

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Sunday, April 11th – Fourth Sunday of Lent
St. John of the Ladder
Divine Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, April 18th – Fifth Sunday of Lent
St. Mary of Egypt
Divine Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, April 21st
Zoom Bible Study -- 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 24th – Saturday of Lazarus
Making of Palms – 11:00 a.m.

Sunday, April 25th
Palm Sunday
Divine Liturgy – 10:30 a.m.

EASTER BREAD ORDERS - \$7.00 EACH

Orders may be given to Steve, Irene, or Maria or by Email

Pick-up day will be Saturday, April 24th 11:00 a.m. – 1:00
p.m.

or

Sunday, April 25th after Divine Liturgy



St. Spyridon

Greek Orthodox Church

Address: 1010 Factory St., Clarksburg, WV 26301

Mailing: P.O. Box 4176, Clarksburg, WV 26302

Phone: 304-624-5331

Web: <http://stspyridon.wv.goarch.org>

April 11, 2021

St. John Climacus (St. John of the Ladder)

Resurrectional Hymn

Let the heavens sing for joy, and let everything on earth be glad. For with His Arm the Lord has worked power. He trampled death under foot by means of death; and He became the firstborn from the dead. From the maw of Hades He delivered us; and He granted the world His great mercy.

For the Devout Man

With the rivers of your tears you made the barren desert bloom; and with your sighs from deep within, you made your labors bear their fruits a hundredfold; and you became a star, illuminating the world by your miracles, O John, our devout father. Intercede with Christ our God, for the salvation of our souls.

Hymn of St. Spyridon

Kontakion

Champion General, I your City now inscribe to you, Triumphant Anthems as the tokens of my gratitude, Being rescued from the terrors, O Theotokos. Inasmuch as you have power unassailable, From all kinds of perils free me, so that unto you I may cry aloud: Rejoice, O unwedded Bride.

Epistle Reading: Hebrews 6:13-20

Brethren, when God made a promise to Abraham, since he had no one greater by whom to swear, he swore to himself, saying, "Surely I will bless you and multiply you." And thus Abraham, having patiently endured, obtained the promise. Men indeed swear by a 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 for ever after the order of Melchizedek.

Gospel Reading: Mark 9:17-31

At that time, a man came to Jesus kneeling and saying: "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 your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And he 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 him, 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 you can do anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible to him who

believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "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 he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he 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 he would not have any one 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 when he is killed, after three days he will rise."

St. John Climacus is commemorated on the Fourth Sunday of Lent. In his book THE LADDER, St. John describes the ascent toward spiritual perfection, which is essential for anyone who wishes to save his soul. The steps of THE LADDER proceed gradually from strength to strength on the path of perfection. The summit is not reached suddenly, but gradually as the Saviour says: "The Kingdom of Heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force: (Mt. 11:12).

