



March 28, 2010

PALM SUNDAY—THE ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM

Ven. Hilarion the New, Abbot of Pelecete; Ven. Stephen the Wonderworker, Abbot of Tryglia; Monk-martyr Eustratius of the Kiev Caves; Ven. Hilarion of Pskov Lake; Martyrs Jonah and Barachisius and those with them in Persia: Zanitas, Lazarus, Maruthas, Narses, Elias, Marinus; Abibus, Sembeeth and Sabbas; Martyr Boyan the Prince of Bulgaria

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9

Gospel: John 12:1-18

✠ THE WEEK IN WORSHIP & STUDY ✠
(HOLY WEEK)

TODAY	4:00 p.m.	<i>Bridegroom Matins</i> (FOCA Lenten Mission) in our parish
Mon, Mar 29	GREAT AND HOLY MONDAY	
7:00 p.m.	Bridegroom Matins	
Tues, Mar 30	GREAT AND HOLY TUESDAY	
7:00 p.m.	Bridegroom Matins	
Wed, Mar 31	GREAT AND HOLY WEDNESDAY	
6:00 p.m.	Confessions	
7:00 p.m.	Bridegroom Matins followed by Confessions	
Thurs, Apr 1	GREAT AND HOLY THURSDAY	
9:00 a.m.	Ven. Mary of Egypt	
Vespertal Liturgy	Epistle: 1 Cor 11:23-32	Gospel: Matt 26:2-20; John 13:3-17; Matt 26:21-39; Luke 22:43-45; Matt 26:40-27:2
	<i>(Confessions before Liturgy will begin at 8 a.m. Please do not arrive later than 8:30 a.m.)</i>	
7:00 p.m.	Matins of Great & Holy Friday – Service of the 12 Passion Gospels	
Fri, Apr 2	GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY	
2:00 p.m.	Vespers of the Entombment – Placing of the Holy Plaschanitsa on the Tomb	
7:00 p.m.	Matins of Great & Holy Saturday – Lamentations & Procession followed by Confessions	
	<i>(Following Matins, the church will remain open for uninterrupted grave vigil and veneration until the midnight Resurrection services.)</i>	
Sat, Apr 3	GREAT AND HOLY SATURDAY	
9:00 a.m.	Ven. Nicetas the Confessor	
Vespertal Liturgy	Epistle: Rom 6:3-11	Gospel: Matt 28:1-20
	<i>(Confessions before Liturgy will begin at 8 a.m. Do not arrive later than 8:30 a.m.)</i>	
4:00 p.m.	Blessing of Paschal (Easter) Food in the church hall	
8:00 p.m.	Reading of the Acts of the Apostles	
11:30 p.m.	Nocturne & Procession	

Sun, Apr 4	HOLY PASCHA—THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST
12 midnight	[Beginning of the Pentecostarion]; Ven. Joseph the Hymnographer
Matins/Liturgy	Reading: Acts 1:1-8 Gospel: John 1:1-17
After Service	Blessing of Paschal (Easter) Food in the church hall
12 noon	Paschal Vespers with Procession
Mon, Apr 5	BRIGHT MONDAY
9:00 a.m.	Martyrs Agathopodes the Deacon, Theodulus the Reader and those with them
Paschal Liturgy	Reading: Acts 1:12-17, 21-26 Gospel: John 1:18-28 (A procession around the church will take place at the end of the Liturgy; everyone, especially the youth, is encouraged to participate. An Easter Egg Hunt and Paschal Potluck Luncheon will follow.)

✂ IN TOUCH WITH THE PARISH ✂

Church School Classes will meet **TODAY** following the Liturgy Dismissal. There will be **NO** sessions on Pascha or St. Thomas Sunday. Classes will resume on **Sunday, April 18**.

TODAY our parish will be hosting the **Fellowship of Orthodox Christians in America (FOCA) Annual Lenten Mission**. The service (Bridegroom Matins) will begin at 4 p.m. Please make every effort to attend as we usher in Holy Week with clergy and faithful throughout the area. A *Lenten Agape (Meal)* will be held in hall afterwards.

After we celebrate Matins and Divine Liturgy of the Holy Resurrection on **Pascha night, April 4**, plan to stay and share in the **Annual Paschal “Agape” Meal** in the church hall. **EVERYONE** is invited to stay and **NO** donation is required, as there will be plenty to eat and drink. If, however, you would like to offer something—main course, side dish, dessert, beverage—there is a sign-up sheet posted in the church vestibule. If you have any questions, please see or contact Natasha Rogozenski (732-613-0856) or Daria York (732-329-8588). Let’s break the fast **TOGETHER** as a parish family!

Hop on over to the church lawn after Liturgy on **Bright Monday, April 5**, for the **Annual Children’s Easter Egg Hunt**. Participants are asked to bring an empty basket to collect eggs. Afterwards, the **St. Anne’s Guild** will host a **Paschal Potluck Luncheon** to which **EVERYONE**—the young and not-so-young alike—is invited. Hope to see you there!

The **Annual Blessing of Graves (Provodnoye)** will be held in our parish cemetery, weather permitting, on **St. Thomas Sunday, April 11**, beginning at 1 p.m. This is a beautiful custom of our Orthodox faithful as we share the joy of the Resurrection with those fallen asleep. Please make a point to join us with your family!

The **Altar Society** will meet in the church hall on **Monday, April 12**, at 6 p.m.

The **Parish Council** will meet on **Monday, April 19**, at 7 p.m., in the church hall.

✂ CHURCH CHATTER ✂

WHERE TWO OR THREE ARE GATHERED TOGETHER...Attendance at Liturgy last Sunday was **175**.

MINISTRY DUTIES The Epistle will be read next week by **Reader Michael Steffaro**. Coffee Hour on St. Thomas Sunday will be hosted by the **Senior R Club**. (**NOTE:** *This organization will be responsible for this ministry throughout April.*)

HOLY WEEK CONFESSIONS There are still a few chances during this week to avail yourself of the wonderful opportunity the Church gives us to “*make things right*” with God through Holy Confession. Check for times under *The Week in Worship & Study* in the bulletin—seek out the spiritual help this sacrament provides.

MANY THANKS to the **Men’s Club** for graciously hosting this month’s *Coffee Hour*. It takes a whole congregation to run a church and we are most grateful that this parish organization faithfully and selflessly took charge of this ministry. May our Lord reward them for their service as only He can.

THE SOUTH RIVER FOOD BANK is participating in the **13th Annual Alan Shawn Feinstein \$1 Million Giveaway to Fight Hunger**. Throughout March and April, all donations of food and money will be matched dollar for dollar. See the flyers in the church hall for more information. Everyone is asked to be especially generous with his/her contributions for these two months.

OUR DEEPEST APPRECIATION to the following individuals for their generous contributions to the *Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund*: **Stella Laptosh** (in memory of **Dorothy Dabkowski**), **Jay Pelleriti** (in memory of **Dorothy Dabkowski**, **Vera Rosenthal** and **Nadejda Sicko**) and **Maria Spasenyj**. May God reward them and their loved ones abundantly.

ST. TIKHON'S SEMINARY APPOINTS NEW DEAN With the blessing of the Holy Synod of Bishops, **Archpriest Alexander Atty**, a member of *St. Tikhon's Board of Trustees* and Rector of *Saint Michael Antiochian Orthodox Church* in Louisville, KY, has been appointed the new dean of *St. Tikhon's Seminary*, effective July 1. Fr. Atty is succeeding the **Very Rev. Hieromonk Michael Dahulich** who will be leaving his current position at the end of the academic year to become the new bishop of the *Diocese of New York & New Jersey*. We offer our prayerful congratulations to Fr. Alexander; may his wealth of experience, wisdom and compassion help him meet all new challenges with confidence as he upholds and maintains *St. Tikhon's* as a sacred place of Orthodox Christian study. Many Years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

MEMORY ETERNAL The handmaid of God, **Helen Visocky**, fell asleep in the Lord on Akathist Saturday, March 20; she was the beloved grandmother of our former parishioner, **Kyra Shaluha**. We extend our heartfelt sympathy to her and her husband, **Subdeacon Joseph**. May God's grace console them and give them peace—Vechnaya Pamyat!

BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS go out this week to our Assistant Starosta, **Hank Dziemian**, and **Christina Williams**. Belated greetings are also extended to **Natalie Green**, who celebrated last week. May God's joy be with them for many years as they continue through life in the light of His amazing love—Mnogaya Lyeta!

WE ARE PRAYING FOR the following parishioners, family members and friends this week, as well as the departed, sick and suffering people of Chile:

<u>Departed</u>	<u>Sick</u>	<u>Servicemen</u>
Vera Ann Nazarenko	Elaine Ashton	Savanna Dore
Evelyn Herbert	Irene Boule	Joan Roshak
Virginia Moran	Joseph Casall	Sarah Hall
Katia Gurepekin	Edward Romanofsky	Dotsy Hartman
Vera Rosenthal	Walentyna Posluszny	Katherine Tarzewski
Valentina Nerush	Alan Zenkert	Paula Hila
Reginald Thomas	Michael Dargento	Joseph Posluszny
Dorothy Dabkowski	Daryl Deissinger	Nancy Filak
Olga Zawadsky	Cynthia Denlinger	Anna Durovich
Joan Tita	Linda Martinovich	Kira Gregor
Rose Mankos	Josephine Tillison	Lisa Muhs
Peter Keimer	Mary Lou Goldy	Denise Yager
Nadejda Sicko	Julia Glazer	Martha Drobnak
Rita Lyons	Joseph Casale	Chrise Murrell
Helen Visocky	Donna Casale	Dorothy Sopchak
Joseph Strugala	Dr. Joseph Pastore	Elaine Boshko
William Fedak	Randall Cline	Andre Tirenin
August Hofling	Joseph Lynch	Glynne Smith
	Lasha Giorgi Pozidis	Marian Morgan
	Aiden Gowarty	James Dewan
	Dorothy Swenticky	Beverly Martucci
	Sara Cseh	Gregory Huba
	Olga Smith	Frederick Bhend
	Anthony Garito	Kathryn Patricia Gmitter
	Ermelinda Faziola	Walter Smorgans
	Kirsten Hyland	Helen Smorgans
	John Cameron	Karen Vernak
	Janet Firestone	Philip Folino
	Adam Krosnowski	Margo Stewart
	Ellie Shipman	Stephen Janosko
		Ivan Shidlovsky
		Lisa Beard
		Gregory Nosol
		June Buyofsky-Rittman
		David T. Floyd
		Patrick Lohr
		Keith Sudder
		Priest Paul Rivers
		Andrew Kubik
		Jason Vaughn
		Patrick Baldwin
		Timothy Stepan
		Michael Gregus
		Peter Shaw
		Jacqueline Martinez
		Robert Mahrer
		Karen Bonet
		David Gambert
		Gregg Poole
		Fred Bush
		Travis Hartman
		Walter Zettlemoyer Jr.
		Elizabeth Brent
		Kyle Abbott
		Matthew Scudder

If you have a name you would like included in the bulletin, contact Father David or Starosta.

LAST YEAR'S BLESSED PUSSYWILLOWS are considered to be sacramentals; as such, they should be disposed of by either burning or burying them. Please do **not** place them with your household refuse.

OUR THANKS to the **Senior R Club** for hosting an inspiring and well-researched **Lenten Lecture** on the meaning of Passover, as it is fulfilled in our Lord Jesus Christ. It was prepared and presented by **Fr. Michael Meerson**, Rector of *Christ the Saviour Church* in New York City. About 50 parishioners and guests attended this event, which was complete with a handout and replica of a Jewish Seder. After the lecture ended, all attendees shared in a small, but plentiful, reception. We are most appreciative of this parish organization for providing us with this opportunity for teaching and fellowship. May God grant all its members many years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

WARM THE CHILDREN (WTC) UPDATE Another month has quickly flown by, during which time this charitable organization received loads of wonderful items and cash donations from parishioners and parish organizations across the US, including our own **Pearl Berezniak** and **Carol Deerson**. A total of 12 boxes were shipped in late February/early March to lots of needy children in orphanages, homes and missions in Russia and Belarus. Everyone is doing a wonderful job with their handiwork and shopping. Would you like to get involved in this most fulfilling community program? If so, contact WTC Coordinator, Barbara Nafranowicz, by phone (908-232-2632), E-mail (bnafranowicz@verizon.net) or post (167 North Cottage Place, Westfield, NJ 07090) to find out where best you can contribute, for as the Shepherd of Hermes said: *“Do good and, with a simple heart, share the fruits of your labor which God gives to you with all those who are in need, not wondering to whom you should give and to whom you should not give. Give to all, for God wishes that you give to all from His many gifts to you.”*

IN BLESSED REPOSE The servant of God, **Joseph Strugala**, fell asleep in the Lord on Akathist Saturday, March 20; he was the dear uncle of **Dorothy Edwards**. We offer our deepest condolences to Dot and her family. May God’s loving care ease the pain of their loss and help them hold fast to hope. Memory Eternal—Vechnaya Pamyat!

THANKS to **Natasha Rogozenski** and **Alexandra Romanofsky** for donating the floral arrangement that adorned the center tetrapod on the Feast of the Annunciation last week; it was given in memory of their grandmother, **Mary Romanofsky**. We also gratefully acknowledge **Raya Shaluha** and **James & Debra Ann Jones** who, in commemoration of the one-year anniversary of the falling asleep of our brother in Christ, **Walter Shaluha**, offered the beautiful centerpiece for today’s feast. May our Lord reward all these contributors for their generosity and thoughtfulness.

SHARING YOUR SORROW Our sympathy to the **Essl & Mindzak Families** on the falling asleep of their cousin, **William Fedak**, on Tuesday, March 23. Please know that your “church family” is with you, giving comfort and praying that you may be consoled in the Resurrection of Christ.

A HEAP OF THANKS goes to all our members who collectively, through their volunteer efforts and hard work, made our **Easter Bazaar** last Saturday an outstanding success. To date, a profit of **\$3,800+** has been realized. Over a period of about four weeks, a group of parishioners, under the direction of **Carol Deerson**, met regularly and dedicated their time and talents to cooking, setting up, advertising, displaying and selling Lenten foods, arts and crafts, sale items, flowers, babkas and homemade kielbasa for the Paschal holiday. Although it would be nice to give everyone who helped a personal mention, it’s too easy to leave someone out. So again, we just say to all a small and simple phrase that comes from a grateful heart—THANK YOU!

THE EASTER BAKE SALE of *Annunciation Church* is Brick ends **TODAY**. Five varieties of delicious homemade dessert rolls are still being offered for \$12 apiece: **nut, prune, poppy seed, apricot** and **chocolate chip nut**. (**NOTE:** *Apricot and prune are both LIMITED!*) Place your order with James Kornafel (732-462-3388). Delivery is **GUARANTEED** this week! Let our sister parish do all the work so that you can enjoy family and friends more this Pascha!

OUR ANNUAL LENTEN YOUTH SUNDAY last week was a day not to be forgotten. After a postponement because of the inclement weather the weekend before, we were truly blessed to have our youth share God’s love and glory with great gusto. We extend special thanks to **Kristen Berezniak** for her beautiful Epistle reading; to **Juliana Nehrebecki** for her amazing and insightful sermon; and to the **Church School Children** for their exceptional singing. Of course, this annual event would not have gone so well without the efforts of our Youth Coordinator, **Allison Steffaro**, and our Choirmaster, **Basil Kozak**; we are most appreciative of their dedication and commitment. May we always celebrate our young people and their importance in our church community by providing them with a nurturing environment to grow up in Christ—a place that they can be proud to call their spiritual home.

SCHEMICK-TOLLS SCHOLARSHIP Through the generosity of donors John Tolls, his deceased wife Leatrice, their daughters Lea and Lynley, and honorees Anna, John and John Jr. Schemick of blessed memory, two worthy high school seniors and/or college students will be awarded a \$500 scholarship to help them in their studies. The deadline for applying is **Saturday, May 1**. To request an application, interested individuals should see or contact Carol Deerson (732-254-4979).

EARLY DEADLINE Bulletin announcements for next week’s edition must be submitted to Father David or our Starosta/Bulletin Editor, James Kornafel, by **this Tuesday, March 30**. You can reach Father at the rectory or get in touch with Jim by phone (732-462-3388), fax (732-845-3515) or E-mail (jimmyk@optonline.net).



Holy Week, the most solemn of the entire year, is upon us and with it unfolds the great drama of our salvation. During the next seven days, we don't remember the final moments of Jesus' life; we relive them here and now. We are called by the Holy Church to be a part of this drama. Christ speaks to us **now!** Christ suffers for us **now!** Christ dies for us **now!** Christ is entombed for us **now** and we visit His grave **now!**

Please do not let cooking, cleaning, baking and coloring eggs keep you from missing some of the most beautiful and meaningful services of this week. Take your place in these acts of faith—the Last Supper, the betrayal, the trial, the scourging, the walk to Golgotha, the Crucifixion, the taking down from the Cross, the burial, the descent into Hades—every one concerns you! They are our only hope and joy, for it is only after all this unbearable pain, suffering and sadness that we can truly shout forth on the day of the Resurrection: **Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!**

✠ CHURCH ORDER FOR HOLY WEEK ✠

- Please be attentive when holding candles during the Holy Week and Paschal services, so as to avoid setting hair, clothes or prayer books on fire or dripping wax on the pews, floor or carpet.
- Everyone should take part in the processions on Good Friday and Pascha night by carrying candles and maintaining “holy silence.”
- Shortly before the start of the Resurrection Matins, all the candles and lights in the church will be put out. Until the Paschal candle is brought from the Holy Altar to the ambo where two lay people will receive the light and pass it on to the entire congregation, please try not to move about in the dark.
- Following the Lamentations & Matins on **Good Friday evening, April 2**, the church will keep watch (vigil) over the tomb of Jesus Christ until the start of Nocturne on **Holy Saturday, April 3**. The Book of Psalms will be read all through the night. You are encouraged to sign-up for a two-hour shift and join in with your family or friends. A sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the church vestibule. Everyone, both young and old, should participate in this memorial to our Crucified Lord. Volunteers are particularly needed on Saturday afternoon and evening. For more information, contact Gregory Sprogis at (732) 254-6167.
- Volunteers are still needed to carry icons and banners during the processions on Good Friday evening, Pascha night, Easter Sunday afternoon (Paschal Vespers) and Bright Monday. Anyone and everyone can take part! If you're interested, see Gregory Sprogis. [**NOTE:** Assistance with moving the tomb and putting the tetrapod back in the center of the church on Pascha night would also be appreciated.]
- Those desiring to read the *Acts of the Apostles* before the Holy Paschanitsa on **Holy Saturday, April 3**, should get in touch with Father David before the end of the week; start time is **8 p.m.**

✠ BLESSING OF PASCHAL (EASTER) FOOD ✠

Pascha is a day without parallel in the Orthodox Church. The Resurrection of Christ is the central mystery of our faith and we joyfully celebrate it in soul **and** body. Part of our celebration is the enduring rite of bringing a basket of food to church to be blessed. The foods in the basket are those that were not eaten during Great Lent: meats, eggs, cheese and butter. The “forbidden” foods of the Fast become the foods of the Feast.

This blessing also recognizes that food has an important place in the Resurrection. Proving that He was truly risen and not a ghost, Jesus asked for something to eat on Pascha night. He also ate with the disciples on other occasions during the 40 days after His rising from the dead.

Although food that is prepared for Easter is usually blessed after services on Pascha night, our parish will also bless baskets on **Holy Saturday, April 3**, at **4 p.m.**, in the church hall. Please remember, however, that as tempting as it may be, **none** of this food is to be eaten until next Sunday; only **Lenten** foods are in order on Saturday. We break the Fast and begin the Feast by partaking of Communion at the Paschal Liturgy; then we celebrate the new life of the holiday with the great sights and smells of wonderful food.

(**NOTE:** *NO food or drink should be brought into the church, especially if you plan to venerate the Holy Paschanitsa before or after the 4 p.m. basket blessing on Holy Saturday. Blessed or unblessed, food should remain **outside**, in the hall or in your car. Just as Jesus drove out the moneychangers for making His house of prayer into a den of thieves, we should not treat our place of worship like a marketplace. Your attention to this matter will be appreciated.*)

GLORY TO JESUS CHRIST!

GLORY FOREVER!