

HOLY THURSDAY is the day of the institution of the Last Supper. Most of the attention at the Church is focused on the evening service with the Reading of the Twelve Passion Gospels. These contain the prayer of parting and the final address of Jesus to His apostles. It also contains the story of our Lord's arrest and trial, death and burial.



GOOD FRIDAY is a day of mourning. There is an aura of sadness, when little is eaten. Common joys are avoided. In Church, black coverings are on the altar. Sweet-smelling ointments are used. The winding-sheet, bearing the icon of the body replica of our Lord's tomb is set up. The service of Good Friday is a repetition of Christ's funeral. It is a burial service. Jesus has died. His body is taken from the cross and carried in procession around the church. It is finally placed in the tomb.

Lastly, **SATURDAY** is a day of anticipation and preparation. The faithful come to church to pray at the grave of our Lord, not unlike the visit they might make to a loved one who has died. They come to bid farewell, looking forward to the approaching brightness of Christ's Resurrection.

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A

WELCOME VISITORS AND GUESTS

Please take a moment to fill out a Visitor Card. We invite you to join us for coffee hour in the Fellowship Hall following the Liturgy.

RECEIVING COMMUNION

Only those Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves may approach the chalice for Holy Communion. Everyone is welcome to partake of the Holy Bread after the Liturgy.

HOLY OBLATION BREAD AND MEMORIAL WHEAT

If you are offering Holy Bread, please pick up your portion on top of the chanter stand at the end of Liturgy.

If you are offering Memorial Wheat, please provide (300) 3oz Dixie cups.

Please notify the Church Office by end-of-day Tuesday.

BULLETIN ANNOUNCEMENTS ARE DUE TUESDAY END-OF-DAY.



**PREPARING
FOR PASCHA**

There is nothing that compares with the observance of **PASSION WEEK**. Both Church and home unite to reflect on the events that stir the soul. During these seven days, we re-live the suffering and death of our Lord.

PALM SUNDAY is a day of rejoicing. We proclaim that Jesus is King and welcome Him with the first flowers of Spring.

WEDNESDAY is the day Judas betrayed the Lord for 30 pieces of silver. What was the reason for this betrayal? No doubt Judas lost his faith in Christ and gave in to his greed. Beyond this, the enemies of the Lord had a need to get to Him when He was alone.



PASSION WEEK

April 28, 2024

ST. GEORGE ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN CHURCH

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SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday (4/28)	6:30p First Bridegroom
Monday (4/29)	6:30p Second Bridegroom
Tuesday (4/30)	6:30p Third Bridegroom
Wednesday (5/1)	6:30p Holy Unction
Thursday (5/2)	10:00a Vespersal Divine Liturgy 6:30p Passion Gospels
Friday (5/3)	10:00a Royal Hours 3:00p Un-Nailing Vespers 6:30p Lamentations
Saturday (5/4)	10:00a Vespersal Divine Liturgy 11:00p PASCHA Services & Hierarchical Divine Liturgy with His Eminence Metropolitan SABA
Sunday (5/5)	1:00p Agape Vespers

CHURCH SCHOOL: Will be off Today and next Sunday and will resume 5/12.

PALM SUNDAY HADDOCK FISH FRY: TODAY following Divine Liturgy and Procession. **Due to popular demand, more Haddock have been purchased and more meals are now available for sale TODAY** (while supplies last), scan QR Code to purchase online. Hosted by the St Nicholas Men's Group.



SECOND COLLECTION: A second collection will be held today for the Patriarchate of Antioch.

EVENTS

BIBLE STUDY: Tuesday mornings at 10:00a. studying the Gospel of John.

STUDY OF THE LITURGY: With Fr. Mark on Thursday mornings at 10am.

THE GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP: will resume meeting the last Sunday of every month after Ask Abouna at 12:30 PM in the Library.

ASK ABOUNA will meditate on Orthodox Spirituality during Lent.

A PILGRIMAGE TO ANCIENT GREECE WITH FR. GEORGE DAHDOUH: August 29 – September 9. You can sign up for the Pilgrimage up until May of next year with some charges. We have 28 seats on the same airplane only. If you have decided to join Fr. George Dahdouh, please send in your registration form asap. For more information call Fr. George or the agency or pick up a flyer from the church or check out the info in the Monday email.

FOCUS HOUSTON CENTER DIAPER DRIVE: Please drop all donations in the FOCUS box in the hallway by the Church Office. (Diapers, baby wipes, baby soap & shampoo, diaper rash cream/powder, newborn formula, tec..) for a full list, please check the Monday email.

FELLOWSHIP ACTIVITY CENTER

PHASE 1 OF THE FAC PROJECT is moving forward, and our fundraising deadlines are fast approaching. Please help reach our Phase 1 goal of \$6.5 million by making and fulfilling your FAC contribution today! Pledges and donations can be made on the St. George/FAC website or by scanning the QR code.



FAC TOWN HALL ON MAY 19TH: Do you have any questions, concerns or just looking for additional information? Immediately following services on May 19th, meet us in the hall to get the answers you're looking for. Reach out to Zach Abercia zach.abercia@gmail.com for additional questions.

HOUSTON MED FEST 2024: Save the date (10/26) for this year's Med Fest! Stay tuned on additional information on how you can help make this year a success! Reach out to Rana Abercia rdeeba@gmail.com for additional information.

STEWARDSHIP



2024 PLEDGE STEWARDSHIP "NEW BEGINNINGS": Our 2024 Pledge Campaign is now open, please prayerfully commit to your home of St. George.

Please scan the QR code to the left to submit your 2024 Pledge Commitment.

In an effort to simplify the pledging process, a new system ([Tithe.ly](https://tithe.ly)) has been implemented.

To donate, give towards your 2024 pledge or to set up recurring payments, scan QR code to the right.



YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT EVENTS

HOLY FRIDAY VIGIL: Friday, May 3rd following the Lamentations service. Teens will have dinner together, clean and prepare the church for Pascha, read the Psalms, and spend the night at church. We will also attend Holy Saturday Liturgy together the next morning. RSVP with Chris (chrissaldeneh@gmail.com) if your teens plan on joining! There will be a sign up sheet outside of the church for adults to sign up to help read when the teens are not.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: is back at Saint George and registration is now open! Scan the QR code to register before May 1st for the early bird price of \$35 per kid (\$40 each after the deadline). Volunteers also need to fill out a form.

ST. SOPHIA MOMS GROUP MEETING: The next St. Sophia Moms Group meeting will be Friday 5/10, 9:30-11:30 am. RSVP stsophiamoms@gmail.com

The Gospel in Arabic

(12:1-18) فصلٌ شريفٌ من بشارَةِ القديسِ يوحنا الإنجيلي البشيرِ والتلميذِ الطاهرِ

قبلَ الفصحِ بستةِ أيامٍ أتى يسوعُ إلى بيتِ عنيا حيثُ كانَ لعازرُ الذي ماتَ فأقامَهُ يسوعُ من بينِ الأمواتِ * فصنعوا لهُ هناكَ عشاءً وكانتَ مرثاً تخدمُهُ وكانَ لعازرُ أخذَ المتكئينَ معهُ * أمّا مريمُ فأخذتَ رطلَ طيبٍ ناردينَ خالصٍ كثيرٍ الثمنِ ودهنتُ قدَمي يسوعَ ومسحتُ قدَميه بشعرِها * فامتلاً البيتُ من رائحةِ الطيبِ * فقالَ أحدُ تلاميذهِ يهوذا بن سمعانِ الاسخريوطي الذي كانَ مُزمعاً أن يُسلمَهُ لِمَ لَمْ يُبِعْ هذا الطيبُ بثلاثِ مئةِ دينارٍ ويُعطى للمساكينِ * وإنما قالَ هذا لا اهتماماً بالمساكينِ بل لأنهُ كانَ سارقاً وكانَ الصندوقُ عندهُ وكانَ يحملُ ما يُلقى فيهُ * فقالَ يسوعُ دَعها إنّما حَفِظْتُهُ ليومِ دفني * فإنَّ المساكينَ هم عندكم في كلِّ حينٍ وأمّا أنا فلستُ عندكم في كلِّ حينٍ * وعلمَ جمعٌ كثيرٌ من اليهودِ أن يسوعَ هناكَ فجاءوا لا من أجلِ يسوعَ فقط بل لينظروا أيضاً لعازرَ الذي أقامَهُ من بينِ الأمواتِ * فأنتمَ رؤساءُ الكهنةِ أن يقتلوا لعازرَ أيضاً * لأنَّ كثيرينَ من اليهودِ كانوا بسببِهِ يذهبونَ فيؤمنونَ بيسوعَ * وفي الغدِ لما سمِعَ الجمعُ الكثيرُ الذينَ جاءوا إلى العيدِ بأنَّ يسوعَ آتٍ إلى أورشليمَ أخذوا سُغفَ النَّخلِ وخرجوا للقائهِ وهم يصرخونَ قائلينَ: هُوشعنا مباركُ الآتي باسمِ الربِّ ملكِ إسرائيلِ * وإنَّ يسوعَ وجدَّ جحشاً فركبَهُ كما هو مكتوبُ * لا تخافي يا ابنةِ صهيونَ. ها إنَّ ملككُ ياتيكَ راكباً على جحشِ ابنِ أتانٍ * وهذهِ الأشياءُ لم يفهمها تلاميذهُ أولاً ولكنَ لما مجدَّ يسوعُ حينئذٍ تذكروا أنَّ هذهِ إنّما كتبتُ عنهُ وأنهم عملوها لهُ * وكانَ الجمعُ الذينَ كانوا معهُ حينَ نادى لعازرَ من القبرِ وأقامَهُ من بينِ الأمواتِ يشهدونَ لهُ * ومن أجلِ هذا استقبلَهُ الجمعُ لأنهم سمِعوا بأنَّهُ قد صنعَ هذهِ الآيةَ.

❖ At the Megalynarion:

God the Lord hath appeared unto us; let us celebrate the Feast, and let us rejoice and magnify Christ. With palms and branches let us raise our voices unto Him with praise, saying: 'Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord our Savior.'

❖ Koinonikon (Communion Hymn) for Palm Sunday:

Instead of "We have seen the true light..." the Troparion of Lazarus is chanted.

Procession of Palm Sunday

Weather permitting, we will process around the Church ONCE and then RETURN inside the Church for the reading of the Palm Sunday Gospel.

Children are invited to the solea for the Gospel reading.

GLORIOUS AND BRILLIANT FEAST OF THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRANCE OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST INTO JERUSALEM

❖ At the First Antiphon:

1. I am filled with joy, for the Lord will hear the voice of my supplication. The anguish of death encompassed me; the perils of hell beset me. ("Through the intercessions..." *after each verse*.)
2. I found tribulation and anguish, and I called upon the Name of the Lord. I will walk acceptably before the Lord in the land of the living. ("Glory...both now..." *and then* "Through the intercessions...")

❖ At the Second Antiphon:

1. I believed, and therefore have I spoken: but I was deeply humiliated. What shall I render unto the Lord, for all His benefits unto me? ("Save us, O Son of God..." *after each verse*.)
2. I will take the cup of Salvation, and call upon the Name of the Lord.
3. I will pay my vows unto the Lord in the presence of all His people. ("Glory...both now..." *and then* "O, only begotten Son and Word of God...")

❖ At the Entrance:

The Troparion of Lazarus in tone 1 is chanted "O Christ God, when Thou didst raise Lazarus..."

❖ The Eisodikon (Entrance Hymn) of Palm Sunday:

Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. God is the Lord and hath appeared unto us. Save us O Son of God, Who didst sit upon the foal of an ass; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

❖ After the Little Entrance, the following are chanted:

The Troparion of Lazarus in tone 1:

O Christ God, when Thou didst raise Lazarus from the dead before Thy passion, Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection; wherefore we like babes carry the banner of triumph and victory, and cry unto Thee, O Vanquisher of death, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

The Gospel

The reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (12:1-18).

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus who had died was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made Him a supper; Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at table with Him. Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped His feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, one of His Disciples (he who as to betray Jesus), said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not because he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the moneybox he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of My burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have Me." When the great crowd of the Jews learned that He was there, they came, not only on account of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus also to death, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus. The next day a great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, "Hosanna! Blessed is He Who cometh in the Name of the Lord, the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young donkey and sat upon 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 this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of Him and had been done to Him. The crowd that had been with Jesus when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet Jesus was that they heard He had done this sign.

The Troparion of Palm Sunday in tone 4:

O Christ God, when we were buried with Thee in Baptism, we became deserving of Thy resurrection to immortal life. Wherefore, we praise Thee, crying, Hosanna in the highest, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

The Kontakion of Palm Sunday in tone 6:

Upborne upon the heavenly throne, and seated upon the earthly foal, O Christ our God, receive the praises of angels and the hymns of men, exclaiming before Thee, Blessed is He that cometh to restore Adam.

The Epistle

Blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good, for His mercy endureth forever.

The reading is from the Holy Apostle Paul to the Philippians (4:4-9).

Brethren, rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, these do; and the God of peace will be with you.

The Epistle in Arabic

مبارك الآتي باسم الرب

اعترفوا للرب فإنه صالح وإن إلى الأبد رحمته

(4:4-9) فصل من رسالة القديس بولس الرسول إلى أهل فيليبي

يا اخوة افرحوا في الرب كل حين وأقول أيضاً افرحوا * وليظهر حلمكم لجميع الناس. فإن الرب قريب * لا تهتموا البتة بل في كل شيء فلتكن طلباتكم معلومة لدى الله بالصلاة والتضرع مع الشكر * وليحفظ سلام الله الذي يفوق كل عقل قلوبكم وبصائرکم في يسوع المسيح * وبعد أيها الاخوة مهما يكن من حق ومهما يكن من عفاف ومهما يكن من عدل ومهما يكن من طهارة ومهما يكن من صفة محببة ومهما يكن من حسن صيت إن تكن فضيلة وإن يكن مدح فقي هذه افنكروا * وما تعلمتموه وتسلمتموه وسمعتموه ورأيتموه في هذا اعملوا. وإله السلام يكون معكم.



St. George Holy Week/PASCHA Schedule

Sunday (4/28) 6:30 p.m. First Bridegroom

Monday (4/29) 6:30 p.m. Second Bridegroom

Tuesday (4/30) 6:30 p.m. Third Bridegroom

Wednesday (5/1) 6:30 p.m. Holy Unction

Thursday (5/2) 10:00 a.m. Vespereal Divine Liturgy
6:30 p.m. Passion Gospels

Friday (5/3) 10:00 a.m. Royal Hours
3:00 p.m. Un-Nailing Vespers
6:30 p.m. Lamentations



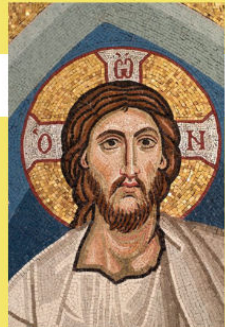
Saturday (5/4) 10:00 a.m. Vespereal Divine Liturgy
11:00 p.m. PASCHA Hierarchical Service
with His Eminence Metropolitan SABA

Sunday (5/5) 1:00 p.m. Agape Vespers

Monday (5/6) 9:00 a.m. Orthros

10:00 a.m. Hierarchical Divine Liturgy
for the Feast of St. George

with His Eminence Metropolitan SABA



Metropolitan SABA

Houston Visitation Schedule

Wednesday (5/1) 7:00 p.m. Tenebrae & Anointing with Holy Oil
St. Paul Church (1717 Katy Gap Road)

Thursday (5/2) 9:00 a.m. Vespereal Divine Liturgy
St. Anthony Church (7202 Farm to Market 2920)

6:00 p.m. Passion Gospels
St. Joseph Church (10644 Hammerly Blvd.)

Friday (5/3) 9:00 a.m. Royal Hours & Un-Nailing Vespers
St. Anthony Church (7202 Farm to Market 2920)

6:00 p.m. Lamentations
Forty Holy Martyrs Church (340 Eldridge Road)

Saturday (5/4) 9:00 a.m. Vespereal Divine Liturgy
St. Joseph Church (10644 Hammerly Blvd.)