

OUR JOURNEY TO PASCHA! 2022
SUNDAY, April 17th – GREAT AND HOLY WEEK BEGINS

PALM SUNDAY
ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM

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

As the One who raised Lazarus and entered Jerusalem to go to His voluntary Passion stands in our midst, we are faced with the same question addressed to us at baptism: “Do you accept Christ?” We give our answer by daring to take the branch and raise it up: “I accept Him as King and God!”

We pray for our entire church family and those who do not have a family or church family, and our special prayers are for the sick and suffering and for the health and salvation of others:

The Archpriests Samuel and Joseph, Archimandrite Joseph, Protopresbyter Christos, the priest Gregory, Mark Benda, Matushka Ellen, Emily Anastasia, Gabriel, Zoe, Nadine Olsen, Anastasia, Sophia Eptamenitis, Edward, Taisa, Konstance & Elaine Engelsman, Maria Higginbotham, Valentina Bobrowski, Anna Konoleva, Erika Dobrzynski, Andrew John Lihou, Marie Biancarelli, Joshua and Daniel Buccieri, Emma Matthews, Stephanie, Kristy, Victor Szemetylo, Helen, Bonnie Shaffner, Helen Schweizer, Zoran Pejovic, Sunny Hunsicker, Ioana and Carmen. Amen!!!

***** To amend the prayer list, speak with Mary Osinski*****

Follow us on



And remember to use:



Holy Spirit Orthodox Church
102 Route 284, Wantage, NJ 07461

Father Michael - Priest-in-charge
(848)228-1563

holyspiritwantage@gmail.com
www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org
<https://www.holyspiritorthodox.org/>
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The WEEKLY BULLETIN
HOLY SPIRIT
ORTHODOX CHURCH

www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org

April 17th of 2022

ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM (PALM SUNDAY) - Palm Sunday is the celebration of the triumphant entrance of Christ into the royal city of Jerusalem. He rode on a colt for which He Himself had sent, and He permitted the people to hail Him publicly as a king. A large crowd met Him in a manner befitting royalty, waving palm branches and placing their garments in His path. They greeted Him with these words: “Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel! (John 12:13). This day together with the raising of Lazarus are signs pointing beyond themselves to the mighty deeds and events which consummate Christ’s earthly ministry. The time of fulfillment was at hand. Christ’s raising of Lazarus points to the destruction of death and the joy of resurrection which will be accessible to all through His own death and resurrection. His entrance into Jerusalem is a fulfillment of the messianic prophecies about the king who will enter his holy city to establish a final kingdom. “Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on an ass, and on a colt, the foal of an ass” (Zech 9:9). Finally, the events of these triumphant two days are but the passage to Holy Week: the “hour” of suffering and death for which Christ came. Thus the triumph in a earthly sense is extremely short-lived. Jesus enters openly into the midst of His enemies, publicly saying and doing those things which mostly enrage them. The people themselves will soon reject Him. They misread His brief earthly triumph as a sign of something else: His emergence as a political messiah who will lead them to the glories of an earthly kingdom. The liturgy of the Church is more than meditation or praise concerning past events. It communicates to us the eternal presence and power of the events being celebrated and makes us participants in those events. Thus the services of Lazarus Saturday and Palm Sunday bring us to our own moment of life and death and entrance into the Kingdom of God: a Kingdom not of this world, a Kingdom accessible in the Church through repentance and baptism. On Palm Sunday palm and willow branches are blessed in the Church. We take them in order to raise them up and greet the King and Ruler of our life: Jesus Christ. We take them in order to reaffirm our baptismal pledges. As the One who raised Lazarus and entered Jerusalem to go to His voluntary Passion stands in our midst, we are faced with the same question addressed to us at baptism: **“Do you accept Christ?” We give our answer by daring to take the branch and raise it up: “I accept Him as King and God!”** Thus, on the eve of Christ’s Passion, in the celebration of the joyful cycle of the triumphant days of Lazarus Saturday and Palm Sunday, we reunite ourselves to Christ, affirm His Lordship over the totality of our life, and express our readiness to follow Him to His Kingdom: ... that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that if possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead (Philippians 3:10-11). Very Rev. Paul Razor

Service Schedule

Great Vespers: 5 pm Saturdays
Hours: 9:45am Sundays
Divine Liturgy: 10:00am Sundays

Confessions: Will be heard every Saturday evening after Vespers or by appointment.

Call, text or email Father Michael at (848)228-1563 or holyspiritwantagenj@gmail.com

Monthly calendar at www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org

Dates to Remember

Saturday 16th of April – LAZARUS SATURDAY

Divine Liturgy at 9 am
Clean Up Day – After Divine Liturgy
Great Vespers at 6 pm

Sunday 17th of April – PALM SUNDAY

Divine Liturgy at 10 am
Bridegroom Matins at 5 pm

Monday 18th of April – Great and Holy Monday

Bridegroom Matins at 6:30 pm

Tuesday 19th of April – Great and Holy Tuesday

Bridegroom Matins at 6:30 pm

Wednesday 20th of April – Great and Holy Wednesday

Holy Unction at 6:30 pm

Thursday 21st of April – Great and Holy Thursday

Vesperal Divine Liturgy at 9 am
Matins with 12 Passion Gospels at 6:30 pm

Friday 22nd of April – Great and Holy Friday

Holy Friday Vespers at 3 pm
Matins with Lamentations at 6:30 pm

Saturday 23rd of April / PASCHA OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Vesperal Divine Liturgy at 9 am
Paschal Nocturnes, Matins and Divine Liturgy at 11:30 pm
Blessing of Baskets and Agape Meal

Sunday 24th of April / PASCHA OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

Pascha Vespers at 11:00 am

Announcements

Welcome!

Everyone is welcome to visit and worship with us, and especially during Great Lent, to experience the beauty of Vespers each Saturday at 5:00 pm and/or Divine Liturgy each Sunday at 10:00 am. During Great Lent, a liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts is offered each Friday at 7:00 pm. Fellowship and light Lenten meal follows Divine Liturgy and the Liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts.

Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday is the Sunday before Easter and when the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem is commemorated. Palm Sunday marks the first day of Holy Week.

Pray for our Catechumens

Please remember in your prayers Asia Booker Sanchez, Kristen and Hazel Steiner in your prayers as they are entering their first Great Lent and preparing for the sacrament of the Holy Chrismation which will take place on Holy Saturday 23rd of April 2022.

Keep Offerings Current

Offerings can be made at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. The collection basket is located on the table by the exit. You are also welcome to send your donation via mail to Holy Spirit Orthodox Church, 102 Route 284, Wantage, NJ 07461 or using "Donate" button on the website of our church www.holyspiritorthodox.org.

Donation of Red Eggs for Pascha

Our thanks to all who have signed up to prepare the red eggs to be used at Pascha. Thanks to all who volunteered, we have reached our goal.

Vigil at the Tomb of Christ

An ancient tradition in the Orthodox Church is the Vigil at the Tomb of Christ. The Holy Friday Vigil at Christ's tomb is our opportunity to help keep watch over our Lord's body as He descends into Hell to loosen the bonds of death. What better way to understand the death and resurrection of Jesus than to participate in the Vigil by His tomb? The Church has given us this opportunity to watch and wait with the countless saints and myriads of angels as our Lord conquers death. If you would like to participate in this ancient tradition and read the Psalm over the tomb of Christ, please sign up at the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. The time period will be divided by 2-hour intervals, and you are more than welcome to share your spot with another person.

Donations Closed for Ukrainian Refugee Appeal

Donations for the Ukrainian refugee appeal have closed. Thanks to the generous support of the OCA, more than \$700,000 was collected.

<https://www.oca.org/news/headline-news/donations-closed-for-ukrainian-refugee-appeal>

Have an item for the bulletin?

Please email Father Michael at holyspiritwantagenj@gmail.com or Mary Osinski at mary.osinski@gmail.com