

**Sunday, April 12, 2020**

**Palm Sunday – Jesus’ Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem**

**Basil the Confessor, Bishop of Paros; Anthoussa the Righteous of Constantinople; Akakios of Kapsokalyvia; Sergius II Patriarch of Constantinople.**

**HYMNS FOR THE DAY:** (Found in red hymnal book)

# 187 – Την κοινήν αναστάσιν/Of the common resurrection

# 189 – Συνταφέντες σοι δια του Βαπτισματος/Being buried with You through Baptism

# 239 – Τω θρονω εν ουρανω/In heaven upon a throne

**READINGS:** **Orthros Gospel:** Matthew 21:1-11, 15-17.

**Epistle:** Philippians 4:4-9.

**Gospel:** John 12:1-18.

(For further information go to Archdiocese website at: goarch.org or  
The Metropolis of Chicago website at: chicago.goarch.org.)

**THE NICENE CREED & LORD’S PRAYER** are found on pages 52-54 and 71 of your blue service book. Everyone is encouraged to recite them out loud in both Greek & English.

**PRE & POST-COMMUNION PRAYERS:** The Pre-Communion prayers are found on pages 76-80 in your blue service book. The first four will be read in Greek and the next four in English. **Please recite them out loud as a congregation.** The Post-Communion prayers are found on pages 98-100 in Greek and pages 101-102 in English. These should be read by those who have received Holy Communion when they return to their seats.

**COUNCIL CANDLE DUTY:** Tommy Papadopoulos

**MEMORIAL UPDATE:** Due to Paschal restrictions memorial prayers will not be chanted on Sundays from Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup> to Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. Memorials may be offered once again beginning Sunday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**PASCHAL DONATION:** Through the Crucifixion and Resurrection of Christ, the Grace of God flows upon us and we are led to the road of salvation. Let us accept this Gift of God with a contrite heart, a clean spirit and with abounding Faith in our Savior Jesus Christ.

During this time of COVID-19 Pandemic Crisis your Priests and Parish Council are praying for everyone’s good health and would like to extend to all of you their best wishes for a joyous Pascha. We also ask you to please remember our parish of SS. Constantine and Helen with a generous Easter Offering. Be as generous in your love for Him as He is in His love for you.

Easter Offerings may be mailed to the church office in the envelopes mailed to your homes or electronically through the Tithe.ly Giving Program. Thank you all and Kali Anastasi!

**SAINT OF THE DAY - ANTHOUSSA THE RIGHTEOUS OF CONSTANTINOPLE:**

Anthoussa was the daughter of Emperor Constantine V, in the eight century. She was level headed, in spite of the luxury, wealth, and position of her family. She was inspired in the church of Hagia Sophia to commit her life to Christ, but she was torn between her calling and her respect for her father the emperor. When her father died, she gave her considerable wealth to the poor of the city, became a nun, and came to be known as one of the most spiritual women in the Byzantine Empire.

**SUNDAY SCHOOLCLASSES** have been cancelled for this year.

**GREEK SCHOOL NEWS:** Classes are canceled until further notice. E-learning is being offered. For details, contact Greek School principal Zoe Koultouridis.

**PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS:** **The Annual Palm Sunday Luncheon and Bake Sale** has been canceled.

**The Spaghetti Benefit Dinner**, schedule for May 7<sup>th</sup>, has been postponed to a later date. More information will be forth coming.

**GOYA LAMB RAFFLE:** Our GOYA will be raffling off 3 lambs this year for Easter. Tickets for the Raffle are available from individual Goyans. Tickets are \$5.00 each or 3 for \$10.00. The raffle will be held on Palm Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. Please support the efforts of our GOYA.

**SCHOLARSHIP NEWS:** Applications for the AHEPA, GOYA, Cathedral, Chion Society, Panagiotis Proimos and Novak Family Scholarships, are available in the church office. Deadline for applications is Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>.

**YOUTH MINISTRY UPDATES:** The Metropolis of Chicago Youth Office has announced that the Jr. Olympics scheduled for May and the Fanari Camp Program that was to be held in June and July have been canceled.

**FOOD PANTRY:** The call to remember the hungry and needy of the world is a continuous call by our Lord Jesus Christ. Donations of a ham for Easter as well as pasta, spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, canned meats, canned tuna, canned fruits, canned vegetables, dry beans, lentils are all needed. Other things needed are personal hygiene items, shampoo, and toothpaste, cleaning products, hand soap, dish soap, toilet paper and other paper goods. Cash donations are always welcome.

At this time the Food Pantry will remain open on Fridays, from 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon. However, instead of our regular parishioner crew working it, volunteers from the Ross Township office will. If there is anyone 18-40, without any medical conditions who would like to volunteer and work during these times is asked to contact Karen Petalas at the Township Office or Patty Makarounas through the church office.

**OCMC MISSION APPEAL:** Our Sunday School students have been given Mission Boxes and we ask them to be returned to the church office by Palm Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. Your support is vital in helping to proclaim the Good News of Salvation through Jesus Christ throughout the world.

**THE ANNUAL RESURRECTION BALLOON RELEASE** that was to be held on Sunday, April 26<sup>th</sup> has been canceled.

**JESUS CLOSET UPDATE:** Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, the shelter’s we work with in Lake, Porter and La Porte Counties are no longer accepting donations of clothing, bedding, blankets and other household items. Because of this we are forced to shut down our JC’s Closet until further notice. Please do not bring any items to church as they pose a health risk for our workers and staff, and we do not have any proper areas to store these items. Thank you to all who supported this Outreach Ministry and we look forward to working with you in the near future.

**LIFE IS FRAGILE – HANDLE WITH PRAYER.**

**STEWARDSHIP:** Every parishioner should be a supporting member, a steward, of our Cathedral. Everyone should contribute what they can. We all need to have the willingness to make a commitment of faith and to “go on record” as being a believer and a supporter of God’s work through His Church. Since the Coronavirus Pandemic hit, the income of our parish has been cut by 90%. If some of you have not yet returned your 2020 Pledge Form to the church office, please, do so without delay. Also, keep current in your payments. Stewardship pledge should be at least one quarter paid as of April. To make giving easier for all our faithful, we have established an online program called [Tithe.ly/give](https://tithe.ly/give). This will allow those who have internet accessibility to continue to make offerings for stewardship payments, candles, Helping Hand, Food Pantry and other donations that help cover the costs of operating our parish with just a click of your computer keys. Read on below and check out the link listed. It is a symbolic profession of faith when we all work together and helps our church to better plan for its various financial needs and expenditures. Thank you.

During this difficult situation and time of separation, we are working hard to make sure you can stay connected to your church. Services are being streamed. Bible studies and youth groups are being held on Zoom. And now, you can support the church from your home! Click the following link to access the Cathedral's online giving page. Make sure you select what type of donation you want to make and if you'd like to cover our processing fees. You also have the ability to enter your stewardship number (listed on your stewardship envelopes) which would help our office a ton!

<https://tithe.ly/give?c=1385847>

#### **PALM SUNDAY: THE FEAST OF THE ENTRANCE OF OUR LORD JESUS**

**CHRIST INTO JERUSALEM:** On the Sunday before the Feast of Great and Holy Pascha and at the beginning of Holy Week, the Orthodox Church celebrates one of its most joyous feasts of the year. Palm Sunday is the commemoration of the Entrance of our Lord into Jerusalem following His glorious miracles of raising Lazarus from the dead. Having anticipated His arrival and having heard of the miracle, the people went out to meet the Lord and welcomed Him with displays of honor and shouts of praise. On this day, we receive and worship Christ in this same manner, acknowledging Him as our King and Lord. At the outset of His public ministry Jesus proclaimed the kingdom of God and announced that the powers of the age to come were already active in the present age (Luke 7:18-22). His words and mighty works were performed “to produce repentance as the response to His call, a call to an inward change of mind and heart, which would result in concrete changes in one’s life, a call to follow Him and accept His messianic destiny.” The triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem is a messianic event, through which His divine authority was declared. Palm Sunday summons us to behold our King: the Word of God made flesh. We are called to behold Him not simply as the One who came to us once riding on a colt, but as the One who is always present in His Church, coming ceaselessly to us in power and glory at every Eucharist, in every prayer and sacrament, and in every act of love, kindness and mercy. He comes to free us from all our fears and insecurities, “to take solemn possession of our soul, and to be enthroned in our heart,” as someone has said. He comes not only to deliver us from our deaths by His death and Resurrection, but also to make us capable of attaining the most perfect fellowship or union with Him. He is the King, who liberates us from the darkness of sin and the bondage of death. Palm Sunday summons us to behold our King: the vanquisher of death and the giver of life. So we wish all a Kali Anastasi! – A Glorious Resurrection!

**HOLY EPARCHIAL SYNOD COMMUNIQUE:** On Monday, April 6, 2020, the Holy Eparchial Synod convened, via teleconference, in order to discuss significant matters that affect the Archdiocese of America, and unanimously decided the following:

- 1) The sacred services of our Orthodox tradition for Holy Week and Easter will continue to be observed in the Parishes and the Monasteries following the directives of the local Metropolitans and in accordance to the mandates of the respective State and Health authorities. Therefore, the “**closed-doors**” **policy will be strictly enforced**, the services will be broadcasted via the internet and they will be celebrated only with the participation of the priest, the chanter, and the acolyte.
- 2) Abiding by the regulations of the aforementioned State and Health authorities, there will be absolutely **no distribution of the traditional material offerings to the faithful, including palms, candles, Holy Unction, flowers, eggs and the Paschal Light**.
- 3) Spiritual guidance may be provided remotely using technological means, but the Sacrament of Holy Confession and the Prayer of Absolution cannot be offered via the telephone or via electronic media.
- 4) This year’s National Clergy-Laity Congress will be held through an internet teleconference forum on a date to be announced in the near future.

**HOLY WEEK SERVICE SCHEDULE:** As we can see from the Communique above this will be a very different Holy Week and Easter celebration than what we are used to. We kindly ask all our faithful to please follow the directions that have come from our Holy Eparchial Synod of the Archdiocese of America, which His Eminence, Metropolitan Nathanael of Chicago, is a member. We will offer services (see Service Schedule below) via livestream. No one will be allowed in the church, except those designated above or who have received permission from His Eminence to assist with the services. No palms, Holy Unction, flowers, eggs or Paschal Light will be distributed. Candles may be offered through the **Tithe.ly Giving Program** (information may be found in this bulletin) and will be lit by the clergy on a daily basis as requests come in. Please understand, we must follow the rules set before us. We cannot put people at risk because of our will to do things our way. Remember it’s not our will be done, but God’s! We are all in this together. Don’t endanger yourself, loved ones, health care workers, clergy and others. Be safe! Stay home! Keep the faith and we will get through this!!!

#### **HOLY WEEK SERVICE SCHEDULE**

**\*The Cathedral & Chapel will be closed to the public during the worship services. Services will be livestreamed at the times listed. Please tune-in and worship with us. Please note that times may change if there is a government curfew order set.\***

**Palm Sunday, April 12** – Divine Liturgy with the Prayer of Palm Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Evening – Nymphios/Bridegroom Service: 5:00 p.m.

**Holy Monday, April 13** – Nymphios/Bridegroom Service: 5:00 p.m.

**Holy Tuesday, April 14** – Nymphios/Bridegroom Service: 5:00 p.m.

**Holy Wednesday, April 15** – Holy Thursday Matins: 5:00 p.m.

**Holy Thursday, April 16** – Divine Liturgy of the Last Supper: 9:00 a.m.

Evening – The Passion of our Lord (12 Gospel Readings): 5:00 p.m.

**Holy (Good) Friday, April 17** – Afternoon – Apokathelosis Service: 2:30 p.m.

Evening – Lamentations Service (Epitaphios Thrinos): 5:00 p.m.

**Holy Saturday, April 18** – Divine Liturgy of the First Resurrection: 9:00 a.m.

Resurrection Service & Divine Liturgy: 10:00 p.m.

**Pascha/Easter Sunday, April 19** – Agape Vespers: 11:00 a.m.