



*Jesus Christ, our
Saviour and Redeemer*

Holy Protection Orthodox Church

Greetings on this blessed Lord's Day! Please take a green information sheet if this is your first time here. You can put in any collection basket or hand to greeter

IN EMERGENCY CALL/TEXT 813-406-2620 (Fr.'s cell). If in middle of night and no answer, call 813-659-0123 or 813-451-9829 (Pani's cell). If they are off duty please call Parish Council President below

Schedule

Monday, April 22

6-7 pm Cleaning and Confessions
7 pm Bridegroom Matins

Tuesday, April 23

6-7pm Cleaning and Confessions
7 pm Presanctified Liturgy

Wednesday, April 24

6:00 pm Cleaning
6:30 – 7pm Confessions
7 pm Holy Unction

Thursday, April 25

4pm Mystical Supper Liturgy
8:30 pm Passion of Christ Service

Great Friday, April 26

11:30 am Royal Hours
6:30 pm Crucifixion and Burial Service

Great Saturday 4/27

3pm First Resurrection Liturgy
Resurrection Services
10:30 pm

Sunday, April 28

1 pm Agape Vespers
Egg Hunt
Pot Luck Luncheon

Bright Monday, 4/29

7pm Paschal Vespers

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, April 21

Palm Sunday
9:15-9:45 am Confessions
9:55 am Blessing Palms and Branches
10 am Liturgy of the Triumphal Entry of King of Kings

Today, Christian Education for children will remain in the hall to listen to the Holy Fire experience.

Pascha Sunday after Agape Vespers, we will be having a pot luck luncheon and egg hunt!

Mark your calendar! On May 4th our parish picnic will be at Andy and Kathy's from 11-3. It will be potluck and there will be swimming!

During Holy Week, if you can come a little early or stay a little later, we will be preparing the church for Pascha.

Reminder...Father's days off are Monday and Saturday.

We are looking for people interested in helping out with youth Christian Education. If we get several people, we can have a rotating schedule. See a parish council member or Pani if you are interested in helping.

The Maintenance Ministry has updated the projects list. God Bless all who have helped us complete some of the necessary tasks. There is still much to accomplish both in ongoing and one time projects. This includes the Lenten preparation for Pascha. Please check the new lists posted in the Social Hall and see how you can help! If you have questions or have items you feel need to be addressed please see any Council member or Mike B.

If you are coming to confession, please be in line by 9:50 am on a normal Sunday. On a Sunday there is a Memorial scheduled, please be in line by 9:35 am. Please line up down the center isle of the church

We need a team of men who will, ever two weeks after Liturgy, empty out the large trash in the back of the church (around the corner from the men's bathroom) into the large street trash bin on wheels that sits over at the hall. It gets very heavy because there are many heavy things in there. This will require wheeling that can over every two weeks, putting the trash in there, and wheeling it back to the social hall so that we throw the trash bags from fellowship away. The Linsinbiglers will then take the large trash bin down on Monday night as usual. It would be a huge help (starting today please).

Schedule Continued:

Bright Wednesday May 1 7pm Paschal Vespers

Bright Friday, May 3 10 am Paschal Liturgy

May 4 11 am – 3 pm Parish Potluck Picnic Andy and Kathy's

New Sunday, May 5 10 am St. Thomas Liturgy

Prayer Corner: Please pray for the ailing: Mary, Kathy, Susan, Helen, Neila, Olexander, Anna, John, Carol, Mat. Mary, SD. John, Randee, John, Ryan, Marie, Paul, Mary, Pangratios, Tikon, Vasili, Jeremiah, Dcn. Luke, Maria, John David, Elisabeth, Joshua, Alexander, Nicholas, Rebecca, Genevieve, Panteleimon, Vladimir, Margaret, David, Sarah, Jonathon, Simon, Judy, Fr. Michael, Anastasia, Demitrios, Alexandra, Israel, George, Michelle, Joseph, Jaqueline, Michael, Geverylyn, Thomas, Norma, Sally, Sarah, Derek, Susan, Lucy, Beth, Kathy, Phyllis, John, David, Shirley, Kalie, Madeline, Thomas, Patricia, Archimandrite David, Jake, Tom, Beverly, Taylor, Sylvia, Andreas, Josh, Nicole, Joyce, Sandy, Georgina, Kathy, Pam, Ann, Eli, Shay, Ocean, Lauren, Donna, Kim, Lori, Nancy, George, Sharon, Sylvia, Kristi, Gary, Tori, Joan, Thomas, Susan, Alexei, Mary

Sign up for fellowship! It can be as simple as bagels or donuts. Please see the board in the hall, or a council member if you have any questions. Please refer to the Fellowship guidelines when it is your Sunday to do fellowship.

Parish council contacts: Scottie (President): 813-629-6027, Brian (Vice President): (813) 763-5226, Rebecca (Treasurer): (813) 763-5225, Paula (813) 838-4554 (Secretary) Tom Moore Financial Secretary

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 an 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

