

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

2101 South 28th St. (corner of 28th St. & Snyder Ave.)
Philadelphia, PA 19145 * Church Phone: (215) 468-3535
Website: <https://www.holyassumptionphilly.org>



Mailing Address: PO Box 20083 * Point Breeze Station | Philadelphia PA 19145-0383

Sunday, April 28, 2024

Palm Sunday

The Entrance of Our Lord Into Jerusalem

Apostles Jason and Sosipater of the Seventy and those with them.

V. Rev. Mark W Koczak, Rector

615 West 11th Street | New Castle, DE 19720-6020
Phone: Home: 302.322.0943 | Mobile: 302.547.4952
Email: mwkoczak@gmail.com

Subdeacon – Daniel (Ken) Kavalkovich Choir Director – Nina Patterson
Reader – Mark Klus Reader – David Pellack
Parish President - Matthew Andrews [Phone: 856.217.8075]

Weekly Schedule

Today: Bridegroom Matins Service at 4:00PM at Saint Stephens Orthodox Cathedral located at 8598 Verree Road in Philadelphia, PA 19111 Phone: 215.745.3232 9Rectory) Website: <https://www.ststephenscathedral.org>

HOLY WEEK Service schedule at the parish is on page 7 of Bulletin

Sunday: May 5 - PASCHA Services beginning at **8:30AM**
(Blessing of Easter Baskets in basement after Liturgy)

Sunday: May 5 – PASCHA VESPERS approximately 15 minutes after the Blessing of the Easter Baskets

REMINDER: On Sunday, May 5, The Broad Street Run will be held in the city that morning. Traffic will be heavy, especially around noon time when Liturgy and the blessing of the baskets is completed. Be careful and safe when commuting to the parish for Pascha Services and when leaving especially on I-95 and the Schuylkill Expressway!

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion (Tone 1)

By raising Lazarus from the dead before Thy passion, / Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection, O Christ God. / Like the children with the palms of victory, / we cry out to Thee, O Vanquisher of Death: / “Hosanna in the highest! // Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.”

Troparion (Tone 4)

When we were buried with Thee in baptism, O Christ God, / we were made worthy of eternal life by Thy Resurrection. / Now we praise Thee and sing: “Hosanna in the highest! // Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord!”

Kontakion (Tone 6)

Sitting on Thy throne in Heaven, / carried on a foal on earth, O Christ God, / accept the praise of angels and the songs of children, who sing: // “Blessed is He Who cometh to recall Adam!”

Prokeimenon (Tone 4)

Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord! / God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us!
v. O give thanks to the Lord for He is good; for His mercy endureth forever!

Epistle Reading: Phillipians 4:4-9

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, 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 anything praiseworthy – meditate on these things. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 1)

v. O sing to the Lord a new song, for He hath done marvelous things! Alleluia (3x's)
v. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: John 12:1-18

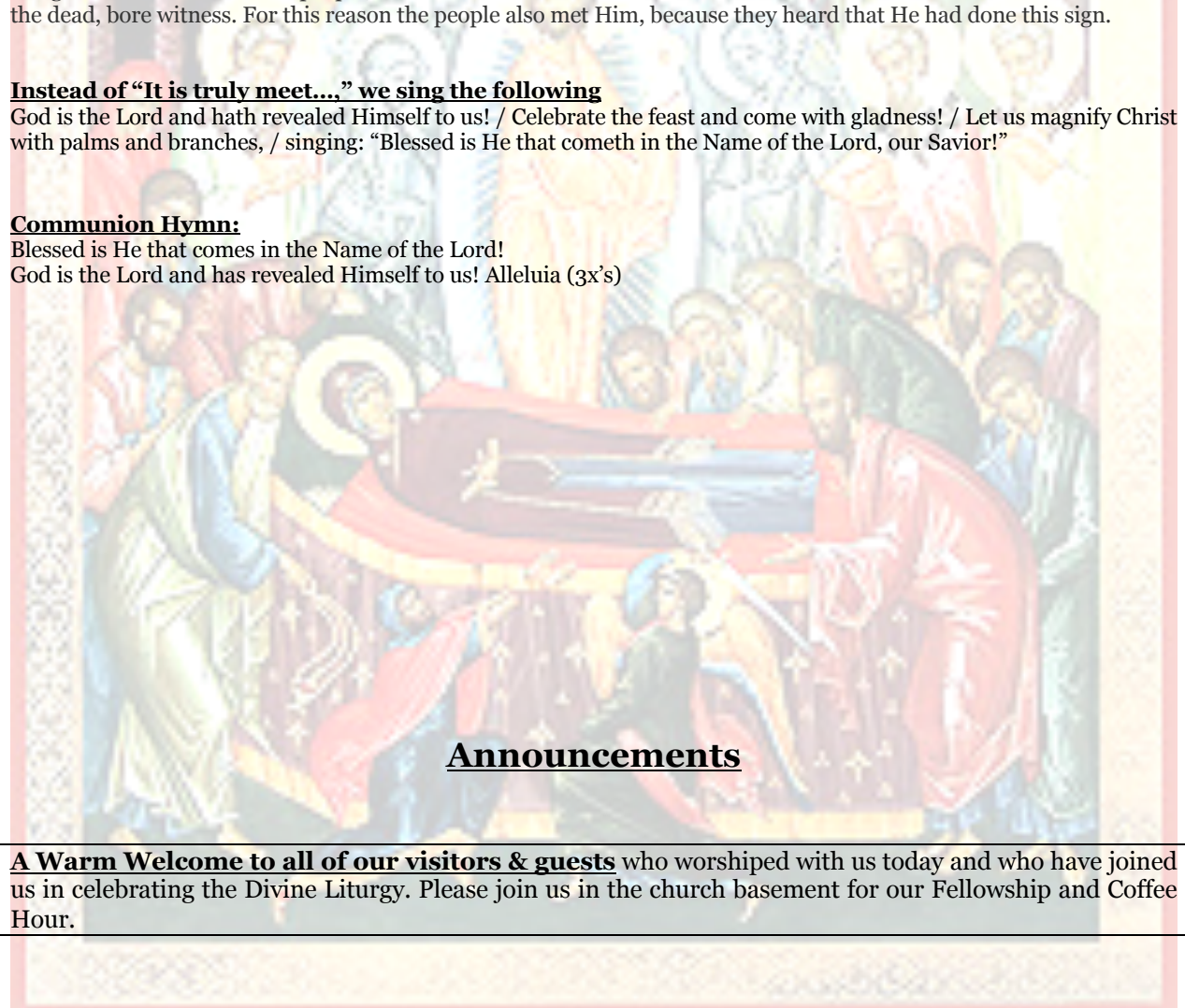
Then, six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was who had been dead, whom He had raised from the dead. There they made Him a supper; and Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with Him. Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil. But one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him, said, Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor? This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it. But Jesus said, "Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial. For the poor you have with you always, but Me you do not have always. Now a great many of the Jews knew that He was there; and they came, not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead. But the chief priests plotted to put Lazarus to death also, because on account of him many of the Jews went away and believed in Jesus. The next day a great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, and cried out: Hosanna! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' The King of Israel!" Then Jesus, when He had found a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written: Fear not, daughter of Zion; Behold, your King is coming, Sitting on a donkey's colt." His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written about Him and that they had done these things to Him. Therefore the people, who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of his tomb and raised him from the dead, bore witness. For this reason the people also met Him, because they heard that He had done this sign.

Instead of "It is truly meet...." we sing the following

God is the Lord and hath revealed Himself to us! / Celebrate the feast and come with gladness! / Let us magnify Christ with palms and branches, / singing: "Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, our Savior!"

Communion Hymn:

Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord!
God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us! Alleluia (3x's)



Announcements

A Warm Welcome to all of our visitors & guests who worshiped with us today and who have joined us in celebrating the Divine Liturgy. Please join us in the church basement for our Fellowship and Coffee Hour.

Announcements

2024 Great Lenten Charity Project – April Charity Collection

For the parish's Great Lenten Charity Project, we will be designating from the April Charity Collection (Sunday, April 28th), those financial contributions received towards the nuns at Saint Mary Magdelene Monastery in upstate Pennsylvania. Our own Mother Catherine is one of the nuns at Saint Mary Magdelene Monastery. Please be generous in your gift donation.

If you wish to purchase a Shop Rite gift card instead, please consider purchasing one from the Reader David Pellack and then give the gift card to Mother Catherine or ask the Reader David to give her the gift card directly.

*** ALSO ***

PROJECT HOME HUB OF HOPE (Clothes and toiletries for the homeless)

Travel sized toiletries including shampoo, conditioner, body wash, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes | New men's and women's underwear | New cotton socks | Laundry detergents pods | New towels and washcloths | New/gently used casual clothing such as T-Shirts, sweatpants, sweatshirts, coats, hats, scarves, gloves.

Please put the clothes and toiletries in a box marked "For The Homeless"
(the box will be on the last table close to the exit door / parking lot)

The Charity Committee wishes to Thank You for your generosity!

Votive Vigil Cross Candles Scheduling

We scheduled to have the votive vigil cross candles lit for services during the Lenten season, Holy Week, Pascha & Saint Thomas Sunday. There is a sign-up sheet located at the candle desk in the Vestibule. Either 1 Large or 2 Small candles per each votive vigil cross candles can be reserved. As of last night, there are no more dates and crosses available. The Parish Thanks You for your generosity and support in this endeavor!

Attendance during Lenten Services (6th Week of Lent)

Wednesday, April 24 – Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts = No Service	(11 Last Year)
Friday, April 26 – Vespers (Lazarus Saturday) = 8	(7 Last Year)
Saturday, April 27 - Lazarus Saturday Divine Liturgy = 12	(11 Last Year)

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Barbara Andrews (on her 60th Birthday!!!!) offered by Catherine Kavalkovich
Emily Gerasimoff, offered by Catherine Kavalkovich

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

May Their Memories Be Eternal!

Vigil Cross Candles – 4/21/24

One Large Vigil Cross – Memory of Albert Kavalkovich, Ronald Kavalkovich
Health of Emily Gerasimoff, Edward Gerasimoff
offered by the Andrews Family

One Large Vigil Cross – Memory of Mary “Matsey” Herbert
offered by Ronald and Cheryl Homa

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Please remember in your prayers:

Ignatius Gabriel Parsells (newly born on March 21 * 7lbs. 3oz. & 19 inches long), his siblings Luke, Theodore, Miriam Anastasia & his parents Peter & Heather Parsells. May God Grant Ignatius & his family Many Blessed Years!!

Josephina Ann McCann (newly born on April 2 at 9:12pm * 7lbs. 13oz.), her parents John & Justine Spack McCann, and her grandparents John & Michele Spack. May God Grant Josephina Ann & her family Many Blessed Years!!

Christina Andrews and her unborn child; Emily Gerasimoff; Jane Kelly; Anne (Homa) Killoran; Sheba Patton; Peter Witiak; and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

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Announcements (cont.)

Please ensure that your Mobile Phone is set to Silent (or at least set on vibrate) during the Divine Liturgy! Thank You!!!

*******Special weekly collections taken after Gospel or Sermon*******

In addition to our general collection, the parish takes a special collection each week to fund certain parish projects. By the action taken at the Fall General Parish Meeting held back on Sunday, October 10, 2021, the parish body approved that the special collection for the first three Sundays of the month be earmarked towards the repairing/fixing/replacing of the roofs of both houses that the parish owns (now known as the Row House Fund).

The fourth Sunday (and fifth, when it occurs) the special collection will be earmarked towards Charity.

This new collection schedule began back on Sunday, October 17, 2021.
Please be generous with your offering. Every little bit counts. Thank You!

Cash Flow Activity (April)

Week of Sun Apr 14 to Sat Apr 20

April Month to Date

Attendance:	33	40 (average)
Funds In:	\$ 1,828.00	\$ 5,404.00
Funds Out:	\$ 4,983.30	\$17,439.35
Net Surplus/(Deficit):	(\$ 3,155.30)	(\$12,035.35)

Thank you all for your continuous offerings to maintain the parish!

Shop Rite Gift Cards: If you need to purchase Shop Rite Gift Cards, please see either David Pellack or Ken Kavalkovich to secure them. Your purchase of a Shop Rite Gift Card is an additional fundraising project that helps support the church at no additional expense to the purchaser.

Calendar of Events

2024 Monthly/Quarterly Schedule

- 1st Sunday of each month** – Monthly Panikhida immediately after Divine Liturgy.
- 2nd Tuesday of each month** – Bible Study at 6:30pm on ZOOM media platform.
- 4th Thursday of each month** – Book Club at 6:30pm on ZOOM media platform.
- 5th Sunday of each quarter** – Quarterly Parish Council Meeting after Liturgy.

Readers Schedule:

	<u>Today (Apr 28)</u>	<u>Next Week (May 5)</u>
3 rd Hour:	Reader David Pellack	PASCHA
6 th Hour:	Simon Herbert	PASCHA
Epistle:	Reader David Pellack	Sbdn Daniel Kavalkovich

Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning Teams:

If you have volunteered to host coffee hour, please check which Team you are on and when your Team is hosting coffee hour on the calendar printout which is located in the white/clear 3-ring binder located on the display case outside of the office room.

Please continue to check our parish website, social media pages, and your emails regularly for updated information on the parish regarding parish services & events in April & May 2024.

Sunday, April 28 – Bridegroom Matins (Monday) Service – 4:00PM

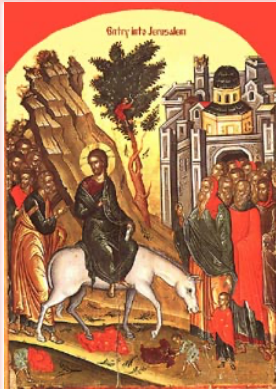
Saint Stephen's Orthodox Cathedral * 8598 Verree Road
Philadelphia, PA 19111 * Phone: 215.342.0866

HOLY WEEK Services here at the Parish!

- Monday, April 29 – Bridegroom Matins of Holy Tuesday at 6:00PM
- Tuesday, April 30 - Bridegroom Matins of Holy Wednesday at 6:00PM
- Wednesday, May 1 – **Matins & Holy Unction at St Stephens Cathedral at 5:00PM**
- Thursday, May 2 – Holy Thursday Vespers Divine Liturgy at 10:00AM
- Thursday, May 2 – Holy Thursday - Friday Matins (12 Passion Gospels) at 6:00PM
- Friday, May 3 – Holy Friday – Vespers (Burial Service) at 3:00PM
- Friday, May 3 – Holy Friday – Matins with Lamantios at 4:00PM
- Saturday, May 4 – Holy Saturday – Vespers with Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great with All 15 Old Testament Readings) at 9:00AM
- Sunday, May 5 – Pascha Service (Procession, Matins, and Liturgy) at 8:30AM
- Sunday, May 5 – Pascha Vespers approximately 15 minutes after the Blessing of the Easter Baskets in the church basement

BRIGHT WEEK Services here at the Parish!

- Monday, May 6 – ~~Bright Monday Liturgy at 10:00AM~~ [CANCELLED!!!]



Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem: (Palm Sunday) [April 28th]

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.

Our Pledge

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 Lazor

