

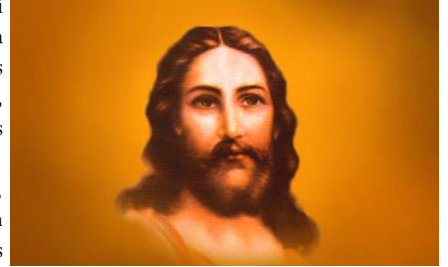
## 50 DAY LENT

Great Lent has been observed since the 4th century. In Eastern Orthodox churches or In the Eastern church Lent extends over 7 weeks or 50 days. We observe for 40 days as the Lord observed and 10 days to remember his persecution. Formerly a severe fast was prescribed: only one full meal a day was allowed, and meat, fish, eggs, and milk products were forbidden. Today, however, prayer and works of charity are emphasized. Now diet such as fish and dairy products are allowed.

In many countries, the last day before Lent (called Mardi Gras, Shrove Tuesday, Carnival, or Fasching) has become a last fling before the solemnity of Lent. For centuries, it was customary to fast by abstaining from meat during Lent, which is why people call the festival, "Carnival", which is Latin for "farewell to Flesh (meat)".

In Western Christendom, or the Western church, observance of Lent begins 6 1/2 weeks prior to Easter on Ash Wednesday; (only Sundays are excluded). Lent is observed for six weeks and four days. Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent,( The day after Mardi Gras) gets its name from the practice, mainly in the Roman Catholic church, of putting ashes on the foreheads of the faithful to remind them that "man is but dust." Palm Sunday, one week before Easter, celebrates the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. Holy Week begins on this day. Holy Thursday, or Maundy Thursday, is in memory of the Last Supper of Jesus with his disciples. Good Friday commemorates the crucifixion.

Many Easter customs come from the Old World. The white lily, the symbol of the resurrection, is the special Easter flower. Rabbits and colored eggs have come from pagan antiquity as symbols of new life. Easter Monday egg rolling, a custom of European origin, has become a tradition, as of late with the country starting to celebrate.



— By Gigi Kurian


### VOLUME III, ISSUE II

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#### Special points of interest:

- \* Middle of Lent Mar 14th
- \* Annunciation to St. Mary Mar 25th .
- \* Catholicate Day March 25th . 
- \* 40th day of Lent Mar 30th.
- \* Saturday of Lazarus Mar 31st.

## ORTHODOX CENTER

### Kiss Of Peace

The deacon receives the kiss of peace from the priest. The Peace is then received by everybody via deacon.

All exchanges the



peace by hands which shows that all participants have made peace with themselves and between all. Portion of the bible for devotion, (1) Mt. 5:23,24. "Therefore, if you are offering your gift at the altar and there remember that your brother h. as something against you, leave

your gift there in front of altar, Fiest go and be reconciled to your brother. Then come and offer your gift". John:13:34 "A new command I give you, Love one another". 2Cor:13:12"Greet one another with a holy kiss."

## CALENDAR

**Young Adult Meeting:**  
Call and coordinate Mr. Kirk Edwards for next meeting.

**Martha Mariam Samajam:** Meeting will be held at Church on Sunday March 11th and 18th.

**Sunday School:**  
Sunday **Mar 3rd** Social Work (Help the poor and needy).

Saturday **March 24th** Confession Day.

**Prayer meeting:**  
Please call and coordinate with Mrs. Aleyamma Mathew to host monthly Zonal prayer meeting at your residence.

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### We're on the Web !

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## CHILDREN'S CORNER

### Miracles Of Jesus

**Water into Wine :** The first miracle that Jesus did was at a wedding feast in the town of Cana in Galilee.



Jesus' mother, Mary, told Jesus that the wedding host was out of wine. Jesus told the servants to fill the

water pots with water and then when they dipped it out, there was wine in the jars. Jesus had turned the water into wine.

*John 2:1-11*

**Calming the Storm :** Jesus and his disciples were out on the lake when a storm suddenly came up. Jesus was asleep in the boat and his friends were afraid. They woke him. He got up and told the storm to stop and it was completely calm; the wind stopped blowing and the water was still. His disciples were amazed! "Even the winds and the waves obey Him," they said.

*Matthew 8:23-27*

**Healings :** Jesus healed Simon Peter's

mother-in-law who had a dangerous fever. She got up and served them.

*Matthew 8:14-15*

There was a man in Jerusalem who had been blind from birth. Jesus put clay on the blind man's eyes and told him to go wash in the pool of Siloam. When he washed the clay off, he could see. *John 9:1-41*

Once in Jerusalem, a blind beggar named Bartimaeus asked Jesus for mercy and healing. Jesus told him that his faith had cured him and the man praised God for his sight. *Mark 10:46-52*

There was a paralyzed man in Capernaum. He couldn't walk, so his friends took him to see Jesus. There was such a crowd that they could not get him into the house where Jesus was. They made a hole in the roof and let their friend down through the roof. Jesus told him that his sins were forgiven and to rise, take up his bed and go home. Some of the people doubted Jesus at first, but they were then amazed as the man stood up straight and tall. *Luke 5:17-46*

*Continued Below...*

## MIRACLES OF JESUS :|: MY REFLECTION ON GOD

.... Continued from Children's Corner

Ten men who had leprosy asked Jesus to help them. Jesus was not afraid of the disease. He told them to go and show themselves to the priests, and as they were going, they were completely cured! Only one of the ten lepers ran back to Jesus and fell down on his knees and thanked him.

*Luke 17:11-19*



### Memory Verse



And he arose, and rebuked the wind and said unto the sea, "Peace, be still." And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

*Mark 4:39*

Going to church every Sunday, as a kid, was just a routine to me. It was just like going to school Monday through Friday, until I began to understand what everything meant as a whole and what it spiritually made me feel about my life.

I believe and understand that God has always been with me and will always be with me. I am grateful for the greatest thing that I will always have and that is my family.

My family has given and developed my morals. I have grown to learn many lessons, big and small, and I have yet to grow and learn more to shape the person I will become.

Sunday school did not have a great impact on me, until I reached the senior class. It was more reflecting upon me because I see how life and religion come together and how to keep the balance in my life.

—By —

Dana Merlin



[.http://www.gardenofpraise.com/bibl19s.htm](http://www.gardenofpraise.com/bibl19s.htm)