

**Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
**St. John Climacus**  
**March 30, 2025**

New Hieromartyr Zachariah, metropolitan of Corinth; Sophronios, bishop of Irkutsk

**Troparion of the Resurrection (Tone 7)**

Byzantine Tone 7

Basil Kazan  
(1915 - 2001)

Ison  
 Thou didst shat - ter death\_ by thy Cross; thou didst  
 o - pen par - a dise\_ to the thief; thou didst tun the  
 sad - ness of the oint - ment - bear - ing wo - men in - to  
 joy, and didst bid thine A - pos - tles pro -  
 claim a warn - ing that\_ thou\_ hast\_ ris - en, O  
 Christ, grant - ing to the world the Great\_ Mer - cy.

**Troparion for St. John of the Ladder (Tone 8)**

The barren wilderness thou didst make fertile with the streams of thy tears; and by thy deep sighing thou hast given fruit through thy struggles a hundred-fold. Accordingly, thou hast become a star for the universe, sparkling with miracles. Therefore, O righteous Father John Climacus, intercede with Christ God to save our souls.

**Troparion for St. Raphael of Brooklyn (Tone 4)**

Rejoice, O Father Raphael, Adornment of the holy Church! Thou art Champion of the True Faith, Seeker of the lost, Consolation of the oppressed, Father to

orphans and Friend of the poor, Peacemaker and good Shepherd, Joy of all the Orthodox, Son of Antioch, Boast of America. Intercede with Christ God for us and for all who honor thee.

**Kontakion for the Five Sundays of Great Lent (Tone 8)**

To thee, the Champion Leader, do I offer thanks of victory; O Theotokos, thou who hast delivered me from terror. But as thou that hast that power invincible, O Theotokos, thou alone can set me free; from all forms of danger free me and deliver me, that I may cry unto thee: "Hail, O Bride without Bridegroom!"

**Prokeimenon**

The Lord will give strength to His people. Ascribe to the Lord, O sons of God, ascribe to the Lord glory and honor.

**Epistle**

**Hebrews 6:13-20**

Brethren, when God made a promise to Abraham, since He had no one greater by whom to swear, He swore by Himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by one greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation. So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of His purpose, He interposed with an oath. So that through two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible that God should prove false, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to seize the hope set before us. We have this as a sure and steadfast anchor of the soul, a hope that enters into the inner shrine behind the curtain, where Jesus has gone as a forerunner on our behalf, having become a high priest forever after the order of Melchizedek.

**Holy Gospel**

**Mark 9:17-31**

At that time, a man came to Jesus, kneeling down and saying unto him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit. And wherever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked Thy Disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And Jesus answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to Me." And they brought the boy to Him; and when the spirit saw Jesus, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if Thou canst do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can believe, all things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said with tears, "Lord, I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him,

and never enter him again.” And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, “He is dead.” But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when Jesus had entered the house, His Disciples asked Him privately, “Why could we not cast it out?” And Jesus said to them, “This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer and fasting.” They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And Jesus would not have anyone know it; for He was teaching His Disciples, saying to them, “The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill Him; and after He is killed, He will rise on the third day.”

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**Assisting Priest:** Fr. Michael Kontogiorgis

**Holy Bread:** Kh Meleah Palke/Carol Ofiesh/Pr. Vicki Kontogiorgis

**Commemorations(Living):** Fr Michael, Pr Vicki, John, Corgie, George, Joan, Maher, Fabiola, Christopher, Steven, Jonathan, Jaime, Justin, Fr Tom, Kh Meleah, Stephen, Carol, Michael, Joel, Lisa, Danny, Asa, Cody, Max, Levi, Courtney, Cassi, Nina, Dominick, Yina, Rashid, Hala, Alex, Lauren, Aaron, Adam, Atticus, Gabriela, Syreeta, Fr. Vladimir Paul, all Orthodox missionaries, suffering believers throughout the world.

**(Departed):** Fr David, Ogan, Fr Wayne Wilson, Fr Michael Massouh

**During Lent, we will be gathering offerings for our archdiocese’s Food for Hungry program.** Offerings will be gathered until Palm Sunday. Make your check out to our church and put “Food for Hungry” in the memo section.

**Know your faith.** “He was despised and rejected of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief.” Who wrote these words? \_\_\_\_\_. Of whom was he writing? \_\_\_\_\_. In Luke’s Gospel, Jesus sent two disciples to prepare the Passover. Who were they? \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_. Who said “Truly, this was the Son of God? \_\_\_\_\_. When Jesus was being arrested, \_\_\_\_\_ drew his sword and cut off the ear of \_\_\_\_\_, high priest’s servant. What day of Holy Week did Jesus institute the Lord’s Supper (Holy Communion)? \_\_\_\_\_. The \_\_\_\_ Ecumenical Councils are affirmed by the OC as an essential part of Holy \_\_\_\_\_. The 1<sup>st</sup> Ecumenical Council was assembled by the Emperor \_\_\_\_\_ in the city of \_\_\_\_\_ in the year \_\_\_\_\_AD. It upheld the \_\_\_\_\_ natures in the one person of Jesus Christ and condemned the error of \_\_\_\_\_, a presbyter from Alexandria. The 7<sup>th</sup> E.C. affirmed the use of \_\_\_\_\_.

**Holy Week Services (April 16-19):** Wednesday-Saturday evenings at 7:30 PM. This year **Pascha will be celebrated on Saturday evening, 4/19, at 7:30 PM.**

**Quotes from St. John Climacus**

- “The offspring of virtue is perseverance. The fruit and offspring of perseverance is habit and child of habit is character.”
- “Silence, is the mother of prayer, a return from the captivity of sin, unconscious success in virtue, a continuous ascension to heaven.”



**St. Raphael of Brooklyn Orthodox Church**  
**Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese**

**Metropolitan Saba, Primate**  
**Bishop Thomas, Diocese of the Mid-Atlantic**

**Divine Liturgy 10:30 AM**

**Meeting at Compton Village**  
**14401 Compton Village Dr.**  
**Centreville, Virginia 20121**  
 Fr. Thomas L. Palke, Pastor  
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 Jeffersonton, VA 22724  
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