HOLY THURSDAY is the day of the institution of the Last Supper. Most of the attention at the Church is focused on the evening service with the Reading of the Twelve Passion Gospels. These contain the prayer of parting and the final address of Jesus to His apostles. It also contains the story of our Lord's arrest and trial, death and burial.



GOOD FRIDAY is a day of mourning. There is an aura of sadness, when little is eaten. Common joys are avoided. In Church, black coverings are on the altar. Sweet-smelling ointments are used. The winding-sheet, bearing the icon of the body replica of our Lord's tomb is set up. The service of Good Friday is a repetition of Christ's funeral. It is a burial service. Jesus has died. His body is taken from the cross and carried in procession around the church. It is finally placed in the tomb.

Lastly, SATURDAY is a day of anticipation and preparation. The faithful come to church to pray at the grave of our Lord, not unlike the visit they might make to a loved one who has died. They come to bid farewell, looking forward to the approaching brightness of Christ's Resurrection.

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.

ABOUT COMMUNION

We are happy that you have joined us today. Indeed, we pray for the "unity of the Faith" for the day when all of Christianity are united as ONE and can share a common Chalice. However, this is not the case as yet. Please note that Holy Communion, the actual Body & Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, is only for Members of the Orthodox Church who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting, and confession, & arrived before the Gospel reading. However, everyone is welcome to partake of the blessed bread and receive a blessing from the pastor at the dismissal. If you are interested, you may inquire with the pastor how you can become a member.

If you are a guest or otherwise not a regular communicant, please give your baptismal name when receiving.



PREPARING FOR PASCHA

here is nothing that compares with the observance of PASSION WEEK. Both Church and home unite to reflect on the events that stir the soul. During these seven days, we re-live the suffering and death of our Lord.

PALM SUNDAY is a day of rejoicing. We proclaim that Jesus is King and welcome Him with the first flowers of Spring.

WEDNESDAY is the day Judas betrayed the Lord for 30 pieces of silver. What was the reason for this betrayal? No doubt Judas lost his faith in Christ and gave in to his greed. Beyond this, the enemies of the Lord had a need to get to Him when He was alone.



PASSION WEEK

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St. Anthony The Great Antiochian Orthodox Christian Church

4031 Aurora Rd.; Melbourne, Florida Mailing address: P.O.Box 267, Melbourne, FL 32902 Very Rev. Fr. Elia Shalhoub, Pastor & Dean of South Florida Deanery Phone: (305) 812-4940, E-Mail: elia_shalhoub@yahoo.com http://www.stanthonyorthodoxchurch.com

WELCOME TO ST. ANTHONY'S

Where people from around the world come together to serve God and our community.

We are glad you are worshipping with us today! This Church is one community of many in the One,
Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. The Church of Antioch belongs to two thousand years
of evangelization, teaching, history, and tradition which expresses the continued
commitment of its members to the Orthodox Christian faith in the Lord Jesus Christ!

St. Anthony Church is a Pan-Orthodox community, under the omophorion of His Beatitude Patriarch JOHN X
within the Self-ruled Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America. If you are a first time visitor,
please fill out the guest form located on the literature table. We want you to feel at home in prayer and worship. Please submit your names to the ushers and introduce yourself to Fr. Elia at the end of the service so
he may welcome you personally. Following services, please join us for sharing of fellowship, coffee, and food.

DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES FOR FEAST OF PALM SUNDAY: ENTRANCE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST INTO JERUSALEM

DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

~ NOTE TO CLERGY: Remember to include this special petition in the Great Litany before the one for the head of state, as directed by the Antiochian Archdiocese.

Deacon: For Metropolitan Paul, Archbishop John, and for their quick release from captivity and safe return,

let us pray to the Lord.

Choir: Lord, have mercy.

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

I am filled with joy, for the Lord will hear the voice of my supplication. The anguish of death encompassed me; the perils of hell beset me.

Refrain: Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.

I found tribulation and anguish, and I called upon the Name of the Lord. I will walk acceptably before the Lord in the land of the living. (*Refrain*)

Glory... Both now... (Refrain)

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

I believed, and therefore have I spoken: but I was deeply humiliated. What shall I render unto the Lord, for all His benefits unto me?

Refrain: Save us, O Son of God, Who didst sit upon the foal of a donkey, who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

I will take the cup of Salvation, and call upon the Name of the Lord. (*Refrain*)

I will pay my vows unto the Lord in the presence of all His people. (*Refrain*)

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

O, give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good: for His mercy endureth forever. Let the house of Israel now say

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His Eminence The Most Reverend Metropolitan SABA



Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA

Prot. no.: 157/2024

Palm Sunday April 28, 2024

To be read from the pulpit and printed in the bulletin.

Venerable Hierarchs, Reverend Clergy, and Christ-loving Faithful of this Archdiocese,

May you have much joy on this glorious feast of Palm Sunday!

Today we see Christ riding triumphantly into the Holy City of Jerusalem and the crowds welcoming Him with praise and loving service, as they shout "Hosanna!" and lay down palm branches and even their own clothes as a carpet for His entrance. Let us likewise open our hearts to Him and welcome Him into our lives. Let us praise Him not just with hymns at church but also by confessing His goodness in our daily prayers and in our conversations with others. Let us lay down for Him a welcoming carpet of generous deeds toward our neighbors and faithful obedience toward Him. May we thus receive Him to rule in our hearts as our delivering King, and may we remain loyal to Him in word and deed—not betraying and abandoning Him, like the crowds in Jerusalem long ago.

As is our custom in this archdiocese, today we also remember our Father in Christ, His Beatitude Patriarch John X, and all our brothers and sisters of the Patriarchate of Antioch in its historic homeland of the Middle East. As we proclaim this ancient Faith in the New World, they are keeping it alive in the apostolic and historic places of its beginnings. Yet many of them continue to suffer from the aftermath of wars, disasters, and economic collapse. For this reason, we invite you to contribute today toward the patriarchate and its humanitarian work. Through your donations you can provide some comfort to our brothers and sisters in need, showing solidarity with them as one Body in Christ. Please give generously.

Wishing you all a deeply meaningful Holy Week and a glorious Pascha, I remain,

Yours in Christ,

* SABA

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America

that He is good: for His mercy endureth forever. Let the house of Aaron now say that He is good: for His mercy endureth forever. Let all that fear the Lord now say that He is good: for His mercy endureth forever.

~ During the Little Entrance, after the verses of the Third Antiphon, chant the Apolytikion of **Lazarus Saturday**. Then, the following:

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN) OF PALM SUNDAY

Blessed is He Who cometh in the Name of the Lord: the Lord is God and hath appeared unto us. Save us, O Son of God, Who didst sit upon the foal of a donkey; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

After the Little Entrance (Eisodos), sing these Apolytikia in the following order.

APOLYTIKION OF LAZARUS SATURDAY IN TONE ONE

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 IN TONE FOUR

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.

~ Do NOT sing the apolytikion of the patron saint or feast of the temple.

KONTAKION OF PALM SUNDAY IN TONE SIX

Upborne upon the heavenly throne, and seated upon the earthly foal, O Christ our God, receive the praises of angels and the hymns of men, exclaiming before Thee: Blessed is He that cometh to restore Adam.

THE EPISTLE

Blessed is He Who cometh in the Name of the Lord.
O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Philippians. (4:4-9)

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, these do; and the God of peace will be with you.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (12:1-18)

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus who had died was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made Him a supper; Martha served, and Lazarus 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, Simon's son, one of His Disciples (he who was to betray Jesus), said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not because he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the moneybox 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 Lazarus, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus 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 cometh in the Name of the Lord, 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 Jesus when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet Jesus was that they heard He had done this sign.

MEGALYNARION FOR PALM SUNDAY IN TONE FOUR

God the Lord hath appeared unto us; let us celebrate the Feast, and let us rejoice and magnify Christ. With palms and branches let us raise our voices unto Him with praise, saying: Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, our Savior.

KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) FOR PALM SUNDAY IN TONE EIGHT

Blessed is He Who cometh in the Name of the Lord. Alleluia.

- ~ During the Communion of the laity, the choir can sing "Rejoice, O Bethany."
- ~ Post-Communion Hymn: Instead of "We have seen the true light", sing the Apolytikion of Lazarus Saturday.
- ~ During the customary procession around the exterior of the church which follows "Blessed be the Name of the Lord", the choir can sing the Apolytikia of Lazarus Saturday and Palm Sunday, "Rejoice, O Bethany" and the Trisagion Hymn.

Announcements

April is AMen's Month



Epistle Readers
Alex Scaff
Subdeacon Jean

Sermon Ethan Packey



Happy Birthday
April 28 Michealle Carey

May God grant you many years!



SUNDAY SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

Join us today after the service to Celebrate Palm Sunday. Our children and parents have prepared a Fish Luncheon. We made Fish entrée, Rice, salad and dessert. Suggested donation \$10 - Adults, \$5 - Children

PALM SUNDAY FLOWER PROCESSION

Candle with flowers for the procession - \$5 donation.

Thank you for supporting our efforts!

2024 GOOD FRIDAY & EASTER FLOWERS (to decorate our Church and the Lord's Tomb)

See the form in the back. We ask \$25, but every little bit helps to offset the cost.



2024 GOOD FRIDAY & EASTER FLOWERS

IF YOU LIKE TO DONATE TOWARD THE GOOD FRIDAY & EASTER FLOWERS FOR THE GOOD HEALTH OF YOUR FAMILY OR IN MEMORY OF YOUR BELOVED ONES SO WE CAN DECORATE THE CHURCH FROM GOOD FRIDAY UNTIL EASTER, PLEASE FILL THE FORM BELOW AND MAKE YOUR DONATION TO ST. Anthony Church EARMARKED "EASTER FLOWERS"

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when we put to death all evil and vice within us. We rise with Him when we cultivate all goodness and virtue. As we enter today into this splendid season, let us contemplate with deep devotion some of its beautiful hymns, and let us demand of ourselves to live them. "Every member of Thy holy Flesh endured dishonor for us; Thy head, the thorns; Thy face, the spittings; Thy cheeks, the smitings; Thy mouth, the taste of vinegar mingled with gall; Thine ears, the impious blasphemies; Thy back, the lash; Thy hand, the reed; the whole length of Thy body, the stretching upon the Cross; Thy joints, the nails; and Thy side, the spear. O Thou Who didst endure the Passion for us, and from the passions didst set us free; Who didst condescend to us in Thy love for man, and didst raise us up: O almighty Savior, have mercy on us." – Orthros of Holy Friday (the Twelve Passion Gospels) "Thou hadst been bodily enclosed in a tomb as Thou hadst so willed it, Who in Thy nature as God dost abide uncircumscribable and infinite, Thou didst close off the vaults of death, O Christ, and didst empty all of Hades' dark dominions, leaving nothing there. Then Thou also madest this Sabbath worthy of divine benediction and Thy glory and far-shining radiance." – Great Vespers of Holy Saturday (the Unnailing of Christ from the Cross)





Dear Ladies, Please join us Friday, May 3rd at 10am to decorate our new beautifully carved Lord's Tomb with flowers. We will also share a Lenten meal.

~ HOLY WEEK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ~

During Holy Week Services, in order to make experience more memorable, we are asking for volunteers to READ one of the many Psalms, Epistles, or the Old Testament readings. If you have read before, you know how rewarding this can be. At Agape Service on Great and Holy Pascha, Sunday, May 5th at 10am, the Gospel will be read in different languages. The reading is from the Gospel passage of St. John (20:19-25). Translation of that passage in many languages is in the book provided. If you would like to read it, please contact Fr. Elia.

Agape Service Gospel Passage Reading Sign Up: Kiev - French, Yuliya - Russian

GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY - May 3rd All Night Vigil at the Tomb of Christ.

All Parishioners are welcome to sign up.
(we need someone at 4am, please sign up on the bulleting board)
Vigil begins around 8:00pm and continues throughout the night
until Saturday morning at 9am.

Holy Week note for School/College

Dear Parents and Students.

Please remember that we give School notes to those who wants to participate in services of the Holy Week. Please ask Father Elia to write you one.



Please pray for the healing of Adriana Theodoropoulos, Lori Sorensen, Ethan Packey, Michealle and Tyrone Carey, Beverly Delida, Alix Hall, Nina and Diogo Penas, Beth Manzini, John Archambeau, Alex & Soula.



APRIL 9TH PALM SUNDAY

Hosanna in the Highest! Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord!!!

May the following from our dear Late Metropolitan Philip can guide us and encourage us in the many hours that we will be spending in church in the next few days. May it be a blessed time of inner renewal for all of us.

R

"In the Orthodox Liturgy, one can see God, man and nature in their proper perspective. Our Eucharist answers the central questions: Who are we? Where are we going? What is the meaning of life? Who is God? The emphasis in the Orthodox Liturgy is first on being, then on doing. If our personality is disintegrated and if the image of God in us is distorted, then our actions will undoubtedly reflect this disintegration and that distortion."

- Metropolitan Philip

Beloved in Christ:

As we are starting our Holy Week today let each and every one of us make a special effort to preserve it to the best we can, participate in all the services, keep your fasting and prayer, come to confession, take away from you the yoke of sin, accompany our Lord on His way to the Cross so we can be worthy to see the light shining from the Empty Tomb and coming to enlighten our lives.

In Christ, Fr. Elia Shalhoub Very Rev. Fr. Elia Shalhoub, Pastor



TODAY'S FEAST SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH 2024 PALM SUNDAY

Palm SundayOn Sunday, five days before the Passover of the Law, the Lord came from Bethany to Jerusalem. Sending two of His disciples to bring Him a foal of an ass, He sat thereon and entered into the city. When the multitude there heard that Jesus was coming, they straightway took up the branches of palm trees in their hands, and went forth to meet Him. Others spread their garments on the ground, and yet others cut branches from the trees and strewed them in the way that Jesus was to pass; and all of them together, especially the children, went before and after Him, cry-

ing out: "Hosanna: Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, the King of Israel" (John 12:13). This is the radiant and glorious festival of our Lord's entry into Jerusalem that we celebrate today.

The branches of the palm trees symbolize Christ's victory over the devil and death. The word Hosanna means "Save, I pray," or "Save, now." The foal of an ass, and Jesus' sitting thereon, and the fact that this animal was untamed and considered unclean according to the Law, signified the former uncleanness and wildness of the nations, and their subjection thereafter to the holy Law of the Gospel.

THE 9 MONK-MARTYRS OF CYZIKOS

These holy Martyrs, who were from various regions, suffered martyrdom together when they were beheaded in Cyzicus, a city in Asia Minor on the southern coast of the Sea of Marmara.

Holy Week and Us

By Metropolitan Saba (Isper) April 26, 2024

Tomorrow, according to the liturgical calendar, and tonight, according to the customary timing, we embark on our journey into the Holy Week. We will walk alongside our Lord Jesus Christ step by step in His final days on earth. We will witness his ascent to Golgotha and His resurrection from the dead. But before that, we will immerse ourselves in every detail of the events leading up to his trial. Through meditation on gospel events that instill humility in our souls, we will prepare ourselves to accompany Christ through the steps of His suffering, leading to His resurrection. We seek to participate fully in these events, growing in piety and spiritual struggle. We will reflect on the fig tree that withered at His command, the repentance of the adulteress juxtaposed with Judas' betrayal, and the parable of the ten virgins that warns us against negligence and sloth. We will heed the Lord's stern rebukes of the Pharisees and those like them who outwardly observe the commandments and teachings of the divine law but do not let them touch their hearts and change their souls. We will contemplate Peter's denial, contrasting it with Judas' despair and subsequent suicide. We will also contemplate the Mystical Supper and the profound mystery of the Eucharist, as well as the humbling act of foot washing, the Lord's teachings on servanthood and His words about the first among us, and the manner of how we become first in our servanthood (Mark 10:42-43). Following this, we will recount the journey of Christ's Passion, culminating in His crucifixion, burial, and the sealing of his tomb. And on Holy Saturday, we will await in reverent silence his glorious resurrection. More specifically, in this blessed Archdiocese, we will rejoice in welcoming many new brothers and sisters (via baptism and chrismation) into our holy apostolic Church. We will also read chapters from the Book of Job, seeing in his suffering a reflection of the suffering Christ. Job found solace only in patience and complete submission to God's will. Yet, in Christ, we find hope that our suffering leads to resurrection and new life. For our Lord suffered and died so that He may rise. These phrases will echo often in our hymns during this week: "...O Thou Who was crucified, buried, and rose from the dead, O Lord, glory be to Thee" and, "O compassionate Lord, I magnify Thy passion and glorify Thy three-day burial and resurrection, saying: O Lord, glory be to Thee." This week is intense. Believers spend half their day in church if they attend all the liturgical services, especially in the last three days. Orthodox Christians participate fervently, carrying their books to follow every word spoken and every hymn sung. They observe personal rituals regarding food, fasting, and abstaining from worldly distractions. Some of them put bitter herbs and vinegar in their salad on Holy Friday and eat sweets after the Funeral (Lamentations) service. Some of them abstain completely from food for the last three days before the Sunday of Pascha. Some of them fast from oil throughout the week, refrain from television and music, and greatly reduce their use of social media. They do this to fully engage in the salvific events that we remember during this holy week. That is why many of them read the four gospels (at home) and, as they drive in their cars to and from work, listen to the recitation of the gospel texts that speak of these salvific events. Believers participate in this week according to their spiritual ability and life circumstances. Yet, the most crucial question remains: How do I allow these salvific events to shape my life as a believer? The prayers, hymns and Scriptures of this week call us to reflect deeply on our own lives and actions. And so, we see in ourselves the fig tree that must always bear fruit, the sinner who repents fervently, Judas who falls into betrayal and despair of God's mercy, Peter who denies out of fear but repents with bitter tears, the woman who washes the Lord's feet, and the disciple who is presented the body and blood of his Lord as food and drink to be united with him spiritually, in order to become the beloved for whom Christ dies to give him the power of life that triumphs over death. "Yoking love to compassion, let us be diligent to send forth entreaty unto Christ, O ye faithful, that He may raise us up from the tomb of our hidden passions." - Orthros of the Thursday before Palm Sunday Great Lent is a season of repentance and inner renewal par excellence. In the past six weeks, the hymns and prayers have called us to combine contemplation with application and action in our lives. Now, in Holy Week, we are called to participate in the death and resurrection of Christ. We die with Christ and rise with Him