**Schedule for Great Lent & Holy Week 2018**

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| Date | Time | Event |
| Saturday, February 17th | 9:00 AM | Orthros & Liturgy for Saturday of Souls |
| Sunday, February 18th | 6:00 PM | Forgiveness Vespers |
| Monday, February 19th | 6:00 PM | Great Compline & Canon I |
| Tuesday, February 20th | 6:00 PM | Great Compline & Canon II |
| Wednesday, February 21st | 6:00 PM | Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts |
| Thursday, February 22nd | 6:00 PM | Great Compline & Canon IV |
| Friday, February 23rd | 7:00 PM | Salutations I |
| Sunday, February 25th  Sunday of Orthodoxy | 10:00 AM | Orthros & Divine Liturgy  Procession of Icons |
| Monday, February 26th, March 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th | 6:00 PM | Great Compline |
| Wednesday, February 28th, March 7th, 14th, 21st, 28th | 6:00 PM | Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts |
| Friday, March 2nd, 9th, 16th | 7:00 PM | Salutations II, III, and IV |
| Thursday, March 22nd | 6:00 PM | Great Canon of St Andrew |
| Friday, March 23rd | 7:00 PM | Akathist Hymn |
| Sunday, March 25th |  | Annunciation |
| Saturday, March 31st  Lazarus Saturday | 9:00 AM | Orthros & Divine Liturgy  Palms, Pancakes & Polish |
| Sunday, April 1st  Palm Sunday | 9:00 AM  6:00 PM | Orthros & Divine Liturgy  Bridegroom Service |
| Holy Monday, April 2nd | 7:00 PM | Bridegroom Service |
| Holy Tuesday, April 3rd | 7:00 PM | Bridegroom Service |
| Holy Wednesday, April 4th | 10:00 AM  7:00 PM | Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts  Holy Unction |
| Holy Thursday, April 5th | 10:00 AM  7:00 PM | Vesperal Liturgy, Washing of the Feet  Passion of Christ |
| Holy Friday, April 6th | 9:30 AM  3:00 PM  7:00 PM | Royal Hours and decorate Tomb  Taking down from the Cross  Lamentations Service |
| Holy Saturday, April 7th | 10:00 AM  11:00 PM | Vesperal Liturgy  Paschal Vigil |
| Holy Pascha, April 8th | Midnight  1:00 AM  11:30 AM | Anastasis & Orthros  Divine Liturgy  AGAPE Vespers |

**Explanation of Lenten Services**

**Great Compline**

The word “Compline” in Greek means “from or after dinner” and this service is typically offered after dinner. The “Great” version is offered during Great Lent and consists of the reading of Psalms and the chanting of hymns related to combating sin in the evening hours and during sleep. This service is a great way to start the week.

**Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**

These liturgy are held on Wednesdays and Fridays in Lent and are called “Presanctified” because the consecration of the Holy Gifts takes place on the preceding Sunday. These liturgies are offered to us as opportunities for us to receive Holy Communion during the most holy period of the Church year. The liturgy does bring to bear the question of how to fast on these days since the liturgy usually takes place in the evening. The Church recommends that you eat a light Lenten meal in the morning on those days but do your best to keep at least a 6-hour fast before the liturgy (close to noon). These liturgies also offer the opportunity for people to help with the readings. Here is a great opportunity to participate more in the services.

**Akathist (Salutations)**

“Akathist” in Greek means “standing up” or, “without sitting down”. It is believed that this service was composed and offered to the Mother of God in the year 626, when Constantinople was saved from the siege of the Avars and Persians. This entire service is a poetic canon dedicated to the Theotokos. It also has a deep theological meaning. We hear hymns expounding belief in the Incarnation of the Lord and the salvation of believers in Him.