

SECOND WEEK OF GREAT LENT



St. Jacob Melkite Catholic Community

Serving San Diego Since 1990

Divine Liturgy of St. Gregory the Theologian (Liturgy of the Presanctified Species)

Commemoration of the Forty Holy Martyrs of Sebastea

Natives of different countries, but all serving in the same legion, these holy martyrs suffered in Sabastea, Armenia, under Emperor Licinius about 322-323. Having confessed the Christian faith, they were seized and subjected to interrogation. Upon their refusal to sacrifice to idols, they were put in chains, imprisoned, and sentenced by the head of the army to be exposed nude in the middle of a frozen lake near the city during a winter night. In the morning they were still alive. Their legs were broken, and so they obtained their crown of martyrdom. Loaded then on chariots, they were thrown into a fire and their ashes were thrown into the river.

PROKEIMENON (Ps 31) [Tone 6]

Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, you righteous one, and glory all you upright of heart.

v. Blessed are those whose sins are forgiven.

READING (Genesis 4:16-26)

Then Cain went away from the presence of the LORD and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden. Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch. When he built a city, he called the name of the city after the name of his son, Enoch. To Enoch was born Irad, and Irad fathered Mehujael, and Mehujael fathered Methushael, and Methushael fathered Lamech. And Lamech took two wives. The name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other Zillah. Adah bore Jabal; he was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock. His brother's name was Jubal; he was the father of all those who play the lyre and pipe. Zillah also bore Tubal-cain; he was the forger of all instruments of bronze and iron. The sister of Tubal-cain was Naamah. Lamech said to his wives: "Adah and Zillah, hear my voice; you wives of Lamech, listen to what I say: I have killed a man for wounding me, a young man for striking me. If Cain's revenge is sevenfold, then Lamech's is seventy-sevenfold." And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and called his name Seth, for she said, "God has appointed for me another offspring instead of Abel, for Cain killed him." To Seth also a son was born, and he called his name Enosh. At that time people began to call upon the name of the LORD.

PROKEIMENON (Ps 32) [Tone 1]

O Lord, let Your loving mercy be upon us, even as we have put our hope in You.

v. Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous ones; praise becomes the just.

READING (Proverbs 5:15-6:3)

Drink water from your own cistern, flowing water from your own well. Should your springs be scattered abroad, streams of water in the streets? Let them be for yourself alone, and not for strangers with you. Let your fountain be blessed, and rejoice in the wife of your youth, a lovely deer, a graceful doe. Let her breasts fill you at all times with delight; be intoxicated always in her love. Why should you be intoxicated, my son, with a forbidden woman and embrace the bosom of an adulteress? For a man's ways are before the eyes of the LORD, and he ponders all his paths. The iniquities of the wicked ensnare him, and he is held fast in the cords of his sin. He dies for lack of discipline, and because of his great folly he is led astray. My son, if you have put up security for your neighbor, have given your pledge for a stranger, if you are snared in the words of your mouth, caught in the words of your mouth, then do this, my son, and save yourself, for you have come into the hand of your neighbor: go, hasten, and plead urgently with your neighbor.

Next Lenten Service: Friday, March 10 - Akathist Hymn (Al Madayeh) in English and Arabic at the home of Adli and Mary Hanna. Please join us!

Next Sunday, March 12, 2017 Holy Relics and Saint Gregory Palamas