

GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA



Icon of the Resurrection of Our Lord

**THE GLORIOUS FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION OF
OUR LORD, GOD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST – PASCHA – ПАСХА**

***Христос Воскрес!
Воистину Воскрес!***

***Christ is Risen!
Truly He is Risen!***

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR BRIGHT WEEK

Bright Monday, April 13 – Обливаний Понеділок

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy ✙ Roman; Req: Olga Fedunyak

Bright Tuesday, April 14

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy Health of Aldo Cosumano; Req: Steve Meade

Bright Wednesday, April 15

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy Special Intention

Bright Thursday, April 16

NO DIVINE LITURGY

Bright Friday, April 17

NO DIVINE LITURGY

Bright Saturday, April 18

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy ✙ Bill Cook (1st anniversary); Req: Susan Cook

Thomas Sunday, April 19

10:00 AM Divine Liturgy For All Parishioners (***Please Note: One Divine Liturgy this day***)

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**PLEASE NOTE:** Next Sunday – Thomas Sunday, April 19, we will have **ONE** Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM followed by the annual parish *Sviachenne* meal.  
*Everyone is invited.*

***Thank You – Дуже Дякую!***

- Thanks to Volodymyr and Olga Fedunyak for our new Tomb for the Plashchanytsya. Volodymyr hand crafted the larger tomb and Olga sewed the beautiful cover. God bless you!
- Thanks to Mary Kitt for generously providing the Pussy Willows for last week's celebration of Fowery Sunday. May God bless your continued generosity.

***Remember in your prayers***

Please remember in your prayers those people of our parish who are ailing, are in hospitals, nursing homes and those who are not able to join us actively in our community. Remember especially the following: Katherine Andrus, Susie Boyko, Sonia Cronin, Bohdanchik James, Lesya Loznycky, Ken McDonald, Xenia Moore Sophia Skop, and Walter & Isabella Bachynsky, Myra Heltsley, John Heltsley II, Nadia Haywas. Please let Fr. James know if there is anyone who should be added to this list.



### ***Agape Vespers – Today at 5:00 PM***

**All are invited** to return (and bring their family and friends) to the church today at 5:00 PM to continue in the great Paschal celebration with ***Agape Vespers***. Please bring some of your Paschal Foods for the feast after the Vespers service.

### ***Cards for sale***

Easter Cards and Birthday Cards are available for sale in the church hall following each Divine Liturgy. See Mary Kitt to purchase.

### ***Parish Rummage Sale***

There will be a rummage sale this Spring to benefit the parish. It will feature a special Ukrainian craft section! We will start accepting donations two weeks prior to the event. Date: to be announced. Volunteers are needed. Please contact Olena Bankston at (619) 567-6967.

### ***Prayers For Those Serving In The Military***



Let us especially remember in our prayers those family members and friends who are actively serving our country in the Armed Forces: Luke and Slavamira Haywas, Elizabeth Heltsley, Oksanna Hirniak, Michael Lopes, Paul Richelmi and Brian Tuthill. Please give any names of those you would like remembered in the Liturgies to Fr. James.

### ***A Reminder about Standing on all Sundays and from Pascha to Pentecost***

This is not an innovation, rather it is the explicit reiteration of a long tradition and teaching of the early church about the nature of the celebration of the Lord's Day (i.e. Sunday.) This proscription of the church dates from the time of the Œcumenical Council of Nicaea (325 AD.) There was a divergence in practice in various places and the church identified the need to emphasize the resurrectional character of the Lord's Day. The fact that an Œcumenical Council discussed and eventually issued a Canon (rule) on this subject shows the importance in the eyes of the church fathers. Canon 20 of the Council states: *Since there are some communities that still bend their knees on the Lord's Day and on the days of Pentecost, this Holy Council decrees that the common prayers (i.e., at Liturgy) are to be rendered to God standing.*

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#### ***Sunday Collection: March 22, 2009:***

|                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>8:00 AM</b>  | <b>\$140.00</b> |
| <b>10:00 AM</b> | <b>\$666.00</b> |
| <b>Total:</b>   | <b>\$806.00</b> |

#### ***Sunday Collection: March 29, 2009:***

|                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| <b>8:00 AM</b>  | <b>\$90.00</b>  |
| <b>10:00 AM</b> | <b>\$412.00</b> |
| <b>Total:</b>   | <b>\$502.00</b> |

#### ***Sunday Collection: April 5, 2009:***

|                                      |                   |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>10:00 AM</b>                      | <b>\$1,161.00</b> |
| <b>Pancake Breakfast / Bake Sale</b> | <b>\$609.00</b>   |
| <b>Total:</b>                        | <b>\$1,770.00</b> |

#### ***Miscellaneous:***

|                                |                 |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Easter Flower Donations</b> | <b>\$165.00</b> |
| <b>Candles</b>                 | <b>\$100.00</b> |
| <b>Total:</b>                  | <b>\$265.00</b> |

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**EASTER GREETING OF HIS BEATITUDE LUBOMYR,  
MAJOR ARCHBISHOP OF KYIV-HALYCH  
OF THE UKRAINIAN GREEK-CATHOLIC CHURCH**

To the Most Reverend and Reverend Bishops, highly honored and honored clergy, reverend monks and nuns, dearly beloved in Christ sisters and brothers – laity of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church and to all people of good will

Today is Palm Sunday, the day when we remember the event of the solemn entrance of Christ the King into the city of Jerusalem. According to ancient church and folk custom, on this day we greet each other lightly striking another's shoulder with a blessed willow branch and saying: "Easter is a week from today." I wish also to greet each of you, wherever you are: whether in Ukraine, or in the diaspora where our other eparchies and exarchates are, or in those foreign countries where our Church has no structures; I want to greet all today who are conscious of their spiritual and national origins and belong to the Ukrainian Catholic Church. The traditional greeting for today's feast, Passion Week with all its spiritual treasures which will begin tomorrow, and, finally, Easter – the great triumph of Christ's resurrection – is what connects us, which makes all of us (whoever we are, wherever we live, and even whatever our direct origin is) brothers and sisters in the Lord, the children of one large family which we call the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church. My sincere greeting to you all!

In a week, on Easter Sunday, we will greet each other with the words "Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!" These words are not simply a form of greeting, but a profession of our Christian faith. The basis of our faith is in them, the essence of our attitude toward the Lord God.

Addressing you with this Christian greeting, I would like at the same time to make these words the content of a sincere wish for you on the occasion of Easter. We can wish other people many different things, as we usually do, but when we consider the meaning of the words "Christ is risen!," we understand that in them is contained all that is substantial for us. This is what Christ did and does for us. Here is what I would like to see as the content of my wish, and all others that I could say and wish on my part have to step back in the background, to give place fully to what God Himself does for us and wishes in this holy time.

Dearly beloved in Christ, do not our hearts go on fire when we hear the

words of the Easter greeting? Do not all worldly goods turn pale before the eyes of our soul, our spirit, and, more over, do not all earthly powers lose their attractions? Fear disappears. Worry disappears. We begin to feel some extraordinary force in our hearts. The Lord God is with us. He overcame all misfortune, and there is today in the world nothing that could replace Him, that could become better, richer in content.

At this great and solemn time let us pause for a moment, let us halt the course of our daily life, let us consider the content of the Christian greeting, that basic truth of our life – and all that we know and that takes place inside and around us will acquire another appearance. Where there was confusion, peace will come, and where lies and injustice were, true and justice will rule. Where there was death, it seemed the end of all, there will be life.

Dearly beloved in Christ, Passion Week is before us, the most important week of the liturgical year. We will call to memory the last days and hours of the life of Jesus Christ, and among them the most important two events: on Good Friday the death of Jesus Christ on the cross and on Easter Sunday His glorious resurrection. The first event at first glance is a final failure, but in essence a complete victory, as Christ gives His own self and the whole world into the hands of His loving Heavenly Father. And the second event is the final victory over death and all that would separate us from the Lord God.

On these great festive days we see the incarnate Son of God, Jesus Christ, Who fully gave Himself to His Heavenly Father. Dearly beloved in Christ, the world should also see us in this way, marked with unlimited trust in the Lord God. It should see us as participants in Christ's victory. This is extraordinarily important. For we are Christians and our task is to continue the saving action of Jesus Christ. We, as the Church of Christ, are called to evangelize, to bring the whole world the Good News about Christ's victory over sin and death, by which He released us from the greatest misfortunes, not only to talk about what happened but also to be a visible sign of this, living witnesses.

Dearly beloved in Christ, Christ is risen!

**+ LUBOMYR**

Issued in Kyiv,  
at the Patriarchal Cathedral of the Resurrection of Christ,  
on Palm Sunday, April 5/12, 2009

**ВЕЛИКОДНІЙ ПРИВІТ БЛАЖЕННІШОГО ЛЮБОМИРА,  
ВЕРХОВНОГО АРХІЄПІСКОПА КІЄВО-ГАЛИЦЬКОГО  
УКРАЇНСЬКОЇ ГРЕКО-КАТОЛИЦЬКОЇ ЦЕРКВИ**

Високопреосвященним та Преосвященним Владикам, всесвітлішим та високопреподобним священнослужителям, преподобним ченцям та черницям, дорогим у Христі сестрам і братам – мирянам Української Греко-Католицької Церкви та всім людям доброї волі

Сьогодні – Квітна неділя, день, коли ми згадуємо подію урочистого в'їзду Христа-Царя до міста Єрусалима. За давнім церковним і народним звичаєм цього дня ми вітаєм один одного, легенько вдаряючи освяченою вербовою галузкою по рамені й кажучи: «Від нині за тиждень – Великдень». Бажаю і я привітати кожного з вас, хоч би де ви були: чи в Україні, чи на поселеннях, де є інші наші єпархії та екзархати, чи в тих чужих країнах, де немає структур нашої Церкви; хочу привітати сьогодні усіх, хто усвідомлює своє духовне та народне походження і свою належність до Української Католицької Церкви. Нинішнє традиційне вітання, це свято, Страсний тиждень з усіма його духовними скарбами, який розпочнеться завтра і, врешті, Великдень – велике торжество Христового воскресіння – є тим, що нас єднає, що робить усіх нас (хоч би ким ми були, хоч би де жили і хоч би яким було наше безпосереднє походження) братами і сестрами у Господі, дітьми одної великої родини, яку називаємо Українською Греко-Католицькою Церквою. Сердечне моє вітання вам усім!

Вже через тиждень, у Великодню неділю, ми вітатимемо одне одного словами „Христос воскрес! Воістину воскрес!“. Ці чотири слова – не просто форма вітання, а визнання нашої християнської віри. В них міститься підстава нашої віри, сама суть нашого ставлення до Господа Бога.

Звертаючись до вас цим християнським привітом, хотів би я водночас зробити ці слова змістом свого сердечного побажання для вас із нагоди Великодня. Ми можемо бажати іншим людям багато різних речей, як це ми зазвичай і робимо, але коли замислимося над сенсом слів „Христос воскрес!“, то зрозуміємо, що в них міститься усе, що для нас є суттєвим. Те, що Христос зробив і робить для нас, - ось що я хотів би бачити змістом свого побажання, а все інше, що міг би сказати і побажати від себе, повинно відійти на задній план, цілковито поступитися місцем тому, що сам Бог для нас робить і бажає в цей святочний час.

Дорогі в Христі , чи ж не палає наше серце , коли ми чуємо слова великоднього вітання? Чи не бліднуть перед очима нашої душі, нашого духу всі земні блага , а тим більше – чи не втрачають сили всі земні примани? Зникає страх . Зникає тривога . Починаємо відчувати у своєму серці якусь надзвичайну силу. Господь Бог є з нами. Він воскрес. Подолав усе лихо, і немає сьогодні у світі нічого, що могло б замінити Його, що могло б стати кращим, більш змістовним.

У цей великий урочистий час затримаймося на мить , зупинімося у круговерті щоденного життя , застановімося над змістом християнського вітання, тієї основної правди нашого життя – і все , що ми знаємо і що відбувається всередині та довкола нас, набуде іншого вигляду. Там, де було сум'яття – настане мир , а де були брехня і кривда – запанує правда і справедливість. Там , де була смерть , здавалося б кінець усього, – буде життя.

Дорогі в Христі, перед нами Страсний тиждень, найважливіший тиждень літургійного року . Будемо згадувати останні дні та години життя Ісуса Христа, а серед них найважливіші дві події : у Велику п'ятницю – смерть Ісуса Христа на хресті , у великодню неділю – Його славне воскресіння. Перша подія, на перший погляд, остаточна невдача, а, по суті, переможне цілковите віддання себе і всього світу в руки люблячого Небесного Отця. А друга – остаточна перемога над смертю і всім, що могло б відділити нас від Господа Бога.

У ці великі святкові дні ми бачимо воплощеного Сина Божого Ісуса Христа, який вповні віддав себе Небесному Отцеві. Такими, дорогі в Христі, повинен світ бачити і нас, позначених безмежним довір'ям до Господа Бога. Він має побачити нас учасниками Христової перемоги . Це надзвичайно важливо. Бо ми є християнами і наше завдання - продовжувати спасенне діло Ісуса Христа. Ми, як Христова Церква, покликані євангелізувати, тобто нести всьом у світові Добру Новину про Христову перемогу над гріхом і смертю, якою Він звільнив нас від найбільших лих, не тільки говорити про те, що сталося, а й бути цього видимим знаком, живими свідками.

Дорогі у Христі, Христос воскрес!

**+ ЛЮБОМИР**

Дано у Києві,  
при Патріаршому соборі Воскресіння Христового,  
в Квітну неділю, 5/12 квітня 2009 року

# Our Sunday Offering

## *Two Excellent Ways: Tithing and Sacrificial Giving*

God is the owner of all things. We do have the privilege of using much of His Creation during our lifetime. However, we must always remember, “*To the Lord belongs the earth and its fullness, the world and all who dwell in it.*” (Ps 25:1)

When we have the use of what belongs to someone else, we are grateful to that person. Since God allows us the use of what belongs to Him, we should be grateful to Him.

We need to show God that we are thankful for His many gifts. For us believers, the Sunday Liturgy is the prime acknowledgement of our gratefulness, not only for all God’s gifts to us, but especially for the gift of His Son Jesus. At the Liturgy we offer God our worship, and we make a gift to Him in obedience to His own command. While we surely know that we need to make this gift, we may not be sure what amount we should offer.

### What Guides from the Bible for Giving do we have?

A. We have **the tithe**.

B. We have **sacrificial giving**.

### THE TITHE

In the *Old Testament* we learn of God’s command regarding what amount that He considers acceptable to Him. God reveals that our gifts to Him should be **THE TITHE**. A tithe means 1/10th or 10 per cent. Because the tithe involves a specific percentage of our income, it is very helpful to us in determining what amount we should give.

### SACRIFICIAL GIVING

In the New Testament Jesus goes beyond the tithe. In the temple He does not commend those who are giving large amounts out of their surplus; he praises and commends a widow who gives her last penny, all that she had to live on. In another place, to the one who asked what he might do to inherit everlasting life Jesus answered, “Go, sell what you have and give it to the poor and come follow me.” He thus indicates that our giving should be **SACRIFICIAL GIVING**.

**Our giving says volumes about us and our Faith. When all is said and done, our giving to God should always be worthy of Him and of us.**

### What do Tithing and Sacrificial Giving have in common?

- 1) They show our thankfulness to God.
- 2) They allow us to obediently fulfill what God expects of us.
- 3) They both exercise and show the depth of our Faith and our trust in God.
- 4) Through them we enable God’s Church to fulfill its work.
- 5) They are ways we show ourselves faithful to the Bible, God’s Holy Word.



## How does Sacrificial Giving **DIFFER** from Tithing?

- 1) Sacrificial giving is not minimal as the 10% tithing is.
- 2) Sacrificial giving exceeds tithing by as much as the ability of the giver allows.
- 3) Sacrificial giving reveals our generosity.
- 4) Sacrificial giving is a superior way of giving.

## How do we Tithe or give Sacrificially?

- a. In order to accord God the first place, we should set aside our gift first before paying all our bills.
- b. Our gift should be given regularly at the Sunday Liturgy. If we are absent, our gift for that Sunday should be added to the gift of the next Sunday we worship God.
- c. We should give willingly, not begrudgingly. God loves a cheerful giver.
- d. We should give without fear of being deprived. God is never outdone in generosity.

- e. If our gift is a tithe, it should be 10% of our *gross* income, **5% is for the Church, the other 5% is to be distributed to other charitable or needy causes.** If we do not dispense that second 5% to needy causes, it should be given to the Church, otherwise we would be unfaithful to God's command
- f. **If our gift is sacrificial, it should be according to our ability.**

## What can we expect if we Tithe or give Sacrificially?

- A. The Bible tells us that **God blesses those who bless Him.**
- B. **God will provide** that we are never in need.
- C. Far from being a burden for us, giving (tithing or sacrificially) will be the **means of liberation** from the bondage of anxiety and worry over our expenses.
- D. **Our Church will prosper** in all ways.
- E. We receive **renewed Faith** in God.
- F. We have a **better understanding of ourselves.**
- G. **We will be tested** in our commitment to tithing or sacrificial giving, and be tempted to give up and return to our old ways

## TITHING & GENEROSITY

When we tithe, we are not being generous, we are merely doing what we are commanded to do by God. It is the gifts given over and above our tithe which show our generosity. While the tithe or sacrificial giving may seem to us to be excessive when we have so many bills to pay, the promises of God and the experiences of many believers should convince us that we should not fear tithing or sacrificial giving.

In our Sunday Divine Liturgy we hear "Remember, O Lord, those who bear offerings ... and those who remember the poor."

You are invited to step out in Faith and experience for yourselves the rewards of giving by tithing or by sacrifice. Once you begin to bless God in this way, I hope you will be pleased to share with me the wonderful news of God's blessings for you.

*Father Peter D. Lickman*

*Since expenses accrue regardless of your presence, please commit to supporting your parish even on those Sundays you are not present. Some parishioners have already directed their banks to send weekly checks.*

# ***Українська Католицька Парафія Матері Божої Неустаючої Помочі***

Церква Святого Пророка й Предтечи Йоана Хрестителя  
Святиня Святого Миколая, Архиепископа Мір Лікійського, Чудотворця

## ***Ukrainian Catholic Parish of Our Lady of Perpetual Help***

Church of the Holy Prophet, Forerunner and Baptizer John  
Shrine of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker, Archbishop of Myra in Lycea

4400 Palm Avenue  
La Mesa, CA 91941  
Parish Office: (619) 697-5085

**Website:** [stjohnthebaptizer.org](http://stjohnthebaptizer.org)

**Парох:** о. Яків Бенькстон

**Pastor:** Fr. James Bankston

frjames@mac.com

Fr. James' cell phone: (619) 905-5278

### ***Pascha***

**T**his is the Day of the Resurrection; and for me a fitting beginning. Let us all be united in heart, and let us give glory to God on this solemn festival. Let us address as brothers even those who hate us, as also those who love us, and have helped us, and have suffered anything on our behalf. Let us forgive all things in the Resurrection. Let us forgive one another.

Yesterday I was crucified with Christ; today I am glorified with Him. Yesterday I died with Him; today I am given life with Him. Yesterday I was buried with Him; today I rise again with Him. Today let us offer Him Who has suffered and Who has risen for us ... ourselves, which to God is the most precious and becoming of gifts. Let us offer to His Image what is made in the likeness of this Image. And let us make recognition of our own dignity. Let us give honor to Him in Whose Likeness we were made. Let us dwell upon the wonder of this mystery that we may understand for what Christ has died.

Let us become like Christ, since Christ became like us. Let us become Gods because of Him, since He for us became man. He took upon Himself a low degree that He might give us a higher one. He became poor that through His poverty we might become rich. He took upon Himself the form of a servant that we might be delivered from slavery. He came down that we might rise up. He was tempted that we might learn to overcome. He was despised that we might be given honor. He died that He might save us from death. He ascended to heaven that we who lie prone in sin may be lifted up to Him.

*Saint Gregory the Theologian*