

## St Innocent Orthodox Church

The Church St Innocent of Irkutsk is a parish of the Diocese of the West,  
The Orthodox Church in America (OCA)

5657 Lindley Ave. Tarzana, CA 91356. Church Office: (818) 881 - 1123

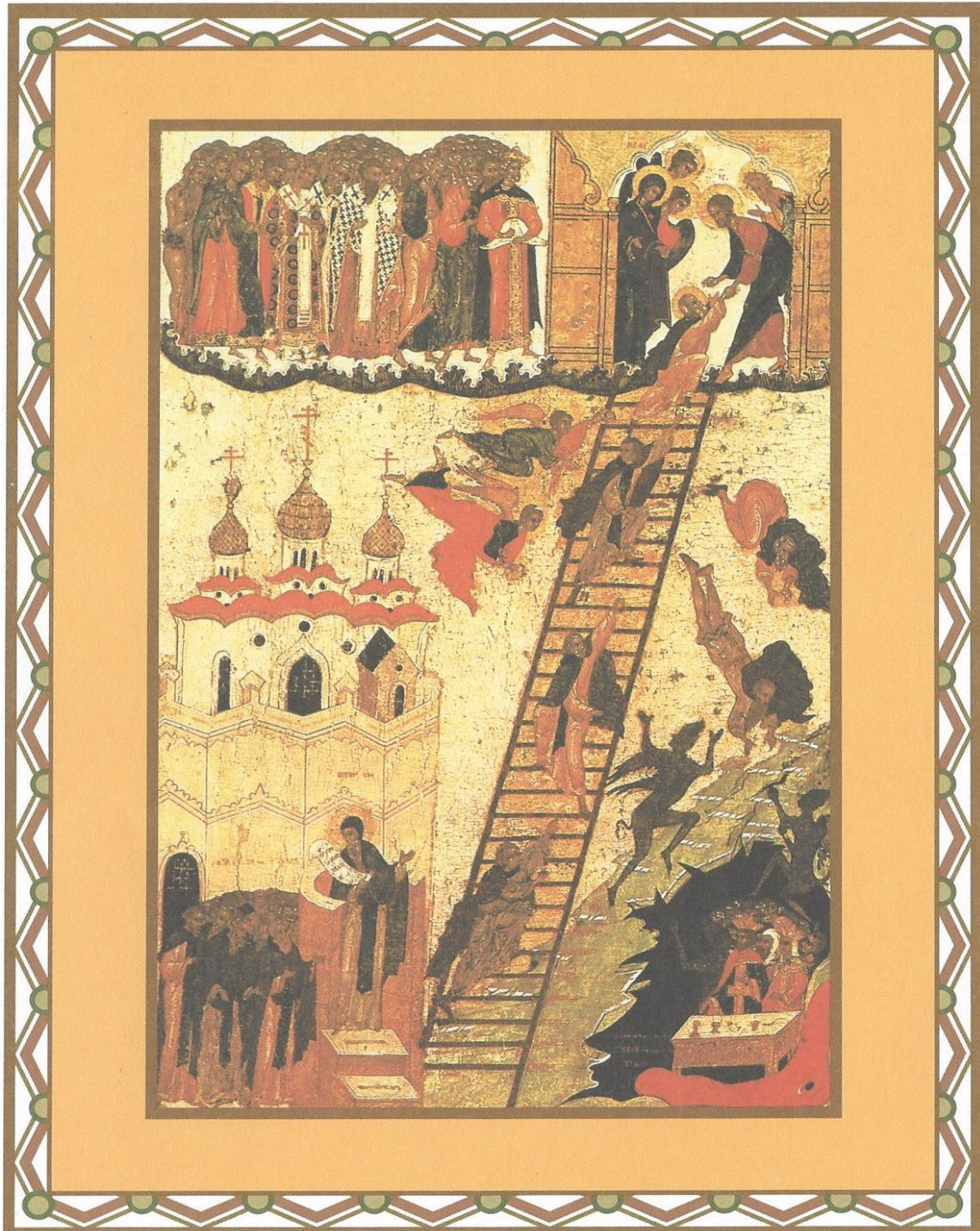
[stinnocenttarzana.org](http://stinnocenttarzana.org)

Fr. Yousuf Rassam

April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Today's commemorated feasts and saints:

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT – Tone 4. St. John Climacus (of *The Ladder*). St. Martin the Confessor, Pope of Rome (655). Martyrs Anthony, John, and Eustathius of Vilnius (Lithuania – 1347). Martyr Ardalion the Actor (4th c.). Martyr Azades the Eunuch and 1,000 Martyrs of Persia (ca. 341).**



## “ASCEND THE LADDER OF THE VIRTUES”

**O**n the 4th Sunday of Lent, we annually commemorate a 7th century monastic saint: ST. JOHN CLIMACUS. He is best remembered today for his spiritual writing entitled the “Ladder of Divine Ascent.” In this marvelous work, he compares the quest for spiritual perfection with climbing a 30-step ladder, with each rung corresponding to a year in the life of Christ that was hidden from the world. Even today, many Orthodox monasteries will begin the season of Great Lent with a public reading of Climacus’ book.

While the “Ladder of Divine Ascent” was written primarily for those living a monastic life, it offers wonderful spiritual advice from which we can all benefit. Listen to some of John’s profound comments in his spiritual work:

**“In a meek heart, the Lord will find rest.”**

**“Humility is a divine shelter to prevent us from seeing our achievements.”**

**“Those who wish to learn the will of God must first suppress their own will.”**

**“Run from places of sin as from the plague, for when fruit is not present, we have no frequent desire to eat it.**

**“Let your prayers be completely simple. Remember that both the Publican and the Prodigal Son were reconciled with God by praying only one phrase.”**

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin . . . . . Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey . . . . . Litho in U.S.A.

### SCHEDULE ALL SERVICES LIVE STREAMED.

**Matins Gospel:** Matthew 28: 16 – 20 (*1<sup>st</sup> Matins Gospel*)

**Today’s Epistle:** Hebrews 6: 13 – 20 **Gospel:** Mark 9: 17 – 31

(*St John Climacus*) Ephesians 5: 9 – 19 Matthew 4: 25 – 5: 12

**Reader:** Matthew

<b>Today</b>	Liturgy of St Basil
Wednesday	6:30 pm Matins with the Great Canon and life of Mary of Egypt
Thursday	6:30 pm Pre-Sanctified
Friday	6:30 pm Matins with the Akathist Hymn
Saturday	5:30 pm Vespers
Sunday	9:30 am Liturgy of St Basil

**Next Week’s Epistle:** Hebrews 9: 11 – 14 **Gospel:** Mark 10: 32 – 45

(*St Mary of Egypt*) Galatians 3: 23 – 29 Luke 7: 36 – 50

**Reader:** James

**Office Hours:** Tuesday & Thursday, 10:30 am – 12:00 noon. **Confessions:** After Saturday Vespers and by appointment.

**Receiving Holy Communion:** We should draw near to our Lord and God and Savior, Jesus Christ, and receive Holy Communion often. Orthodox Christians, who have prepared themselves through prayer and fasting, and are at peace with all men, and have attended the Divine Liturgy from the beginning, (or, at the very least, have not missed the Gospel), and have made a recent Confession, should draw near.

Others should diligently seek to be properly disposed and prepared as soon as possible.

## Reading for Lent

[The Great Fast: To See Christ as He Is, by Archbishop Dmitri](#)  
[Great Lent: A School of Repentance by Fr. Alexander Schmemmann](#)

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[4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent \(St. John of the Ladder\) Readings, Hymns, Sermon](#), and excerpts from "The Ladder"

look ahead to next Sunday:

[5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent \(St. Mary of Egypt\) Readings, Hymns, sermons, and the life of St. Mary](#)

### Announcements:

Our Bulletins (\$60.00)

Alla Slobodskaya

Our Altar Wine (\$40.00)

Izolda (Zoya) & Vladimir Sogokon

Our Altar Candles (\$40.00)

Gabriela Broncă & family good health & help in our needs.

Our Altar Incense (\$20.00)

Gabriela Broncă & family good health & help in our needs.

Vigil – Golgotha I (\$7.00 /wk)

Gabriela Broncă & family good health & help in our needs.

Vigil – Golgotha II (\$7.00 /wk)

Gabriela Broncă & family good health & help in our needs.

Vigil – Prothesis (\$7.00 /wk)

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- Broncă: Gabriela, Robert, & Carmen Iuliana. Good health, & help in need. Repose: Tasia.

- Sogokon: for the health of Zoya, Vladimir, Irina, Anastasia, Vladimir, Vladimir.

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Great Lent.** This week is a 5<sup>th</sup> Lenten Week, which has its own schedule: The Great Canon Matins Wednesday evening, and the Akathist Matins on Friday Evening. There is Pre-sanctified on Thursday evening. Pascha is May 5.

**Confessions** before Presanctified, after Hours during the day, after Vespers on Saturday, or by appointment.

**The Lenten Charity for the Diocese of the West is Diocese of Mexico.**

**The Tuesday Hours services this week and next have had to be canceled.**

**2024 Wall Calendars** are here at the Candle stand. Requested donation this year, \$10.00.

**Lectionary.** During Lent, we read (mostly), Mark & Hebrews on Weekends, and Isaiah, Genesis, and Proverbs on weekdays.

**Coffee Hour, This Week:** Marquelle **Next Week:** Veska

### USEFUL INFORMATION

**Donations** We now have a [Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly) page to make donating to the parish easy. Just click this link: <https://tithe.ly/give?c=1324837>. Thank you and God bless!

**Streamed serices can be viewed** at our website <https://stinnocenttarzana.org/livestream> or <https://stinnocenttarzana.org/facebook>, the streamed services are also uploaded here <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEhqUqTl5kDekOrPPERcy5g>.

The daily readings and saints may be found here: <https://stinnocenttarzana.org/dailyreadings>.

### Troparion, Resurrection – Tone 4

When the women Disciples of the Lord / learned from the Angel the joyous message of the Resurrection, / they cast away the ancestral curse / and elatedly told the Apostles: / "Death is overthrown! / Christ God is risen, // granting the world great mercy!"

### **Troparion, St John Climacus - Tone 1**

O dweller of the wilderness and angel in the body, / thou wast a wonderworker, O our God-bearing Father John. / Thou didst receive heavenly gifts through fasting, vigil and prayer, / healing the sick and the souls of those drawn to thee by faith. / Glory to Him Who gave thee strength! / Glory to Him Who granted thee a ^crown! // Glory to Him Who through thee grants healing to all!

### **Kontakion, St John Climacus - Tone 4**

The Lord truly set thee on the heights of abstinence, / to be a guiding star, showing the way to the universe, // O our father and teacher John.

*from the Triodion, for St John Climacus, on "Lord, I Call ..." **Tone 8, Podoben** : "O Most Glorious Wonder ..."*

O holy father John, / truly hast thou ever carried / on thy lips the praises of the Lord, / and with great wisdom / hast thou studied the words of Holy Scripture / that teach us how to practice the ascetic life. / So hast thou gained the riches of grace, / and thou hast become blessed, // overthrowing all the purposes of the ungodly.

Most glorious father John, / with the fountain of thy tears thou hast cleansed thy soul, / and by keeping vigils through the night / thou hast gained God's mercy. / Thou wast raised on wings, O blessed one, / to the love of Him and of His beauty; / and as is right thou dwellest now in His unending joy, / with thy fellow soldiers in the spiritual fight, // O holy saint of God.

O holy father John, / through faith thou hast lifted up / thy mind on wings to God; / hating the restless confusion of this world, / thou hast taken up thy Cross; / and, following Him who sees all things, / thou hast subjected thy rebellious body / to His guidance through ascetic discipline, // by the power of the Holy Spirit.

*from the Triodion, for St John Climacus, "Glory ..." on "Lord, I call ..." **Tone 5***

O holy father, / hearing the voice of the Gospel of the Lord, / thou hast forsaken the world, / counting as naught its riches and its glory; / and so thou hast cried out to all: / 'Love God, and ye shall find eternal grace. / Set nothing higher than His love, / that, when He comes in glory, / ye may find rest with all the saints.' // Through their prayers, O Christ, guard and save our souls.

*from the Triodion, for St John Climacus. "Glory ..." on the Apostikha. **Tone 2***

Let us honor John, / angel upon earth and man of God in heaven, / adornment of the world, joy of the good and virtuous, / glory of ascetics. / For planted in the house of God he has blossomed with the flower of holiness, / and spread abroad like a cedar in the desert, // causing the sheep of Christ's spiritual flock to increase in sanctity and righteousness.

**Of our charity, remember in your prayers:**

**April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

**Special Intentions:**

Christians of Syria, Egypt; Met. Paul, Abp. John, in captivity.

Natalya & Alla in Donetsk

sister Oksana McGovern & family

Metropolitan Onuphry of Kiev, the brotherhoods of the Kiev Caves Lavra, the Pochayiv Lavra, & Svyatohirsk Lavra. The faithful of the Transfiguration Cathedral in Odessa, destroyed by shelling.

**The Sick and those in need of health:**

Archbishop Benjamin,

Archpriests Nicolas Boldireff, Paul Waisanen, George Gray, Michael Regan, Andrew Jacobs; John Armstrong.

Abbess Susanna;

Matushki Alexandra Safchuk, Elizabeth Powell, Clara Mancantelli, Suzanne Senyo; Maria Vallens, Jean Moore;

OCA-DOW

Deacon Mark Story, Robert Peterson, Marios Perez, Barbara Anderson, Monika Cleenewerck, Marea Kuolt.

Manya Prybyla, Gregory Theophan Hoffberg; Leontina Himber; Virginia, Levon; Edmund Roschak, Darka Raicevich;

Karen Olds; Alla Miller, Mike Shinkarik, Andrew Sturmer; Bridget Merridy Strand, Assia Alexander, Scott T. Karen T.,

Dmitri G., Kyra; Linda Phillips; Ed Salm; Raphael; Magdalena Elizabeth; Ludmilla, Anna, Margarita Maximova,

Gayle Anne; Lana,

Our Parish

Jelica, Zharko

Darka, Ilija & Jovanna

Lea Ann (Leah) Bochnak

Laura Bochnak

Pia

sister Julia Azrael

Vladimir

Anya

Victoria Wilson

+Bernie Wilson

Laura, Eladia; Lydia

Manya Prybyla

Matthew, Alison.

Thaddeus Wojcik

Mildred Sturmer, Susan

Sturmer family

Martha Yarbrough

Yarbrough family

Margaret Banescu, Vona Leslee Christie, Hope Peacock and family.

Banescu family

Euphemia Marie Cox

John Ambrose Cox

George. Mihai

Maria Caratäs

Mary, George Laurentiu, cancer treatment.

Florentina

Barbara, Steve

Scott & the Thompson family

Angela Apostol

Constantine Apostol

Yekaterina

Lydia

Hieromonk Ambrose (Young), Nicholas Juried & Amy. Archpriest Michael Carney,

Fr. Yousuf

Matushka Sophia Haloulakos

Protodeacon George Haloulakos

Christina Dudchenko, Dcn. Sergius Miller, Kevin, Cecilia Gonzalez-Andrieu.

Deacon Nicholas Denysenko & family

Michael Rogozik

Yulia.

Lya, Marie, Yvonne

Gay Butu

Timofey

Dilaria

Kristina DeBree

Kevin Patrick DeBree

Reader John, Catherine, Dianna Bowen.

Danks family

Walter

Irina

Larry & Emma

Abbe Kulhanek

Anna

Elena

Pearl Ruggiero. Sheena Wickens, Veronica Clarkson, Anna Cruz, Anna Rossiter; Ward; Griselda Leon.

Diane Rhodes

Bruce Anderson, Audrey Anderson.

Subdeacon Polycarp Anderson & family

Larry McHargue; Laura; Robert; Kenny; Bill & Sara Love

Anne McHargue Witz & family

**Those Serving in the Armed Forces**

Peter, Elijah Hoffberg, Ronnie (Barnabas) Austin, Shae, Ian & Henry.

**For the Health and Salvation of the servants of God:**

Catechumens: Dalen, Kelly, & Jamie, & Timothy Muster; Emma; Paulina; Louis; Navya; Alexander; Katherine.

Orion

Igor & Luda

Nikolina

Jovanna & Ilja

Zlata Okunev, Artemi & Erica

Charlotte, parents Jonathan & Michaela Durham

Vitaly, Lyubov, Ella, Karen, Oksana, Valentina, Irina, Sofiya, Vladimir, Olga, Natalya, Tatyana, Irina, Elena, Evgeny.

Tikhvin icon donors

Alla, Dmitriy Jr., Dmitriy, Igor, Elena, Juliya, Tamara, Fredi.

Alla Slobdoskaya

Elena, Marisa, Dimitrios (Jimmy), Nicholas, Alexander, Dimitrios, Dionisius.

+ Lola Macrina

Elijah, parents Aika & Dmitri Goudkov

Rowan. Galina.

Yelena, Anna, Wolfgang

Margarita, Christopher, John, Lauren, Ekaterina.

Margarita Maximova

Catalina, Sofia, Florentina, Doina.

Calugaru family

Sherri, Nathanael, & Christopher, Amelia Marie.

**Of our charity, remember in your prayers:**

**For the repose of the souls of the departed servants of God:**

**April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024**

Newly Departed Patriarch Neofit, Metropolitan of Sofia, Patriarch of Bulgaria, +March 13, 2024.  
Newly Departed Archpriest Anthony Karbo, +March 19.  
Newly Departed Edward Pogyor  
Newly Departed Nancy  
Newly Departed Aleksandra  
Newly Departed Seda Grigoryan  
Newly Departed Yuri  
Newly Departed Felix Sebacious  
Newly Departed Elena + Feb 29, 2024  
Newly Departed Nina  
Newly Departed Mariya, Mariya  
Newly Departed Milton Knox, +Feb 22, 2024.  
Newly Departed Russ Manion, +Mar 31, 2024.  
Mitred Archpriest Sergei Glagolev, +Sep 1, 2021, Matushka Gerry (Evgenia) Glagolev. +May 23, 2022.  
Matushka Anisia Boldireff +Sep 1, 2021  
Matushka Tresja Denysenko  
+April 14: Priest Alexander Yaroshevich, 1888; Mitred Archpriest John Semanitsky, 1963; Matka. Anna Manchuk, 1981;  
Proteasa Elizabeth Craciun, 1984; Matka. Ludmilla Turkevich, 1995. Archbishop Gregory (Afonsky), 2008;  
Subdeacon Patrick Bernard Wilson  
Germogen & Olga Stephanenko  
Matushka Priscilla Shipley +Sep 10, 2023  
Valentina  
Cor Brevet Delabruinene  
Rodney Lake + May 20, 2021.  
Paul Prybyla. +Jan, 10, 2021  
Nicholas Vasiliev Davidovich, +October 12, 2022  
Barbara Johnson  
Stanislava  
Hormuzd (Emmanuel) Rassam, + Dec 21, 2022.  
Nun Seraphima (Anna Kremenetskaya)  
Nun Nonna (Verna Harrison)  
Igor  
Lola Macrina  
Edward Michael & Joan Sutuyak  
Leon & Claudine Snyder  
Dmitri  
David  
Deacon Hennok Soot, Matushka Mariamna Soot,  
Evdokiy, Anatoliy, Domnikiy, Semen, Feodosiy, Ella, Grigoriy, Nadejda, Konstantin, Svetlana,  
Valentina, Anna, infant Anatoliy, Olga, Anna, Peter.  
Anne Lewandowski  
Marina, Alexandra, Petr, Boris, Tatiana.  
Hieromonk Vonifaty, Schemanun Savva, Priest Anatoly + Sep 9, 22; Monk Aristokliy June 1, 22; Andrei Vasilenko, April, 23; Archpriest Nikolay  
Palahnyuk, June 13, 23; John Markevich, Oct, 23; Viktor Kotlishyn, Oct 19 23;  
Rebecca Svetlana (Photini) Gushard  
Basil Rosiczka

OCA-DOW  
Eleanor Pogyor & family  
brother Phil Letzo  
Nelli, Katya  
sister Izolda  
Ksenia Sturmer  
daughter-in-law Anna Shcheglova  
Diane Rhodes  
Christia, Marina, John & family  
Archpriest Nicholas, Nathalie, Tamara, Marina, Michael & family  
Deacon Nicholas & Sofia Denysenko & family  
OCA  
Diane, Victoria, Nicholas, & Stephen Wilson & family  
Larissa, Tatiana  
Fr Ian Shipley & family, DoW  
Irina Jackson  
Natalya Slusar Nosa & family  
son-in-law & daughter Thaddeus & Jacqui Wojcik  
Manya & family  
daughter Nancy Smollen  
daughter Milena; family  
wife Kaye Rassam, son Fr Yousuf Rassam, daughter Najma Fowner & family  
Konstantin, Taissia, Vladmir, Ioann Kremenetsky  
Tamara, Christina, Michael, Anne & family  
daughters Laura & Carol, & family  
Boris  
Mitred Archpriest Ian & Matka. Nina MacKinnon, DOW  
DoW, Fr Stephen Soot family, Mark & Olga Soot family  
Alla Slobdoskaya  
+ Raissa Dulian  
Margarita Maximova  
son Wade Aiden Greer, Fr Yousuf