

## Venerable Father John Climacus, Author of “The Ladder” – March 30th

Saint John of the Ladder is honored by Holy Church as a great ascetic and author of the renowned spiritual book called **THE LADDER**, from which he is also called “of the Ladder” (Climacus).

There is almost no information about Saint John’s origins. One tradition suggests that he was born in Constantinople around the year 570, and was the son of Saints Xenophon and Maria.

For nineteen years Saint John progressed in monasticism in obedience to his spiritual Father. After the death of Abba Martyrius, Saint John embarked on a solitary life, settling in a wild place called Thola, where he spent forty years laboring in silence, fasting, prayer, and tears of penitence.

It is not by chance that in THE LADDER Saint John speaks about tears of repentance: “Just as fire burns and destroys the wood, so pure tears wash away every impurity, both external and internal.” His holy prayer was strong and efficacious, as may be seen from an example from the life of the God-pleasing saint.

Concealing his ascetic deeds from others, Saint John sometimes withdrew into a cave, but reports of his holiness spread far beyond the vicinity. Visitors from all walks of life came to him, desiring to hear his words of edification and salvation. After forty years of solitary asceticism, he was chosen as igumen of Sinai when he was seventy-five. Saint John governed the holy monastery for four years. Toward the end of his life, the Lord granted him the gifts of clairvoyance and wonderworking.

At the request of Saint John, igumen of the Raithu monastery, he wrote the incomparable LADDER, a book of instruction for monks who wished to attain spiritual perfection.

Knowing of the wisdom and spiritual gifts of Saint John of Sinai, the igumen of Raithu requested him to write down whatever was necessary for the salvation of those in the monastic life. Such a book would be “a ladder fixed on the earth” (Gen. 28:12), leading people to the gates of Heaven.

Saint John felt that such a task was beyond his ability, yet out of obedience he fulfilled the request. The saint called his work **THE LADDER**, for the book is “a fixed ladder leading from earthly things to the Holy of Holies....” The thirty steps of spiritual perfection correspond to the thirty years of the Lord’s age. When we have completed these thirty steps, we will find ourselves with the righteous and will not stumble. THE LADDER begins with renunciation of the world, and ends with God, Who is love (1 John 4:8).

Although the book was written for monks, any Christian living in the world will find it an unerring guide for ascending to God, and a support in the spiritual life.

Excerpts from: <https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2013/03/30/100943-venerable-john-climacus-of-sinai-author-of-the-ladder>

### Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church

360 Clinton Street, Binghamton, NY 13905

### Ss. Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Church

106 North Rogers Avenue, Endicott, NY 13760

March 30, 2025

Fourth Sunday of the Great  
Fast

Administrator:

Very Rev. Fr. Steven Galuschik

Deacon:

Rev. Fr. Dn. Richard Terza

Mailing Address for both parishes:

360 Clinton Street, Binghamton, NY 13905

Office Phone: (607) 203-1151

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stnybyzantine@gmail.com

#### Sunday & Weekday Liturgy schedule:

Please refer to Liturgy Schedule Inside this Bulletin

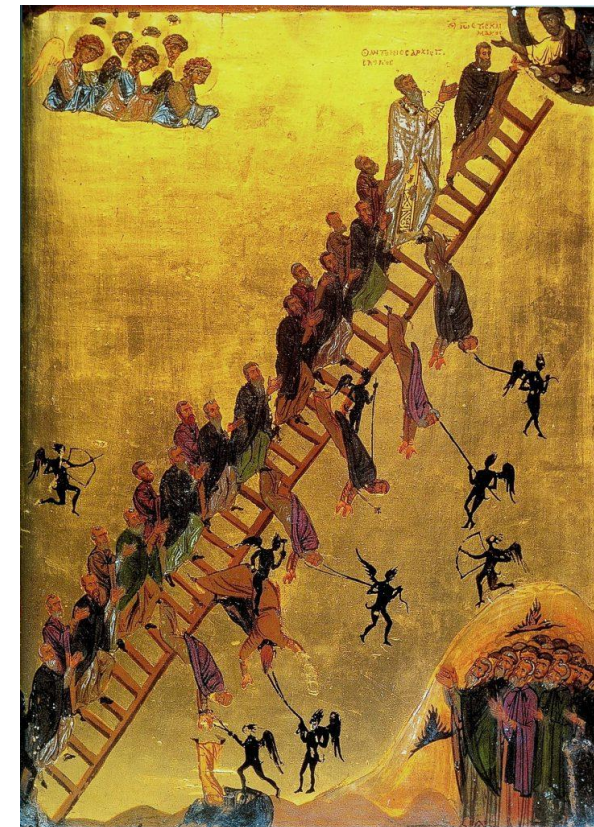
#### Confessions: (Holy Spirit)

Sundays from 8:00am – 8:30 (Before Divine Liturgy)

#### Parishes Website:



<https://www.southernstiernybyzcatholic.com>

Bulletin: churchbulletin0@gmail.com



Venerable Father John Climacus,  
Author of “The Ladder”  
- March 30<sup>th</sup> -

# ✠ Liturgies for the Week of 3/29 – 4/6 ✠

SAT	Mar 29	<i>Fourth All-Souls' Saturday</i>	
--- No Divine Services ---			
SUN	Mar 30	<i>Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast (St. John Climacus)</i>	
	9:00 am	Holy Spirit – ✠ Charles Punako	Apostol: Heb 6: 13-20 Gospel: Mk 9: 17-31
(Tone 4)		<i>Panachida and Reading of the Names for All Souls</i>	
	11:00 am	Ss. Peter & Paul – <i>Living and Deceased Members of Holy Spirit and Ss. Peter &amp; Paul Byzantine Catholic Churches</i>	
		<i>Panachida and Reading of the Names for All Souls</i>	
MON	Mar 31	<i>Venerable Father Hypatius, Bishop of Gangra (326)</i>	
--- No Divine Services ---			
TUES	Apr 01	<i>Our Holy Mother Mary of Egypt (c. 530)</i>	
--- No Divine Services ---			
WED	Apr 02	<i>Venerable Father Titus the Wonder-worker (9th Century)</i>	
	6:30 pm	Holy Spirit – <i>Special Intention</i>	<i>Presanctified Divine Liturgy</i>
THU	Apr 03	<i>Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete</i>	
--- No Divine Services ---			
FRI	Apr 04	<i>Venerable Fathers, Joseph the Hymnographer and George of Maleon</i>	
	--- No Divine Services ---		
SAT	Apr 05	<i>Akathistos Saturday</i>	
--- No Divine Services ---			
SUN	Apr 06	<i>Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast</i>	
	9:00 am	Holy Spirit – <i>Living and Deceased Members of Holy Spirit and Ss. Peter &amp; Paul Byzantine Catholic Churches</i>	Apostol: Heb 9: 11-14 Gospel: Mk 10: 32-45
(Tone 5)		<i>Panachida and Reading of the Names for All Souls</i>	
	11:00 am	Ss. Peter & Paul – ✠ Sophie Bednar	



**Candle Intentions:** Please see the sheet posted in the Church vestibule for the Candle Intentions and Sponsors for the Month of **March**. †



**Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts:** During Lent, the *Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts* will be celebrated on **Wednesdays** at **6:30 pm** alternating each week between **Ss. Peter & Paul Church** and **Holy Spirit Church**. All are HIGHLY encouraged to attend and take part in these beautiful and moving prayers & chant as often as possible this *Great Lent*. †



**Easter Flower Donations:** Thank you for the Easter Flower Donations to Holy Spirit Church in memory/honor of: ✠ **Michael Yuschak**



**Can & Bottle Drive** – *Ss. Peter and Paul* is excited to announce it's first **Can & Bottle Drive** is scheduled for **Saturday, April 26th**. Please begin saving your cans & Bottles for them. You can drop off your bagged or boxed empties at the church parking lot between 11:00 am – 3:00 pm on April 26<sup>th</sup>. No sorting is necessary.

*Thank you for supporting this fundraising initiative!*



**Emailed Bulletins:** We are having difficulties emailing the Bulletin to those parishioners that have Spectrum (*formerly Time Warner*) email accounts such as ***Your\_Name@stny.rr.com***. The Spectrum Email server is considering our email as spam and is **blocking** our email from getting to you. We have tried multiple techniques to correct the problem. Some weeks they all go out and other weeks they get blocked and sent back to us. **Last week, Bulletins going to all 22 parishioners with Spectrum email accounts were blocked.** If you have a Spectrum (Time Warner) email account ending in ***@stny.rr.com*** and you have another email address (gmail, yahoo, etc), please consider emailing the bulletin and having us try and send the bulletin to that new email address. We can not guarantee everyone will always receive the emailed bulletin, but it appears you will have a better chance receiving it if you have a ***Non-Spectrum email account***. In any case, we will continue to email the bulletin to Spectrum email accounts, we simply can't guarantee it will always get through. *Thank you for your understanding.*



**On-Line Giving:** Please use this link for on-line donations for *Ss. Peter & Paul* OR for *Holy Spirit Church*:

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZA77/home>

Or, you can scan the QR code to the right, with your phone. You can also visit the Parish website or Facebook pages for links! **Thank you for your support!** †

