

Saint Mary of Egypt

By Archbishop Andrei (Rymarenko)

On the Fifth Sunday of Great Lent before our spiritual eyes stands St. Mary of Egypt. She was a sinful woman, who became the classic face, the classic image of a Christian woman. She was an outrageous courtesan of Alexandria, Egypt. She was a harlot. She was a beauty. And her depravity knew no bounds. She travelled to Jerusalem and followed the crowd, which was going to venerate the Cross of the Lord. Why not? But when the crowd was entering the narthex, no matter what Mary did, she couldn't enter into the church. It was as if the wind or a wave pushed her away. No matter how she trembled, no matter how much she wanted to enter, she could not—whatever it was would not let her in. Finally, she understood that some terrible power was not letting her in. Then she looked, and saw standing before her a face, the icon of the Theotokos with the Divine Child. Immediately the veil that was obscuring her conscience open up. She had heard about Christ, and heard that Christ called people to chasteness.

And then her conscience revealed her entire sin to her, and she fell down before the Theotokos, crying out, "Forgive me! Help me! She suddenly, as if carried up by the wind, was brought into the church and fell down before the Cross of the Lord. Then a miracle happened to her: She suddenly had a thirst for purity, for chastity. And when she felt forgiveness, and without anything, ran to the Jordan River, walked across it and hid herself in that desert. Thus did she live for seventeen years in a state of sobriety, eating the dirt, as she said, in order to destroy those lusts, those fleshly desires, that destructive "kind" of bodily movement. Then, for seventeen years she lived in the praise of divine grace. She was like an angel. It is this day which the holy Church places before us is a consolation for us. There isn't a sinner that the Lord would not forgive.



"He who justifies the wicked and he who condemns the righteous are both alike an abomination to the LORD."

Proverbs 17:15



Saint Mary Orthodox Church of West Palm Beach

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The Very Reverend Father Peter Shportun, *Priest / Pastor*

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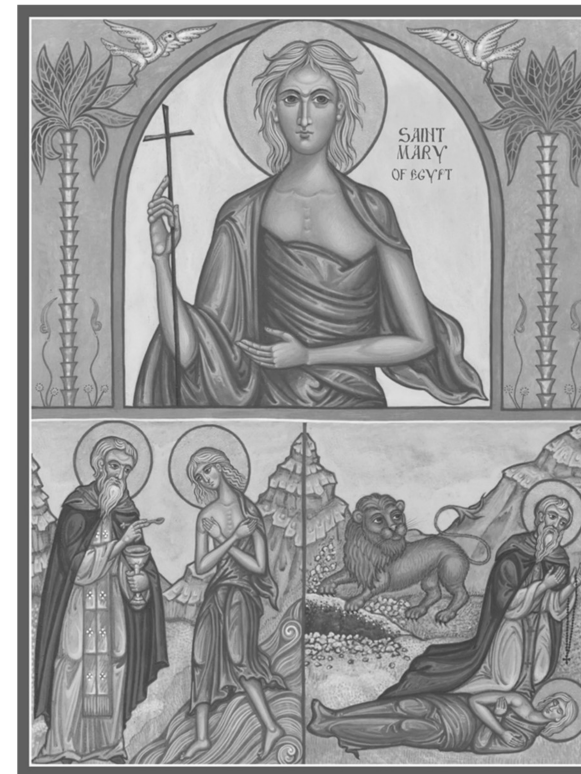
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*A Parish of the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast,
Antiochian Orthodox Archdiocese of North America*

Worship Guide and Bulletin – April 21, 2024



"May God defend us from the evil one and from his designs, for fierce is his struggle against us."

+The Righteous
Mother Mary of Egypt

Welcome!

Whether you are a parishioner or a visitor, we are glad you have chosen to pray with us at Saint Mary's. As a friendly reminder, please observe the following upon entering the church for prayer.

- If you arrive after the services begin, try to enter the Church quietly and observe what is happening. Try not to interrupt the service by your entrance.
- Please silence your cellular telephones.
- Please place your offerings in the basket on the counter in the Church Narthex (Entrance), or the Offering Tray when passed.
- You are invited join us in the Banquet Hall for coffee and refreshments following the Sunday Divine Liturgy.

Divine Liturgy Variables for the Fifth Sunday of Great Lent and Commemoration of the Righteous Mother Mary of Egypt

The Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great is celebrated on this day. The service text may be found beginning on page 91 in the Red Service Book in the pews. The 'Anaphora Prayers' usually found on pages 111-119 in the Red Service Book, can be found on pages 134-143.

Apolytikion for the Resurrection in Tone 5

Let us believers praise and worship the Word; coeternal with the Father and the Spirit, born of the Virgin for our salvation. For, He took pleasure in ascending the Cross in the flesh to suffer death; and to raise the dead by His glorious Resurrection.

Apolytikion of Saint Mary of Egypt in Tone 8

Through thee, the divine likeness was securely preserved, O mother Mary; for thou didst carry the cross and follow Christ. By example and precept thou didst teach us to ignore the body, because it is perishable, and to attend to the concerns of the undying soul. Therefore, doth thy soul rejoice with the angels.

Apolytikion of the Church (Dormition) in Tone 1

In thy birth-giving, O Theotokos, thou didst keep and preserve virginity; and in thy falling-asleep thou hast not forsaken the world; for thou wast translated into life, being the Mother of Life. Wherefore, by thine intercessions, deliver our souls from death.



This week, the Sixth Week of Great Lent the schedule of weekly services will include:

Great Compline - (Great) "Compline" means "at the end of the day," and is a service of Psalms, prayers and supplications that reflect on the day and asking God's guidance and blessing on the night ahead.

Presanctified Liturgy - Is the solemn Lenten Vespers and Prayers with Holy Communion. There is no consecration of the eucharistic gifts at the Presanctified Liturgy. Holy Communion is given from the eucharistic gifts sanctified during the Divine Liturgy of the previous Sunday.

Great Lent Service Schedule

Sunday, April 21st
Fifth Sunday of Lent
'Saint Mary of Egypt'

- ◆ *Matins* - 8:50 PM
- ◆ *Divine Liturgy* - 10:00 AM

Monday, April 22nd

- ◆ *Great Compline Service* - 6:30 PM

Wednesday, April 24th

- ◆ *Presanctified Liturgy* - 6:30 PM

During Great Lent, Fr. Peter will be available for Confession 30 minutes prior to the start of the evening services, or by appointment.

The Schedule of Services for Lazarus Saturday, Palm Sunday Holy Week and Pascha are enclosed in this bulletin.

Agape Vespers Readers

On Pascha (Easter) morning, Agape Vespers will be celebrated at 11:00 AM. During the service, the Gospel lesson is read in various languages. Volunteers are need to help read in following languages:

-Arabic	-Russian	-Slavonic	-Greek	-Romanian	-Italian
-French	-Spanish	-Serbian	-German	-Latin	-Other...

If you are able to read one of the above or other languages and would like to participate, please speak to Fr. Peter.

Great Lent & Holy Week Needs

Donations are needed to help offset the cost of the following needs for Great Lent and Holy Week:

- Flowers to decorate the Cross and distributed on the 3rd Sunday of Lent: \$150.00 **DONATED!**
- Palms & Pussy Willows for Palm Sunday: \$150.00 **DONATED!**
- Flowers for Tomb for Great and Holy Friday: \$750.00 **DONATED!**
- Donations towards Potted Plants for Holy Friday and Pascha (Easter Lilies, Orchids, Peace Lilies, etc). **(Additional Donations needed!)**
- Bay Leaves (for Great & Holy Saturday): \$40.00 **DONATED!**
- Olive Oil for Holy Wednesday Unction Service: **DONATED!**
- Altar Wine: \$200.00 **DONATED!**
- Holy Bread for Lazarus Saturday; Palm Sunday; Holy Thursday **DONATED!**; Holy Saturday **DONATED!**; and Pascha **DONATED!**.

All donations may be offered for the good health of, or memory of loved ones, and will be acknowledged in the Pascha Bulletin. Please see Fr. Peter or Sam Pasley to donate.



Eggs for Pascha

Each family is asked to bring one (1) dozen boiled and colored eggs to the church for blessing and distribution on Pascha night. Please place the eggs in the large basket that will be placed in the empty Tomb of Christ in front of the church.



Blessing of Pascha Baskets

Fr. Peter will bless the Pascha Baskets at the conclusion of the Paschal Divine Liturgy. Please place the baskets in front of the empty Tomb of Christ.

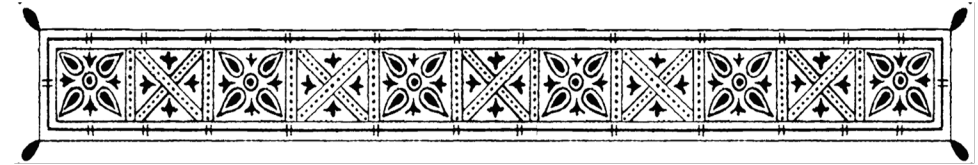


Following the Agape Vespers Service (11:00 AM) on Pascha Sunday, May 5th, there will be Easter Egg Hunt and Goodies for the children on the church grounds hosted by the Parents Group. ****All children should bring their own basket.****

Parents: *If your children are participating, please speak to Kelly Pasley so we may get an approximate head count in order to have enough eggs and goodies for all the children.*

Kontakion for Ordinary Sundays in Tone 2

O protection of Christians that cannot be put to shame, mediation unto the Creator most constant, O despise not the suppliant voices of those who have sinned; but be thou quick, O good one, to come unto our aid, who in faith cry unto thee: Hasten to intercession, and speed thou to make supplication, thou who dost ever protect, O Theotokos, them that honor thee.



THE EPISTLE AND GOSPEL READINGS

The Epistle

Verse: Thou, O Lord, shalt preserve us and keep us from this generation. Save me, O Lord, for the godly man hath disappeared.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews. (9:11-14)

Brethren, Christ having appeared a High Priest of the good things to come, through the greater and more perfect tabernacle, not made with hands, that is to say, not of this creation; neither through the blood of goats and calves, but through His own blood, entered in once for all into the holy place, having found eternal redemption. For if the sprinkling of defiled persons with the blood of bulls and goats and with the ashes of a heifer sanctifies for the purification of the flesh, how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without blemish to God, purify your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?

الرسالة (الأحد الخامس من الصوم)
أَنْتَ يَا رَبِّ تَحْفَظُنَا وَتَسْتُرُنَا مِنْ هَذَا الْحَيْلِ،
خَلِّصْنِي، يَا رَبِّ، فَإِنَّ الْبَارَّ قَدْ فَنِيَ.

فَصَلِّ مِنْ رِسَالَةِ الْقَدِيسِ بُولْسِ الرَّسُولِ إِلَى الْعِبْرَانِيِّينَ. (14-11:9)

يَا إِخْوَةَ، إِنَّ الْمَسِيحَ إِذْ قَدْ جَاءَ رَئِيسَ كَهَنَةِ لِحَاثَاتِ الْمُسْتَقْبَلَةِ، فِيمَسْكِنِ أَكْثَمَ وَأَكْمَلَ غَيْرَ مَصْنُوعِ بِيَدٍ، أَيُّ لَيْسَ مِنْ هَذِهِ الْخَلِيقَةِ. وَلَيْسَ بِدَمِ ثِيُوسٍ وَعُجُولِ بَلْ بِدَمِ نَفْسِهِ دَخَلَ الْأَقْدَاسَ مَرَّةً وَاحِدَةً فَوَجَدَ فِدَاءً أَبَدِيًّا. لِأَنَّهُ إِنْ كَانَ دَمُ ثِيرَانٍ وَثِيُوسٍ وَرَمَادُ عَجَلَةٍ يُرَشُّ عَلَى الْمُتَجَسِّينَ فَيَقْدَسُهُمْ لِتَطْهِيرِ الْجَسَدِ * فَكَمْ بِالْأَحْزَى دَمُ الْمَسِيحِ، الَّذِي بِالرُّوحِ الْأَرْلِيِّ قَرَّبَ نَفْسَهُ لِلَّهِ بِلا عَيْبٍ، يُطَهِّرُ صَمَاثِرَكُمْ مِنَ الْأَعْمَالِ الْمَيْتَةِ لِتَعْبُدُوا اللَّهَ الْحَيَّ.

THE GOSPEL

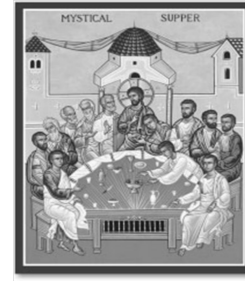
The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. (10:32-45)

At that time, Jesus took His twelve Disciples, and began to tell them what was to happen to Him, saying, "Behold, we are going up to Jerusalem. And the Son of man will be delivered to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn Him to death, and deliver Him to the Gentiles. And they will mock Him, and scourge Him, and spit upon Him, and kill Him; and after three days He will rise." And James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to Him, and said to Him, "Teacher, we would that thou shouldst do for us whatsoever we shall desire" And Jesus said to them, "What do you want Me to do for you?" And they said to Him, "Grant us to sit, one at Thy right hand and one at Thy left, in Thy glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?" And they said to Him, "We are able." And Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized. But to sit at My right hand or at My left is not Mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared." And when the ten heard it, they began to be indignant at James and John. And Jesus called them to Him and said to them, "You know that those who are supposed to rule over the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great men exercise authority over them. But it shall not be so among you; but whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be servant of all. For the Son of man also came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

الإنجيل (الأحد الخامس من الصوم)

فصل شريف من بشارة القديس مرقس الإنجيلي البشير والتلميذ الطاهر. (10:32-45)

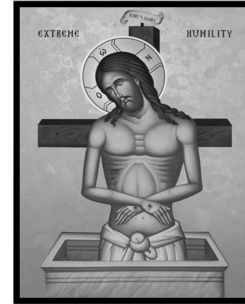
في ذلك الزمان، أخذ يسوع تلاميذه الإثني عشر وابتدأ يقول لهم ما سيغرض له. "هوذا نحن صاعدون إلى اورشليم، وابن البشر سيُسلم إلى رؤساء الكهنة والكتبة، فيحكمون عليه بالموت ويسلمونه إلى الأمم. فيمزأون به، ويضفون عليه، ويجلدونه، ويقتلونه، وفي اليوم الثالث يقوم." فدنا إليه يعقوب ويوحنا ابنا زبدي قائلين: "يا معلم، نريد أن تصنع لنا مهما طلبنا." فقال لهما: "ماذا تريدان أن أصنع لكما؟" قال لهما: "أعطنا أن يجلس أحدهما عن يمينك والآخر عن يسارك في مجدك." فقال لهما يسوع: "إنكما لا تعلمان ما تطلبان. أنتستطيعان أن تشربا الكأس التي أشربها أنا، وأن تصطبغا بالصبغة التي أصطبغ بها أنا؟" قال لهما: "تستطيع." فقال لهما يسوع: "أما الكأس التي أشربها فتشربانها، وبالصبغة التي أصطبغ بها فتصطبغان. وأما جلوسكما عن يميني وعن يساري فليس لي أن أعطيه إلا للذين أعد لهم." فلما سمع العشرة، ابتدأوا يغضبون على يعقوب ويوحنا. فدعاهم يسوع، وقال لهم: "قد"



Holy Thursday - May 2nd

On this day, we celebrate the Mystical Supper (the institution of the Eucharist) in the morning; The Lord's Agony in the Garden; His Betrayal and Crucifixion in the evening.

- ◆ Vespereal Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great - 9:00 AM
- ◆ Matins of the 12 Passion Gospels - 6:30 PM



Great and Holy Friday - May 3rd

The most solemn day of the year, the Church commemorates the death of Christ on the Cross; The un-nailing of Christ from the Cross and the placement of His body in the tomb.

- ◆ Reading of the Royal Hours - 9:00 AM
- ◆ Vespers of the Un-nailing - 3:00 PM
- ◆ Matins of Holy Saturday (Lamentations) - 7:00 PM

Overnight Vigil will be kept at the Tomb of Christ. Everyone is welcome to participate with our youth. A sign up sheet is in the Church Narthex.

Great and Holy Saturday (Sebt al-Nour) - May 4th

Commonly referred to as "the day of the light" or "the first resurrection," Great Saturday is the day between Jesus' death and His resurrection. It is the day of watchful expectation, in which mourning is being transformed into joy.

- ◆ Vespereal Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great - 9:00 AM



Great and Holy Pascha

On this day, Orthodox Christians celebrate the life-giving Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This feast of feasts is the most significant day in the life of the Church.

Saturday Evening - May 4th

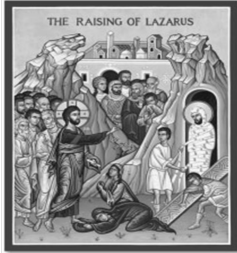
- ◆ Nocturnes; Hajme; Matins and Divine Liturgy of Pascha - 10:00 PM.

Sunday Morning - May 5th

- ◆ Agape Vespers - 11:00 AM *(The Gospel Message is read in various languages, with a joyful Paschal Procession)*



Holy Week Schedule of Services



Lazarus Saturday - April 27th

Commemorating the raising of Lazarus from the tomb by our Lord Jesus Christ.

- ◆ Divine Liturgy - 9:00 AM
- ◆ Great Vespers - 6:30 PM (In preparation for the Feast of the Entrance of our Lord in Jerusalem)



Palm Sunday - April 28th

The Feast of the Entrance of our Lord Jesus Christ into Jerusalem

- ◆ Matins - 8:50 AM; Divine Liturgy - 10:00 AM
- ◆ The Procession of Palms will be held outside around the church following the Divine Liturgy.



Bridegroom Matins

The hymn "Behold the Bridegroom comes at midnight...", sung at the Bridegroom Matins, reminds us of the watchful expectation for the Lord, who will come again to judge the living and the dead.

- ◆ Palm Sunday Evening, April 28th - 6:30 PM
- ◆ Holy Monday, April 29th - April 29th - 6:30 PM
- ◆ Holy Tuesday, April 30th - 6:30 PM

**** The Sacrament of Confession will be offered 30 minutes prior to, and immediately following each Bridegroom Matins Service. Holy Tuesday will be the last day for Confessions during Holy Week. ****

Holy Wednesday - May 1st

The Sacrament of Holy Unction - is offered for the healing of soul and body and for the forgiveness of sins. The anointing with oil and the grace of God, which heals infirmities of soul and body, is called down upon each person.

- ◆ The Service of Holy Unction - 6:30 PM

وَلَكِنْ . وَأَمَّا أَنْتُمْ فَلَا يَكُونُ فِيكُمْ هَكَذَا. عَلِمْتُمْ أَنَّ الَّذِينَ يُحْسِبُونَ رُؤَسَاءَ الْأُمَمِ يَسُودُونَهُمْ، وَعُظَمَاءُهُمْ يَتَسَلَطُونَ عَلَيْهِمْ فَإِنَّ ابْنَ الْبَشَرِ لَمْ . وَمَنْ أَرَادَ أَنْ يَكُونَ فِيكُمْ أَوَّلًا، فَلْيَكُنْ لِلْجَمِيعِ عَبْدًا. مَنْ أَرَادَ أَنْ يَكُونَ فِيكُمْ كَبِيرًا، فَلْيَكُنْ لَكُمْ خَادِمًا يَا بَنِي الْبَشَرِ لِيُخْدَمَ بَلَى لِيُخْدَمَ، وَلِيَبْذُلَ نَفْسَهُ فِدَاءً عَنِ كَثِيرِينَ".

- The Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great continues as usual.

Saint Basil Divine Liturgy Megalynarion (sung instead of 'It is truly meet...')

All creation rejoices in thee, O thou who art full of grace: the angelic hosts and the race of men. O hallowed temple and spiritual paradise, glory of virgins, of whom God was incarnate and became a little child, even our God who is before all the ages; for he made thy womb a throne, and thy body more spacious than the heavens. All creation rejoices in thee, O thou who art full of grace. Glory to thee.

After receiving Communion, please read the 'Prayers of Thanksgiving After Holy Communion' on pages 128-131 in the Red Service Book in the pews.

Offerings for April 21st

Weekly Altar Candle

◆ In glory of the Most Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**If you would like to offer a Weekly Altar Candle, or Holy Bread for a Divine Liturgy, please speak with Fr. Peter. (A minimum donation of \$10.00 (Altar Candle), and \$30.00 (Holy Bread) is requested.)



Candle Decorating for Palm Sunday and Pascha

This Sunday following the Divine Liturgy, the Parents Group will sponsor Candle Decorating in the hall during Coffee Hour (a small donation is requested to help offset the cost of the candles and supplies).

Adults can help decorate the main big Palm Sunday candles. The children will be able to decorate their own candles, along with a bead and cross bracelet for them to make.

These candles will be blessed prior to the Palm Sunday Procession (April 28th)

Your Prayers Are Requested

For the Living

"Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord." James 5: 14

For the Good Health of the Servants of God: Archpriest Michael & Matushka Annette Zaparyniuk, Michael, Priest Andrew Short, Sub-Deacon William Hall, Jodet Rae, Leon & Judy Chalhub, Johnny & Joyce Chalhub, Raouf & Virginie Saballeil, Sabah Shalhoub, Alice Kelly, Anne-Marie Gargoura, Eugenia, Joseph Matouk, George Matouk, Nadine Smith, Yulieth Vasquez, Elena Sora.

For the Shut-ins of our Church Community: Gloria Yedlinsky, Zakia Salloum.

For peace in the Middle East; the Ukraine and throughout the world.

For all Christians and people suffering from violence, war, persecution, captivity, hunger, and homelessness throughout this world.

For those serving in our armed forces here and abroad: Christopher Smith, Jonathan Shportun, Alexios Gavrilos.

For the Departed

"With the spirits of the righteous made perfect, give rest O Lord to the souls of Thy servants..."

Panagiotis (Peter) Ziros (1/5/24), Florence Esper (12/8/23), Roy Samra (9/13/23), Gail Camileri (6/26/23), Angie Smith (6/23/23).

Seven Day Candles Offered

- ◇ By Magda Danese, for the health of Magda, Simona, Erik, Nico, Elena; In memory of Maria, Nicolae, Dumitru, Constantin, Nicolae.
- ◇ By Elena Sora, for the health of Elena; In memory of Constantin, Maria, Nicolae.
- ◇ By Leon & Judy Chalhub, for our families health, safety and salvation.



A beautiful way to celebrate an occasion, honor a loved one's memory or simply show your love for Saint Mary's is to host a Sunday Coffee Hour. It is also a great way to contribute to our parish fellowship. Please speak with Jane Pasley or Khouryia Myriam for more details and to host a Coffee Hour.

Catechism Class

The last Winter/Spring Catechism Class will be held this coming Tuesday, April 23rd, from 7:00 to 8:00 PM, in the Conference Room. This class will examine the Cycle of prayers in the Orthodox Church; Orthodox Praxis and Traditions. All are welcome to attend.



Phase III Nearly Complete!

Beginning the week of April 15th, Phase III of the renovations and upgrades to our church facilities began and is 90% complete.

- **The exterior doors and windows to our Banquet Hall (over 50 years old and deteriorating) were replaced with impact doors and window that have significantly enhanced our hall.**
- **The exterior doors of the church (with the exception of the front main doors) were replaced, as well as the window in the side rooms of the Altar with impact doors and windows.**

This is part of an overall plan of the Parish Council to renovate and upgrade our facilities for safety and esthetic purposes.

Your Help is Needed!

Phase II of the renovation and upgrade project will cost \$55,000. Your donations are needed for the church cover the expense. Please speak with Mark Samra, or Fr. Peter to donate.

***Phase I Completed! Parking Lot Pavement; Air Conditioning replacement and supplemented for the hall, offices and church.**

***Phase II Completed! New tiles and carpeting in the church.**