



SERVICES FOR THE GREAT AND HOLY WEEK

Lazarus Saturday, Saturday, March 27

Paska Bread Baking Readings: Heb. 9:24-28; Mk: 8:27-31

6:30 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (McKees Rocks)

Palm Sunday/Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem, Sunday, March 28

9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy/Blessing of Palm & Willow Branches/Confession

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

Supplications will be offered for+ **Philip Perkun, 15th anniv. of death, by Perkun family**

Great and Holy Tuesday, March 30

7.00p.m. - Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts & Holy Mystery of Anointing

(St. John, McKees Rocks)

Great and Holy Wednesday, March 31

7.00p.m. - Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts & Holy Mystery of Anointing

(St. George, North Side)

* Holy Wednesday Services ask us to repent our sins and to forgive others. During the Liturgy of the Presanctified we celebrate the Holy Mystery of Anointing during which the priest anoints us with Holy Oil that we may be healed physically and spiritually.

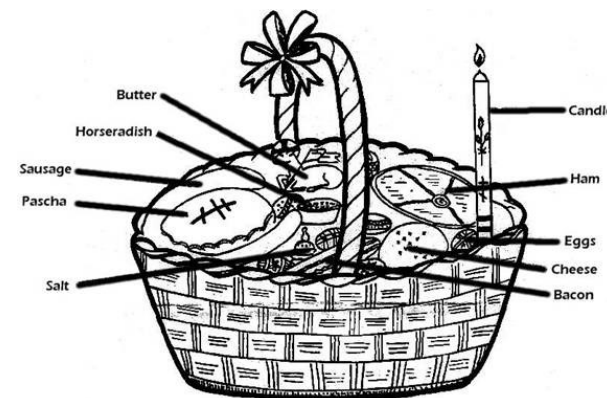
Great and Holy Thursday, April 1

11:00 A.M. Vespers Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great (St. John)

7:00 P.M. Office of the Twelve Passion Gospels-Strasti (St. George)

What should I have in my Easter-Pascha 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 Pascha-Easter. Meat in the Pascha basket also symbolizes the calf sacrificed when the Prodigal Son returned home; the meat is a celebration of our return to Christ.

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. It is also included in the basket to remind us of the bitter drink given to Christ at his crucifixion, vinegar and gall.

Butter- Usually whipped (sometimes flavored with almond), is included in the basket to symbolize the Lamb of God, the Sacrifice made for the world. Some families use a lamb-shaped mold for their butter, which made the symbolism even stronger.

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

If your family has never taken a Pascha basket to be blessed, the above Easter-Pascha basket traditions may give you some ideas for starting your own. If you regularly prepare a basket for the celebration of the Resurrection, take some time to explain the deep meanings of the foods and their preparation to your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Everyone will enjoy being involved: baking, decorating, eating!

10 TIPS FOR HOLY WEEK AND PASCHA



1. Make participation at the Divine Services for Holy Week and Pacha a priority.
2. In our homes we should strive to “keep out the world” and enter into the peace, solemnity, and theology of the events of the last days of Our Lord.
3. Make sure to read the last chapters of the Holy Gospels that speak of the Passion, Death,

Burial, and Resurrection of Christ.

4. If you are visiting another parish and wish to receive Holy Communion, make sure that the priest knows who you are and that you are prepared. This should be done in advance by phone, email, or any other way.

5. Last year’s palms and willow branches should be placed outside in an area to decay where they will not be disturbed. They are holy and should not be simply thrown out with the garbage.

6. On Good Friday or Pascha before venerating Holy Objects, such as the Cross, Icons, or the Holy Shroud-Plashchanytsia, make sure to wipe off your lipstick or chap-stick. Reminder: we do not kiss the face of Our Lord, His Mother, or the Saints; instead kiss the hands or feet.

7. If you haven’t yet made your Confession during the Great Fast-Lent, try to make it today on Palm Sunday or during Holy Week.

8. Try to make amends with those we may be upset with or those who are upset with us, so that on Pascha-Easter we can joyfully sing, “Let us call brothers, even those that hate us, and forgive all by the Resurrection!”

9. Remember to prepare and to bring an Easter basket to be blessed on the Feast of the Resurrection. Let us share in the joy of the Lord’s Resurrection with fellowship and love.

10. During Paschal Season, sing or read the Troparion “Christ is Risen-Χριστός Βόσπρες” together with your “normal” morning and evening prayers. Let the joy of praising the Lord’s Resurrection accompany you throughout Bright Week, the Paschal season, and your whole life.

Great and Good Friday, April 2

Strict Fast

**6.00p.m. - Vespers & Burial – Plashchanitsa
(St. John, McKees Rocks)**

**8.00p.m. - Vespers & Burial – Plashchanitsa
(St. George, North Side)**

* 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, April 3

**6.00p.m. - Prayer at the Tomb, Resurrection Matins (abbreviated),
Divine Liturgy, blessing of baskets (St. John, Rocks)**

**8.30p.m. - Prayer at the Tomb, Resurrection Matins (abbreviated),
Divine Liturgy, blessing of baskets (St. George, 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!-Χριστός Βόσπρες!” 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, April 4, 2021

* We sing “Christ is Risen!-Χριστός Βόσπρες!” 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.

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

11.30a.m. - Divine Liturgy, blessing of baskets (McKees Rocks)

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.

This Sunday: Order of Confession

As part of our preparation for the Feast of the Resurrection – Pascha, we will welcome next Sunday Fr. Andrew Clarke, retired priest of our Eparchy, 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 next Sunday as we will celebrate the Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem.

Paska Bread

Our Paska-Easter Bread is ready for pick-up in the Church hall. You may do so after the Divine Liturgy. Thanks to all our hard-working bread workers for being here and preparing our Paska Bread. It is great that as a parish family we continue with this unique tradition of baking Paska. May God bless you!

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. Applications must be submitted to the Education Board of St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church by May 30st, 2021.

The Ukrainian Technological Society (UTS) scholarship application season runs from April 1 through July 6. Our territory is the entire tri-state area. Students, please apply ASAP, since your high school or college transcript (including spring semester 2022) is a HUGE part of the application process, and often high schools and universities take up to three weeks to send transcripts. For more information: utspgh.org

Pyrohy

Our total income from last week’s sale was **\$1,838.00** Thanks to all our dedicated women and men that come faithfully to be part of this parish activity. We will reopen in three weeks. Thank you!

Collection- May God bless you...

The total for Sunday, March 21, 2021 was **\$1,878.00 + Pyrohy: \$1,838.00**

(Collection: \$1150.00, Loose & candles: \$4.00, Pyrohy - \$1838.00, Soup: \$49.00, Easter flowers: \$85.00, Nut Rolls: 590.00)

****The names and prayerful intentions of our parishioners that donated towards our Easter Flowers will be published on Thomas Sunday, April 28rd.***

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



HOLY WEEK is an invitation to walk into the joy and wonder of life in Christ. Each one of these gatherings has a profound meaning and a specific spiritual purpose, and together they provide a profound opportunity for growth in union with God through Jesus Christ. Please take time to read the description of each service, and make plans to be present for as many as possible. Every decision you make about the Holy Week services should ask this question: Can I and will I open myself – heart, soul, mind and body – to receive the grace that is being offered to me through this service?

Holy Week worship is not about rules, it is about life!

It is not a burden, it is a release!

