worldview that embraces reality as it truly is. Dr. Zachary Porcu provides a guide to this process that is easily accessible both to Western Christians and to those who lack any grounding in the Christian Faith.

A Patristic Treasury: Early Church Wisdom for Today, edited by James R. Payton, Jr.:

The writings of the Church Fathers constitute the “first story” of the Christian

faith, built upon its apostolic foundation. Patristic scholar James Payton makes the Fathers more accessible by selecting passages that are easily applicable to the average Christian's life. With his help, we can all find stimulation, comfort, challenge, and inspiration in the Church Fathers.

Christ in His Saints, by Fr. Patrick Henry Reardon:

In this sequel to *Christ in the Psalms*, popular pastor and scholar Patrick Henry Reardon once again applies his keen intellect to a topic he loves most dearly. Here he examines the lives of almost 150 saints and heroes from the Scriptures, everyone from Abigail to Zephaniah, Adam to St. John the Theologian. This well-researched work is a veritable cornucopia of Bible personalities: Old Testament saints, New Testament saints, "Repentant saints," "Zealous saints," "Saints under pressure" . . . they're all here, and their stories are both fascinating and uplifting. But *Christ in His Saints* is far more than just a biblical "who's who." These men and women represent that ancient family into which, by baptism, all believers have been incorporated. Together they compose that great "cloud of witnesses" cheering us on and inspiring us through word and deed. Appropriate for Great Lent or any other time of the year.

Living Faith: An Orthodox Christian Conversation with Evangelicals, by Fr. Lawrence Farley:

Much has been written about the similarities and differences between the Orthodox and Evangelical faiths. In this book, Fr. Lawrence Farley provides a concise and non-confrontational summary of the major issues that divide the two. Evangelicals inquiring into Orthodoxy,

Orthodox Christians who want to speak knowledgeably with evangelical friends, and Orthodox Christians who simply wish to understand and appreciate their own tradition more fully will find this book useful and accessible.

In addition to these new titles, there is a good supply of candle tapers and recycled candle wax from our services in glass containers.

As always, thank you for your generous support of our parish bookstore.

Charity Sunday

March 3rd— After Liturgy we will be collecting for the St. Nicholas Uganda Children's Fund, providing for the education, health, and welfare of Ugandan children, teens, and young adults. If you forget your checkbook on Charity Sunday, you can always make a donation later in the month. Just write "charity" in the memo line of your check.

Last month, donations to the Kitsap Homes of Compassion totaled \$836.00. Thank you for your generous donations!

Recurring Dates

Resurrectional Vigil

In addition to our regular Saturday evening Great Vespers services, our parish is now serving the Resurrectional Vigil every first Saturday of the month at 6:00 p.m. This is a beautiful service of great importance to our Orthodox worship, culminating in the

proclamation of the eleven Matins gospels from the altar. We would love to increase parish-wide attendance at this important service. This month, the Resurrectional Vigil will be served on Saturday, March 2nd.

Vespers & Orthodox Studies

Come pray with your fellow parishioners at vespers, Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m.—and then stay after for a half-hour or so discussing interesting and important topics of our Orthodox faith. This is a particularly good time for introducing family members and acquaintances to the Church. Come with questions for Father John!

Sunday & Monday Catechesis

Father John continues to teach catechesis every Monday from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Catechesis is also held each Sunday during the second half of the Divine Liturgy—except for the fourth Sunday of each month, when there will be no Sunday catechesis.

Game Night

Our parish game night is held the first Friday of every month beginning at 6:00 p.m. at 7711 NE Beacon Place in Bremerton—this month on March 1st. Kids and food are welcome!

Choir Practice

The choir meets 30 minutes before each service to warm up. In addition, this month there will be a Choir Holy Week Workshop on Saturday, March 9th between liturgy and vespers.

Moleben of Healing

Our parish serves a moleben of healing on the first Wednesday of every month at 6:00 p.m. before vespers—this month on March 6th.

Confessions

Father John is available for confessions every Saturday after vespers and by appointment. Email him at rector@stelizabethorthodox.org.

Classifieds

Car Needed for Visit

Our former member Rafael Roman will be staying in our area to explore a work opportunity for a few weeks beginning March 9, and would like to know if anyone has a car he could borrow for that purpose. If anyone does have the means to help, please contact him at Outbythesea@outlook.com.



Prayer List

Departed

ND Michael
ND Gordon

Living

Pr. Symeon
Allison
Kathleen
Douglas
Douglas
Jeff Seraphim
Rd. Cornelius
Archbp. Nathaniel

ND: Newly Departed
CSB: Child She Bears

Miscellaneous

Newsletter Submissions

If you would like to submit any materials, announcements, classifieds, or requests for this monthly newsletter, please contact Bryan Telegin at bulletin@stelizabethorthodox.org.

Contact Us

St. Elizabeth Orthodox Church
26580 Briedablik Pl NW
Poulsbo, WA 98370

Archpriest John Strickland
(360) 598-9700
rector@stelizabethorthodox.org

[Website](#) • [Facebook](#) • [YouTube](#)



Sacred Alaska, a Story of Adventure, Faith, and Sacrifice, by Trikirion Films

March 2024 Daily Readings

3/1		1 Jn 2:7-17	Mk 14:3-9
3/2		2 Tim 3:1-9	Lk 20:46-21:4
3/3		1 Cor 6:12-20	Lk 15:11-32
3/4		1 Jn 2:18-3:10	Mk 11:1-11
3/5		1 Jn 3:11-20	Mk 14:10-42
3/6		1 Jn 3:21-4:6	Mk 14:43-15:1
3/7		1 Jn 4:20-5:21	Mk 15:1-15
3/8		2 Jn 1:1-13	Mk 15:22-25, 33-41
3/9		1 Cor 10:23-28	Lk 21:8-9, 25-27, 33-36
3/10		1 Cor 8:8-9:2	Mt 25:31-46
3/11		3 Jn 1:1-15	Lk 19:29-40, 22:7-39
3/12		Jude 1:1-10	Lk 22:39-42, 45-23:1
3/13	Joel 2:12-26	Joel 3:12-21	
3/14		Jude 1:11-25	Lk 23:2-34, 44-56
3/15	Zech 8:7-17	Zech 8:19-23	
3/16		Rom 14:19-23, 16:25-27	Mt 6:1-13
3/17		Rom 13:11-14:4	Mt 6:14-21
3/18	Is 1:1-20	Gen 1:1-13	Prov 1:1-20
3/19	Is 1:19-2:4	Gen 1:14-23	Prov 1:20-33
3/20	Is 2:3-11	Gen 1:24-2:3	Prov 2:1-22
3/21	Is 2:11-21	Gen 2:4-19	Prov 3:1-18
3/22	Is 3:1-15	Gen 2:20-3:20	Prov 3:19-34
3/23		Heb 1:1-12	Mk 2:23-3:5
3/24		Heb 11:24-26, 32-12:2	Jn 1:43-51
3/25	Is 4:2-5:7	Gen 3:21-4:7	Prov 3:34-4:22
3/26	Is 5:7-16	Gen 4:8-15	Prov 5:1-15
3/27	Is 5:16-25	Gen 4:16-26	Prov 5:15-6:3
3/28	Is 6:1-12	Gen 5:1-24	Prov 6:3-20
3/29	Is 7:1-15	Gen 5:32-6:8	Prov 6:20-7:1
3/30		Heb 3:12-16	Mk 1:35-44
3/31		Heb 1:10-2:3	Mk 2:1-12

Sundays in red

<https://www.oca.org/readings/monthly/2024/03>