

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."

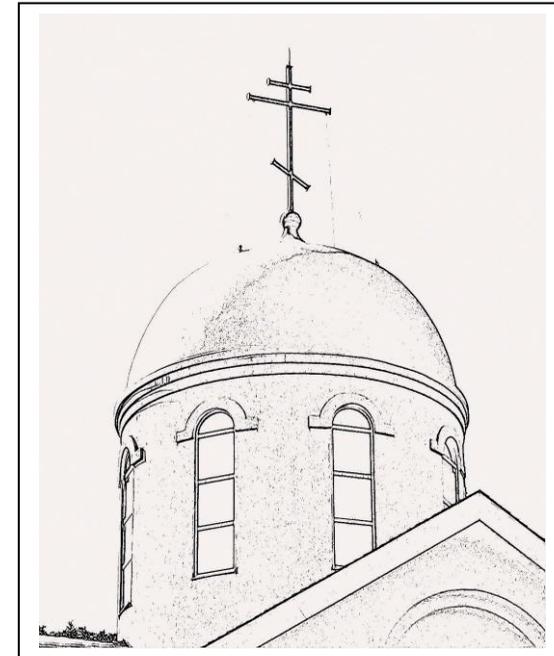
The blinds and the lames came to Him in the Temple, and He healed them. The people, seeing the wonderful things Jesus Christ did, began to praise Him even more. Even little children being in the Temple cried out, "Hosanna to the Son of David."

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

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Rev. Fr. Michael Pejovic, *Attached Priest*

Matthew Petrides, *Senior Warden*

Reader Matthew Hascha, *Choir Director*

April 25, 2021

ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM - Palm Sunday

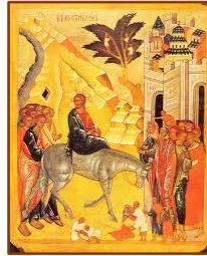
Tone 5. Holy Apostle and Evangelist Mark (1st c.). Ven. Sylvester, Abbot of Obnora (1379).

Today's Readings:

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9 *Gospel:* John 12:1-18

Upcoming Service Schedule:

Today – 6:00pm Bridegroom Matins
Monday – 9:00am Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
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Tuesday – 9:00am Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
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Wednesday – 9:00am Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
Wednesday – 6:00pm Holy Unction
Thursday – 9:00am Vespers w/Liturgy of St. Basil the Great
Thursday – 6:00pm Matins of Holy Friday w/12 Gospels
Friday – 3:00pm Vespers of Great and Holy Friday
Friday – 6:00pm Matins of Holy Saturday w/Lamentations
Saturday – 9:00am Holy Saturday Vespers w/Liturgy of St. Basil the Great
Saturday – 11:30pm Vigil and Divine Liturgy for HOLY PASCHA
Sunday – 9:45am – 10:45am Communion
Sunday – 11:00am Vespers of Pascha
Monday – 9:00am Divine Liturgy
Monday – 6:00pm Vespers
Tuesday – 9:00am Divine Liturgy



*Entry of Our Lord into
Jerusalem – Palm Sunday*

**Please pray for vocations
to the Holy Priesthood!**

Special Prayers

We pray for all our parish family members, but we pray especially for those who are ill and afflicted. Among them are **Pauline Barnowsky (who suffered a major stroke this week), Zoran Pejovic; Betty James; Manya Shark; Deryl Tczap; Rdr. John Economou; Margaret Makara; Tom Kopec; Ann Marie and Dennis Gahr, and Dorothy Studier.**

MANY YEARS

Birthdays this week

Monday – Miranda Humphrey

Thursday – Steve Chidylo

Saturday – Olga Kornafel

Diocesan parishes may now make service books and paper bulletins available to the faithful. The usual service books used in our parish will be available for service attendees. Reader versions of the services will continue to be available for download from the diocesan website, www.nynjoca.org.

Annunciations

TODAY – We are continuing a modified and controlled **Coffee Hour** ministry. The Parish Hall is set up to accommodate social distancing. Masks are required when traveling around the hall, but not when sitting and partaking of the refreshments. The hall will be sanitized after the Coffee Hour.

TODAY – There is **no Church School** today or next Sunday.

TODAY - **Palms and willows** will be distributed after the Divine Liturgy.

Please consult the **Holy Week and Pascha schedule** located on the opposite page. Signing up to attend services is not necessary until the Holy Unction service on Holy Wednesday. Every service beyond that requires a sign-up. Those unable to sign up are invited to congregate safely distanced in the parish hall to view the livestream of the services.

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.

Father Gary will hear **in-person confessions** after all evening services through Holy Tuesday. He will be available until 3pm Wednesday afternoon for **confessions by phone**.

Easter baskets will be blessed in the Parish Hall early Sunday morning after the Paschal Divine Liturgy and after the Vespers of Pascha later Sunday morning.

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

A **finalized schedule** for the services of **Holy Week and Pascha** has been posted online. **Sign-up sheets** for the services from Holy Unction through the Vespers of Pascha will be put online during the week. In anticipation of high demand to attend the Paschal services, the Parish Hall will be available for those who are closed out from signing up due to high volume. Our large screen TV will be set up to display the livestream of the services. This will apply to all services from Wednesday evening Holy Unction through the Paschal Vespers on the Sunday of Pascha.

Grocery Gift Cards are available for purchase. Please contact Matushka Mary by email (matmaryb@gmail.com) or by phone at (848) 333-7075 to make arrangements.

Stewardship Donations may be brought to the church or mailed to the church at 360 Van Zile Road, Brick, NJ 08724. On-line donations are possible by visiting our website for a link. Many thanks for continuing to support your parish in these challenging times.