

PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR ...

The health and salvation of—

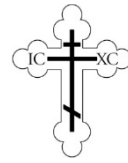
Metropolitan Onufriy + Ukrainian Orthodox Church	William Vivian
Metropolitan Isaiah Archbishop Benjamin	Valerie Deanna
Bishop Neofitos of Eldoret Archimandrite Seraphim	Thomas James
Archpriest Matthew Hieroschemamonk Ambrose	Matthew Keith
Abbess Silouana Subdeacon James	Michael Rose
Reader Aleksei Jonathan • Phoebe • Anne	Abi Gregory
Iraida • Longinus • Nina Amal • Nicula • Maximus	John Keith • Diane
Dmitry • Natalia Danil • Anna • Kenneth	Robert Skyler
Irina • Galina • Sergey • Evgenij David • Newborn Maria	Craig Michael
Catechumens Rebecca, Isaac, Anna, Adalie, Everett, Ivey, Emily, David, Gregory, Christian, Michael, Lucy, Corey, Bryan, Damon, Samuel, Scott	Patricia

The repose and salvation of—

Reader Jospeh (3/6)	Larry (3/17)
Robert (3/13)	Stephanie (3/24)
	Charlene (4/9)

Please let Father know if there are any names you would like added to the list.

*A mission parish under the omophorion of His Eminence Benjamin,
Archbishop of San Francisco and the Diocese of the West,
Orthodox Church in America*



ST TIKHON ORTHODOX
CHRISTIAN CHURCH



Sunday, April 13, 2025

Palm Sunday

Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem



Sundays at 9:05 AM – Hours & Divine Liturgy

See insert for Holy Week service times

This Sat., April 19, 11:30 PM – Nocturns, Matins, Divine Liturgy
Next Sunday, April 20: No services in morning; 2:00 PM – Agape
Vespers; 3:00 PM – picnic with/at St. Herman in Littleton

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Protodeacon John Manutes

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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).

by Archpriest Paul Lazor

Troparion – Tone 1

By raising Lazarus from the dead before Thy passion, /
Thou didst confirm the universal Resurrection, O Christ our 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!

Troparion - Tone 4

When we were buried with Thee in Baptism, O Christ our 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 - Tone 6

Sitting on Thy throne in heaven, /
Carried on a foal on earth, O Christ God! /
Accept the praise of angels and the songs of children who sing: ///
Blessed is He that comes to recall Adam!

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9

Gospel: John 12:1-18

***Also this week:** St. Martin the Confessor, Pope of Rome (April 14); Apostles of the Seventy Aristarchus, Pudens, and Trophimus (April 15); Virgin Martyrs Agape, Irene, and Chionia, in Illyria (April 16); Hieromartyr Simeon, Bp in Persia, and those with him (April 17); Ven John, disciple of Ven Gregory of Decapolis (April 18); Ven John of the Ancient Caves in Palestine (April 19).*

** Lenten fast; wine & oil allowed Thurs; wine allowed Sat. **