• BLESSING PASCHA BASKETS:

As always, Pascha baskets will be blessed in the Parish Hall after the Paschal Divine Liturgy. —Fr Lawrence

• A SUGGESTION FOR HOLY WEEK:

Attend as many services as you can. We have two each day. Plan ahead. If you cannot attend every service, set aside time to read prayerfully through those you cannot attend. It is through worship that we return and unite ourselves to Christ. The services of Holy Week are not just memory exercises reviewing sacred history. Holy Week is a single unbroken Liturgy that over ten days invites us to participate in the saving love of Jesus Christ in the here and now. The love which Jesus shows is real, it is now, and we are invited through worship to receive it. Does it seem unreasonable to attend Church so much in a single week? It is absolutely extravagant and outrageous! But Christ's love for us is extreme and intense. And so we return that love during Holy Week in a way that is beyond reason!

• CHURCH CLEANING:

Our Church Cleaning Team is looking for additional team members to share in cleaning responsibilities. Please see either Harriette Acorne or Bonnie Alexander if you are interested.

PASCHA/EASTER EGGS COLORING & DECORATING

COLOR Eggs and decorate candles with our Children Noon, Great Friday
April 22nd
in the Parish Hall



All artistic temperaments and ages welcome: we'll have eggs, dye, stickers, and instructions will be supplied.

A take-home basket with a bed of grass will be supplied for the children's Easter eggs.

ST. SERAPHIM CATHEDRAL

Protection of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church



April 10, 2022

The Fifth Week of Lent: St. Mary of Egypt



• TROPARION OF THE RESURRECTION, Tone One:

When the stone had been sealed by the Jews, while the soldiers were guarding Thy most pure body, Thou didst rise on the third day, O Savior, granting life to the world. The powers of heaven therefore cried to Thee, O Giver of Life: Glory to Thy Resurrection, O Christ; glory to Thy kingdom; glory to Thy dispensation, O Thou who lovest mankind.

• TROPARION OF ST. MARY OF EGYPT, Tone Eight:

In thee the image was preserved with exactness, O Mother; for taking up the Cross, thou didst follow Christ, and by thy deeds thou didst teach us to overlook the flesh, for it passeth away, but to attend to the soul, since it is immortal. Wherefore, O righteous Mother Mary, thy spirit rejoiceth with the Angels.

• KONTAKION OF ST. MARY, Tone Three:

Thou who once of old wast filled with all manner of fornication, art now seen today to be a bride of Christ by thy repentance. Thou didst live and

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emulate the life of the Angels. By the Cross, thou didst annihilate the hordes of demons; for this cause art thou a bride now in the Kingdom of the Heavens, O Mary, thou all-modest one.

ACTIVITIES & EVENTS THIS WEEK

• Sat., April 9: 11 AM, Baptism

3:30 PM, Catechism: On Death and the Funeral

5 PM, Vigil/Confession

• Sunday, April 10: 10 AM, Divine Liturgy

11:30 AM, Church School

Noon, Agape Meal

• Mon., April 11: 5 PM, Sacrament of Holy Unction at Sts. Peter and Paul

on Stony Point

7 PM, Bible Study with Fr. James

• Tues., April 12: 8 AM, Matins

• Wed., April 13: 8 AM, Matins

4 PM, Redwood Empire Food Bank Distribution

5 PM, Confessions

6:15 PM, Presanctified Liturgy

• Thurs., April 14: 8 AM, Matins

No Council Meeting

• Friday, April 15: 8 AM, Matins ~ Last day of Lent

6 PM, Matins for Lazarus Saturday

• Sat. April 16: 9:30 AM, Divine Liturgy for Lazarus Saturday

2 PM, Church decoration and clean up

5 PM, Vigil for Palm Sunday

• CONFESSIONS:

We look forward to Holy Week and especially our participation in Holy Communion on Great Thursday and the Paschal Divine Liturgies. An important—essential—part of our preparation for entering into those holy days is the Sacrament of Confession. Many of you have made your Lenten

Confession, if not, please come before Holy Wednesday, after which no Confessions will be heard. *Now is the acceptable time, now is the day of repentance* (2 Cor. 6:2). —Fr. Lawrence

• TASKS COMPLETED:

Old and rotted siding was replaced at the Rectory; the front porch was rebuilt, and the entire house was painted. Mowing of the vineyard and mound began, with thanks to Mike Yuhas (Debbie Buse's debonair husband). Two tasks that need doing: The solar panel field behind the duplex needs to be mowed and the security cameras need to be cleaned. Please see me if you are available to help. —Fr Lawrence

• LAZARUS SATURDAY DECORATING AND CLEANING:

Next Saturday, April 16, about 2 PM, there will be a *Church Cleaning Work Party* in preparation for the Palm Sunday Vigil, Holy Week and Pascha. Inside the Church we will be cleaning windows, light fixtures, scraping wax, polishing brass and decorating the Church with flowers and palms for Palm Sunday. Let Father Lawrence know that you will be coming to help.

• READING PSALMS AND THE BOOK OF ACTS:

We read the *Psalms* over the icon of the tomb of the Savior Friday night through to Saturday morning. We read the *Book of Acts* following the Vesperal Liturgy of Holy Saturday until we begin the Midnight Service and Pascha. You are invited to participate: a sign up sheet is posted by the front door.

• BRIDEGROOM MATINS:

This unique Matins will be served on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday evenings of Holy Week at 6 PM. See the link <u>here</u> for a description of Bridegroom Matins.

• MEDIA:

The Week of Lazarus, Holy Week and Pascha itself are quickly approaching. We are all busy with work, school and family, so how to keep focus during these holy days? Perhaps we carve ourselves a little sacred space by stopping the use of social media and TV until at least Pascha and Bright Week.