

# THE NEW WITNESS TO THE ANCIENT FAITH

A Newsletter of St. Elizabeth Orthodox Church

✙  
APRIL 2024



## *Glory to Jesus Christ!*

This month we continue our journey through Great Lent with the Sunday of the Veneration of the Holy Cross on April 7<sup>th</sup>, St. John Climacus on April 14<sup>th</sup>, and St. Mary of Egypt on April 21<sup>st</sup>. We begin Holy Week with the celebration of Palm Sunday on April 28<sup>th</sup>.

---

*Rejoice, O life-bearing Cross:  
invincible triumph of godliness,  
gate of Paradise, and protection of the  
faithful!*

*The Cross is the might of the  
Church, through which corruption is  
abolished, through which the power of  
death is crushed, and we are raised  
from earth to heaven.*

*O invincible weapon, the adversary  
of demons, the glory of martyrs, the  
true adornment of ven'erable saints,  
and the haven of salvation, which  
grants the world great mercy. ✧*

---

✧ From the Lenten Triodion, *Rejoice, O Life-Giving Cross*

## Parish Life & Announcements

### Parish Showing of *Sacred Alaska* & Mka. Xenia Charitable Collection

Our parish's hosting of the film *Sacred Alaska* occurred last month with an excellent turnout. We sold out Kingston's Firehouse Theater and needed additional space in the adjacent overflow theater. We had 126 in attendance, a large percentage of whom were guests of parishioners; and by appearances several attendees learned about the screening on their own. Our parish is certainly more visible now to our surrounding community than before. You can see a photo of the event on the next page of Father John introducing the film.

At the showing and after, we raised more than \$4000 for the Matushka Xenia Oleksa fund. We would like to thank again those who put so much work into making this event possible.

### 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. As always, Father John is 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 p.m. 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 the second Sunday of Lent (the Sunday of Orthodoxy) through the fifth Sunday (St. Mary of Egypt). The schedule of April services is below:

- ❖ April 7<sup>th</sup>—St. Demetrios, Seattle
- ❖ April 14<sup>th</sup>—Holy Assumption, Seattle
- ❖ April 21<sup>th</sup>—Holy Resurrection, Tacoma.

## Second Opportunity to Attend the Great Penitential Canon

It was wonderful to see such a large attendance at the first evenings of Clean Week for the Great Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete. But if you happened to have missed these services, the Great Canon is again served (this time in its entirety) during the fifth week of the Fast on Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>.

## Presentation on Passion Week Services & Pascha

Father John will give his annual presentation on the services of Passion Week and Pascha at catechesis on Monday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. In addition to our catechumens and inquirers, all parishioners are welcome to attend and learn more about the structure and meaning of these most beautiful services of the year.



## Paschal Ministries

There are a range of things needed for our celebration of Pascha, including work to prepare the church and contribute to meals. Keep your eye on the bulletin board for sign-up sheets in the weeks ahead.

## Changes to Men's & Women's Fellowship Schedules.

Our parish's men's fellowship has been meeting every other Saturday morning, but during April we will transition to a new schedule of meeting every first and third Saturday at 9:00 a.m. The purpose of this change is to accommodate the women's fellowship, which will move its meetings from Tuesday evenings to the second Saturday of every month at 10:00 a.m.

For the men's fellowship, this will not change the April schedule, but going forward participants should keep an eye on the calendar to confirm the meetings.

## Men's Fellowship

The men's fellowship will be meeting this month on Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. During our meeting on April 6<sup>th</sup> we will begin discussing our new book, Fr. Alexander Schmemmann's *Great Lent* (the first three chapters). All men in the parish—and women, too—are welcome and encouraged to join in the reading together of this illuminating work.

## Women's Fellowship

The Women's Group will meet on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Please join us to discuss this month's topic: *What is the Great Fast like in real life?* You are

welcome to share your experiences as well as any wisdom you have gleaned from the scriptures or writings of the fathers and saints.

We will continue to meet the second Saturday of each month, and welcome all women in our parish to join us. If you have small children and would like to join, we can arrange for a sitter as well, at the church.

Please contact Terri Adkins at [adkinsterri7@gmail.com](mailto:adkinsterri7@gmail.com) if you have any questions.

## Barrel Vault Iconography

Pledges are still 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.

---

## Two New Charity Opportunities

### New Day Ministry

New Day Ministry is an all-volunteer nonprofit organization that has been providing services for our low-income Kitsap neighbors since 2016. New Day Ministry serves people experiencing homelessness, people experiencing poverty, seniors, families with children, and those recovering from addiction in Kitsap County.

They provide a safe, judgment-free place with hot meals and groceries and offer 12-step classes while providing other basic needs for those who are hungry and hopeless.

Meals are served every Tuesday and Thursday at 5:00 p.m. Volunteers are asked to get there between 4:00 and 4:30 p.m. If you would like to help serve meals, please fill out an application found [here](#). ➡

We may be able to serve again as a parish—similar to the meals we previously provided at the Suquamish Community Kitchen—if we can get a few volunteers and coordinate a day and time. If you are interested in helping with this charitable effort, please contact Jamie Telegin at [teleginj@gmail.com](mailto:teleginj@gmail.com).

## Bremerton Prayer Walk

Bremerton Prayer Walk is an all-inclusive group of people bringing love, light and hope to the streets of Bremerton. The group gathers together to distribute supplies and food to the homeless every second and fourth Saturday of the month. The walk starts at the Marvin Williams Center at 725 Park Avenue in Bremerton, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and ending at 11:00 a.m. Suzanna Jefferis and Jamie Telegin recently joined them and it was a wonderful experience.

There are several ways for our parish to support this amazing group:

1. Donating and putting together packets of food to distribute to the homeless: We will be placing a collection bin in the Parish Hall with a flyer depicting needed pre-packaged food items, to be bagged into individual packets for handing out. The bin will be collected on Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup>. If you are interesting in helping Jamie assemble the bags please let her know and we can

assemble them together before the Presanctified Divine Liturgy.

2. Donations to go towards the purchase of backpacks, collapsible wagons, and fanny packs. During our walk with the group, we learned that having a way to carry items is in high demand but these items can be costly and many are needed. We can help support them in their efforts by taking up a donation specifically for this need.

3. Providing weather appropriate clothing. Please donate one to two nicer, gently used, clothing items appropriate for Spring. Men's clothing is in higher demand and pants especially.

4. Finally, please join us on April 13<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. for the prayer walk. We have offered to help the group collect trash and hand out supplies. The group parks at the Marvin Convention Center and walks from there.

If you have any questions please contact Jamie at [teleginj@gmail.com](mailto:teleginj@gmail.com).

---

## Charity Sunday

April 7<sup>th</sup>— After Liturgy we will be collecting for the Alaska Clergy Stipend Endowment of the Diocese of Sitka & Alaska. Donations to the Alaska Clergy Stipend Endowment are seriously needed to remedy impoverished living conditions of clergy in the Diocese of Sitka & Alaska, the root of Orthodoxy in America.

Last month, donations to the St. Nicholas Uganda Children's Fund totaled \$604.00. 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, April 6<sup>th</sup>.

### 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.

### Choir Practice

The choir meets 30 minutes before each service to warm up. In addition, this month the Choir will meet for practice on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and after Liturgy on April 21<sup>st</sup> at 12:30 p.m. (if needed).

### Confessions

Father John is available for confessions every Saturday after vespers, and by appointment at 5:00 p.m. on Lenten Wednesdays before the Presanctified Liturgy. For appointments, email him at [rector@stelizabethorthodox.org](mailto:rector@stelizabethorthodox.org).

## Presanctified Divine Liturgy

During Lent, the Presanctified Divine Liturgy will be served at 6:30 p.m. on the Wednesdays of April 3<sup>rd</sup>, April 10<sup>th</sup>, and April 24<sup>th</sup>, and on the Fridays of April 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> at the same time.

---

## Classifieds

### Free Cold Packs & Refrigerator Bags

Fr. Symeon and Matushka Karen Hadley have been collecting a plethora of cold packs (artificial ice blocks) and also some foil refrigerator bags. They're great for grocery shopping and road trips, and they would love to find someone who may want them. If you are interested, please contact Mka. Karen at church.

## Prayer List

### Departed

ND Archpr. Anthony  
ND Pat. Neophyte

### Living

Pr. Symeon  
Allison  
Kathleen  
Douglas  
Douglas  
Jeff Seraphim  
Rd. Cornelius  
Noel  
Julius  
Jayden  
Anani  
Deborah  
Monica

*ND: Newly Departed*  
*CSB: Child She Bears*  
*Pat., Archbp., Pr. Rd., etc.: Patriarch,*  
*Archbishop, Priest, Reader, etc.*

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:rector@stelizabethorthodox.org)

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



# April 2024 Daily Readings

4/1	Is. 8:13-9:7	Gen 6:9-22	Prov 8:1-21
4/2	Is. 9:9-10:4	Gen 7:1-15	Prov 8:32-9:11
4/3	Is. 10:12-20	Gen 7:6-9	Prov 9:12-18
4/4	Is. 11:10-12:2	Gen 7:11-8:3	Prov 10:1-22
4/5	Is. 13:2-13	Gen 8:4-21	Prov 10:31-11:12
4/6		Heb 10:32-38	Mk 2:14-17
<b>4/7</b>		<b>Heb 4:14-5:6</b>	<b>Mk 8:34-9:1</b>
4/8	Is. 14:24-32	Gen 8:21-9:7	Prov 11:19-12:6
4/9	Is. 25:1-9	Gen 9:8-17	Prov 12:8-22
4/10	Is. 26:21-27:9	Gen 9:18-10:1	Prov 12:23-13:9
4/11	Is. 28:14-22	Gen 10:32-11:9	Prov 13:19-14:6
4/12	Is. 29:13-23	Gen 12:1-7	Prov 14:15-26
4/13		Heb 6:9-12	Mk 7:31-37
<b>4/14</b>		<b>Heb 6:13-20</b>	<b>Mk 9:17-31</b>
4/15	Is. 37:33-38:6	Gen 13:12-18	Prov 14:27-15:4
4/16	Is. 40:18-31	Gen 15:1-15	Prov 15:7-19
4/17	Is. 41:4-14	Gen 17:1-9	Prov 15:20-16:9
4/18	Is. 42:5-16	Gen 18:20-33	Prov 16:17-17:17
4/19	Is. 45:11-17	Gen 22:1-18	Prov 17:17-18:5
4/20		Heb 9:24-28	Mk 8:27-31
<b>4/21</b>		<b>Heb 9:11-14</b>	<b>Mk 10:32-45</b>
4/22	Is. 48:17-49:4	Gen 27:1-41	Prov 19:16-25
4/23	Is. 49:6-10	Gen 31:3-16	Prov 21:3-21
4/24	Is. 58:1-11	Gen 43:26-31, 45:1-16	Prov 21:23-22:4
4/25	Is. 65:8-16	Gen 46:1-7	Prov 23:15-24:5
4/26	Is. 66:10-24	Gen 49:33-50:26	Prov 31:8-31
4/27		Heb 12:28-13:8	Jn 11:1-45
<b>4/28</b>		<b>Phil 4:4-9</b>	<b>Jn 12:1-18</b>
4/29			Mt 21:18-43 (Matins)
4/29	Ezek 1:1-20	Ex 1:1-20	Job 1:1-12 (Vespers)
4/29			Mt 24:3-35 (Presanctified)
4/30			Mt 22:15-23:39 (Matins)
4/30	Ezek 1:21-28	Ex 2:5-10	Job 1:13-22 (Vespers)
4/30			Mt 24:36-26:2 (Presanctified)

*Sundays in red.*

<https://www.oca.org/readings/monthly/2024/04>