

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

HOLY WEEK BEGINS

Sun. April 28	6:30 pm	Bridegroom Matins
Mon. April 29	6:30 pm	Bridegroom Matins
Tues. April 30	6:30 pm	Bridegroom Matins
Wed. May 1	6:30 pm	Matins of Holy Thursday
Thurs. May 2	6:30 pm	Matins of Holy Friday <i>w/12 Passion Gospels</i>
Fri. May 3	11:30 am	<i>Decorating the Tomb</i>
	2:30 pm	Vespers of Holy Friday
	3 pm	<i>Beginning Vigil at the Tomb</i>
	6:30 pm	Matins of Holy Saturday <i>w/ Lamentations</i>
Sat. May 4	10 am	Harrowing of Hell Liturgy <i>(cloths go from black to white)</i>
	11:30 PM	PASCHAL VIGIL
Sun. May 5	12pm NOON	PASCHAL VESPERS

REMEMBER, PRAY FOR PEACE,
AND PRAY FOR EACH OTHER.



ASONA TEXT ALERTS

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ALL SAINTS OF
ORTHODOX



NORTH AMERICA
CHURCH

SUN. APRIL 28, 2024

TRIUMPHAL ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM

TONE 6





Prokeimenon in Tone 4 (Ps 28)

Blessed is He That comes in the name of the Lord! God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us!

O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His mercy endures forever!

EPISTLE: PHILIPPIANS 4:4-9

BRETHREN, rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, do; and the God of peace will be with you.+

Alleluia in Tone 1 (Ps 91)

O sing to the Lord a new song, for the Lord has done marvelous things!

All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God!

GOSPEL: JOHN 12:1-18

At that time, six days before Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made him a supper; Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at table with him.

Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, one of His disciples (he who was to betray Him), said "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not that he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of my burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me." When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came, not only on account of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus also to death, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus. The next day a great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of Him and had been done to Him. The crowd that had been with Him when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet Him was that they heard He had done this sign.+





Holy Tuesday On Holy Tuesday we remember the parable of the Ten Virgins, five of whom were wise, five of whom were foolish, and the parable of the Talents. Like the wise virgins, we must be ready, and prepared, for the unexpected Coming of the Lord. We are filled with "holy fear" as we listen to Him prophesy the Last Judgment (*Matthew 24:36-26:2*).



Holy Wednesday commemorates the repentance of the sinful woman, and compares her with Judas, who speeds to betray and sell the Creator of the Universe for 30 pieces of silver. We also remember His great humility, and the washing of the feet of the 12 Apostles in Anticipation of the Holy Eucharist.



Holy Thursday we commemorate the institution of the Holy Eucharist. The entire mission of Christ, and indeed the very purpose for the creation of the world in the first place, is so that God's beloved creature could be in the most intimate communion with Him for eternity.



Great & Holy Friday - The Matins service recounts the betrayal and crucifixion of our Lord. The 12 Passion Gospels are read, recounting the entire Scriptural account of the Lord's Passion. The Tomb of the Lord is decorated with flowers, and we begin our Vigil .



Holy Saturday celebrates the Great Sabbath, when our Lord Jesus Christ rested, in the tomb, from His labors for our salvation. It also uniquely commemorates the victory of Christ over the powers of hell. The Liturgy on Saturday morning is especially joyful, as the cloths of the Church are changed from Black to White in anticipation of the Resurrection!



PASCHA! The Great Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ! This is the King of Feasts, the Holy Day of Holy Days! This is the greatest event in the history of mankind! On this day, we proclaim the festal hymn, ***“Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!”***

This service begins at 11:30 pm Saturday night, going from dark to light, and we begin our feast immediately afterwards, with the blessing of Pascha Baskets.

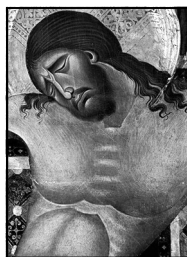
There is no service on Sunday morning, but a joyous Paschal Vespers at 12 Noon!

The Days Before Us

Each Day in Holy Week is devoted to a particular theme.

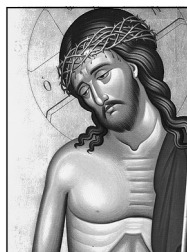


The Entrance of our Lord into Jerusalem is one of the Twelve Great Feasts of the Christian Faith, and celebrated with great honor. We commemorate his entrance into His saving Passion for us, and like the Apostle Thomas, prepare ourselves to “go and die with Him,” following the services of Holy Week which follow. A grand procession of palms will take place at the end this Sunday’s service.



HOLY WEEK BEGINS - On Palm Sunday evening the Services of Holy Week begin. The Long Gospel readings on the first three days divulge the entire content of the final discourses of Christ. In these discourses he is far from the "sweet Jesus" of popular imagery. He speaks with clarity concerning the end of this age.

“But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only... Watch therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.” (*Matt. 24:36, 42*)



Bridegroom Matins The Church celebrates “Bridegroom” services on the evenings of Holy Week. These Bridegroom Services are derived from the Parable of the Ten Virgins, which calls for preparedness at the Second Coming, for;

“the thief comes in the middle of the night.” (*Matt. 26:1-13*)



Holy Monday - The Theme of Monday in Holy Week is the barren fig tree, which yields no fruit and is condemned, reminding us that believing is not enough - we must bear fruit before the Coming of the Lord. The message for believers is very clear: bear spiritual fruit now, and do not wait, for the Just Judge will come with you do not expect Him.

What goes in my Pascha Basket?

After the Paschal Vigil, our Pascha baskets are brought out for blessing (the origin of the “easter” basket) filled with the things we have fasted from for the last 40 days. These baskets have been carefully prepared and include several foods with a traditionally symbolic significance.



- ❖ **Sweet bread** is always included, leavened with yeast. This is a symbol of the New Covenant; the Jews made unleavened bread, and we, the Children of the New Covenant, make leavened bread. The braided form of this bread is a display of the Trinity.
- ❖ **Pascha Cheese** is a figure of all the sweetness of the Kingdom, and remind us of the earthly gifts that come from God. Pascha cheese is normally included, and there are many good recipes for it in the parish. If you don't have one, ask someone. (*Pres. Deborah has a great recipe, too*)



- ❖ **Butter** - shaped into a figure of a lamb, or small cross. Like the Pascha Cheese, it represents the bountiful blessings poured out on us because of the sacrifice of the Lamb of God.
- ❖ **Bitter herbs**, usually horseradish, represents bondage, a reminder of the first Passover (horseradish is eaten as a traditional part of the original Passover meal) and of the bitter sufferings which Christ endured for our sake. Sometimes the herb is colored red with beets, symbolizing the Blood of Christ.
- ❖ **Meat** represents the bounty of God, and by it we remember that Christ, the Lamb of God, the New Passover has superseded the sacrifice of the Old Testament Passover. Lamb, veal, bacon and ham are favorites, as well as spicy sausage, loaded with garlic. These are usually cooked in advance so that during the festivity of the day, no one will be burdened with preparation. Meat after our 40 day fast reminds us of God's great generosity.
- ❖ **Red eggs** are likened to the tomb from which Christ arose. This is because of the miracle of new life which comes from the egg, just as Christ miraculously came forth from the tomb. Traditionally decorated “pysanki” eggs are sometimes included. (Join our Pysanki making class!)



- ❖ **Wine** symbolizes spiritual knowledge, and for us, the knowledge of the Holy Resurrection of Christ our God!
- ❖ **Salt** serves as a reminder to us that we are "the salt of the earth." This feast does not end, but is completed as we share the joy of the Resurrection with the world, and all who will hear it. Salt reminds us of our duty to others, and in preaching the Gospel and Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ!
- ❖ **An Icon** or icon card is frequently included in the basket. Usually an icon of the Resurrection or some other icon of Christ is used. After all, we are the true witnesses to His Resurrection!
- ❖ **A Candle** reminding us that Christ is the light of the world, and we must bear His light with joy especially during this “Bright” season. This candle is lit at the end of the Paschal Vigil, just prior to the blessing of baskets.



The Basket is now decorated with ribbons, usually white or festive, in honor of the Bright Feast of the Resurrection, and left open, so that during the blessing, each item in the basket may come in contact with the Holy Water. Every family brings their basket to the Vigil.

The Blessing of the baskets takes place immediately after the Paschal Vigil. The priest will indicate that it is time to bring forward the baskets, and where they are to be placed. Once they are blessed, the feast begins!



Some families include their favorite treats and candies for the children, just as has been retained in the modern “Easter” basket. Other family treats are especially appropriate, based on family favorites.

Each of the foods in the Pascha basket have a rich meaning, as does everything in Orthodox Christianity. Preparing the Pascha basket is a family affair. Take the time to prepare them together!

Be sure to bring some to share!