

Today's Bulletin Sponsor are:**For Memory of:**

Adele Taran, mother of Holly, offered by the Dawson family.

For the Health of:

Fr Matthew, on his birthday, offered by his family.

Readings:

Philippians 4:4-9 (*Palm Sunday*)

John 12:1-18 (*Palm Sunday*)

Brethren, rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, do; and the God of peace will be with you.

Six days before Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazaros was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made him a supper; Martha served, and Lazaros was one of those at table with him. Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was to betray him), said "Why was this ointment 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 as he had the money box he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of my burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me."

When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came, not only on account of Jesus but also to see Lazaros, whom he had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazaros also to death, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus.

The next day a great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon 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 this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of him and had been done to him. The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazaros out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign.

Saturday service: Vespers – 6:30 PM

Sunday service:

Hours - 9:40 AM **Divine Liturgy** – 10:00 AM
 (Private Confession – After Vespers by appointment.)
 (General Confession – 9:45 AM on the first Sunday of each month)
 (Pannikhidas – after Divine Liturgy 3rd Sunday of each month)

Church School

2nd through 8th grades – 9:30 AM (No Church School on the first Sunday of each month.)

Preschool through 1st grades meet immediately after communion every Sunday.

Coffee hour - after Liturgy

We would like to welcome all parish visitors and invite you to join us after the Liturgy, downstairs, for Coffee hour.

Announcements:

- There will be a special **collection for Paschal flowers** today
- Holy Week Services and Pascha Services:
 - **April 23 (Tuesday) 6:30PM** Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
 - **April 24 (Wednesday) 7:00 PM** - Sacrament of Holy Unction – Healing Sacrament, open to all Orthodox Christians (no fasting required before)
 - **April 26 (Friday) 7:00 PM** - Holy Saturday Matins (served Friday evening)
 - **April 27/28 (Saturday/Sunday) 11:30 PM** Holy Pascha Vigil (Nocturns, Matins, Divine Liturgy)
 - After Liturgy - Blessing of Paschal Food Basket

Reminders:

- Announcements or Prayer Requests for the bulletin, can be submitted by E-Mail to: Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org Upcoming bulletins can also be sponsored by using the signup sheet at the candle stand. **If using the signup sheet, please give two weeks' notice.**
- The Living Clean Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets every Friday from 8-9:15 pm downstairs in the community room.
- The Grey Book Step Meeting Group of Narcotics Anonymous meets every Tuesday from 7-8:00 pm downstairs in the community room.

The lives of the saints remembered today can be read at:

<https://oca.org/saints/lives/2019/04/21>

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.

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:

Read about Holy Week at:

<https://churchmotherofgod.org/articleschurch/about-services-and-prayers/519-holy-week.html>

See us on the web at: ChurchMotherOfGod.org/bulletin

See us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/mayslandingmog

E-Mail us at: Bulletin@ChurchMotherOfGod.org

Orthodox Church of the Mother of God

"The Joy of All the Sorrowful"

115 Hudson St. Mays Landing, New Jersey 08330

The Most Reverend Michael

Archbishop of NY & the Diocese of NY/NJ

V. Rev. Dr. Matthew Searforce,

Temporary Rector

856-227-6915



Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday)

Glory to Jesus Christ

Glory Forever

*By raising Lazarus from the dead before Your passion,
You did confirm the universal Resurrection, O Christ God!
Like the children with the palms of victory,
We cry out to You, O Vanquisher of death;
Hosanna in the Highest!
Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord!*

Troparion — Tone 1

On this day the Church remembers:

ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM. Palm Sunday • Hieromartyr Januarius, Bishop of Benevento, and his companions: Festus, Proculus, and Sosius—Deacons, Desiderius—Reader, and Eutychius and Acutius—laymen, at Pozzuoli (ca. 305) • Hieromartyr Theodore of Perge in Pamphylia, his mother, Philippa, and Martyrs Dioscorus, Socrates, and Dionysius (2nd c.) • Martyrs Isaac, Apollos, and Quadratus, of Nicomedia (303) • St. Maximian, Patriarch of Constantinople (434).

April 21, 2019

Holy Week

Week 10 of the Lenten Triodion