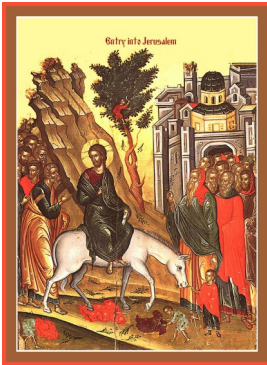


## Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday)

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.

### 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.

(Taken from <https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2021/04/25/20-entry-of-our-lord-into-jerusalem-palm-sunday>)



## ST. PHILIP ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the  
Antiochian Archdiocese

*His Eminence Metropolitan SABA*



*His Grace Bishop THOMAS*



*Father Noah Bushelli, Pastor*  
215-954-9286



*Father James Thayer*

**April 13, 2025**

**PALM SUNDAY:**

**THE GLORIOUS AND BRILLIANT  
FEAST OF THE TRIUMPHAL  
ENTRY OF OUR LORD AND  
GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS  
CHRIST INTO JERUSALEM**

**Orthros Gospel:**

St. Matthew 21:1-11, 15-17

**Epistle:** Philippians 4:4-9

**Liturgy Gospel:** St. John 12:1-18

**APOLYTIKION OF LAZARUS SATURDAY - Tone 1 - O Christ God, when Thou didst raise Lazarus from the dead, before Thy Passion, Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection. Wherefore, we, like children, carry the insignia of triumph and victory, and cry to Thee, O Vanquisher of death: Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He Who cometh in the Name of the Lord.**

**APOLYTIKION OF PALM SUNDAY - Tone 4 - O Christ God, when we were buried with Thee in Baptism, we became deserving of Thy Resurrection to immortal life. Wherefore, we praise Thee, crying: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.**

**TODAY:** Orthros 8:15 am  
*Liturgy at Fort Washington Mission 9:00 am*  
Divine Liturgy 9:30 am w/ Palm Procession 11:15 am  
Crown Removal: Peter & Mary Abdullah  
Sunday School & Coffee Hour 11:45 am

◆◆◆◆ **BRIDEGROOM ORTHROS, 6:30 p.m.** ◆◆◆◆

1970 Clearview Road, Souderton, PA 18964

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**Emails:** [office@st-philip.net](mailto:office@st-philip.net) [nbushelli@gmail.com](mailto:nbushelli@gmail.com) [frjamesthayer@gmail.com](mailto:frjamesthayer@gmail.com)

**Office Hours:** Monday-Friday 8:30am - 3:30pm

Fr Noah & Fr James are available for hospital visits. If you or anyone you know is in the hospital or homebound and would like a visit, please call the church office.

## Weekly Ministries & Stewards:

	This Week:	Next Week (April 20):
<b>COFFEE HOUR</b>	ALL – POTLUCK (Fish/wine/oil)	GREAT & HOLY PASCHA
<b>PROSPHORA BREAD:</b>	Gabriela Plesa	Gabi and Catalin T.
<b>ALTAR CANDLES:</b>	Gohls - Caleb's Birthday	Sharon
<b>USHERS:</b>	Todd Moody & Chris H.	Steve K. & Volunteers
<b>CLEANING TEAM:</b>	Catechumens	Todd & Kristi M. & Kim B.
<b>COFFEE HOUR TEAM:</b>	Eric M., Zach W.	----

**YOUR FLOWER OFFERINGS** support the beautification of our church during this holy season. Thank you!

**APRIL OUTREACH COLLECTION:**  
Cleaning Supplies

## Mark Your Calendar:



**Mid-Pentecost**  
Wednesday, May 28

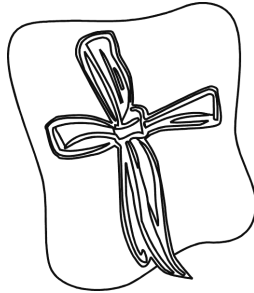
**Ascension**  
Thursday, May 29

**Pentecost**  
Sunday, June 8

**Sts. Peter & Paul**  
Saturday, June 29

*Save the Date!*  
**2025 Parish Life Conference**  
June 25-29 2025

**VCS 2025**  
July 28-Aug 1



## **PLAN TO MAKE YOUR CONFESSION BEFORE HOLY UNCTION!**

### Great and Holy Week - Pascha - Bright Monday

Sun, April 13:	BRIDEGROOM ORTHROS, 6:30 p.m.
Mon, April 14:	PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY, 9:30 a.m. BRIDEGROOM ORTHROS, 6:30 p.m.
Tues, April 15:	PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY, 9:30 a.m. Matushka Olga Sewing Club, 1 p.m. BRIDEGROOM ORTHROS, 6:30 p.m.
Wed, April 16:	PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY, 9:30 a.m. HOLY UNCTION, 4 p.m. Fasting Potluck BRIDEGROOM ORTHROS, 6:30 p.m.
Thurs, April 17:	VESPERAL FOOT-WASHING LITURGY, 9:30 a.m. Fasting Potluck TWELVE GOSPELS ORTHROS, 6:30 p.m.
Friday, April 18:	ROYAL HOURS (Youth Choir), 9:30 a.m. VESPERS OF BURIAL, 4 p.m. Fasting Potluck LAMENTATIONS ORTHROS, 6:30 p.m.
Sat, April 19:	<b>GREAT AND HOLY SATURDAY</b> Holy Saturday LITURGY, 9:30 a.m. PASCHAL SERVICES BEGIN AT 11:00 p.m. with the Midnight Office & Procession
Sunday, April 20:	<b>PASCHA! CHRIST IS RISEN!</b> Paschal ORTHROS, 12:00 a.m. Paschal LITURGY, 1:00 a.m. PASCAL BASKET BLESSING & FAST-BREAKING, 2:30 a.m. AGAPE VESPERS, 2:00 p.m. - Egg Hunt & Potluck
Mon, April 21:	<b>BRIGHT MONDAY</b> PASCHAL ORTHROS, 9:00 a.m. PASCHAL LITURGY, 9:30 a.m. Festal Potluck, 11:00 a.m. PASCHAL VESPERS & CANON, 6:30 p.m.

**ATTENDANCE:** Vespers for Apr 5: 91    Divine Services Apr 6: 215  
Wed Pre-Sanctified: 89    Fri Pre-Sanctified: 44

**OFFERINGS 4/6:** Candles, \$328. Collections, \$564.01. Flowers, \$115. Book Shelf Ministry, \$132.31. Choir Fund, \$30. Food for Hungry, \$220. Icon Studio, \$34,601.51. Office Supplies, \$124.68. Teen Fund, \$670. Pastoral Discretion, \$181.52. Stewardship, \$4,842.58. Total received: \$41,809.61.

**GOD BLESS YOU FOR YOUR FAITHFULNESS & GENEROSITY!**

### **All visitors and guests are welcome!**

Please know that Holy Communion and Holy Unction are reserved only for Orthodox Christians that have properly prepared themselves by prayer, fasting (food and drink), recent confession, & almsgiving. This is not a judgement call on anyone's love for Jesus Christ, but it is the way the Church has preserved her unity and her teachings throughout the centuries.