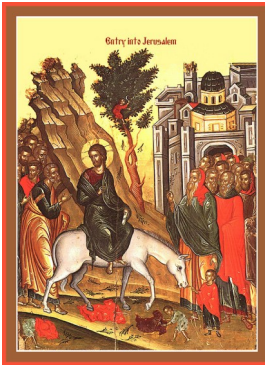


Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday)

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.

Text & Icon from oca.org



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 5, 2026

PALM SUNDAY

THE ENTRY OF OUR LORD AND
GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS
CHRIST INTO JERUSALEM
HOLY WEEK

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.

IC XC NI KA **Welcome Metropolitan SABA** IC XC NI KA

TODAY: Orthros 8:45 am
Hierarchical Liturgy w/ Palm Procession 10:00 am
Sunday School & Coffee Hour 12:30 pm

◆ ◆ ◆ ◆ **BRIDEGROOM ORTHROS, 6:00 p.m.** ◆ ◆ ◆ ◆

1970 Clearview Road, Souderton, PA 18964
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Emails: office@st-philip.net nbushelli@gmail.com frjamesthayer@gmail.com
Office Hours: Monday-Tuesday 8:30am - 5:00pm

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 12):

COFFEE HOUR	ROMANIANS (Fish/wine/oil)	GREAT & HOLY PASCHA
PROSPHORA BREAD:	Kristi Moore & Sissy Hill	Gabriela Plesa & Macrina Layton
ALTAR CANDLES:	Gamble - Natalie's Birthday	Konovolov - Natalia's Birthday
USHERS:	Nick M., Steven M., John H.	PASCHA - Volunteers Needed
CLEANING TEAM:	Nick M., Gabe & Tabitha, Shirley D., Sarah M.	Beraki H., Val H., Mark Z., Robert S.
COFFEE HOUR TEAM:	Carolyn D., Eric M., Justice H., Liara	PASCHA - Christ is risen!

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 6

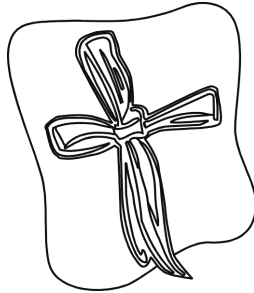
Ascension
Thursday, May 21

Pentecost
Sunday, May 31

Sts. Peter & Paul
Monday, June 29

Save the Date!
2025 Parish Life Conference
July 1-4, 2026

Vacation Church School 2026
July 20-24



PLAN TO MAKE YOUR CONFESSION BEFORE HOLY UNCTION!

Great and Holy Week - Pascha - Bright Monday

Mon, April 6:	Confessions, 9:00 a.m. Presanctified Liturgy, 9:30 a.m. Confessions, 5:30 p.m. Bridegroom Orthros, 6:00 p.m.
Tues, April 7:	Confessions, 9:00 a.m. Presanctified Liturgy, 9:30 a.m. Confessions, 5:30 p.m. Bridegroom Orthros, 6:00 p.m.
Wed, April 8:	Confessions, 9:00 a.m. Presanctified Liturgy, 9:30 a.m. LAST Confessions, 3:00 p.m. Holy Unction, 4:00 p.m. Fasting Potluck, 5:30 p.m. Mystical Supper Orthros, 6:00 p.m.
Thurs, April 9:	Vesperal Liturgy, 9:30 a.m. Passion Gospels Orthros, 6:00 p.m.
Fri, April 10:	Royal Hours, 9:30 a.m. Burial Vespers, 4:00 p.m. Lamentations Orthros, 6:00 p.m.
Sat, April 11:	Great & Holy Saturday Proto-Anastasis Liturgy (with baptisms), 9:30 a.m. PASCHAL SERVICES BEGIN at 11:30 p.m. with the Midnight Office & Processions
Sun, April 12:	PASCHA! Christ is risen! Paschal Orthros, 12:00 a.m. Paschal Liturgy, 1:00 a.m. Paschal Basket Blessing & Fast Breaking, 2:20 a.m. Agape Vespers, Egg Hunt & Potluck, 12:00 p.m.
Mon, April 13:	Bright Monday Paschal Orthros, 8:30 a.m. Paschal Liturgy, 9:00 a.m. Paschal Vespers, 6:00 p.m.

ATTENDANCE: Vespers for March 28: 162 Divine Services March 29: 281
Wed Pre-Sanctified: 131

OFFERINGS 3/29: Candles, \$704. Collections, \$1,016.71. Flowers, \$10. Book Shelf Ministry, \$26. Crafty Kids Fund, \$325. Mission Chapel, \$100. Pastoral Discretion, \$209.25. Stewardship, \$5,354.92. Total received: \$9,991.41. Cemetery Fund, \$48.51.

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.