



# HOLY GHOST ORTHODOX CHURCH

BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT

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## APRIL 5, 2026 – FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT — Tone 2 ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM — PALM SUNDAY

<u>Scripture Readings</u>	<u>Services</u>
<p>MONDAY, APRIL 6 Job 1:1-12                      Matthew 21:18-43</p> <p>TUESDAY, APRIL 7 Job 1:13-22                      John 10:9-16</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8 Job 2:1-10                      John 12:17-50</p> <p>THURSDAY, APRIL 9 1 Corinthians 11:23-32      John 13:1-11</p> <p>FRIDAY, APRIL 10 Hebrews 10:19-31              John 18:28-19:37</p> <p>SATURDAY, APRIL 11 Romans 6:3-11                      Matthew 28:1-20</p>	<p><b>WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1</b> Presanctified Liturgy.....5:30 p.m. Pot-luck Lenten Snack following the service</p> <p><b>SATURDAY, APRIL 4, LAZARUS SATURDAY</b> Divine Liturgy.....9:00 a.m. <b>Baptism</b> of Wayne Bloomfield Great Vespers with Litya.....4:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>SUNDAY, APRIL 5, PALM SUNDAY</b> Divine Liturgy.....9:00 a.m. Bridegroom Matins.....4:00 p.m. All Saints Orthodox Church, Hartford</p> <p><b>MONDAY &amp; TUESDAY, APRIL 6, 7 (HOLY WEEK - Day 2/5, 3/5)</b> Bridegroom Matins.....5:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8 – Day 3/5</b> Matins of Holy Thursday.....5:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>HOLY THURSDAY, APRIL 9 – Day 4/5</b> Last Supper Divine Liturgy.....9:00 a.m. Matins of Holy Friday, 12 Gospels.....5:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>HOLY FRIDAY, APRIL 10 – Day 5/5</b> Vespers of Holy Friday.....3:00 p.m. Matins of Holy Saturday – Lamentations.....5:30 p.m.</p> <p><b>GREAT &amp; HOLY SATURDAY, APRIL 11</b> Festal Divine Liturgy.....10:00 a.m. Pascha Vigil.....11:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>SUNDAY, APRIL 12, PASCHA</b> Matins – Festal Divine Liturgy.....12:00 a.m. Paschal Vespers, Easter Egg Hunt.....12:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>MONDAY (Bright Week begins)</b></p>
<p><i>All services will also be streamed online via Facebook Live as follows:</i> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Holy-Ghost-Russian-Orthodox-Greek-Catholic-Church-681248091936330/">https://www.facebook.com/Holy-Ghost-Russian-Orthodox-Greek-Catholic-Church-681248091936330/</a></p> <p><b>Reminder:</b> The schedule of services can be found on the front page of our website, <a href="https://holyghostbpt.com/">https://holyghostbpt.com/</a> The schedule is recorded on the Google Calendar of the church’s acct. You can add it to your own Google Calendar by clicking the + sign on the bottom right corner of the calendar window.</p>	

## ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM — PALM SUNDAY

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

**Philippians 4:4-9***(Epistle)*

4

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again, I will say, rejoice!

5

Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand.

6

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

7

and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

8

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy – meditate on these things.

9

The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do,

**John 12:1-18***(Gospel)*

1

Then, six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was who had been dead, whom He had raised from the dead.

2

There they made Him a supper; and Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with Him.

3

Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil.

4

But one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him, said,

5

Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?

6

This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it.

7

But Jesus said, "Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial.

8

For the poor you have with you always, but Me you do not have always."

9

Now a great many of the Jews knew that He was there; and they came, not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead.

10

But the chief priests plotted to put Lazarus to death also,

11

because on account of him many of the Jews went away and believed in Jesus.

12

The next day a great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem,

13

took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, and cried out: "Hosanna! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' The King of Israel!"

14

Then Jesus, when He had found a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written:

**John 12:1-18**

*(Gospel Cont'd.)*

15

“Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey’s colt.”

16

His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written about Him and that they had done these things to Him.

17

Therefore, the people, who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of his tomb and raised him from the dead, bore witness.

18

For this reason, the people also met Him, because they heard that He had done this sign.



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**LENTEN CONFESSIONS:** As a reminder, make sure to make your confession before Pascha. Fr Mark is available before and after services. *After the evening Matins service on Holy Wednesday, he will not be hearing confessions, unless there are exceptional circumstances.*

**EASTER BASKET BLESSINGS:** Fr Mark will be blessing Easter baskets after the Holy Saturday 10AM service, *and* after the Paschal Vigil Saturday night/Sunday morning.

**HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE/SIGN-UP SHEET** ... Please find attached, the schedule for services during Holy Week. There is also a sign-up sheet at the candle desk for parishioners to participate in these services. Thank you.

**CANDLE DESK DUTY**

April 5 – Carol Kirkman

April 11 (*Sat. 11pm Pascha vigil*) – George Kasper

**CANDLES/DONATIONS**

- \$100 donation from Dr. Daniel C. George.

**COFFEE-HOUR CLEAN-UP CREW** ... This week’s cleanup crew is Group K through O. If this is your week to help, please see crew chief Jerry Kopko.

**PRESANCTIFIED POT-LUCK SNACK** ... As previously announced, we will have the second pot-luck snack following Presanctified Liturgy on **Wednesday, April 1**. Please bring a Lenten snack. Thank you!

**LENTEN SOUP FUNDRAISER** ... **Borscht** soup, which has been ordered, is available for pick up today! Please see Sue Maugeri.

**ANNUAL DEEP-CLEANING SATURDAY!** ... Many thanks to those who came to help to deep clean our church for Holy Week!

**MANY THANKS FOR THE PUSSY WILLOWS!** ... Pictured below, Jerry Kopko with a truck load of pussy willows and Tim, cousin of Kathy Cisero and Pat Novajosky. Thank you!!



**EASTER PLANTS** ... Those who ordered Easter plants may pick them up on Thomas Sunday. Please see Sue Maugeri for payment. Plants are \$20 each.

**BAPTISM OF WAYNE BLOOMFIELD, APRIL 4** ... Our catechumen, Wayne Bloomfield, will be baptized on Lazarus Saturday morning, April 4, at Divine Liturgy at 9:00AM. Please make sure to come and support Wayne and celebrate this beautiful service as we enter into Holy Week!

**EASTER COMMUNITY LUNCHEON AT ST JOHN'S MILL HILL** ... St John's on Mill Hill is holding a free lunch for the neighborhood on **Saturday, April 4, 12:30-2:00PM**. St John's will provide the food, but volunteers are requested! To volunteer, contact Fr Mark, or email Fr David Cochran directly [pauldcochran@gmail.com](mailto:pauldcochran@gmail.com).

**PARISH SURVEY – FUNDRAISING MEETING APRIL 18** ... The results of last month's Parish Survey are in: we received about 50 responses! The purpose of the survey was for you to make your voice heard to shape the future of Holy Ghost Church, with God's help. We asked, you responded, and now it's time to take action, together. The full results will be published soon. In the meantime, many of you reported in the survey that you're interested in being a part of fundraising efforts. If you're one of those people, come to the Holy Ghost basement hall on **Saturday, April 18** at 5:00pm (after Vespers) for an exploratory meeting and fellowship. Food will be provided! RSVP to [holyghostbpt1894@gmail.com](mailto:holyghostbpt1894@gmail.com) by April 15.

**THOMAS SUNDAY** ... Fr Mark will be blessing graves (weather permitting) on Thomas Sunday, **April 19<sup>th</sup>**. If you wish to have a loved one's grave blessed, please sign up at the candle desk.

**THE NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** ... is scheduled for **April 26<sup>th</sup>**.

**MARCH 25 – ANNUNCIATION**



**MARCH 29, HOLY UNCTION**



*Rich Jankura anointed, Three Saints Church  
Deacons Curran & Romanovsky,  
former Altar boys of Holy Ghost!*

## PARISH METRICS (APRIL 5 THRU APRIL 11)

### BIRTHDAYS

Maeve Elizabeth Dias, April 5<sup>th</sup> (4 years old); LoveAnn Curran, April 8<sup>th</sup>

*God Grant them Many Years!*

*Многая лета!*

### ANNIVERSARIES

None listed

### DEPARTED FROM THE PARISH METRICS

APRIL 5 – Catherine Gutsky, 1902 (4 months); Paraskeva Levchuk, 1947 (68); Daria (Dorothy) Mazurick, 1957 (62)

APRIL 6 – Anna Ilko, 1900 (20); Michael Kashper, 1900 (1 year, 7 months); Paraskeva (Mary) Konen, 1962 (74); Michael J. Pistey, 1967 (63); George Ivanov, 1974 (80); Martha Hamilla, 1986 (78); Joseph Labash, 1991 (91)

APRIL 7 – Tatiana Bevza, 1924 (18); Archpriest Alexander Progrebniak, 1961 (73); Teresa Bednar Pistey, 1972 (83); Kenneth Chilek, 1973 (16); Anna Baker Fosko, 1979 (86); Michael Pasick, Sr., 1981 (73); Zina Rozdilsky, 1985 (70); Helen K. Darak, 2005 (85); Nicholas A. Sinchuk, 2005 (86); Irene Hamilla, 2019 (97)

APRIL 8 – Elena Jankura, 1909 (4); Sophia Skomin, 1918 (26); Teresa Wolchko Super, 1958 (78); Peter Naiden, 1980; Anna Jankowski, 1999 (86); Walter Gelazin, 2009 (90); Charles Kozulko, 2020 (92)

APRIL 9 – Mary Koltko, 1967 (55); William Robstock, 1971 (60); Sophia Coba, 1974 (93); Joseph Chueko, 1978 (59)

APRIL 10 – Alexander Begnovsky, 1924 (37); Trofim Supranovich, 1975 (85); Michael Zamoida, 1977 (88); John Chanda, 1998 (90)

APRIL 11 – Nadezhda Lucas, 2002 (89)

*Memory Eternal!*

*Вечная память!*

