

The Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem – Palm Sunday

Soon after the raising of Lazarus, six days before the Jewish Passover, Jesus Christ made a triumphal entry into Jerusalem to show that He was the true Christ the King and was going to death voluntarily.

When He drew near to Jerusalem, the Saviour looked upon it with sorrow. He knew that the people would reject Him, their Saviour, and that Jerusalem would be destroyed. Jesus Christ wept over it and said, "If you have known, even you, at least in this day, the things which belong unto your peace! But now they are hid from your eyes;" — that is, you stubbornly close your eyes to all of God's favour bestowed on you. "For the days shall come upon you when your enemies will cast up a bank about you, and surround you, and hem you in on every side, and dash you to the ground, you and your children with you, and they will not leave one stone upon another because you did not know (did not want to acknowledge) the time of your visitation (the time when the Lord visited you)."

When Jesus Christ entered Jerusalem, the entire city was stirred, saying, "Who is this?"

The crowds answered, "This is the prophet Jesus from Nazareth of Galilee," and told them about how He had called Lazarus forth from the tomb and raised him from the dead.

Jesus entered the Temple and again, as in the first year of His teaching, drove out all who sold and bought in the Temple, saying to them "It is written, 'My house shall be called a house of prayer,' but you have made it a den of robbers."

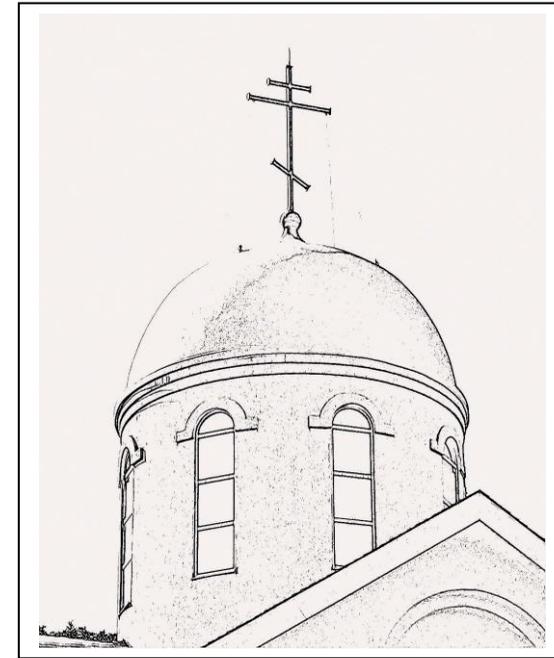
The blinds and the lames came to Him in the Temple, and He healed them. The people, seeing the wonderful things Jesus Christ did, began to praise Him even more. Even little children being in the Temple cried out, "Hosanna to the Son of David."

The chief priests and the scribes were indignant and they said to Him, "Do you hear what they are saying?"

Jesus Christ said to them, "Yes, have you never read: 'Out of the mouths of babes and sucklings hast Thou perfected praise'?" (Ps. 8:3). Jesus Christ taught daily in the Temple; and when evening came, He went out of the city. The chief priests and the scribes and the principal men of the people sought an opportunity to destroy Him, but they could not, for all the people were very anxious to hear Him.

The triumphant Entry of the Lord into Jerusalem is celebrated by the Holy Orthodox Church on the last Sunday before the bright feast of Pascha. This is one of the great feasts, and it is also called Palm Sunday because on this feast during the All-night Vigil service, or at Matins, blessed branches of palms, pussy willows, or other early spring growth are distributed to the faithful. In ancient times, the king was met with green branches when he was returning in triumph after victory over his enemies. And we holding in our hands the branches of the first blossoms of spring glorify the Saviour as the Victor over death because He raised the dead and on this very day entered Jerusalem to die for our sins and to rise again thereby saving us from eternal death and eternal torment. The branches serve for us then as a symbol of the victory of Christ over death and should remind us of the future resurrection of all of us from death.

WEEKLY



BULLETIN

Today is the beginning of our salvation, the revelation of the eternal mystery. The Son of God becomes the Son of the Virgin as Gabriel announces the coming of Grace. Together with him let us cry to the Theotokos: Rejoice O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you!

Troparion of the Annunciation to the Theotokos

ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION

A Parish of the Diocese of New York and New Jersey of the Orthodox Church in America

360 Van Zile Road, Brick, New Jersey 08724

Phone: (732) 458-9032

Email: gjbretton@gmail.com

Fax: (732) 295-0007

Website: www.occa-brick.org

Very Rev. Fr. Gary Joseph Breton, *Rector*

Very Rev. Fr. Sergius Kuharsky, *Retired Attached Priest*

Rev. Fr. Alexander Smida, *Attached Priest*

Tara Paxton, *Senior Warden*

Matthew Hascha, *Choir Director*

April 21, 2019
ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM
Palm Sunday

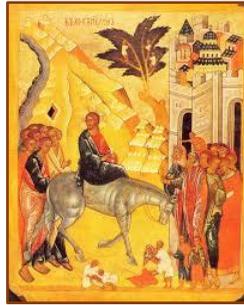
Hieromartyr Januarius, Bishop of Benevento, and his companions: Festus, Proculus, and Sosius—Deacons, Desiderius—Reader, and Eutychius and Acutius—laymen, at Pozzuoli (ca. 305). Hieromartyr Theodore of Perge in Pamphylia, his mother, Philippa, and Martyrs Dioscorus, Socrates, and Dionysius (2nd c.). Martyrs Isaac, Apollos, and Quadratus, of Nicomedia (303). St. Maximian, Patriarch of Constantinople (434).

Today's Readings: *Epistle:* Philippians 4:4-9 *Gospel:* John 12:1-18

Upcoming Service Schedule:

Today – **11:30pm Bridegroom Matins**
Monday – **9:30am Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**
Monday – **7:00pm Bridegroom Matins**
Tuesday – **9:30am Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**
Tuesday – **7:00pm Bridegroom Matins**
Wednesday – **9:30am Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**
Wednesday – **7:00pm Holy Unction**
Thursday – **9:30am Vespers w/Liturgy of St. Basil the Great**
Thursday – **7:00pm Matins of Holy Friday w/12 Gospels**
Friday – **3:00pm Vespers of Great and Holy Friday**
Friday – **7:00pm Matins of Holy Saturday w/Lamentations**
Saturday – **9:30am Holy Saturday Vespers w/Liturgy of St. Basil the Great**
Saturday – **11:30pm Vigil and Divine Liturgy for HOLY PASCHA**
Sunday – **11:00am Vespers of Pascha**

Next Sunday's Readings: *Epistle:* Acts 1:1-8 *Gospel:* John 1:1-17



*Entry of Our Lord into
Jerusalem – Palm Sunday*

Special Prayers

We pray for **all** our parish family members, but we pray especially for those who are ill and afflicted. Among them are: **Betty James, Olga Kornafel, Deryl Tczap, Reader John Economou, Paul Hanas, Meni Mari, Tom Collins, Tom Kopec, Alan Diaz, Cathy Diaz, Brian Price, Ann Marie Gahr, Dennis Gahr, Ron Madensky, Dorothy Studier, Helen Ciurczak, Pauline Barnowsky, Elba Cinciarelli, and Catherine Ratushnuk.**

We are happy that you have joined us for worship today and hope that you will join us for coffee hour after the service. Please note that **reception of the Holy Eucharist** is only for baptized members of the Orthodox Church who have prepared with prayer, fasting, and periodic confession. You are encouraged to receive the blessed bread that is **offered at the end of the service and which may also be offered to you by one of your neighbors during Communion.**

Annunciations

TODAY – **Church School** will be held today after the Divine Liturgy. Please allow the church school children, their teachers and parents of the younger children to venerate the Cross first (after the clergy) after the Divine Liturgy.

TODAY - A sign-up sheet for **Grave Watch** on Holy Friday evening and Holy Saturday is posted in the church narthex. Please sign up for a two-hour vigil at the tomb of Christ. If you have any questions regarding this practice, please contact Father Gary.

TODAY - A sign-up sheet is also in the narthex for those who are willing to read the Gospel (John 20:19-25) during the procession on the Vespers of Pascha (Sunday at 11:00am) in a **foreign language**. Texts will be provided in most cases.

As we enter into the most **solemn time of Holy Week**, let us take advantage of the opportunities the Church gives us to participate in Our Lord's Passion, Death, and Resurrection. Please come to as many services as you are able. You will not regret it.

Father Gary will hear **confessions** after all evening services through Holy Tuesday. He will be available ½ hour before each morning and evening service through Holy Wednesday. If you wish to make other arrangements, please contact Father Gary as soon as possible in advance of the desired day.

Easter baskets will be blessed in the Parish Hall early Sunday morning after the Paschal Divine Liturgy. In order to accommodate those who absolutely cannot make this late service, baskets will also be blessed after the Vespers w/Divine Liturgy on Holy Saturday morning.

An **Easter egg hunt** is planned to be held following the Vespers of Pascha on Sunday morning (weather permitting). All children are welcome to participate in this annual event.

A limited number of **Pierogis** are available for sale at \$10 per dozen. Please see **Matushka Mary** at Coffee Hour if you are interested in purchasing some.

Keep up on OCA news by visiting www.oca.org, diocesan news by visiting www.nynjoca.org, and parish news by visiting www.occa-brick.org.

OUTREACH

- **Food Pantry donations** are *always* accepted. Place non-perishable food items in blue bin in the narthex
- **Clothing donations** are accepted on the last Sunday of each month. Place donations next to the food pantry bin.

MANY YEARS

Birthdays this week:
Tuesday – Jason Price
Wednesday – Kathy Diaz

Coffee Hour Teams:

Today – TEAM C (Diaz, Price)
Next Sunday – N/A