

GREAT LENT

5TH SUNDAY OF GREAT LENT- ST. MARY OF EGYPT



Sara Ilić - Illustration

The Fifth Sunday of Great Lent is dedicated to Righteous Mother Mary of Egypt. Her life is a beautiful example of repentance- she was a true champion of our Orthodox faith.

As a young woman she spent many years of her life in sin, offering her body to any man. However, in an encounter with the beauty of the Christian message, she recognized the impurity of that life and decided to give her heart to Christ the Lord. St. Mary of Egypt spent more than forty-seven years in the desert of Jordan without encountering either another human being or any animals. She renounced all pleasure. Turning herself to God again, she is an example that every good change is possible for the one who firmly believes in God. For those who have lost the true meaning of their life and who seek Christ and His love, the life of this remarkable woman is a great lesson! Amen!



ALTHOUGH ADAM BETRAYED HIM, GOD REMAINED FAITHFUL. HE VISITED HIM IN MANY DIFFERENT WAYS. GOD DID NOT TURN HIMSELF AWAY FROM HIS CREATURE, WHOM HE HAD MADE. GOD SENT TO HIS PEOPLE PROPHETS.

WHO IS A PROPHET? A PROPHET IS ONE WHO SPEAKS BY THE DIRECT INSPIRATION OF GOD.

CAN YOU TELL ME HOW MANY PROPHETS WE HAVE IN THE OLD TESTAMENT? CIRCLE THE RIGHT NUMBER:

1. FOUR

2. EIGHT

3. TWELVE

THERE ARE 16 BOOKS IN THE BIBLE EACH NAMED FOR A PROPHET. DURING GREAT LENT MANY SELECTIONS ARE READ IN THE CHURCH.

WHAT IS THE CENTRAL MESSAGE OF THE OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECIES?

CIRCLE THE RIGHT ANSWER:

1. THE COMING OF THE MESSIAH- KING

2. GOD'S ANGER OVER THE SINS OF HIS PEOPLE

FOUR OF THE PROPHETIC BOOKS ARE OF THE SO-CALLED MAJOR-PROPHETS. YOU CAN SEE THEM DEPICTED IN OUR CHURCHES OR MONASTERIES.

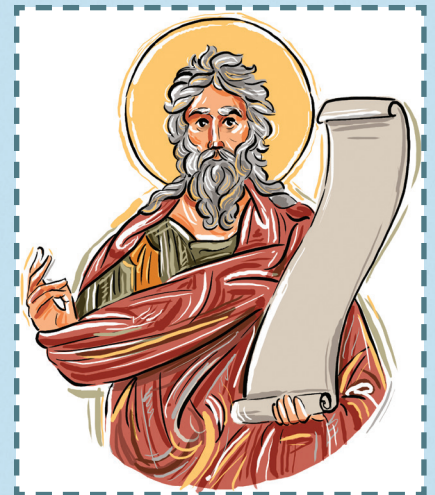
CAN YOU COMPLETE THE LIST:

1. JEREMIAH

3. EZEKIEL

2. ISA_____

4. DAN_____



TIPS FOR BOTH CHILDREN & PARENTS

DO NOT COPY THE BEHAVIOR AND CUSTOMS OF THIS WORLD. HAVE CHRIST AND EVANGELIC LIVING AS THE CENTER OF YOUR LIFE.



DURING GREAT LENT OUR HOLY CHURCH REMINDS ITS CHILDREN OF THE IMPORTANCE OF SACRIFICE.

WHAT IS SACRIFICE? SACRIFICE IS EVERY GOOD THOUGHT, DEED, PRAYER, EVEN SILENCE, DONE FOR SOMEBODY ELSE.

CAN YOU TELL ME HOW YOU SHOW YOUR LOVE TOWARDS:

YOUR FAMILY/ FRIENDS

(For example: I am kind to my family/friends....)

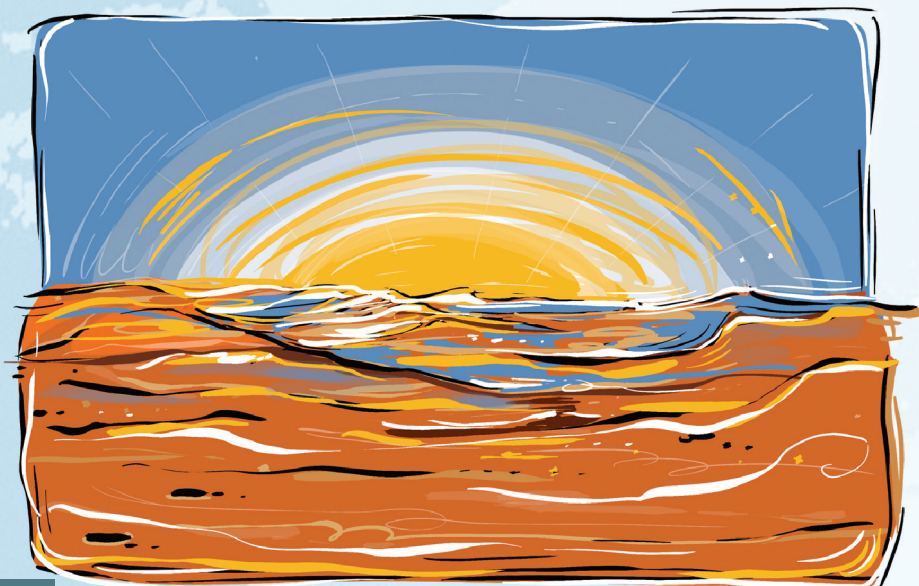
PRIEST

(For example: I help our parish priest by chanting in choir during the Divine Liturgy....)

YOURSELF

(For example: I find joy in saying a short but sincere prayer every morning....)

ST. MARY OF EGYPT DEPARTED FAR FROM THE WORLD SO SHE COULD BE IN BETTER CONTACT WITH GOD. SHE GAVE HERSELF TOTALLY TO GOD.



WHAT DO YOU THINK SHE RENOUNCED BY GOING TO THE DESERT?

- 1. ICE CREAM**
- 2. INTERNET**
- 3. PLEASURES OF THIS WORLD**

IN THE BOOK THAT NARRATES THE LIFE OF ST. MARY OF EGYPT ONE INTERESTING ANIMAL IS MENTIONED. SOMETIMES YOU COULD SEE IT TOGETHER WITH THE SAINT ON FRESCOES IN ORTHODOX CHURCHES OR MONASTERIES.



CAN YOU CIRCLE THE RIGHT ANSWER?

1. DOG 2. LION 3. MONKEY

SPENDING MANY YEARS IN THE DESERT, ST. MARY OF EGYPT RENOUNCED ALL PLEASURE AND TURNED HERSELF COMPLETELY TO GOD.

WHAT IS THE NAME OF THE MONK TO WHOM THE SAINT RECOUNTED WITH TEARS THE STORY OF HER LIFE AND CONVERSION?

1. MARDARIJE 2. SAVA 3. ZOSIMAS

WITH HER CHANGE, ST. MARY OF EGYPT SHOWED THAT WE SHOULD NOT LIVE BY BREAD (OR FOOD/OR OUR BODY) ALONE. THEREFORE, WE SHOULD NOT NEGLECT OUR SOUL AND WE SHOULD TRY TO HAVE THE LORD JESUS CHRIST AS THE ONLY MEASURE IN OUR LIFE.

PLEASE, COMPLETE THE WORDS OF THIS LITURGICAL PRAYER.

RECEIVE THE _____ OF C _____
TASTE THE _____ OF I _____
ALLELUIA, _____, ALLELUIA!

CAN YOU TELL ME WHAT YOU DO FOR PASCHA? WHY DO YOU ENJOY THE GREATEST CHRISTIAN FEAST DAY OF ALL?

