

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, April 13, 2014

Entrance of our Lord into Jerusalem



- Troparion of the Feast, Tone One:

By raising Lazarus from the dead before Thy Passion, Thou hast confirmed 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 comes in the Name of the Lord.

- Second Troparion, Tone Four:

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 comes in the Name of the Lord.

- Kontakion of the Feast, Tone Six:

Seated upon Thy throne in heaven, and on earth upon a foal, O Christ our God, Thou hast accepted the praise of the angels and the songs of the children who cried out to Thee: Blessed art Thou that comest to call back Adam.

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

- Lazarus Sat., April 12: 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy for Lazarus Saturday
Breakfast reception to follow
2 PM, *church decoration & cleanup*
4 PM, Confessions
5 PM, Vigil with blessing of Palms (**confessions during the Service**)
- Sunday, April 13: 9 AM, Confessions
10 AM, PALM SUNDAY Liturgy, concluding with a Procession
- *Holy Monday • Holy Tuesday • Holy Wednesday*
Strict Fast Days 6:30 AM, Bridegroom Matins
4:30 PM, *Confessions* (if you need a different time, please call to arrange)
6:15 PM Presanctified Liturgy with Gospel reading
- Holy Thursday, April 17: 11:30 AM, Vespereal Liturgy of the Mystical Supper
7 PM, Matins of Holy Friday ~ with the **Reading of the 12 Passion Gospels**

- Holy Friday, April 18: *Strict Fast Day – all day*
9 AM, Royal Hours of Great & Holy Friday
3 PM, Great Vespers
7 PM, Matins of Holy Sat., Lamentations & Procession / Psalms read all night
- Holy Saturday, April 19: *Strict Fast Day*
1 PM, Vespers of St Basil with the Fifteen Old Testament Prophecies, light refreshment of fruit, nuts, bread and wine to follow
5 PM, Begin reading *The Acts of the Holy Apostles*
11:30 PM, Nocturn Service
MIDNIGHT: PASCHA—Paschal Procession, Matins, Liturgy
Agape Meal in Hall to follow (bring a Pascha Food Basket, paper plates, utensils)
- **PASCHA, April 20:** 1 PM, Agape Vespers, **Potluck BBQ** (see below on what to bring)
- Bright Mon., April 21: 9 AM, Paschal Matins, Liturgy & Agape Meal, with Archbishop Benjamin
- Bright Tues., April 22: 9 AM, Divine Liturgy / 6 PM, Paschal Vespers here
- Bright Saturday, April 26: 9 AM, Paschal Matins and Divine Liturgy
5 PM, Great Vespers

- HYMNS FROM MATINS, WED. OF THE 6th Week:

With the Children let us go and meet Christ our God, bringing works of mercy instead of palms, and prayer in our hearts instead of branches; and let us cry: “Hosanna! Bless and supremely exalt Him unto the ages. Weaving branches of palms, both inwardly and outwardly let us make ready to meet the Master that comes to us: for blessed is He that comes as true Son in the Name of the Lord and Father.

- CONFESSIONS

Keep in mind that **Confessions will not be heard after Holy Wednesday**. Brothers and Sisters: “Now is the acceptable time,” now is the day of repentance—once we get to Holy Thursday, then our time strictly devoted to the Lord’s passion. —*Fr. Lawrence*

PARENTS, please bring your children (age 7 and up) to confession. Times to come. Anytime on Monday–Wednesday. Simple call to let me know. — *Fr. Lawrence*

- SIGN UPS FOR HOLY WEEK:

Your participation is requested and appreciated. We need help in the following areas:

- Readers for the Psalms and Book of Acts on Friday and Saturday, respectively
- Set up and clean up on Holy Saturday for the meal after Liturgy
- Cleaning the Church on Pascha morning (about 11 AM). It takes more than two.
- Set-up and clean-up for the Pascha BBQ

- FASTING ON HOLY FRIDAY:

The ancient practice of the Church is to fast strictly on Holy Friday. In fact one reads in the ancient texts that “all are to fast strictly, without any food or water—except for the sick and elderly, who may have bread and water!” The severity of these guidelines is always surprising to the modern Orthodox. One can—and should—only do what one is able to do, and ask the Lord to receive our labors without feeling overly scrupulous. Why such a strict fast? We will have just laid the Body of the Lord in the tomb, and the proper human response is sorrow, confusion, worship,

the Paschal Matins and Liturgy, and the experience of gratitude that we are grafted, joined, united, to Him, Who sits at the right hand of the Father. We are entering Holy and Great Week—it is not something to pop in, at the end of the week. How would we understand that it was all done “for us and for our salvation?” —*Fr. Lawrence*

- PASCHA BASKETS—HELPFUL HINTS:

Cover the entire basket with a cloth with something symbolic on it like a cross. It can be used over and over, year after year, generation after generation. Loosely wrap the items in your basket to make it quick and easy to uncover them to get blessed by Holy Water. Plastic wrapped food is not really blessed food. Don't bring too much food! I can't emphasize this enough. Trust me. Cut bits and pieces and leave the rest at home to eat during Bright Week. There will be plenty to eat. If you stick the candle in your bread, you don't need to bring an extra candle holder. Bring some matches to light it. Scraps of all blessed food including eggs shells, scraps of meat, bread crusts, etc. should be saved, buried, composted, or burned. All the food was blessed, not just the part we ate. In a side bag, bring your own plates, napkins, utensils, and cups. Bring extra for others “just in case.” (I also save the plastic wrap to bring home leftovers.) Clean up after yourself! Be willing to share whatever you brought with your brothers and sisters. It is, after all, called an “Agape” meal. Agape means love.

- MOTHER'S DAY, MAY 11:

The Agape meal schedule shows that no one has signed up for either Mother's Day on May 11th or Father's Day on June 15th. Perhaps a group of men could team up to create a meal for the mothers on May 11th, and a group of women do the same for the dads on June 15th. Any and all suggestions and or volunteers greatly appreciated. Please email me off list with your ideas. Eleni Rose. at eleni.in.healdsburg@gmail.com 480-6106

- SILENCE:

Today's technological advancements have introduced noise into our lives in ways unthinkable to the ancients. Not more than a hundred years ago, most families found silence as an everyday experience, for when the sun went down, families nestled into warm corners of their parlors, and their kitchens, often reading books, or simply watching a crackling fire. Along with this quieting down of the day, silence was part of every evening. Orthodox families were especially cognizant of the need to spend quiet time on the eve of the Sunday Liturgy, as well as great feasts of the Church, knowing that this silence served as a preparation time for receiving Christ's Body and Blood, during the celebration of the upcoming Liturgy... Silence is the means by which we may access and deepen our relationship with God, and develop self-knowledge. Silence allows us to live more harmoniously in our world, and actually listen for the voice of God speaking to our hearts. Saint Theophilus, Patriarch of Alexandria, placed the virtue of silence on par with the faith itself in a synodal letter from AD 400. “Monks—if they wish to be what they are called—will love silence and the catholic faith, for nothing at all is more important than these two things.” This invitation into the silence is not for monks only. — *Abbot Tryphon, Vashon Island, WA.*

- Pascha BBQ! Sunday, April 20, after Agape Vespers:

Here is how it works! ***The parish provides the following: the*** BBQ and BBQ-ers, paper plates, cups, napkins, tables, and Pascha cheese. ***Each family or single is asked to bring 3 items:*** meat to BBQ, a side dish to share with 8-12 others (such as salad, chips & dip, deviled-eggs, etc), beverages (soda, wine, beer, etc.)—enough to share (We will have lemonade). Please do all your food prep for side dishes at home since we are limiting the use of the Hall Kitchen. **Schedule for the day:** 11 AM, Clean the Church (wax removal, sweeping picking up, etc.) and Set-up for the BBQ, 1 PM, Pascha Vespers!, following Vespers, Blessing of the food. We share appetizers while the meat is cooking. (Please allow the children to get their food first, accompanied by an adult). After the kids have eaten, there will be an Easter-egg-hunt and games for all ages! ***Everyone cleans up after BBQ!***