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## Week of March 24, 2024

Sunday, March 24

SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY — Ven. Zachariah the Recluse. Tone 1.

9:00am Matins

10:00 The Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great with procession with icons  
and the Synodikon of 843

*No Sunday school*

12:15pm Fellowship

### This Divine Liturgy's Hymns & Readings

#### *Tone 1. Troparion of the resurrection*

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Your most pure body, You rose on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to You, O Giver of Life: "Glory to Your Resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Your Kingdom! Glory to Your dispensation, O Lover of mankind!"

#### *Tone 2. Troparion of the Sunday of Orthodoxy*

We venerate Your most pure image, O Good One; and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ our God. Of Your own will You were pleased to ascend the Cross in the flesh and deliver Your creatures from bondage to the Enemy. Therefore with thankfulness we cry aloud to You: "You have filled all

with joy, O our Savior, for you alone came to save the world.”

*Tone 1. Kontakion of the resurrection*

As God, You rose from the tomb in glory, raising the world with Yourself. Human nature praises You as God, for death has vanished. Adam exults, O Master! Eve rejoices, for she is freed from bondage and cries to You: “You are the Giver of Resurrection to all, O Christ!”

*Tone 8. Kontakion of the Sunday of Orthodoxy*

No one could describe the Word of the Father; but when He took flesh from you, O Theotokos, He accepted to be described, and restored the fallen image to its former state by uniting it to divine beauty. We confess and proclaim our salvation in words and images.

*Tone 4. Prokeimenon*

Blessed are You, O Lord God of our fathers, and praised and glorified is Your Name forever!

For You are just in all that You have done for us!

*Epistle: Hebrews 11:24-26; 32-12:2*

*Tone 4. Alliluias*

Moses and Aaron were among His priests; Samuel also was among those who called on His Name.

They called to the Lord and He answered them.

*Gospel: John 1:43-51*

*Hymn to the Theotokos*

All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace: the assembly of angels and the race of men. O sanctified temple and spiritual paradise, the glory of virgins, from whom God was incarnate and became a Child: our God before the ages. He made your body into a throne, and your womb He made more spacious than the heavens. All of creation rejoices in you, O Full of Grace. Glory to you!

### **This week's schedule**

*Monday, March 25. The Annunciation of our all-holy Lady, Birthgiver of God and Ever-Virgin Mary.*

**1:00-3:00pm** Fr. Silviu office hours

**6:00-8:00pm** The Ninth Hour and vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

*Tuesday, March 26.* Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel. Ieromartyr Irenæus, Bishop of Sirmium (304).

*Wednesday, March 27.* Martyr Matrona of Thessalonica (3rd-4th c.).

**3:00-5:00pm** Fr. Silviu office hours

**6:00-8:00pm** Ninth Hour and the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts.

*Thursday, March 28.* Ven. Hilarion the New, Abbot of Pelekete (ca. 754).

*Friday, March 29.* Ieromartyr Mark, Bishop of Arethusa, Martyr Cyril the Deacon, of Heliopolis, and others who suffered under Julian the Apostate (ca. 364).

*Saturday, March 30.* Ven. John Climacus of Sinai, author of The Ladder (6th c.). Prophet Joad (10th c. B.C.).

**5:00-5:45pm** Adult education class with Fr. Kyril

**6:00-7:00pm** Ninth Hour and Great Vespers

**7:00-7:30pm** Choir practice

## Announcements

### *Vesperal Liturgy for the feast of the Annunciation tomorrow, Monday*

Tomorrow, Monday, March 25, we celebrate the great feast of the Annunciation. We will have the vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. John the Golden-mouth in the evening, at 6:00pm.

### *Parish council meeting on Sunday, April 7*

The next parish council meeting will be on April 7, at 1:00pm, immediately after our customary fellowship. Among the many important topics the council, the council will discuss the project of beautifying the church. Feel free to come to listen or contribute to the discussions.

### *Talk on the influence of screens on our lives on April 21*

On Sunday April 21, at 1:00pm (immediately after our fellowship), Dr. Ovidiu Dulgheru and Fr. Silviu will talk on the influence of screens on our lives, from psychiatric and spiritual perspectives. The two talks will be followed by questions and answers. Please feel free to bring your friends and bring prepared questions, ask questions ad-hoc, or just be there to take it all in.

## Quote of the Week

As we said, it is not difficult to know what your passion is. Pay attention to where your mind goes. Either it will go to your passion, or to Christ, or to something else. It is not possible for the human mind to be “nowhere.” It has to grab on to something, latch on to something, and this “something” is what gives it a feeling of fullness and satisfaction, and this will either be God or something other than God.

St. Maximos is not engaging in psychoanalysis, but is offering a deep, spiritual diagnosis of the state of our being; a laying bare of the depths of the soul. He strips us naked so that we might see all that is ugly and ill-formed within us. If we want to, we can correct ourselves, we can change our minds. If, on the other hand, we don't want to do this, if we don't want to disdain and despise the things that keep us down and hold us back, we will remain in the grip of the passions for all eternity, which means we will be adulterers for all eternity, or rather adulterated for all eternity. We will be separated eternally from God, having embraced an idol in the place of the Lord.

(from Elder Aimilianos of Simonopetra, *The Mystical Marriage. Spiritual Life according to St. Maximos the Confessor*, Newwrome Press, 2018, pages 21-22)