

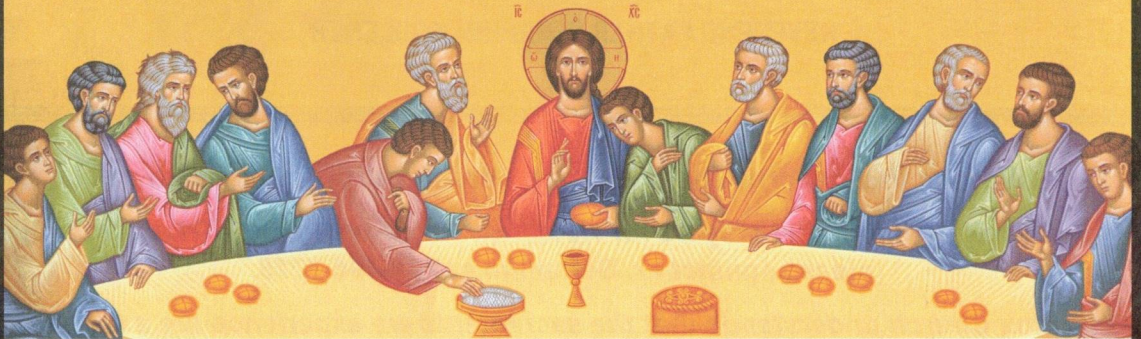


PREPARING FOR PASCHA

There is nothing that compares with the observance of PASSION WEEK. Both Church and home unite to reflect on the events that stir the soul. During these seven days, we re-live the suffering and death of our Lord.

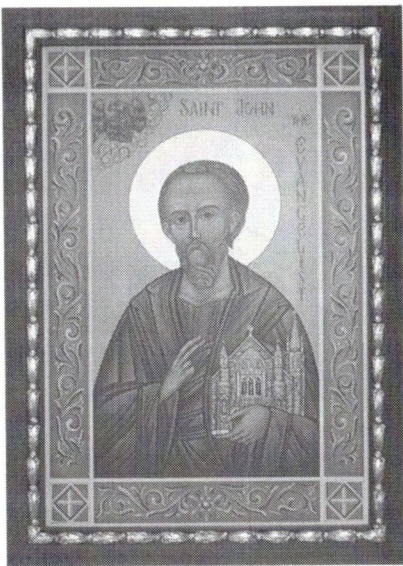
PALM SUNDAY is a day of rejoicing. We proclaim that Jesus is King and welcome Him with the first flowers of Spring.

WEDNESDAY is the day Judas betrayed the Lord for 30 pieces of silver. What was the reason for this betrayal? No doubt Judas lost his faith in Christ and gave in to his greed. Beyond this, the enemies of the Lord had a need to get to Him when He was alone.



PASSION WEEK

April 28, 2024



*ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST
ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH*

1501 8TH AVENUE

BEAVER FALLS, PA. 15010

(724) 847-1111

WWW.CUSTOMARYPROCESSIONS.ORG

HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN SABA , ARCHBISHOP OF NEW YORK AND
METROPOLITAN OF ALL NORTH AMERICA
HIS GRACE BISHOP THOMAS, AUXILIARY BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF CHARLESTON,
OAKLAND , AND MID-ATLANTIC

PASTOR: REVEREND FATHER STEVEN SHAHEEN

REVEREND FATHER SERAPHIM MOSLENER

We take this opportunity to welcome those guests praying with us.

*Anyone wishing to request prayers for Health and Well-being, or a Trisagion prayer,
please contact Fr. Seraphim at 724-494-7215.*

The Orthodox Church understands that the sacraments we experience are a fundamental part of the sacred life of a worshipping community that shares in "one body...one faith". (Eph. 4:5). Thus, we can only share Communion with those who are Orthodox and who have prepared themselves by prayer, fasting and Confession. If you are not Orthodox, or are not properly prepared, you are welcome to come forward and receive a blessing and then to take a piece of the blessed bread. Please see Father Seraphim after Divine Liturgy for questions.

DIVINE LITURGY FOR FEAST OF PALM SUNDAY:

ENTRANCE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST INTO JERUSALEM

****DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM****

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

I am filled with joy, for the Lord will hear the voice of my supplication. The anguish of death encompassed me; the perils of hell beset me.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

I found tribulation and anguish, and I called upon the Name of the Lord. I will walk acceptably before the Lord in the land of the living. *(Refrain)*

Glory... Both now... (Refrain)

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

I believed, and therefore have I spoken: but I was deeply humiliated. What shall I render unto the Lord, for all His benefits unto me?

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who didst sit upon the foal of an ass, who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

I will take the cup of Salvation, and call upon the Name of the Lord. *(Refrain)*

I will pay my vows unto the Lord in the presence of all His people. *(Refrain)*

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

O, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good: for His mercy endureth forever. Let the house of Israel now say that He is good: for His mercy endureth forever. Let the house of Aaron now say that He is good: for His mercy endureth forever. Let all that fear the Lord now say that He is good: for His mercy endureth forever.

After the Third Antiphon, chant the Apolytikion of Lazarus Saturday.

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Customary procession for Palm Sunday will commence after choir sings "Blessed be the Name of the Lord".

APOLYTIKION OF LAZARUS SATURDAY IN TONE ONE

In confirming the common Resurrection, O Christ God, Thou didst raise up Lazarus from the dead before Thy Passion. Wherefore, we also, like the children, bearing the symbols of victory, cry to Thee, the Vanquisher of death: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

APOLYTIKION OF PALM SUNDAY IN TONE FOUR

As by baptism we were buried with Thee, O Christ our God, so by Thy Resurrection we were deemed worthy of immortal life; and praising Thee, we cry: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

KONTAKION OF PALM SUNDAY IN TONE SIX

Being borne upon a throne in Heaven, and upon a colt on the earth, O Christ God, Thou didst accept the praise of the angels and the laudation of the children as they cried to Thee: Blessed art Thou Who comest to recall Adam.

THE EPISTLE

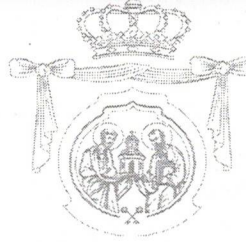
Blessed is He Who cometh in the Name of the Lord.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good;

for His mercy endures forever.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Philippians. (4:4-9)

Brethren, rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice! Let your forbearance be known to all people. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your petitions be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are honorable, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report; if there is any virtue, and if there is any praise, think about these things. The things which you both learned and received, and heard and saw in me, these things do; and the God of peace will be with you.



**ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA**

Prot. no.: 157/2024

Palm Sunday
April 28, 2024

To be read from the pulpit and printed in the bulletin.

Venerable Hierarchs, Reverend Clergy, and Christ-loving Faithful of this Archdiocese,

May you have much joy on this glorious feast of Palm Sunday!

Today we see Christ riding triumphantly into the Holy City of Jerusalem and the crowds welcoming Him with praise and loving service, as they shout “Hosanna!” and lay down palm branches and even their own clothes as a carpet for His entrance. Let us likewise open our hearts to Him and welcome Him into our lives. Let us praise Him not just with hymns at church but also by confessing His goodness in our daily prayers and in our conversations with others. Let us lay down for Him a welcoming carpet of generous deeds toward our neighbors and faithful obedience toward Him. May we thus receive Him to rule in our hearts as our delivering King, and may we remain loyal to Him in word and deed—not betraying and abandoning Him, like the crowds in Jerusalem long ago.

As is our custom in this archdiocese, today we also remember our Father in Christ, His Beatitude Patriarch John X, and all our brothers and sisters of the Patriarchate of Antioch in its historic homeland of the Middle East. As we proclaim this ancient Faith in the New World, they are keeping it alive in the apostolic and historic places of its beginnings. Yet many of them continue to suffer from the aftermath of wars, disasters, and economic collapse. For this reason, we invite you to contribute today toward the patriarchate and its humanitarian work. Through your donations you can provide some comfort to our brothers and sisters in need, showing solidarity with them as one Body in Christ. Please give generously.

Wishing you all a deeply meaningful Holy Week and a glorious Pascha, I remain,

Yours in Christ,

✠ SABA

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America

“The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch” (Acts 11: 26)

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THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (12:1-18)

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus who had died 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, Simon's son, one of His Disciples (he who was to betray Jesus), said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not because he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the moneybox 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 Jesus 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 cometh in the Name of the Lord, the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young ass and sat upon it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on an ass'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 Jesus when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet Jesus was that they heard He had done this sign.

MEGALYNARION FOR PALM SUNDAY IN TONE FOUR

God is the Lord and hath appeared unto us; ordain a feast, and rejoicing, come let us magnify Christ with palms and branches, crying out with hymns: Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, our Savior.

APRIL/MAY Services

April 28th Sunday — Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM
(Palm Sunday)
Bridegroom Service 6PM

April 29th Monday — Bridegroom Service 6PM

April 30th Tuesday — Bridegroom Service 6PM

May 1st Wed. — Holy Unction 6PM

May 2nd Thurs. — Vespers Divine Liturgy of St. Basil @ 9AM
Matins w/12 Passion Gospels @6PM

May 3rd Friday — Great Royal Hours & Typika 9AM
Matins w/Lamentations @ 6PM

May 4th Saturday — Vespers Divine Liturgy of St. Basil 9AM
Resurrection (Rush) Service, Paschal
Orthos & Paschal Divine Liturgy @ 10PM
Fellowship in Hall after service-all invited!

May 5th Sunday — Agape Vespers @ 12 Noon

May 9th Thursday—Parish Council Meeting 6PM

May 11th Saturday— Great Vespers @ 5PM

May 12th Sunday — Matins 9AM / Divine Liturgy 10AM
MOTHER'S DAY Breakfast in hall following Liturgy

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**A SPECIAL COLLECTION WILL BE HELD TODAY
FOR THE PATRIARCHATE AND ITS HUMANITARIAN WORK. THROUGH
YOUR DONATIONS, YOU WILL PROVIDE SOME COMFORT TO OUR
BROTHERS AND SISTER IN NEED.**

Prayers are offered for the health and well-being of:

Fr. Steven, Kh. Paraskeva, Ann, Carol, Michael, Sam, Luca, Debbie John, Jim, Jeffery, Aiden, Shannon, Justin, Sassic Family, Donald, Julianna, Roberta, William, Harriett, Jan, Fr. Andrew, Cindy, Yvonne, Leonard, Rhonda, Karen, Immanuel, Gloria, Carlos, Josphine, Alfie, Regis, and Noah.

For Thou are the Resurrection, the Life, and the Repose of Thy servants who have fallen asleep especially:

Prayers are offered in memory of Patriarch Ignatius IV, Metropolitan Philip, Bishop Antoun, Archbishop Peter, Archbishop Michael, Igumen George, Archpriest Peter, Archpriest Theodore, Dn. Larry, Sh. Peggy, Priest Basil, Priest Solobadon, and Archpriest John, Mary, Infant Clyde Eddy, Infant Mica, Mother Nektaria, Janis, AP Moses, Raymond, Eleanor, Dn Innocent, Tim. And ND Laney.

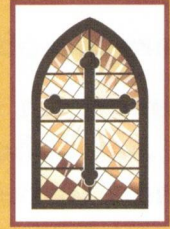
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“THOUGHT FOR THE DAY”

The commemoration of Christ’s saving Passion is at hand, and the new, great spiritual Passover, which is the reward for dispassion and the prelude of the world to come. Lazarus proclaims it in advance by coming back from the depths of hades and rising from the dead on the fourth day just by voice and command of God. Who has power over life and death (cf. Jn. 11:1-45).

St. Gregory Palamas

HOLY THURSDAY is the day of the institution of the Last Supper. Most of the attention at the Church is focused on the evening service with the Reading of the Twelve Passion Gospels. These contain the prayer of parting and the final address of Jesus to His apostles. It also contains the story of our Lord's arrest and trial, death and burial.



GOOD FRIDAY is a day of mourning. There is an aura of sadness, when little is eaten. Common joys are avoided. In Church, black coverings are on the altar. Sweet-smelling ointments are used. The winding-sheet, bearing the icon of the body replica of our Lord's tomb is set up. The service of Good Friday is a repetition of Christ's funeral. It is a burial service. Jesus has died. His body is taken from the cross and carried in procession around the church. It is finally placed in the tomb.

Lastly, **SATURDAY** is a day of anticipation and preparation. The faithful come to church to pray at the grave of our Lord, not unlike the visit they might make to a loved one who has died. They come to bid farewell, looking forward to the approaching brightness of Christ's Resurrection.

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.

CHECK WEBSITE FOR FEAST DAY SERVICES
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OFFICE HOURS
By Appointment Only