



APRIL 5, 2026

Entry of Our Lord
Into Jerusalem

Palm Sunday

• Tone 4 •

Assumption of the Holy Virgin Orthodox Church

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America and of the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania •

2101 South 28th St • Philadelphia, PA 19145 (corner of 28th & Snyder Ave)
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Rector V. Rev. Mark W. Koczak

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Church Office & Rectory: 615 West 11th St. • New Castle, DE 19720-6020



Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom Is Served Today

Martyrs Agathopodes the Deacon, Theodulus the Reader, and those with them, at Thessalonica (ca. 303) + Ven. Publius of Egypt (4th c.) + Ss. Theonas, Simeon and Phorbinus, of Egypt (4th c.) + Ven. Mark the Anchorite, of Athens (400) + St. Plato the Confessor, of Studion (814).

READINGS: Epistle: Phil. 4:4-9

Gospel: John 12:1-18

Parish President: Brett McKenna

Sub-deacon: Daniel (Kenneth) Kavalkovich

Sub-deacon: Jerome Stafford

Choir Director: Nina Patterson

Reader: Mark Klus

Reader: David Pellack

HOLY WEEK SERVICES:

TODAY

April 5, 4:00 pm – Bridegroom Matins – St. Stephen Orthodox Cathedral
8598 Verree Rd, Philadelphia, PA 19115

Monday, April 6, 6:00 pm – Bridegroom Matins of Holy Tuesday (*Archbishop Mark will be attending*)

Tuesday, April 7, 6:00 pm – Bridegroom Matins of Holy Wednesday

Wednesday, April 8, **6:30 pm** – Matins & Holy Unction at St. Stephen Orthodox Cathedral

Thursday, April 9, 9:30 am – Holy Thursday Vespers Divine Liturgy
6:00 pm – Holy Thursday - Friday Matins (12 Passion Gospels)

Friday, April 10, 3:00 pm – Holy Friday – Vespers (Burial Service)
4:00 pm – Holy Friday – Matins with Lamentations

Saturday, April 11, 9:00 am – Holy Saturday – Vespers with Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil the Great
(with All 15 Old Testament Readings)

Sunday, April 12, 8:30 am – Pascha Service (Procession, Matins, and Liturgy)
Pascha Vespers *approximately 15 minutes after* the Blessing of the
Easter Baskets in the church basement

Please continue to check our parish website, social media pages, and your emails regularly for updated information regarding parish services, events

CANDLES AND PRAYERS FOR THE LIVING AND DEPARTED

Health for the Living:

Health of *Michelle Spack*, offered by Nina Patterson
Health of *Robert Wanenchak*, offered by Nina Patterson
Health of *Nattie and Will Nedbal*, offered by Nina Patterson
Health of *Family and Friends*, offered by David Pellack
Health of *Parishioners*, offered by Catherine Kavalkovich

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:



**1 Outer Cross in Memory of
Mary (Slivka) Spack,**
offered by Sal, Dan & Tom
May God Grant Her Memory Eternal!

**2 Crosses are available to light:
1 Small Cross is \$25 / 1 Large Cross is \$50.**

Note: Orthodox people who live in areas without palms, including the Russian Orthodox, often use pussy willow branches rather than palms in the celebration of this event.

Announcements / Events

ARCHBISHOP MARK WILL BE HERE MONDAY, APRIL 6, 6:00 pm (Bridegroom Matins)

Please come and attend!

Paschal Flowers – Thursday, April 9 deadline

If anyone would like to purchase potted flowers for our Paschal service, you may bring them in anytime Thursday, April 9, 2026. (There is a morning and evening service that day.) The flowers will be set up Thursday evening after services and kept there for one week after Pascha. Please do NOT bring flowers after Thursday.

There will be green popsicle sticks available to write your name on if you want your flowers back. You may take your flowers after ALL the Paschal services are over on Sunday, April 12, 2026. Any flowers left after Pascha will be displayed the following week, after which they will be removed. If there is no popsicle stick, the flowers will be given away. If you want your flowers back and cannot attend services, please make arrangements to have someone take them on one of those Sundays.

Shop Rite Gift Cards Support St. Mary Magdalene Monastery (Mother Catherine)

if you need to purchase Shop Rite Gift Cards, please see either David Pellack or Ken Kavalkovich to secure them. Your purchase of a Shop Rite Gift Card will help support the parish's Charity projects at no additional expense to the purchaser.

Aluminum Can Tab Collection to support Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

Did you know that you could help Children's Hospital of Philadelphia every time you enjoy the canned beverage of your choice? The parish will be accepting aluminum can tabs as a Charity program to support this city's finest children's hospital. Please drop off your aluminum can tabs in the container located at the end of the dessert section of the food table (close to the coffee table area).

Special weekly collections taken after Gospel or Sermon

1st Collection during the Liturgy is for special causes: the first three Sundays of the month are earmarked towards the repairing/fixing/replacing of the roofs of both houses that the parish owns (now known as the Row House Fund). The fourth Sunday (and fifth, when it occurs) the special collection will be earmarked towards Charity. This collection schedule began back on Sunday, October 17, 2021. Please be generous with your offering. Every little bit counts.

2nd Collection during the Liturgy is for the Parish. *Thank You!*

Fellowship Coffee Hour & Cleaning Teams

If you have volunteered to host coffee hour, please check which Team you are on and when your Team is hosting coffee hour on the calendar printout that is in the white/clear 3-ring binder located on the display case outside the office room.

2026 Monthly/Quarterly Schedule:

1st Sunday of each month –Monthly Panikhida immediately after Divine Liturgy (*postponed until April 19, St. Thomas Sunday*).

2nd Tuesday of each month –Bible Study at 6:30pm on ZOOM media platform.

4th Thursday of each month –Book Club at 6:30pm on ZOOM media platform.

5th Sunday of each quarter –Quarterly Parish Council Meeting after Liturgy.

Attendance: Sunday, March 29: 54 Sundays in March MTD: 46

April 1, *Pre-Sanctified Gifts Liturgy*: 10 April 3, *Vespers Lazarus Saturday*: 10 April 4, *Divine Liturgy Lazarus Saturday*: 10

Cash Flow Activity: Thank you all for your continuous financial support in maintaining your parish!

	Mon. Mar. 23 to Sun. Mar. 29	March MTD
Funds In:	\$1,514.00	\$39,360.00
Funds Out:	\$1,889.74	\$14,269.21
Net Surplus/(Deficit)	(\$ 375.74)	\$25,090.79



ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM (PALM SUNDAY)

is one of the twelve major feasts of the Church. The services of this Sunday follow directly from those of Lazarus Saturday. **Lazarus Saturday** is the only time in the entire Church Year that the resurrection service of Sunday is celebrated on another day. The Church glorifies Christ as "the Resurrection and the Life" who, by raising Lazarus, has confirmed the universal resurrection of mankind even before His own suffering and death. Because of the resurrection of Lazarus from the dead, Christ was hailed by the masses as the long-expected Messiah-King of Israel. Thus, in fulfillment of the prophecies of the Old Testament, He entered Jerusalem, the City of the King, riding on the colt of an ass (Zech 9.9; Jn 12.12).

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. 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 one who will lead them to the glories of an *earthly* kingdom.