

March 29, 2026

Flowery Sunday, the Entrance of our Lord into Jerusalem



# Veil of Protection

SAINT MARY BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Propers for Palm Sunday: pp. 235 – 241

## St. Mary: Divine Services for the Week:

SUN., MARCH 29 ..... PALM SUNDAY

10:45 A.M. .... THIRD HOUR

11:00 A.M. .... DIVINE LITURGY of St. John Chrysostom,  
Blessing of Palms & Procession

*Intention: + Elsie Plumb, requested by Greg Plumb*

WED., APRIL 1 ..... HOLY WEDNESDAY

5:00 - 5:45 P.M. .... Confessions

6:00 P.M. .... LITURGY of the PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS & HOLY ANOINTING

THUR., APRIL 2 ..... HOLY THURSDAY

6:00 P.M. .... VESPERAL LITURGY of ST. BASIL the GREAT

*Intention: Special Intention, requested by Mike and Patty Costantino*

FRI., APRIL 3 ..... HOLY and GREAT FRIDAY

6:00 P.M. .... BURIAL VESPERS

7:30 P.M. .... Fast friendly snacks available in the hall

8:15 P.M. .... JERUSALEM MATINS

SAT., APRIL 4 ..... HOLY SATURDAY

9:00 A.M. .... VESPERAL LITURGY of ST. BASIL the GREAT

*Intention: + Reid Hoover, requested by Claire Arnold*

SUN., APRIL 5 ..... RESURRECTION of our LORD

10:00 A.M. .... RESURRECTION MATINS and DIVINE LITURGY,  
Blessing of Easter Baskets in the Hall

*Intention: + Jack Kotula, requested by Betty Kotula*

## Happy Birthday Greetings:

March 26: Marie Kotula, David Kowalsky

## Wedding Anniversaries:

None for the week

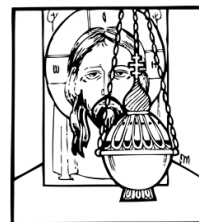
## Please Pray For Our Sick and Shut-ins

HOME: Penny Furis, William Killian, Joyce Rose, Eleanor Soltis

Franciscan Manor: (71 Darlington Rd., Beaver Falls, PA 15010) - George Cirka

*Christ is among us! He is and shall be!*

*Christos posred' i nas! Jest' i budet!*



THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP

March 29 – April 4, 2026

*Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:*

The Parishioners

Parish Offerings for March 22, 2026

Not available this week

Do not neglect good deeds and generosity, God is pleased by sacrifices of that kind." (Hebrews 13:16)

*During this time, we are called to make every effort to “lay aside all earthly cares”, to devote ourselves to contemplate the central Mysteries of our Faith which are revealed in the liturgical services of Passion Week: the Cross, the Tomb and the Resurrection of Christ. So significant is Holy Week that “time seems to stand still, and earthly life ceases for the faithful, as they go up with the Lord to Jerusalem”. (Fr. Thomas Hopko)*

E	S	Y	C	S	A	O	K	S	E	MOUNT
C	G	E	L	E	N	C	O	L	T	OLIVES
L	N	K	O	H	N	E	O	E	N	VILLAGE
O	I	N	A	C	A	C	H	V	U	DONKEY
A	S	O	S	N	S	P	O	I	O	COLT
K	S	D	M	A	O	I	L	L	M	CLOAKS
S	E	O	T	R	H	A	I	L	P	BRANCHES
L	L	N	P	B	U	V	E	A	O	HOSANNA
I	B	K	O	R	E	T	V	G	R	SON
V	A	E	Y	S	A	N	S	E	P	BLESSINGS
										TURMOIL
										PROPHET



***Excerpt from Christ our Pascha:***

**The Pascha (Passover) of Christ: Entrance of the Lord into Jerusalem.** In the liturgical hymns of Palm Sunday, also known as Flowery Sunday, we sing of the children of Jerusalem, who greeted Christ as King even though the Pharisees and scribes refused to accept Him: “O, evil and adulterous generation, why have you treated your Lord so faithlessly? ... Why have you rejected the prophet’s words which proclaim him? Your own children sang to your shame today: ‘Hosanna to the son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!’” Just as the people greeted Christ with branches from trees, so Christians also greet Christ with “palms of virtue” as he enters upon his voluntary Passion. Those who have not acquired virtues and have rejected Christ are compared to the barren fig tree: “The rod of Aaron, though dried up and withered, was changed into a green branch that put forth leaves; but the lawless assembly was changed into an unfruitful fig tree.” (#222)

**St. George: Divine Services for the Week:**

**TUE., MARCH 31 ..... HOLY TUESDAY**

5:00 - 5:45 P.M. .... Confessions

6:00 P.M. .... LITURGY of the PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS with HOLY ANOINTING

**THUR., APRIL 2 ..... HOLY THURSDAY**

9:00 A.M. ....MATINS of the COMMEMORATION of the MYSTICAL SUPPER

**FRI., APRIL 3 ..... HOLY and GREAT FRIDAY**

9:00 A.M. ....MATINS of the TWELVE PASSION GOSPELS

1:00 P.M. .... ROYAL HOURS of GOOD FRIDAY with BURIAL PROCESSION

**SAT., APRIL 4 ..... HOLY SATURDAY, RESURRECTION of our LORD, *Anticipated***

6:30 P.M. ....MIDNIGHT OFFICE of PASCHA

7:00 P.M. ....RESURRECTION MATINS with PASCHAL DIVINE LITURGY

*Intention: + Mary Ann Jugan, 40th day of passing*

*There will be Blessing of Baskets and a Reception in the Center following the Saturday, April 4 Resurrection Matins and Divine Liturgy. Join us as we break the fast and indulge in our traditional Easter Foods!*

**St. Nicholas: Divine Services for the Week:**

**SAT., APRIL 4 ..... HOLY SATURDAY, RESURRECTION of our LORD, *Anticipated***

4:00 P.M. .... PASCHAL DIVINE LITURGY

**Blessing of Easter Baskets**

*Intention: For the People of St. George, St. Mary, and St. Nicholas Chapel*

**I will be available Tuesday and Wednesday for Confession prior to Pre-sanctified Liturgy from 5:00-5:45pm. While I will always hear a Confession upon request, I would appreciate if you ask now if you know you will need special arrangements made as I will be extremely busy with all the services beginning Holy Thursday.**

*Fr. Anthony*

### A Note from Fr. Anthony

The 40 Days of Lent have ended, and we have arrived at Great and Holy Week. A reminder that **Great and Holy Friday is a day of strict fast from meat and dairy products.** Traditionally, this was a week of more intense fasting. I encourage all who are able to continue Great and Holy Friday's fast through Holy Saturday (as we commemorate our Lord's descent into Hades that day) until after the celebration of an Easter Divine Liturgy.

Next week, we will only have Divine Services Bright Monday and Tuesday to allow myself and our cantors time to recover from the extremely intense services of Great Lent and Holy Week.

Bright Monday's Liturgy will be at 11:00am at St. George and will include the Traditional Paschal Procession. The mystery of crowning for Chris and Christine Winslow will also be celebrated during this liturgy. While already in a civil marriage, this day they will be sacramentally married in the Church! All are welcome to attend.

Bright Tuesday an abbreviated Resurrection Matins will be celebrated at 8:30am at St. Mary's followed by a 9:00am Divine Liturgy.

In Christ,  
*Fr. Anthony*

### ***Palms, branches, flowers and willows***

As our Lord made his way into Jerusalem, the crowd accompanying him from Bethany and Bethphage spread their cloaks on the ground before him, as was done for the Jehu, King of Israel (2 Kings 9:13), who had been anointed by Elisha the prophet. Others spread branches before our Lord, while a crowd of people coming from Jerusalem came to meet him, carrying branches of palm (John 12:13). In ancient times, the palm was a sign of triumph and victory in the Greco-Roman world; among the Jews, palm branches were carried at festive celebrations (Leviticus 23:40). In the New Testament, palm branches became a sign of martyrdom - victory over death. In the early Christian church, a procession was held before Pascha to commemorate our Lord's entry into Jerusalem, with the faithful carrying "palms and branches." This led eventually to the name **Palm Sunday** for this feast (in Slavonic, *Nedil'a Vaj.*) In Constantinople, in addition to palms, other flowering branches (olive, laurel, lilac) were carried in procession, leading to the name **Flowery Sunday** (in Slavonic, *Nedil'a Kvitna*). In the colder climates of Eastern Europe, few flowers would bloom this early in Spring; but the common pussy-willow would be in bud at this time and so branches of pussy-willow came to be used.

*Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!*

### ***Palm or Flowery Sunday***

On Palm Sunday, we recall the triumphant entry of the Lord Jesus into the holy city of Jerusalem, to the acclamations of the crowd, who had come to believe in him after the events of Lazarus Saturday. Palm Sunday is counted as one of the Twelve Great Feasts of the Church. As on Lazarus Saturday, bright vestments are worn at all services on this day, instead of the dark vestments used during the Great Fast, and Great and Holy Week. According to the traditional fasting rules, fish may be eaten on this day.

#### **"Hosanna to the Son of David!"**

For centuries, the Jewish people looked forward to the coming of God's "anointed" (in Hebrew, Messiah; in Greek, Christos), who would be at once Savior and King. The patriarchs and prophets foretold his coming: a descendent of King David, he was to rule the nations but would also be a humble servant of God. The prophet Isaiah described a suffering servant who would "save the people from their sins", which other prophets spoke of a "Son of Man" who could come in glory and power.



After the raising of Lazarus, the people began to have faith in Jesus; it was Martha, the sister of Lazarus, who declared to Jesus, "I have come to believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God; he who is to come into the world." It was at this point that the Lord made his way to Jerusalem, where the chief priests and Pharisees had made plans to apprehend him.

Our Lord sent his disciples to fetch a donkey-colt, which no one had ever ridden. (There was a tradition that the ability to guide such an animal was a mark of the Messiah). The disciples brought both the colt and its mother, for Jesus to ride into Jerusalem. The evangelist Matthew tells us that this was in fulfillment of prophecy: "Tell the daughter of Zion, your King comes to you without display, astride an ass, astride a colt, the foal of a beast of burden". Christ would enter Jerusalem not on a horse, a symbol of the warrior, but on the work beast of the poor - one traditionally ridden by the kings of Israel.

The shout of the crowd makes it plain that they saw Jesus as a great figure, a king and prophet, and (perhaps) the Messiah:

*Hosanna to the Son of David!*

*Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!*

*Hosanna in the highest!*

**SAINT MARY BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**PRIEST: FATHER ANTHONY COSTANTINO**



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**Cantors: Alex Broussard Mike McCann Naedia McCann Catherine Richthammer**

**E.C.F. coordinator: Jonathon Dohanich**

Holy Mystery of Reconciliation..... Wednesdays 4:45-5:45 P.M. & after Sunday Liturgy.  
Holy Mysteries of Initiation.....Contact the church office.  
Holy Mystery of Anointing .....Ask prior to surgery or serious illness.  
Holy Mystery of Marriage .....Contact the church office eight months prior to wedding.  
Religious Education Classes.....September through May.  
Pirohi Sales ..... Every Friday

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*Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!*