



“Joy of All Who Sorrow”

No. 179 March, 2024



CANDLEMAS AMIDST THE SNOWDROPS

We had a blessed celebration of the Feast of the Meeting of the Lord amidst hundreds of snowdrops that have been popping up all over the Churchyard. It was especially heartening to see parishioners specially taking time off to attend the Feast and / or coming to the evening Vespers service. The next Great Feast to take off will be **Great & Holy Friday 3rd May**. All Orthodox Christians should be off on this day if at all possible. Parents: please contact Fr Mark so he can write a formal letter to your child’s school.

THEOPHANY WATER & HOUSE BLESSINGS

This is a final call for those who haven’t collected holy water from the church or who would like their house blessed. Please contact Fr Mark asap for house blessings, his contact details are at the bottom of the next page.

A NEW PRIEST FOR THE DIOCESE

Congratulations to Fr Alban Illingsworth who was ordained to the priesthood on Zaccheaus Sunday at our Cathedral in London by the hands of Bishop Irenei. He will be the priest in charge at our new Mission parish in Durham dedicated to St John the Baptist. Axios & Many Years to Priest Alban, Matushka Hilda & children.

STAROSTA & AGM SUNDAY 31ST MARCH

Following a change in circumstances, Rdr Christopher and the whole Dive family are now attending our sister parish in Norwich. As a result of this, Maria Dive has resigned as starosta after serving almost a full year. We thank Maria for taking this role on and hope to appoint a new starosta at our **Parish AGM which will take place after lunch on Sunday 31st March**. All who consider themselves members of the church should attend.

MEASURING UP THE IKONOSTASIS

On Wednesday 28th February we were pleased to finally meet our friends Silouan Hartley and Jiri Marek from the Dylan Hartley Ltd workshop who visited the church in order to take final measurements for our ikonostasis which will hopefully be installed in mid-May.

APPROACHING GREAT LENT

Please take note of our service schedule this month, in particular Cheesefare (Maslenitsa) on 17th March where we will have Vespers and the Rite of Forgiveness after the Liturgy at around 2.30pm. Please come and start the Fast in peace and forgiveness with your brothers and sisters. In the first week of Great Lent (Clean Week) we will have services from Monday – Thursday evening with Great Compline and the Canon of St Andrew of Crete. Finally on Wednesday 27th March we hope to serve the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts.

GREAT UNCTION

As is our Tradition in the Church Abroad, Bishop Irenei invites us all to come to our Cathedral in London on **Saturday 20th April for the service of Great Unction at 2.00pm**. It is essential that you have confessed during Great Lent in order to receive this Mystery.



PARISH & COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF THE IKON OF THE THEOTOKOS:
"JOY OF ALL WHO SORROW"

MARCH 2024

Saturday 2nd March

7.30pm ~ *Great Vespers & Confessions*

✘ Sunday 3rd March ✘

(Sunday of the Prodigal Son)

10.10am ~ Hours & Divine Liturgy

Wednesday 6th March

7.30pm ~ *Moleben to St Matrona of Moscow*

Saturday 9th March

7.30pm ~ *Great Vespers & Confessions*

Sunday 10th March

(Meatfare: Sunday of the Last Judgment)

10.10am ~ Hours & Divine Liturgy

Wednesday 13th March

7.30pm ~ *Moleben to Ikon of the Theotokos "Joy of All Who Sorrow"*

Saturday 16th March

7.30pm ~ *Great Vespers & Confessions*

Sunday 17th March

(Cheesefare: Sunday of Forgiveness)

10.10am ~ Hours & Divine Liturgy

2.30pm (approx.) Vespers of Forgiveness

Monday 18th - Thursday 21st March

7.30pm ~ Great Compline with Great Canon

Saturday 23th March

7.30pm ~ *Great Vespers & Confessions*

Sunday 24th March

(1st Sunday of Lent ~ Triumph of Orthodoxy)

10.10am ~ Hours & Divine Liturgy

followed by Moleben for Conversion of those in error

Wednesday 27th March

5.30pm ~ 9th Hour & Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Saturday 30th March

7.30pm ~ *Great Vespers & Confessions*

Sunday 31st March

(2nd Sunday of Lent ~ St Gregory Palamas)

10.10am ~ Hours & Divine Liturgy

2pm (approx.) Parish AGM

For all other services and pastoral needs & inquiries please contact Priest Mark Tattum-Smith on:
Tel. 01502 716914 / 07592482732 or Email: marktattumsmith@gmail.com