

# ST. GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICES FOR THE GREAT AND HOLY WEEK



## Palm Sunday/Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem, Sunday, March 24, 2024

**9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy/Blessing of Palm & Willow  
Branches, Festal Anointing /Easter Cookie Workshop**

Readings: Phil. 4:4-9; Jn. 12:1-18

Supplications will be offered for **+Kasia Wyko, given by friends**  
Health & wellbeing for **Tatyana Sechler, given by Iryna Yehorova**

## Great and Holy Monday, Annunciation of the Theotokos, March 25, 2024

**6.30 p.m. - Divine Liturgy & Holy Mystery of Anointing (North Side)**

## Great and Holy Tuesday, March 26, 2024

**6.30 p.m. - Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts Holy Mystery of Anointing  
(McKees Rocks)**

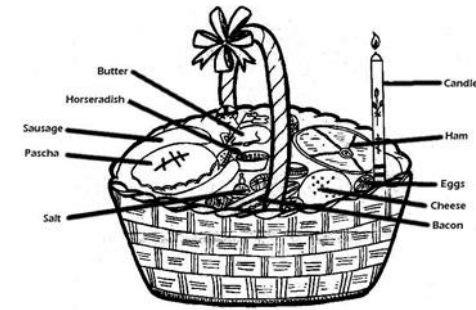
## Great and Holy Thursday, March 28, 2024

**11:00 A.M. Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great (North Side)**

\* "Accept me this day, O Son of God, as a partaker of Your Mystical Supper" is the predominant message of this Service, which commemorates the Mystical Supper and the institution of the Holy Eucharist. During this Divine Liturgy, the priest prepares the "Amnos", the Holy Communion, which is kept throughout the whole year to be given to the faithful in times of sickness. The Body and the Blood of Christ is present in the Church during the entire year and throughout the ages.

**6:30 P.M. Office of the Twelve Passion Gospels-Strasti (McKees Rocks)**

\* We listen to the narratives from the four Gospels that relate to the events of Jesus' Holy Passion and His last instructions to His disciples.



## ***What should I have in my Easter Basket?***

**Paska-** The Easter Bread. Symbolic of Christ Himself, who is our True Bread. Usually, a round loaf of bread decorated on the top with a Cross

**Ham-** This meat is popular as the main dish because of its richness and symbolic of the great joy and abundance of Easter.

**Sausage-** A spicy, garlicky sausage of pork products, indicative of God's favor and generosity.

**Cheese-** Sweet cheese; mix farmer cheese with confectionary sugar, raisins, cinnamon, cloves, and nutmeg. Indicative of the moderation that Christians should have in all things.

**Eggs/Pysanky-** Hard-boiled eggs decorated, indicative of new life and Resurrection.

**Horseradish-** A piece of the root or prepared horseradish with red beets. Symbolic of the Passion of Christ still in our minds but sweetened with some sugar because of the Resurrection.

**Salt-** A condiment necessary for flavor; reminding the Christian of his duty towards others.

*These food articles are placed in a wicker basket. A candle is placed and lit at the time of the Blessing. A linen cover usually embroidered with a picture of the Risen Christ, Holy Cross or words "Christ is Risen-Xpucmoc Bockpec" is placed over the foods when brought to the Church. The Blessing of Easter Foods is a venerable custom in our Holy Church. As we prepare to celebrate Pascha, a feast of new life, let us continue this custom in our families. Our venerable traditions and customs have their meaning even today and, therefore, they should be piously observed.*

## The Great & Holy Week of our Holy Church



On this Palm Sunday, we find ourselves together with Christ, poised on the outskirts of Jerusalem. We are ALL called to be active participants in this celebration. Today, we are not simply commemorating an event that took place in the past – rather, we are called to open our hearts and our souls and joyfully welcome and praise God, shouting: “Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!”

But Palm Sunday will come to an end: The moment, as all moments, must pass. We must now attend to the road ahead. Christ passes into Jerusalem and prepares Himself for His journey to the cross, and through death will transcend death. So too, our journey must begin here, outside of the gates of Jerusalem. Our journey will also lead us to the cross, experiencing the reality of sin and death and, ultimately, life. Our journey is that of the Great and Holy Week...will you join Christ on this journey?

Throughout the Great and Holy Week, we remember and celebrate the salvific events of Our Lord Jesus Christ. As Father Calivas notes in his book, *Great Week and Pascha*, “Each day has a particular theme, focus, and story. Each story is linked to the other; and all together, they are bound up in the central event: the Pascha of the Cross and the Resurrection.” Evidently, the structure and content of Great Week is fixed on Christ Our Savior, who was betrayed, crucified, and buried, and who rose on the third day.

From His triumphant entry into Jerusalem to His time on the Cross, some choose to believe in Him and follow Him, while others choose to reject Him and His Divine message. Unfortunately, even with the Gospel accounts, the writings of the Fathers, and the all-encompassing Tradition of our Holy Church, some still choose to neglect their calling to take up their cross and follow.

***This year for Great and Holy Week, choose to follow Christ through the Passion of His betrayal, His Crucifixion, and His burial and into the radiant light of His glorious Resurrection on the third day!***

## Great and Good Friday, March 29, 2024

**\*Strict Fast\***

**(St. John’s, McKees Rocks)**

### **6.00 p.m. - Vespers & Burial – Plashchanitsa**

\* During this Service, we sing hymns that tell of Christ’s Saving Passion, of His Mother’s grief as she and her friends watch His agony and the meaning of the Cross for all Creation. At the end of Vespers, the Shroud, which is really a cloth icon depicting Christ’s sacred body, is carried in procession and placed on the flowered bier that represents Christ’s tomb.



## Great and Holy Saturday, March 30, 2024

After consultation with PAC, it was decided that Great and Holy Saturday services should be offered in one place for both parishes. This year, it will be St. George’s at North Side.

### **7.30 p.m. - Prayer at the Tomb, Resurrection Matins (abbreviated), Divine Liturgy, blessing of baskets (St. George’s, North Side)**

\* In the darkened Church, the faithful receive the Resurrection Light from the priest and form a procession out of the Church. The joyous hymn of Christ’s Resurrection is triumphantly chanted- “Christ is Risen!-Христос Воскрес!” The Paschal Divine Liturgy invites us to partake in the Feast of the Resurrection and to receive Holy Communion.



## The Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ, March 31, 2024

\* We sing “Christ is Risen!-Христос Воскрес!” repeatedly. As we receive the Holy Eucharist, we share in the mystical communion with the Risen Christ, who has conquered death once and for all.

### **9.30 a.m. - Divine Liturgy, blessing of baskets (North Side)**

### **11:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy, blessing of baskets (McKees Rocks)**

### Bright Monday, Monday, April 1

**6:30 P.M. Agape Vespers (North Side)**

## Announcements:

### Today: Palm Sunday

On this Great Feast of Palm Sunday, we come bearing palm and willow branches shouting: "O, Save-Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!" At the end of the Divine Liturgy we will have the Blessing of the Palm and Willow Branches. Following that, you may come forward to receive the Blessed Palm and Willow Branches during Festal Anointing-Mirovanya.

### Palm Sunday: Order of Confession

As part of our preparation for the Feast of the Resurrection – Pascha, we will have on Palm Sunday Fr. Andrew Clarke, who will be here to administer the Sacrament of Confession. If you have not availed yourself of this life-giving Sacrament, please be sure to do so on that Sunday as we will celebrate the Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem. Let us remember that as frequent communicants we should make a confession during this and all penitential periods, and whenever the conscience is burdened.

We ask Our Lord to bless Fr. Andrew in the priestly life for many happy and blessed years:  
*Многая Літа!*



## Easter Cookie Workshop



Following the Divine Liturgy on Palm Sunday, March 24th, we will have an Easter Cookie Workshop in our Church Hall. There will be a session for adults and children. Be part of this exciting workshop. Huge thanks to Natalia, who volunteered to organize that event. May God bless Natalia and her family for many years!

## Scholarship

Again this year, the Education Board of St. George's is happy to announce that students who are attending or are planning to attend Duquesne University should be aware of the availability of the Estina Franzak Perpetual Scholarship Fund. The Fund is intended to benefit students of Ukrainian ethnicity in their studies at Duquesne University. The amount of scholarship varies. Scholarships are awarded on an academic year basis. Recipients from prior years will be considered for renewal of awards, provided that they demonstrate satisfactory academic progress.

For additional details, please see Fr. Igor or Olha Perkun. Applications must be submitted to the Education Board of St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church by June 1, 2024

**Mark your calendar:** The next Adult Religious Class is on April 18, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. Please also mark the other scheduled classes: May 16 and June 13, 2024. A special thank you to Don Fontana for running and organizing this event.

## Prayer List:

Make a point of praying for everyone on the prayer list. If you don't have one, contact the office and we'll send you one. Specially, at this time, remember the following members of our parish family: **Barbara Fedora, Helen Fedenko, Orysia Barshowski, Thomas Kunsak, Kathee Shabla and Rose Shedno.**

## Pyrohy

Our total income from last week's sale was **\$1066.00** Thanks to all our dedicated women and men that come faithfully to be part of this parish activity. Thank you!

## Collection- May God bless you...

The total for Sunday, March 17, 2024 was **\$793.00 + \$1,752.00**

(Collection - \$743.00, Loose & candles - \$50.00, Nut Rolls - \$570.00, Soup - \$116.00)

***\*Sincere thanks to all for your kindness and generosity\****

