

Holy Week

In the Orthodox Church the last week of Christ's life is officially called Passion Week. In popular terminology it is called Holy Week. Each day of Holy Week has its own particular theme. The theme of Monday is that of the sterile fig tree which yields no fruit and is condemned. Tuesday the accent is on the vigilance of the wise virgins who, unlike their foolish sisters, were ready when the Lord came to them. Wednesday the focus is on the fallen woman who repents. The vigil on the eve of Holy Thursday is dedicated exclusively to the Passover Supper which Christ celebrated with his twelve apostles. The main feature of the service on the Holy Friday is the reading of twelve selections from the Gospels, all of which are accounts of the passion of Christ. The first service belonging to Holy Saturday—called in the Church the Blessed Sabbath—is the Vespers of Good Friday. It is usually celebrated in the mid-afternoon to commemorate the burial of Jesus.

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:

The Archpriests Samuel and Joseph, the priest Gregory, Matushka Ellen, Emily Anastasia, Nadine Olsen, Marianna, Sophia Eptamenitis, Edward, Taisa, Konstance & Elaine Engelsman, Maria Higginbotham, Valentina Bobrowski, Anna Konoleva, Erika Dobrzynski, Marie Biancarelli, Joshua and Daniel Buccieri, Emma Matthews, Stephanie, Kristy, Victor Szemetylo, Helen, Bonnie Shaffner and Helen Schweizer. Amen!!!

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



[Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem \(Palm Sunday\)](#)

Follow us on



And remember to use:



Holy Spirit Orthodox Church

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www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org

<https://www.holyspiritorthodox.org/>

<https://www.holyspiritorthodox.org/weeklybulletins>

THE WEEKLY BULLETIN

HOLY SPIRIT ORTHODOX CHURCH

www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org

April 25th, 2021

Thou, O Christ and Savior, hast become for me the path of life which leads to the Father. There is but one path, and it is my joy, and at the end of it is the Heavenly Kingdom.

St. Ephraim the Syrian

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 an 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.

In order to attend services, you must let us know. Call, text or email
Father Michael at (848)228-1563 or
holyspiritwantagenj@gmail.com

Service Schedule

Great Vespers: 5 pm Saturdays
Hours: 9:40am 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
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Monthly calendar at www.HolySpiritOrthodox.org

Dates to Remember

Palm Sunday 25th of April, 2021
Divine Liturgy at 10 am
Bridegroom Matins at 6 pm

Great and Holy Monday 26th of April 2021
Bridegroom Matins at 6 pm

Great and Holy Tuesday 27th of April 2021
Bridegroom Matins at 6 pm

Great and Holy Wednesday 28th of April 2021
Holy Unction at 6 pm

Great and Holy Thursday 29th of April 2021
Vesperal Liturgy at 9 am
Matins with 12 Passion Gospels at 6 pm

Great and Holy Friday 30th of April 2021
Holy Friday Vespers at 3 pm
Matins with Lamentations at 6 pm

Great and Holy Saturday / PASCHA OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST
Saturday 1st of May 2021
Vesperal Divine Liturgy at 9 am
Paschal Nocturnes, Matins and Divine Liturgy at 11:30 pm
Blessing of Baskets and Agape Meal
Sunday 2nd of May 2021
Pascha Vespers at 11:00 am

Bright Monday 3rd of May 2021
Divine Liturgy at 9 am

Announcements

Welcome!

Everyone is welcome and invited to visit and worship with us and experience the beauty of the Holy Week and Pascha of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. We are safely worshipping and we comply with all OCA standards and directives. If you have not attended the Church since the reopening, please notify Fr. Michael before attending. Please email, text or call Father Michael at (848)228-1563 or holyspiritwantagenj@gmail.com.

In our Prayers:

Archpriest Joseph Chupeck is currently in the hospital and will be there for some time. He is constantly in our prayer and thoughts. If anyone wishes to send him a card, here is his address: **Archpriest Joseph Chupeck, Morristown Medical Center, 100 Madison Avenue, Gagnon 5 Room 536, Morristown, NJ 07960**

Sincere Thanks:

To everyone who came and helped us to clean our Church and the property.

Many thanks for Pascha Flower Offerings:

Valentina Bobrowski, Taisa and Edward Engelsman, Seth and Cheryl Fleishman, Timothy and Pamela Kachur, Michael and Nadine Olsen, Helen Schweizer, Anna Seniw and Despina Eptamenitis.

Paschal Baskets:

If you are planning to share food from your Paschal baskets with the others, please follow the COVID-19 guidelines such as: disinfecting the basket, removing the Paschal cloth, and packing items using gloves and facial mask.

Online Donations at holyspiritorthodox.org

We now have an active "Donate" button at our website. If you would like to make a donation online, rather than by cash or check, you may now do so by going to www.holyspiritorthodox.org/donate or go to our website and click the "Donate" link.

Church Furnace and Water Heater Fund:

Plans are being made to replace the existing furnace and water heater in the church in the very near future. The existing equipment is approximately 28 years old! A fund for this purpose has been created. Please plan to participate and contribute by making your check or cash payable to Holy Spirit Orthodox Church and making a notation "Furnace and Water Heater." There will be a brief informational meeting for parishioners on Sunday, May 16, 2021 following Divine Liturgy. Mark your calendar and plan to participate.