

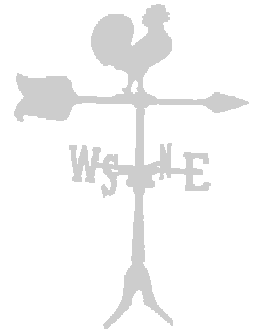
# The Chanticleer

The Newsletter of



**Holy Incarnation Orthodox Church**

A Western Rite Vicariate mission in the Diocese of Toledo & the Midwest  
The Self-ruled Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America



+ April 2008 +

## Reflection

These are the days when Satan loves to toy with us. He urges us to believe that we've fasted long, that we've sacrificed enough of our time, that we've done enough of our Lenten duty of prayer, and that we're stretched too thin to tithe or give alms.

Satan is not alone in his toying with us. Our flesh is a co-conspirator.

Our Lenten discipline begins to flag because we convince ourselves that fasting and the sacrifices we've made are individual choices that we've made. And if they are individual, then we are accountable to no one except ourselves—and we are all too ready to excuse ourselves and give ourselves a dispensation, a way out.

If our self-denial is a choice, then we quickly see it as a goal, something to strive for. Striving, choices and goals live in the future. And the future does not exist because it is not yet. So we convince ourselves that tomorrow we'll do better, but today we're doing the best we can (which, honestly, isn't all that good).

The devil presents this argument, and our flesh quickly latches on.

What is forgotten, however, is that fasting, prayer and attendance at Mass, giving tithes and being kind to others—these ought never be goals. Rather, these define who we are. These practices are the fabric of our life in Christ. These habits are who we are, not who we hope to be. And so they live in the present, not the future.

And so they ought to be done not "some day" but in real time.

Why ought these practices be our habit, our discipline, our routine? For one reason: they are (as the church fathers maintain) the way we attain the kingdom of heaven.

What does this mean? It means that fasting, prayer and tithing are the way of salvation; that is, the way in which we remain on the road toward the heavenly kingdom; the way we "walk in the Spirit"; the way we maintain our life as we progress to the fullness of the Lord's riches.



## Our Name

*Now chanticleer proclaims each day...*

It seems reasonable that when the fourth century Spanish hymnographer, Aurelius Prudentius (Clemens), penned these words, he had in mind the advent of dawn (Tob 8.11), the reminder to "watch, therefore" (Mk 13.35) and the warning given to St Peter (Mt 26.34). At least, this is inferred both by the text of the hymn (*Ætérne rerum Cònditor*) and the fact that the Western Orthodox churches sing it throughout the year (*per annum*) at Sunday Lauds.

Let these same themes of the approaching Daystar, sober watchfulness, and the life of repentance inform not only the words that appear in this newsletter, but also the prayerful aspirations of those who read and are moved to support, in prayer or otherwise, the humble parish named for the mystery of God's union with man in Christ.



**Holy Incarnation Antiochian Orthodox  
Christian Church**

Priest

Fr. John W. Fenton

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## News and Notes

† With the blessing of His Eminence Metropolitan PHILIP and His Grace Bishop MARK, *Holy Incarnation purchased its own building* on 12 February 2008. "I rejoice that the Lord has graciously heard our prayers," said Fr. Fenton. The purchase was made possible with funds from the former Incarnation Orthodox Church in Detroit. Items in storage from the former Incarnation Church have also been secured and are being used at the new location.

† *The first liturgical services* at the new location were conducted on with Vespers on Saturday, March 8.

Mass is regularly celebrated on Sundays, Wednesdays and Saturdays. *The Liturgical Service* schedule is printed on the right.

† His Grace Bishop MARK has decreed that *the Feast of the Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary shall be the Titular (Patronal) Feast* of Holy Incarnation. The Feast was celebrated with Vespers followed by Mass on its Eve, 24 March.

† The Priest and Building Committee are considering various proposals for remodeling the interior of the new building. An altar and cancel needs to be built, and liturgical furnishings need to be put in place. *Donations for this project will be gratefully received and duly acknowledged.* It is hoped that work will begin after Easter.

† Throughout Lent, *the Stations of the Cross* are prayed, immediately followed by the Solemn Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

† Palm Sunday Mass will be celebrated on *Sunday, 20 April, at 9:30 a.m.* The blessing and procession of palms will immediately precede the Mass.

† *Mass will be celebrated at 6:00 p.m. on Holy Monday, Holy Tuesday, Holy Wednesday and Maundy Thursday.* The Washing of Feet and Stripping of the Altar will also be conducted on Maundy (Holy) Thursday.

† *Good Friday Solemn Liturgy will be conducted at Noon.* During the service, according to the Western tradition, the Holy Cross will be venerated and communion will be distributed from the Pre-Sanctified Gifts.

† The Feast of Our Lord's Resurrection will be celebrated with the *Great Vigil of Easter beginning at 11:30 p.m.* on Saturday, 26 April. In addition, Easter Mass will be celebrated at *9:30 a.m. on Easter Sunday.*

† *Sunday School for children* is offered every Sunday beginning at 8:45 a.m. After brief opening prayers in the Church, the children (ages 3-12) are taught by caring teachers while the adults attend Lauds.

† Plans are developing for a *banquet in early June.* A *Bible camp for children* is also being considered. Watch for details for these and other events in upcoming issues of *The Chanticleer.*

† Holy Incarnation will host the bi-annual gathering of the Western Rite Vicariate parishes. The gathering will be held Aug 4-7 at the St John's Center in Plymouth MI.



## From the Fathers

*St. Leo the Great*

When you hear Our Lord say, "My God, My God," I urge you not to believe that, when Jesus was fastened to the wood of the cross, the almighty God and Father had turned His back on Him. For in Christ's own person, the natures of God and man are so completely joined that the union cannot be destroyed by punishment or by death. ...

So why, then, did Jesus cry out with a loud voice and say, "Why have You forsaken Me"? To notify all men that He wished not to be rescued, not to be defended, but to remain in the hands of cruel men so that He might be the Savior of the world and the Redeemer of

all men not by misery but by mercy; and not by the failure of comfort but by His determination to die.

Yet by praying to the Father, Our Lord Jesus shows that this determination is not His alone; that He is not the only one determined to act on our behalf. For the blessed Apostle says that the Father "spared not His own Son, but gave Him up for us all." And he says, "Christ loved the Church, and gave Himself up for her, that He might sanctify it." Hence, the giving up of the Lord to His Passion was as much of the Father's will as it was of His own will. So if the Father did "forsake" His Son, then it was only because the Son also

### Holy Incarnation Liturgical Schedule

#### Sunday

- ♦ Church School - 8:45 a.m.
- ♦ Lauds - 9:00 a.m.
- ♦ Mass - 9:30 a.m.
- ♦ Refreshments - 11:00 a.m.

#### Wednesday

- ♦ Rosary - 5:30 p.m.
- ♦ Mass - 6:00 p.m.
- ♦ Soup & Sandwiches - 7:00 p.m.
- ♦ Compline - 7:30 p.m.

#### Saturday

- ♦ Rosary - 9:00 a.m.
- ♦ Mass - 9:30 a.m.
- ♦ Bible Study - 10:30 a.m.
- ♦ Vespers - 6:00 p.m.
- ♦ Sacrament of Penance - 6:30 p.m. (or by appointment)

#### Select Holy Days

- ♦ Rosary - 5:30 p.m.
- ♦ Mass - 6:00 p.m.

#### Fridays in Lent

- ♦ Stations of the Cross & Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament - 6:00 p.m.
- ♦ Soup & Fish Supper - 7:00 p.m.

*All Services in English*

abandoned Himself in a certain sense—but not as if He was fleeing in fear, but as if He was voluntarily withdrawing or hiding His full divinity. For the

Crucified restrained His divine might, and refused to use His power, so that He might secretly deceive death and the devil.



***Holy Week  
At***

**Holy Incarnation  
Orthodox Church**

**Palm Sunday**

Sunday, 20 April 2008

Lauds at 9:00 a.m.

Mass at 9:30 a.m.

*Includes blessing & procession with palms at the beginning of Mass*

**Holy Monday**

Monday, 21 April 2008

Mass at 6:00 p.m.

**Holy Tuesday**

Tuesday, 22 April 2008

Mass at 6:00 p.m.

**Holy Wednesday**

Wednesday, 23 April 2008

Mass at 6:00 p.m.

**Maundy Thursday (Holy Thursday)**

Thursday, 24 April 2008

Mass at 6:00 p.m.

*Includes the Stripping of the Altar*

**Good Friday Solemn Liturgy**

Friday, 25 April 2008

Begins at Noon

*Includes Veneration of the Cross & Pre-Sanctified Liturgy*

**The Great Vigil of Easter**

Saturday, 26 April 2008

Begins at 11:30 p.m.

***Easter Week  
At***

**Holy Incarnation  
Orthodox Church**

**The Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord**

**Easter Sunday**

Sunday, 27 April 2008

Mass at 9:30 a.m.

**Easter Wednesday**

Wednesday, 30 April 2008

Mass at 6:00 p.m.

**Easter Friday**

Friday, 2 May 2008

Mass at 6:00 p.m.

**Quasi Modo Geniti Sunday**

**The Octave of Easter**

Sunday, 4 May 2008

Lauds at 9:00 a.m.

Mass at 9:30 a.m.