

PALM SUNDAY -- FLOWERY SUNDAY



*Icon of the Entrance into Jerusalem*



April 17, 2011  
**Flowery Sunday**  
*Festal Tone*



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES FOR GREAT AND HOLY WEEK – 2011

**GREAT AND HOLY MONDAY – ВЕЛИКИЙ ПОНЕДІЛОК – APRIL 18**

9:30 AM – LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS

**GREAT AND HOLY TUESDAY – ВЕЛИКИЙ ВІВТОРОК – APRIL 19**

6:30 PM – LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS

**GREAT AND HOLY WEDNESDAY – ВЕЛИКИЙ СЕРЕДА – APRIL 20**

6:30 PM – LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS WITH MYSTERY OF HOLY ANOINTING

**GREAT AND HOLY THURSDAY – ВЕЛИКИЙ ЧЕТВЕР – APRIL 21**

9:30 AM – MATINS OF BETRAYAL

6:30 PM – VESPERAL DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. BASIL  
(HOLY MYSTERY OF REPENTANCE AFTER THE SERVICE)

**GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY – ВЕЛИКА П'ЯТНИЦЯ – APRIL 22**

9:30 AM – MATINS OF THE PASSION (12 GOSPELS)

5:30 PM – 6:15 PM HOLY MYSTERY OF REPENTANCE

6:30 PM – VESPERS OF THE PASSION AND THE PROCESSION WITH THE SHROUD  
(HOLY MYSTERY OF REPENTANCE AFTER THE SERVICE)

**GREAT AND HOLY SATURDAY – ВЕЛИКА СУБОТА – APRIL 23**

9:30 AM – JERUSALEM MATINS  
(HOLY MYSTERY OF REPENTANCE AFTER THE SERVICE)

**THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST – PASCHA – APRIL 24**

**ВОСКРЕСІННЯ ГОСПОДА НАШОГО ІСУСА ХРИСТА – ПАСХА**

7:30 AM – PASCHAL MATINS

9:00 AM – DIVINE LITURGY OF THE RESURRECTION,  
BLESSING OF BASKETS AFTER THE DIVINE LITURGY ON PASCHA

5:00 PM – AGAPE VESPERS

**PLEASE NOTE:** (1) One of the precepts of the Church which binds all faithful is that they receive the Holy Eucharist at least once a year during the Paschal Season. In order to receive worthily and not unto condemnation, the faithful are also required to avail themselves of the Holy Mystery of Repentance before receiving Holy Eucharist. The Holy Mystery of Repentance can be received before or after any of the services throughout Great and Holy Week or by appointment. (2) According to the particular law of the Ukrainian Greco-Catholic Church, Great and Holy Friday is a day of strict fast. This means that no meat, meat products, dairy or alcohol may be consumed on this day (abstinence) and the size of the main meal of the day should be less than the other two meals combined (fasting). For those following the full prescriptions of the Lenten *Triodion*, these rules apply throughout Great and Holy Week. (3) The proper time for the Blessing of the Paschal Foods is immediately after the Divine Liturgy on Pascha. The foods are then taken home to be eaten by family and friends, thus extending the Feast of Pascha into our homes and the world. (4) For those who cannot participate in the Paschal Matins service, the Divine Liturgy will begin at approximately 9:00 am. (5) Parishioners are invited to return (and bring their family and friends) to the church later in the early evening on Pascha to continue in the great celebration with Agape Vespers. Please bring some of your Paschal Foods for the feast after the Vespers service.

## **Pancake Breakfast and Bake Sale**

Please join us today after the Divine Liturgy for our annual Pre-Pascha Pancake Brunch and Bake Sale. Pascha will be available for sale. Easter Cards, and various other greeting cards are also available for sale in the church hall.



### **Flower Collection**

*Special envelopes are available in the back of the church do help with the purchase of flowers for the Feast of Pascha.*

### **The Mystery of Holy Anointing**

will be served on Great and Holy Wednesday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, at 6:30 in the evening. The Church's practice of anointing with holy oil for the healing of soul and body dates back to Apostolic times, when St. James wrote, "Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the presbyters (priests) of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord." (James 5:14) Those who wish to receive this Mystery should approach after having made a recent Confession.

**PLEASE NOTE:** On Thomas Sunday, May 1, we will have our annual parish *Sviachenne* meal.

### **Дуже Дякую!**

Thank you to all those who brought the Lenten Soup or other delicious Lenten dishes and breads for the Wednesday evening meal and discussions during the Great Fast.

### ***Don't Wait Until It Is Too Late***

Start arranging your schedule today so that you can be present for Holy Friday through Pascha. Absolutely no one should miss these services. Put God first: take off work and stand by the Cross of Christ.

### **Share 2011**

Our Lord asks us to commit ourselves to be good stewards of the gifts entrusted to us, to share our time, our talent and our treasure as an outward sign of the love and gratitude we have for Him. Please be a good steward of your gifts and share them by participating in Ukrainian Catholic Appeal – Share 2011.

## TIPS FOR A BLESSED HOLY WEEK AND PASCHA

- Make participation at the Services a top priority.
- In our homes we should strive to "keep out the world" and enter into the peace, solemnity, and theology of the events of the last days of our Lord.
- Be sure to read the last chapters of the Holy Gospels that speak of the Passion, Death, Burial, and Resurrection of Christ.
- Last year's pussy willows should be placed outside in an area to decay where they will not be disturbed. They are holy and should not be simply thrown out with the garbage.
- Before venerating Holy Objects, such as the Cross, the Chalice, Icons, or the Winding-Sheet, make sure to wipe off your lipstick or chapstick. Reminder: we do not kiss the face of our Lord, His Mother, or the Saints – instead kiss the hands or feet.
- If you haven't yet made your Confession during Great Lent, there are several opportunities during Great and Holy Week or speak with Fr. James to arrange a time.
- Try to make amends with those we may be upset with or those who are upset with us, so that on Pascha we can joyfully sing, "Let us call brothers, even those that hate us, and forgive all by the Resurrection!" (Paschal Canon)
- Try to stay after the service on Pascha morning for the blessing of baskets. Let us share in the joy of the Lord's Resurrection with fellowship and love.
- During Bright Week, let the joy of praising the Lord's Resurrection accompany you throughout Bright Week, the Paschal season, and your whole life.

## THE GREAT WEEK THE HOLY DAYS OF OUR LORD'S PASSION

### *Lazarus Saturday*

*Commemoration of the raising of Lazarus  
from the dead*

Having come to the end of the forty days, we beseech You, O Lord and Lover of Humankind: May we also behold the holy week of your Passion, and glorify in it your lofty deed and your ineffable work of salvation, as we sing with one voice: O Lord, glory to You.

Desiring to see the tomb of Lazarus, O Lord, even though you were going to dwell willingly in the tomb, You asked: Where have you placed him? And, when You learned that which You already knew, You called to the one whom You loved: Lazarus, come forth from the tomb! And Death obeyed the Giver of Life, the Savior of our souls.



### *Palm Sunday*

*The Entrance of Our Lord into Jerusalem*

He who has heaven as his throne and earth as his footstool, the Son and coeternal Word of the Father, humbles himself to mount a senseless beast, as He comes to Bethany. Carrying branches, the Hebrew children welcome Him saying: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He who is coming, the King of Israel!

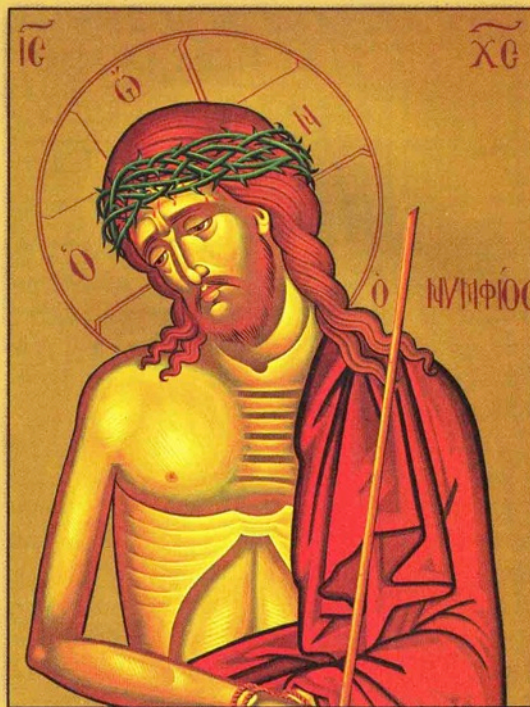
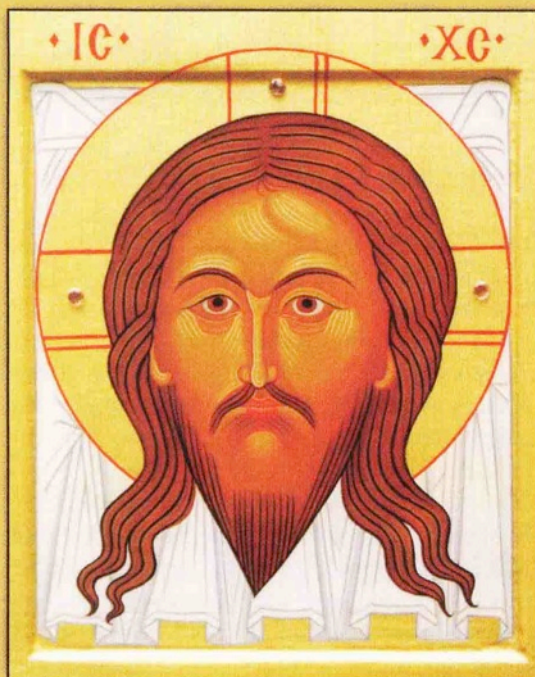
You rode on the foal of a donkey to symbolize for the Gentiles the triumph of the Savior. Therefore, Israel, your beloved, offers You praise, O Christ, through the mouths of infants and babes, the witnesses of your entrance into the Holy City, six days before the Passover.

*Great and Holy Monday*

*Commemoration of the unproductive fig tree the Lord Jesus curses as He walks outside Jerusalem  
(Mt 21:18)*

When You were going to your Passion, O Lord, You confirmed the faith of your disciples by taking them aside and saying: How can you forget the words I have spoken to you? The Scriptures say that all the prophets die only in Jerusalem!

Now the time of which I have spoken to you has arrived; behold, I shall be delivered into the hands of sinners; they shall mock Me and nail Me to the Cross; and after burying Me, they shall number Me among the dead. Take courage, however, for I shall rise on the third day, to bring joy and eternal life to all the faithful.



*Great and Holy Tuesday*

*Commemoration of the Lord's parable of the Ten Wise Virgins (Mt 25:14)*

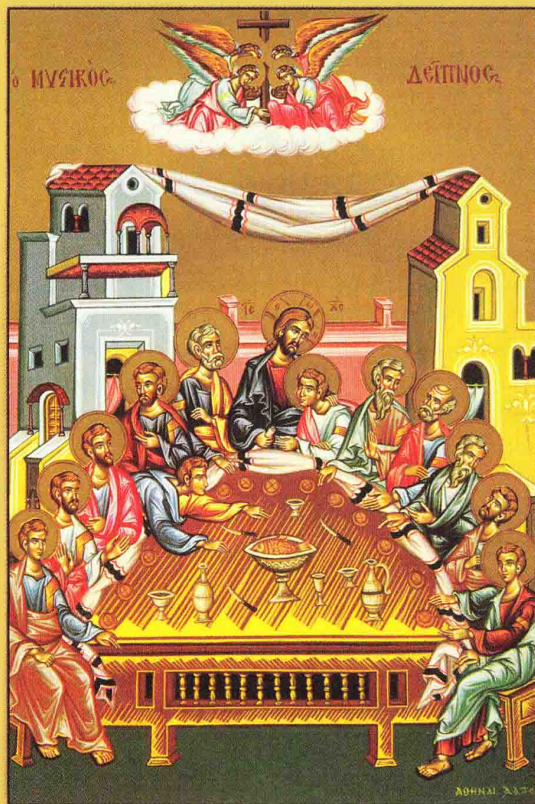
You have heard of the condemnation of the one who hid the talent; O my soul, do not hide the word of God. Proclaim his wonders and increase his gifts, that you may enter into the joy of your Lord.

When You shall come in glory with the powers of heaven, to be seated on the throne of judgment, O Jesus, do not cast me far away from You, O Good Shepherd. On your right are the paths that lead to You, and on your left are those who turn away from You. Do not make me perish with the goats, even though I have been disfigured by sin. But place me on your right with your sheep, and in your love for humankind, save me.

### *Great and Holy Wednesday*

*Commemoration of the betrayal of our Lord by Judas, and the anointing of our Lord by Mary at Bethany*

While the sinful woman was offering You her ointment, your disciple conspired against You. She rejoiced to pour out the most precious perfume, while he hastened to sell the One who is beyond price. As she came to recognize her Lord, the disciple separated himself; she was set free, while Judas became enslaved to the Enemy. She was ennobled through repentance, while he was disgraced by his vile actions. O Savior, who suffered for us, grant us your forgiveness and save us.



### *Great and Holy Thursday*

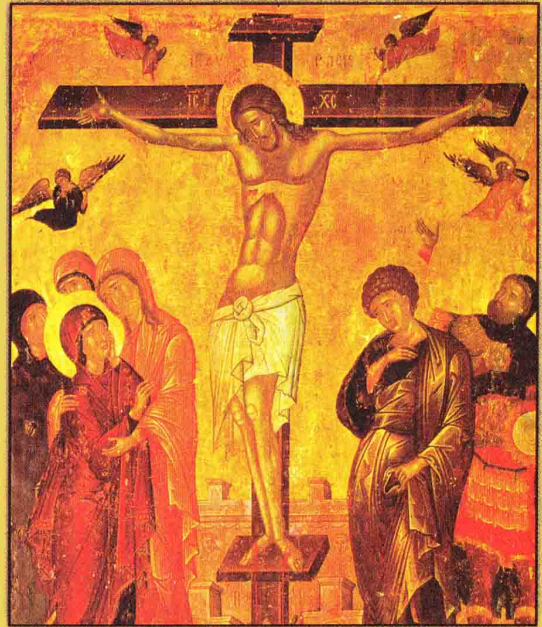
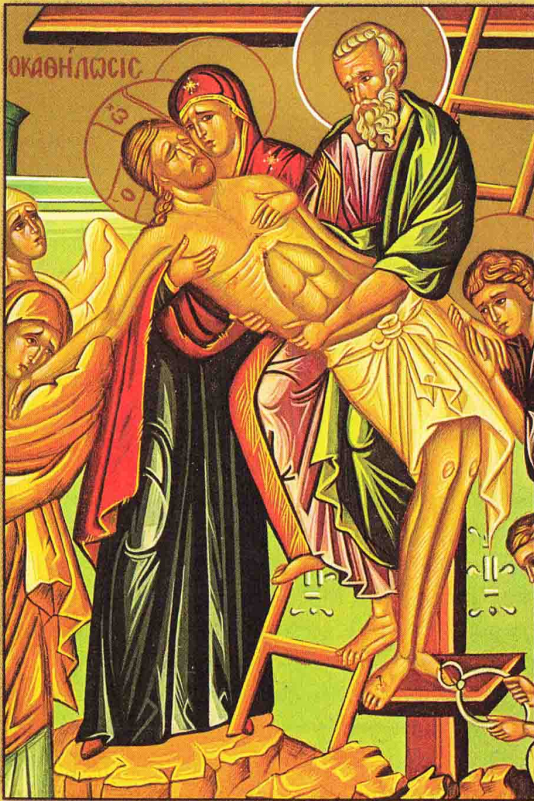
*The establishment of the Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper, and the washing of the feet of the disciples by Jesus*

Peter hesitated to have his feet washed by the most pure hands that once created Adam, but, at the word of Christ who said: If I do not wash you, Simon, you shall have no part with me, he was seized with fear and cried out: Not only my feet, Lord, but also my hands and my head! O, the tremendous gifts of the Savior! He lets his disciples participate in his grace, and He promises that they shall share in his ineffable glory; He said in giving them the mystical cup that He would drink it again with them in the kingdom of heaven. Grant we, too, may drink from it, in your mercy and your love for humanity.

*Great and Holy Friday  
The Crucifixion, Death and Burial of Our Lord*

The all-pure Virgin seeing You, O Word, lifted upon the Cross today, lamented as a mother. Her heart bursting with sorrow and moaning from the depths of her soul, her countenance deeply scarred with grief, she cried out so mournfully: O divine Child, how great is my sorrow.

O Light of the world, O Lamb of God, why have You passed from my sight? Beholding all this, the heavenly hosts were struck with fear, and they cried out: O incomprehensible Lord, glory to You.



*Great and Holy Saturday  
The Great and Holy Sabbath rest in the tomb  
and the conquering of Hades*

Today the Abyss sighed and cried out: My power has been destroyed. For I received a dead Man as one of their dead, but I could not hold Him. Then I also lost with Him all those who were under my power. From the beginning I held the dead, but now this One raises them. Glory to your Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

Today the Abyss sighed and cried out: My power has been swallowed up! For the Shepherd, crucified, has resurrected Adam; and those whom I held, I lost. Those whom I swallowed, I have given up. For the One they crucified has emptied the graves, and the power of Death has vanished. Glory to your Cross and Resurrection, O Lord.

*All text from Vesper Stichera of Holy Week, The Lenten Triodion, Sisters of Saint Basil, Uniontown, PA*



**Українська Греко-Католицька Церква  
Святого Йоана Хрестителя  
St. John the Baptizer  
Ukrainian Greco-Catholic Church**

**Святкуємо 50-років! Celebrating 50 Years!**

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

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

**Pastor:** Fr. James Bankston

**Парох:** о. Яків Бенкстон

[frjames@mac.com](mailto:frjames@mac.com)

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

***Palm Sunday***

The hymns and prayers celebrating Christ's glorious journey into the Holy City reflect both the joy and the concern about what shall in short time occur in this City.

The introductory Vespers' hymn expresses these sentiments in these words: "Today the grace of the Holy Spirit has gathered us together, and we all take up Your Cross and say; Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest!" The Palm Sunday exclamation, "Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord ..." is repeated over and over and we know that it was also taken into the Liturgy's solemn hymn, "Holy, holy, holy ..."

A Palm Sunday liturgical text beautifully expresses the full dimensions of this greeting when it says, "Blessed are You, You have come and are

coming again in the name of the Lord God our Savior!" The serene sunshine of the Palm Sunday could not last long. Evening is approaching of the first day of the Holy Week. Jesus' enemies were not idle; they gather and debate how to stop any similar demonstration. He should be arrested.

The Church reminds us of this change: "As we pass from one Divine Feast to another, O faithful, let us go with haste to the reverent and saving celebration of Christ's sufferings. Let us behold Him undergo voluntary suffering for our sake, and let us sing to Him with thankfulness a fitting hymn: O Fountain of tender mercy and Haven of salvation. Lord, glory be to You!" The Great, Holy Week of Christ's Passion began.

*Father Vladimir Vancik*