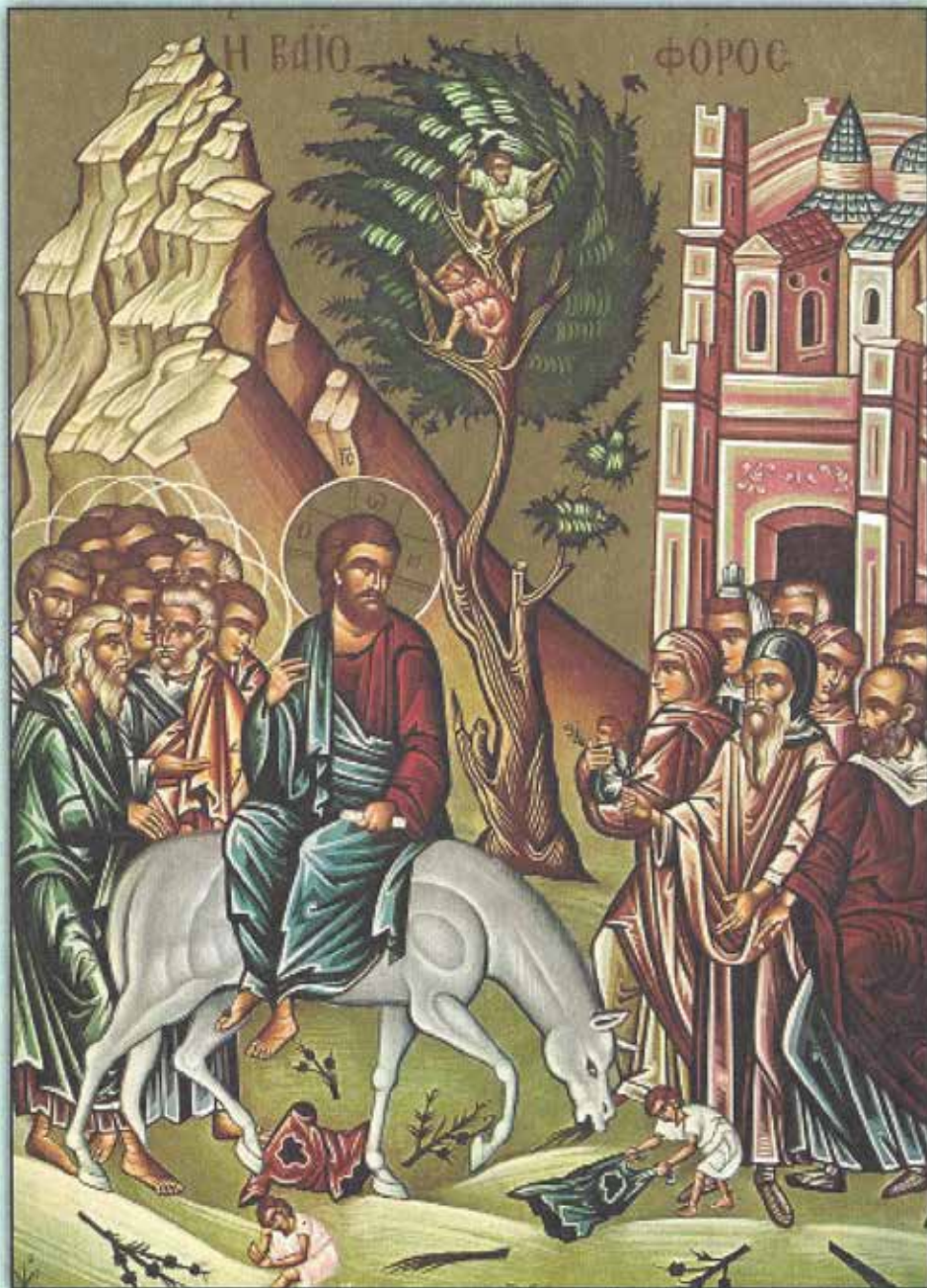


PALM SUNDAY -- FLOWERY SUNDAY



Icon of the Entrance into Jerusalem

March 25, 2018: Flowery (Palm) Sunday		
Epistle: Phil. 4: 4-9		Gospel: Jn. 12: 1-18
Mon., March 26	6:30 pm	Presanctified Liturgy
Tues., March 27	No Services Today	
Wed., March 28	6:30 pm	Presanctified Liturgy with Holy Anointing
Thurs., March 29	Holy Thursday	
	6:30 pm	Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great
Fri., March 30	Good Friday	
	3:00 pm	Vespers, Procession, Veneration of the Holy Shroud
Sat., March 31	Holy Saturday	
	3:00 pm	Easter Basket Blessing
	5:00 pm	Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great
<i>Please note the special time. IT IS FOR HOLY SATURDAY ONLY. Next Saturday we will resume the 4 pm Divine Liturgy.</i>		
Sun., April 1	Pascha: The Glorious Resurrection of Our Lord	
	8:00	Procession and Resurrection Matins
	9:00	Easter Divine Liturgy For Our Parishioners
	11:30	Easter Divine Liturgy for Vocations)

Flowery (Palm) Sunday

First Antiphon

I have loved the Lord,* for He has heard the voice of my supplication.
Through the prayers of the Mother of God, Savior, save us.*
Since He has inclined His ear to me,* I will call upon Him in all my hope.
Through the prayers of the Mother of God, Savior, save us.*
The chains of death have surrounded me;*
and the terrors of the grave have overtaken me.
Through the prayers of the Mother of God, Savior, save us.*

I was filled with distress and sorrow * until I called upon the name of the Lord.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, Savior, save us.*

* * * * *

Third Antiphon

Praise the Lord for He is good; His mercy endures forever.

O Christ-God, before Your passion You raised Lazarus from the dead* as a sign of the resurrection of all. * Therefore, we carry victory banners like the children * and cry out to You: “Hosanna in the highest! * Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.”

Let the people of Israel say that He is good: His mercy endures forever.

O Christ-God, before Your passion You raised Lazarus from the dead* as a sign of the resurrection of all. * Therefore, we carry victory banners like the children * and cry out to You: “Hosanna in the highest! * Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.”

* * * * *

Entrance Hymn

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord;
we bless You from the house of the Lord.

* * * * *

Hymn to the Mother of God

Extol, my soul, the Lord seated on the donkeys colt. God is Lord and has appeared to us. * Come, let us celebrate this feast with joy. * With flowers and palm branches * let us magnifying Christ; and as we raise our voices, let us sing: * Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, our Savior.

The Mystery of Holy Anointing

On the evening of Great and Holy Wednesday, the Mystery (Sacrament) of Holy Anointing is conducted in Eastern churches. The Mystery of Holy Anointing is offered for the healing of soul and body and for forgiveness of sins. The body

is anointed with oil, and the grace of God, which heals infirmities of soul and body, is called down upon each person. This Mystery will be celebrated during the Presanctified Liturgy on Wednesday at 6:30 pm.

Holy Week and Paschal Services

Great & Holy Week and Paschal Services provide us with an opportunity to spiritually enter into the saving events of Christ's Passion, Death, and Resurrection. There are services offered throughout the week.

Without these services, our week will be "ordinary and secular". Don't do this to yourself. Make the week "Great and Holy" by making time for God!

Meditation for Flowery (Palm) Sunday

Have you ever felt alone even when surrounded by people? You feel that no one really knows you for the person you really are. Jesus knows how you feel. The Flowery Sunday Gospel story tells of one such occasion in the life of Jesus. Jesus knew the crowds singing 'hosanna' was hollow. They had hoped that Jesus would deliver them from political domination by Rome. Jesus had not come to give them political freedom. He had come to give them something more. He had come to Jerusalem during the Pass-over to be their sacrificial lamb. He had come to give them eternal life with God. Even the disciples did not comprehend the significance of that ride into Jerusalem. No one seemed to be aware that Jesus had come to Jerusalem to die. He would not set up an earthly kingdom, but he would establish a spiritual kingdom

by sacrificing himself. How lonely Jesus must have felt. Jesus carried the weight of loneliness. Jesus survived Flowery Sunday because he had hope and faith in his heavenly Father. Next time you feel alone or think that no one really understands your secret thoughts, take heart. Someone does know how you feel. He is waiting for you in the calm lonely eye of the stormy crowd. He went through his Flowery Sunday experience alone, so that you will not have to go through yours the same way. Even when those around you will not, or cannot understand you, God does! Reach out to Jesus Christ this Holy Week in special prayer, meditation and through Holy Confession. You will come to know Him more personally in His resurrection on Easter Sunday! A Blessed Holy Week!

Setting Up Our Lord's Grave

The "Set Up" of Our Lord's Grave will take place immediately after the services (approximately 8:00 pm) on

Holy Thursday. Come and donate some time and talents in preparing our Lord's Grave.

Let the little children come

All children of our parish (newborn infants and older) are to be receiving Holy Communion every week at the Saturday evening or Sunday morning Divine Liturgy. Children who have not yet made their First Confession may receive without any hesitation or reservation. What

our children learn during their young and impressionable years, they will take with them into their adult lives. Let us teach them early the beneficial and life-giving habit of frequenting the Holy Mysteries (the Sacraments)!

The Easter Basket



After the Easter Liturgy, the father takes the foods home. He takes a piece of blessed egg saying, “Christ is risen!” and all reply, “Indeed, He is risen!”.

Each food holds a special symbolism. The egg is a sign of hope and resurrection. The butter, shaped into

Ukrainian traditionally blessed foods of eggs, butter, bread, salt, horseradish, ham, kielbasa, lamb, cheese and wine for Easter. This makes up the first meal after the strict fasting of Great Lent. The head of the household brings the basket of food to the church for the blessing.

the form of a lamb, represents Christ, the innocent victim. By the lamb’s blood, the Israelites were saved. By Jesus’s blood, all men are saved. The round bread with a braided cross on top represents Christ, our earthly and heavenly food. The salt represents the truth of His message. The

horseradish is the bitter herb representing Christ's bitter passion. The blessing of the ham celebrates the breaking of the old law that forbade certain meats. But kielbasa formed into links, reminds us of the chains of death that Christ broke. The cheese celebrates the ending of the great Lenten Fast. Wine, the drink of the Passover and the Last Supper, is blessed. Its drinking gladdens our hearts like the joys of the resurrection.

The Ukrainian Pysanky is an ancient tradition. It is a raw egg, richly decorated with symbolic patterns, that

is never eaten. After receiving the Easter blessing, the Pysanky are considered talisman protecting against lightning and fire. The eggs are exchanged with one another as a token of love and friendship. Symbols of little fish, crosses and ladders express religious meanings. The fish and eight pointed star represent Christ. The ladder suggests prayer. Tiny dots represent tiny tears Mary shed witnessing her Son's death.

Krashanky, on the other hand, are the hard-boiled eggs brilliantly colored that are eaten at the Easter meal.

Archieparchial Holy Thursday Services

Holy Thursday Services including the Traditional Washing of the Feet of Twelve Priests by the Bishop will be held March 29, at 10:30 AM in Saints Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church, Mount Carmel, Pa.; All the Faithful from the Archeparchy are Invited to Attend.

On Holy Thursday March 29, the traditional foot washing of twelve priests by the bishop will be part of the Holy Thursday services that will be held beginning at 10:30 a.m. in Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church, 131 North Beech Street, Mt. Carmel (Northumberland County) Pa. This custom commemorates Our Lord washing the feet of his disciples as recounted in the

Gospel of John. This Divine Liturgy also commemorates the institution of the Holy Eucharist and the Priesthood. All the faithful from throughout the archeparchy are invited and encouraged to attend this Divine Liturgy on Holy Thursday in Mt. Carmel, Pa.

Our Deanery will be renting a bus for this event. It would leave from Olyphant at 7:30 am and stop at St. Vladimir's Church in Edwardsville at 8:30 am. It will then continue on to Ss. Peter & Paul Church in Mount Carmel. We ask for a \$12.00 donation to help cover the cost of the bus. If you are interested, please let Father Nestor know as soon as possible.

L.U.C. Meeting

The North Anthracite Council of the League of Ukrainian Catholics will meet at 6:00 pm, Thursday, April 12, 2018 at Grotto Pizza, 36 Gateway Shopping Center, Edwardsville/Kingston PA. Agenda

items will include the schedule for spring and summer meetings and the upcoming October National Convention in Amherst/ Buffalo, New York.

“Barvinok” Ukrainian Dance Ensemble

Scranton’s St. Vladimir Ukrainian Greek Catholic parish is sponsoring a performance by the Ukrainian Folkdance group “Barvinok” [Periwinkle in Ukrainian] on Sunday, May 6, 2018 at 4:00 pm at its parish center 428 North Seventh Avenue. The highly acclaimed dance group which hails from the Metropolitan New Jersey/New York City area has appeared in numerous venues on the East Coast and in Ukraine where they took first place in an international folk dance competition. Under the direction of Mr. Gregory Momot, the

troupe performs traditional dances from various regions of Ukraine while attired in colorful embroidered costumes. Mr. Momot was trained at the Kyiv Cultural University and danced with the world renowned Virsky Ukrainian National Dance Company. His energetic and intricate choreography along with beautiful regional costumes bring alive the electrifying spirit of Ukrainian dance. Tickets are \$10.00 in advance - \$12.00 at the door and can be purchased by contacting Kristen Waznak at 570 241-1223.

Collection Processing Team...

The Collection Processing Team for the month of March 2018 is Team #3: Helen

Pagnotti, Marlene Zelno, Dorothy Zinsky and Cheryl Matuszewski.

Sunday Collection for March 17 & 18, 2018: \$

Altar Boy and Lector Schedule for March 31 & April 1, 2018

	Altar Boys	Lectors
4:00 pm	Nicholas Muchisky -- Brett Lowe	John Sakson
9:00 am	Patrick Marcinko -- John Nasevich	Pat Marcinko
11:30 am	Samuel Sczesniak -- David Slachtish	Frank Lesnefsky

Ss. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church

135 River St., Olyphant, PA 18447-1435

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Web Site: stcyrils.weconnect.com

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Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

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