

Holy Assumption Orthodox Church

110 EAST MAIN STREET,
Marblehead, OH 43440

V. Rev. Archpriest Peter Tomas, Rector



Rectory: (419) 798-4591
Father Peter's cell: (607) 206-5523
E-mail: info@holyassumptionmarblehead.org
Father Peter's email: frpeteromas@yahoo.com
website: www.holyassumptionmarblehead.org



*Holy Assumption Orthodox Church is a parish of the Orthodox Church in America,
Diocese of Chicago and the Midwest*

APRIL 5, 2026

PALM SUNDAY
ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM

EPISTLE: Philippians 4:4-9

Bretheren: Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. 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. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

GOSPEL: Jn 12:1-18

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was who had been dead, whom He had raised from the dead. There they made Him a supper; and Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with Him. 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. But one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him, said, why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor? 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. But Jesus said, "Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial. For the poor you have with you always, but Me you do not have always." 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. But the chief priests plotted to put Lazarus to death also, because on account of him many of the Jews went away and believed in Jesus. The next day a great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, 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!" Then Jesus, when He had found a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written: "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your King is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt." 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. Therefore, the people, who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of his tomb and raised him from the dead, bore witness. For this reason, the people also met Him, because they heard that He had done this sign.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK AND PASCHA

MON. Apr 6

Great and Holy Monday; Exod 1:1-20, Job 1:1-12

6:00 PM

Presanctified Liturgy, Followed by Lenten soup social

TUE. Apr 7

Great and Holy Tuesday; Exod 2:5-10, Job 1:13-22

WED. Apr 8

Great and Holy Wednesday; Exod 2:11-22, Job 2:1-10

6:00 PM

Presanctified Liturgy, Followed by Lenten soup social

THU. Apr 9

Great and Holy Thursday; The Last Supper



9:30 AM

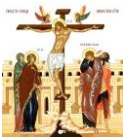
Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

6:00 PM

Matins of Great & Holy Friday - The Twelve Passion Gospels

FRI. Apr 10

Great and Holy Friday; Christ died on the Cross



3:00 PM

Vespers of Great & Holy Friday

6:00 PM

Matins of Great & Holy Saturday - Procession with the Holy Shroud

SAT. Apr 11

Great and Holy Saturday



9:30 AM

Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

8:30 PM

Nocturns and Resurrection Matins

SUN. Apr 12

GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA



9:50 AM

Paschal Hour

10:00 AM

DIVINE LITURGY Followed by blessing of the baskets



FOR YOUR PRAYERS

Tina Rindfleisch & Tony Monastra, 524 Woodshire Ln., Apt. E11, Naples, FL 34105; **Greg Twarek**, 117 Lucien Drive, Marblehead, OH 43440 **Patti Owens**, 311 Woodbridge Road Vermilion, OH 44089; **Irene Vangeloff**, 3580 Shaw Ave., Apt. 305, Cincinnati, OH 45208 Tel.: (513) 376-9693

PRAYER LIST

Parishioners & Family: Roger Pinta Jr. / Greg Twarek / Amber Twarek / Richard Williams / Christine Twarek / Tony Monastra / Alvin Foland / Delaine Ward (Ron Royhab's sister) / Rachel and her newborn baby / Danielle and her unborn baby / Nikki and her unborn baby / Kristen Cassell / Laura DeKemper / Tom Hileman / Cliff & Kathy Ruggles / Sandra / Renee Haynal / Sharon Shaheen (Patti Owen's sister) / Heidi Golob / Ron & Bobbie Royhab / Rodney Clevenger / Jennifer Heffernan / Pam / Jim Twarek / Ed Garrity / Patti Owens / Barbara Wroblewski / Michal Tomáš / Helena Tomášová / Ruth Sheller / Carol / David Martin / Fred Soski / Irene Vangeloff / Sonja Rose / James Bargdill / Carole Conaway / Gary Conaway / Sharon Dietrich / Michael Glovinsky / Shirley Gresh / Betty Kovach / Child Stella Miller / William Pipenur / Helen Jean Rofkar / George Royhab / Marianne Royhab / Kathy Jacob / the child Bodhi Cassell / Gleice, Sophie & Chloe / Carol / Nora.

Other Requests: Maureen / Bob Stephenson / Jim Rinaldo / Roy / Greg / Patty Wandover / Russ M. / Suzeann / Laura Engler / Robin (Niece of Kathy Ruggles) / Catechumen Sessely / Catechumen Daniel / Catechumen Adam / Catechumen Joshua / Catechumen Stephanie / Catechumen Max / Catechumen Michael / Catechumen Sharon / Steve Rohweder / Nicole Williams / John Couture / Ann Turinsky / Marcia / Catechumen Blake Shoemaker / Linkoln Paull / Matushka Melania / Sharyn Osborne / Amy / Bill Byrnes / Susanne / Charles Schlett / Kathy Debevits / Anthony / Archpriest Ján Čizmár / Archpriest David Lis / Archpriest Emilian & Matushka Laryssa Hutnyan / Donald Gresh / Mark Ludvik / Robert Piznar / William / Rick Rowe / Chris.

Military: Craig Cassell / Jake Ellithorpe / Jordon Fulton / Justin Issler / Tikhon / Nicholas / & All Military



APRIL REPOSED

Michael Elchisco (1913) No date provided; Andrew Kopchock (1914) No date provided; Anna Onyock (1916) No date provided; Dolores Martin (1974) No date provided; Herb Hobson (2004) No date provided; Charles Rose (2015) No date provided; **1-**Larry Twarek (2019); **4-** Sophia Jump (2012); **4-** Harry Flewelling (2018); **5-** Nancy Sitzler (2022); **6-** John Kotch (2022); **7-** Louis M. Benya (1976); **7-** Mitered Archpriest Basil Dziama (1969) Former Pastor; **7-** Bob Mazur (2018); **9-** Julia Guzy (2021); **11-** LaVerne Schutt (2014); **12-** Helen Tomko (1989); **14-** Paul Glovinsky (1978); **15-** Stephen Brooks (2005); **16-** Mary Wright (2005); **17-** Lois Mazurik (1999); **22-** Olga Belenky (1971); **22-** John Beadle (1988); **22-** Fred Millie (1996); **24-** Demasthony Ballan (1968); **26-** Margaret Mazur (1987); **26-** Russell Kovach (1981); **28-**Ann Kovalick (2018); **29-** Olga Kollmeier (1972); **30-** Anthony Hubicki (1977)



VIGILS FOR March 29

Susan Guzy 1 For the health of Gary, Russ, Wayne, Heidi, Patty & Irene, In memory of Mat. Barbara, Eve, Anna, Frances & Carolyn, Vichnaya Pamyat

Jean Hileman 1 For healing for Guy

Laura Kovach 3 For health and/or healing of Heidi G., Lindsay & Janet, Jerry Z., Patti O., Deb F., Tony M., Russ M, Burt K., Bobbie & Ron R., Peggy S., Brenda T., Betty K., Margaret M., Mark M., Dana M., Bodi C.

Birthday blessings and many years to Greg

Safe travels for family & friends

Sandy Martin 1 Special Intentions

Natalie Twarek 10 Memory Eternal for Beverly Cole and God's blessings & peace for her family, Safe travel for Aaliyah, Health and recovery of Claire Twarek & Laura Arnold, For the health and recovery of Rodney and Carol Clevinger, Ken Kukay & Bob Stephenson, For the health of Nikki and unborn baby, Health and recovery of Greg, Amber, Tina and Dina, For the health of Fr Peter & Matushka Michelle, For the health of Matushka Melania, For the health and recovery of Richard, Patty, Cathy, Patti, Laura, Kathy & Cliff, Irene, Ron & Bobbie, Rodney, Betty, Carol, Kayla, Heidi, Wayne, Peggy, Marcia, Health and healing for Father's parents Michal & Helena and Matushka's mom Barbara, and Walter, For the health of Mimi, Elaine, Christine, Jen, Tony, Father David, Carole, Gary, Sharon, Sonya, Margi & Joe, MaryAnn & Bob, Bodhi, Stella, Jake, Pat, Special Intentions

MARCH CANDLE SPONSORS



Altar Candles: Fr. Peter and Mat. Michelle, For Health and God's Blessings for Barbara Wroblewski, and Michal & Helena Tomáš (\$50); **Chandelier:** Available (\$50); **Eternal Light & Icon Screen:** Available (\$25); **Candles at the Cross:** Laura Kovach, In memory of my mom Margaret and brother-in-law Russ (\$20); **Candles at St. Tikhon Icon:** Available (\$20)

READERS LIST



Sunday Apr 5 – Tim
Sunday Apr 12 – Joe

ATTENDANCE



03/28 Vespers, **11** attending (3 guests); **03/29** Divine Liturgy, **33** attending (11 guests); **04/01** Presanctified Divine Liturgy, **22** attending (4 guest); **04/02** The Mystery of the Holy Unction **22** attending; **04/03** Lazarus Vespers ? attending; **04/04** Lazarus Saturday Divine Liturgy, **14** attending



APRIL BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

10 – Jean Hileman; **13** – Jennifer Heffernan; **17** – Natalie Twarek; **18** – Nancy Bunge; **20** – Ron & Bobbie Royhab Anniversary (57)



CHARITY OF THE MONTH

“Lion's Club/Diabetes” is the charity we donate to for the month of April



SUNDAY OFFERING

Sunday, March 29, 2026

Tithe	\$1,051.00
Donations	\$ 40.00
Candles	\$ 83.00
Vigils	\$ 70.00
Holy Day Donation	\$ 90.00
Flowers Donations	\$1,235.00
Pew Refinishing Donations	<u>\$1,500.00</u>
Total:	\$4,069.00

Paska and Bake Sale \$1,435.37

May the Lord reward you for your financial and spiritual support!

UP-COMING EVENTS IN OUR PARISH – MARK YOUR CALENDAR



- Apr 12th** HOLY PASCHA (*Sunday*)
- Apr 16th** Bright Thursday - Monthly social 6:00 pm at local restaurant (*Thursday*)
- Apr 19th** Antipascha, Thomas Sunday, Blessing of the Graves (*Sunday*)
- Apr 25th** Visit from St. Tikhon Seminary (*Saturday*)
- May 10th** Samaritan Woman – Mother’s Day (*Sunday*)
-



CLEANING SCHEDULE

Apr 6, Greg
Apr 13, Roddie & David
Apr 20, Laura
Apr 27, Tim



COFFEE HOUR SPONSOR LIST

Apr 5 - Natalia & Ryan
Apr 12 - Holy Pascha
Apr 19 - Fred & Terri Cassell

Please sign up to host coffee hour. Signup sheet is located in the Social Hall



A Traditional Paschal Basket

Paska - Symbolic of Jesus Christ who is the “bread of life” (John 6:35). Yeast is a symbol of the New Covenant; the Jews made unleavened bread, and since we are children under the New Covenant, we make leavened bread. Paska brea**t** is rich and sweet and is made with eggs, milk and butter. Braids, crosses and decorations can be seen on Paska bread and the letters **XB** indicate **Христос Воскрепе** (Christos Voskrese) and the response to this greeting is **Воистину Воскрепе** (Voistinu Voskrese). Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!



The meat products symbolize the sacrificial animals of the Old Testament, foreshadowing the true sacrifice of our Savior, who became for us “the Lamb of God, taking away the sins of the world.”



Kolbasa –Smoky, garlicky and delicious. Meat products represent the fattened calf presented to the Prodigal Son on his return to His father. Just like Pascha, we celebrate our return to God and our joyous participation in the blessings of Jesus Christ.



Bacon – Symbolizing the overabundance of God’s mercy to us.



Ham – Symbolic of the joy and abundance of Pascha. Because it is roasted or cured, the festivities of the day can be enjoyed by all without the burden of cooking.



Eggs – Hard boiled eggs, brightly decorated or dyed red. Symbolizes new life and Resurrection. Red signifies the death on the cross, while the egg itself is new life. Crack the eggs into each other symbolizing the tomb breaking, by death he conquered death! Christ is Risen! He came forth from the tomb, just like a chick breaking through its shell at birth.



Cheese – Hrudka – A custard like cheese, shaped into a ball, that is bland, but can be sweet and mild, reminding us of the moderations we should have towards everything. It can be decorated, using cloves or whole peppercorns, with Paschal symbols.



Butter – Reminds us of the Goodness of Christ that we should have towards all things. Often shaped like a lamb or cross.



Horseradish with beets – Bitter horseradish mixed with sweet red beets, a bittersweet mix to remind us of Christ's suffering on the Cross, but sweetened to remind us of Christ's Resurrection.



Salt – It is necessary for flavor and should remind us of our duty to others. The truth of the message of Jesus Christ. Just as salt preserves food, so preserved are the teachings of Jesus Christ and the promise of eternal salvation through Him.



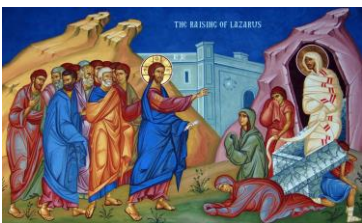
Wine or red grape juice – A symbol of love towards our neighbor's and the goodness of the faith.



Basket Cover – Reminds us of Christ's burial shroud. Every family usually has a basket cover that they proudly display that has been passed down the generations.



Candle – Christ is revealed as the Light “that shines in the darkness,” and that the darkness cannot overcome the Light. (John 1:5) The candle is lit during the time when the basket is blessed. This is usually a beeswax candle that was blessed and given out on February 2nd, for the Feast of the Meeting the Lord in the Temple with Righteous Simeon.



The Raising of Lazarus (Lazarus Saturday)

Commemorated on April 4

Lazarus Saturday and Palm Sunday

Visible triumphs are few in the earthly life of our Lord Jesus Christ. He preached a kingdom “not of this world.” At His nativity in the flesh there was “no room at the inn.” For nearly thirty years, while He grew “in wisdom and in stature, and in favor with God and man” (Luke 2:52), He lived in obscurity as “the son of Mary.” When He appeared from Nazareth to begin His public ministry, one of the first to hear of Him asked: “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?” (John 1:46). In the end He was crucified between two thieves and laid to rest in the tomb of another man.

Two brief days stand out as sharp exceptions to the above—days of clearly observable triumph. These days are known in the Church today as Lazarus Saturday and Palm Sunday. Together they form a unified liturgical cycle which serves as the passage from the forty days of Great Lent to Holy Week. They are the unique and paradoxical days before the Lord's Passion. They are days of visible, earthly triumph, of resurrectional and messianic joy in which Christ Himself is a deliberate and active participant. At the same time they are days which point beyond themselves to an ultimate victory and final kingship which Christ will attain not by raising one dead man or entering a particular city, but by His own imminent suffering, death and resurrection.

*By raising Lazarus from the dead before Thy Passion,
Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection, o Christ God!
Like the children with the palms of victory,
we cry out to Thee, o Vanquisher of Death:
Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord!*
(Troparion of the Feast, sung on both Lazarus Saturday and Palm Sunday)

Lazarus Saturday

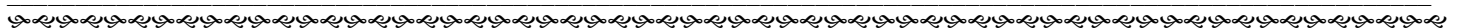
In a carefully detailed narrative the Gospel relates how Christ, six days before His own death, and with particular mindfulness of the people “standing by, that they may believe that thou didst send me” (John 11:42), went to His dead friend Lazarus at Bethany outside of Jerusalem. He was aware of the approaching death of Lazarus but deliberately delayed His coming, saying to His disciples at the news of His friend’s death: “For your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe” (John 11:14).

When Jesus arrived at Bethany, Lazarus was already dead four days. This fact is repeatedly emphasized by the Gospel narrative and the liturgical hymns of the feast. The four-day burial underscores the horrible reality of death. Man, created by God in His own image and likeness, is a spiritual-material being, a unity of soul and body. Death is destruction; it is the separation of soul and body. The soul without the body is a ghost, as one Orthodox theologian puts it, and the body without the soul is a decaying corpse. “I weep and I wail, when I think upon death, and behold our beauty, fashioned after the image of God, lying in the tomb dishonored, disfigured, bereft of form.” This is a hymn of Saint John of Damascus sung at the Church’s burial services. This “mystery” of death is the inevitable fate of man fallen from God and blinded by his own prideful pursuits.

With epic simplicity the Gospel records that, on coming to the scene of the horrible end of His friend, “Jesus wept” (John 11:35). At this moment Lazarus, the friend of Christ, stands for all men, and Bethany is the mystical center of the world. Jesus wept as He saw the “very good” creation and its king, man, “made through Him” (John 1:3) to be filled with joy, life and light, now a burial ground in which man is sealed up in a tomb outside the city, removed from the fullness of life for which he was created, and decomposing in darkness, despair and death. Again as the Gospel says, the people were hesitant to open the tomb, for “by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days” (John 11:39).

When the stone was removed from the tomb, Jesus prayed to His Father and then cried with a loud voice: “Lazarus, come out.” The icon of the feast shows the particular moment when Lazarus appears at the entrance to the tomb. He is still wrapped in his grave clothes and his friends, who are holding their noses because of the stench of his decaying body, must unwrap him. In everything stress is laid on the audible, the visible and the tangible. Christ presents the world with this observable fact: on the eve of His own suffering and death He raises a man dead four days! The people were astonished. Many immediately believed on Jesus and a great crowd began to assemble around Him as the news of the raising of Lazarus spread. The regal entry into Jerusalem followed.

Lazarus Saturday is a unique day: on a Saturday a Matins and Divine Liturgy bearing the basic marks of festal, resurrectional services, normally proper to Sundays, are celebrated. Even the baptismal hymn is sung at the Liturgy instead of Holy God: “As many as have been baptized into Christ, have put on Christ.”





Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday)

Commemorated on April 5

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).



Orthodox Church in America
DIOCESE OF THE MIDWEST

Wednesday, 1 April 2026
Venerable Mary of Egypt
№. 56

ARCHPASTORAL GREETINGS OF THE MOST REVEREND DANIEL
ARCHBISHOP OF CHICAGO AND THE MIDWEST
ON THE BRIGHT AND JOYOUS FEAST OF PASCHA - 12 APRIL 2026

Beloved Very Reverend and Reverend Clergy, Monastics, and Faithful
of the God-protected Diocese of Chicago and the Midwest:

✠ CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN! ✠

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

In this radiant and holy season of Pascha, we proclaim with joy that death is overthrown and eternal life is promised to those who believe. The Resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, is not merely an historic event from the past, but the living foundation of our faith, the unshakable promise of our future, and the transforming power of our present.

By His Cross, Christ entered into the depths of human suffering. By His glorious Resurrection, He shattered the gates of Hades and destroyed the dominion of death forever. What once seemed final has been rendered powerless. What once brought fear now opens the way to eternal hope.

Pascha assures us that life—true, abundant, and everlasting life—is not a distant dream, but a divine promise and guarantee. In the Risen Christ, despair gives way to hope, sin to forgiveness, sorrow to joy, and death to immortality. No darkness can overcome the Light that shines from the empty tomb.

As we celebrate this Feast of Feasts, let us renew our faith, strengthen our love, and embody the victory of the Resurrection in our daily lives. Let us become witnesses of this triumph—proclaiming by word and deed that Christ has conquered death and opened for all humanity the path to eternal life.

May the joy of the Resurrection fill your hearts, strengthen your families, and bless our communities throughout our beloved Diocese of Chicago and the Midwest. And may the peace of the Risen Lord abide with you always.

With love in the Risen Lord,

DANIEL
Archbishop of Chicago and the Midwest