

ALL SAINTS OF AMERICA

Orthodox Church in America

orthodoxalexandria.org

3130 Franconia Rd Alexandria, VA 22310 Welcome to our parish!

Thank you for choosing to worship with us on the Lord's Day. We are grateful for your prayers and participation!

Please join us for coffee hour after the service. Our priest, Father Alessandro, would love to greet and welcome you.

Holy Eucharist requires full communion of faith, so if you are not an Orthodox Christian, please do not approach the Chalice. If you are an Orthodox Christian, please note that communion must be preceded by fasting, recent Confession, and reconciliation with all people.

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April 28, 2024

ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO
JERUSALEM
Palm Sunday
Apostles Jason and Sosipater of the
Seventy

ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM

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.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS

REQUESTING PRAYERS: The Ries family, Jackson, John, Michelle,

Larissa, Cristina, Jerry, Davide, Andra and her unborn child

NEWBORN: Everett James

DEPARTED: Child of God Daniel, Edward

CATECHUMEN: Brooke

MISSIONARIES: The Brandow family serving in Guatemala

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PALM SUNDAY: Today is the feast of the Entry into Jerusalem and everybody is asked to hold a palm branch throughout the Divine Liturgy. Weather permitting, we will go outside in procession toward the end of the service.

15 OT READINGS: If you would like to read one of the 15 Old Testament readings at the Vesperal Liturgy of Holy Saturday, please speak to our choir director, Juliana Woodill.

CONFESSION: A gentle reminder that Confessions will not be heard during Holy Week.

PASCHAL FLOWERS: If you would like to make a special donation to offset the cost for flowers for the Feast of Feasts, please write "flowers" in the memo line of a check or donate through our website.

RED EGGS: In preparation for Great and Holy Pascha, we are looking for parishioners who are willing to dye red eggs. If you plan on it, please let Fr. Alessandro know.

PASCHA BASKETS: In many Orthodox countries, it is the custom to bring foods in a basket to be blessed at Pascha. The foods traditionally brought in the basket have special significance, but many people will add the foods they've missed the most during the Fast. It is customary to have a candle to light at the blessing. Fr. A. will bless the baskets right after the Paschal Liturgy.

CHURCH SCHOOL: Please note that Church School will be on break on Palm Sunday, Pascha, and Thomas Sunday. It will resume on Sunday, May 19.

CHOIR REHEARSALS: Choir members, please note that our next rehearsalS scheduled for May 18 after Vespers (6-7).

UPCOMING SERVICES & EVENTS

April 28, Sun

9:30 AM Divine Liturgy 6:00 PM Bridegroom Matins

April 29, Mon

6:00 PM Bridegroom Matins

April 30, Tue

6:00 PM Bridegroom Matins

May 1, Wed

6:00 PM Bridegroom Matins

May 2, Thu

6:00 PM Office of the 12 Gospels

May 3, Fri

9:00 AM Royal Hours

4:00 PM Vespers & Entombment 7:00 PM Matins with Lamentations

May 4, Sat

10:00 AM Vesperal Liturgy

10:30 PM Midnight Office & Paschal Matins

May 5, Sun

12:00 AM Paschal Liturgy 1:00 AM Agape Meal

MINISTRY ROTATIONS

April 28 May 5

Coffee Hour: Margheritino Agape Meal

Reader: Easton Barr

Fr. Alessandro is available for Confession on Saturday after Vespers or by appointment