



## *Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church*

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### *Celebration of the Holy Mysteries*

**RECITATION OF THE HOLY ROSARY AND CONFESSIONS:** ½ HR BEFORE DIVINE LITURGY

**BAPTISM & CHRISMATION / ANNOINTING OF THE SICK / COMMUNION CALLS & VISITATIONS:**  
CONTACT FR. IHOR TO MAKE ARRANGEMENTS

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION:**  
CONTACT FR. IHOR AT LEAST SIX MONTHS PRIOR TO SETTING THE ACTUAL WEDDING DATE

**RELIGIOUS EDUCATION FOR CHILDREN:**  
CONTACT MRS. CHRISTINA VOGEL AT (603) 686-2092 TO REGISTER YOUR CHILDREN

**SCHEDULE OF DIVINE LITURGIES:**  
SUNDAYS: 10 AM (September thru May)      MON THRU SAT: AS NOTED IN WEEKLY BULLETIN  
                  9 AM (June thru August)            HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION: 7 PM

#### **DIVINE LITURGY AND HOLY WEEK SERVICES SCHEDULE FOR WEEK OF MARCH 24, 2024**

##### **Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday**

Divine Liturgy: 10 AM                                      Propers: Festal Tones                                      Vestments: Bright  
Epistle: Philippians 4: 4-9                                      Gospel: St. John 12: 1-18  
Intention: For all Parishioners followed by distribution of blessed palms and willow branches

##### **Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup> (7 PM): Feast of the Annunciation (Holy Day of Obligation)**

**Holy Wednesday, March 27<sup>th</sup> (7 PM):** Moleben to the Holy Cross

**Holy Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> (7 PM):** Holy Thursday Vespers and Reading of the Twelve Passion Gospels

**Good Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> (3 PM):** Good Friday Vespers with the Funeral of Jesus Christ and Procession with the Burial Shroud (Plashchanitsya) to the Tomb **with Confessions after Good Friday Services**

**Good Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup> (7 PM):** Jerusalem Matins

**Holy Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> (10 AM):** Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

**Holy Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> (5 PM):** Blessing of Easter Baskets

**Holy Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> (5:30 PM – 6 PM):** Confessions

## ***Divine Liturgy Intentions and Vespers Service Schedule for March and April***

### **EASTER WEEK SERVICES**

**Easter Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup> (8:45 AM):** Prayer at the Tomb (Nadhrobne)

**Easter Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup> (9 AM):** Resurrection Matins

**Easter Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup> (10 AM):** Divine Liturgy for all Parishioners followed by blessing of Easter Baskets

**Easter Monday, April 1<sup>st</sup> (7 PM):** Divine Liturgy for all Parishioners followed by Anointing of the Sick with Holy Chrism Oil

**Easter Tuesday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> (7 PM):** Divine Liturgy for all Parishioners

**Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup> (7 PM):** Vespers Service

**Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup> (10 AM):** For all Parishioners

**Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> (7 PM):** Vespers Service

**Sunday, April 14<sup>th</sup> (10 AM):** For all Parishioners

**Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> (7 PM):** Vespers Service

**Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> (10 AM):** For all Parishioners

**Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> (7 PM):** Vespers Service

**Sunday, April 28<sup>th</sup> (10 AM):** For all Parishioners

### **Saturday Services**

Fr. Ihor is celebrating Vesper services every Saturday at 7 PM. All parishioners are invited to attend this service. Those who wish to have a Divine Liturgy celebrated for a loved one whether living or deceased or for a private intention are still able to do so. Please request your Divine Liturgy by contacting Fr. Ihor at (860) 617-6357 or cantor Jaroslaw Maksymowych at (603) 627-2042. Please note that Saturday Divine Liturgies will now be celebrated only at 10 AM (9 AM June thru August) whenever they are requested. If no Divine Liturgy has been requested for a particular Saturday, then none will be celebrated on that day. The Divine Liturgy schedule in the bulletin will only show Divine Liturgies on Saturdays when they have been requested. If the bulletin does not show a Divine Liturgy for a given Saturday, then this means that particular Saturday is available for your request.

### **Суботні Богослужіння**

Отець Ігор святкує Вечірню кожної суботи у 7-мі годині вечером. Ласкаво просимо усіх парафіян до участі. Парафіяни які бажають замовити Божественну Літургію в суботу для померших або на особисті інтенції можуть дзвонити до о. Ігоря на номер (860) 617-6357 або до дяка п. Ярослава Максимовича на номер (603) 627-2042. Суботні Божественні Літургії будуть відслужені тільки о годині 10-тій ранком (9-тій ранку з червня по серпень) коли замовлені. Якщо Літургія в певну суботу не буде замовлена, то в цей день не буде жодна відправлена. Порядок Богослужінь в бюлетені покаже тільки ті суботні Служби Божі які є замовлені. Якщо в бюлетені не відображається Божественна Літургія на дану суботу, то це означає, що ця субота доступна на Ваше замовлення.

# ***Liturgical Propers, Readings and Sermon for Sunday***

## **Liturgical Propers for Palm Sunday**

### **First Antiphon:**

VERSE: I have loved the Lord, for He has heard the voice of my supplication.

REFRAIN: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, Savior, save us.

VERSE: Since He has inclined His ear to me, I will call upon Him in all my hope.

REFRAIN: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, Savior, save us.

VERSE: The chains of death have surrounded me; and the terrors of the grave have overtaken me.

REFRAIN: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, Savior, save us.

VERSE: I was filled with distress and sorrow, until I called upon the name of the Lord.

REFRAIN: Through the prayers of the Mother of God, Savior, save us.

### **Processional Antiphon: (Tropar interpolated with verses)**

VERSE: Praise the Lord for He is good; His mercy endures forever.

**Tropar: Tone 1** - O Christ-God, before Your passion You raised Lazarus from the dead as a sign of the resurrection of all. Therefore, we carry victory banners like the children and cry out to You: "Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord."

VERSE: Let the people of Israel say that He is good: His mercy endures forever.

### **Tropar: Tone 1**

O Christ-God, before Your passion...

ENTRANCE VERSE: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord; we bless You from the house of the Lord.

### **Tropar: Tone 1**

O Christ-God, before Your passion...

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit...

### **Tropar: Tone 4**

Having been buried with You through baptism, O Christ-God, we have become worthy to share eternal life through Your resurrection. Therefore, we sing, crying aloud: "Hosanna in the highest, blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord."

...now and always and forever. Amen.

### **Kondak: Tone 6**

O Christ-God, You are carried in heaven upon a throne, but You were also carried by a colt when You were on the earth. You have received the praise of the angels and the songs of the children who cried out to You: "Blessed are You who came to restore Adam."

### **Prokimen: Tone 4**

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord; the Lord is God and has revealed Himself to us.

VERSE: Praise the Lord for He is good; His mercy endures forever.

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord; the Lord is God and has revealed Himself to us.

### **КВІТНА НЕДІЛЯ**

#### **Апостоль: (Флп. 4: 4-9)**

До Филип'ян послання св. апостола Павла читання.

Браття, радуйтеся завжди у Господі; знову кажу: Радуйтеся! Хай ваша доброзичливість буде всім людям відома. Господь близько! Ні про що не журіться, але в усьому проявляйте Богові ваші прохання молитвою і благанням з подякою. І мир Божий, що вищий від усякого уявлення, берегтиме серця й думки ваші у Христі Ісусі. Наостанку, брати, усе, що лиш правдиве, що чесне, що справедливе, що чисте, що любе, що шанобливе, коли якась чеснота чи щобудь похвальне, - про те думайте! Чого ви навчилися, що прийняли, що почули та бачили в мені - те чиніть, і Бог миру буде з вами.

#### **Epistle Reading for Palm Sunday (Philippians 4: 4-9)**

Brethren: Rejoice in the Lord always! I say it again. Rejoice! Everyone should see how unselfish you are. The Lord is near. Dismiss all anxiety from your minds. Present your needs to God in every form of prayer and in petitions full of gratitude. Then God's own peace, which is beyond all understanding, will stand guard over your hearts and minds, in Christ Jesus. Finally, my brethren, your thoughts should be wholly directed to all that is true, all that deserves respect, all that is honest, pure, admirable, decent, virtuous, or worthy of praise. Live according to what you have learned and accepted, what you have heard me say and seen me do. Then will the God of peace be with you.

#### **Tone 1: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

VERSE: Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has done wonderful things.

#### **Tone 1: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

VERSE: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

#### **Tone 1: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

VERSE: Співайте Господеві нову пісню, бо Він учинив чуда.

#### **Tone 1: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

VERSE: Усі кінці землі побачили, як наш Бог спасає.

#### **Tone 1: Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

#### **Євангелія: (Ів 12: 1-18)**

Шість днів перед Пасхою прибув Ісус у Витанію, де перебував Лазар, якого воскресив був із мертвих. Там, отже, справили йому вечерю, і Марта прислужувала; а й Лазар був серед тих, які разом з ним посідали до столу. Марія ж узяла літру мира з щирого наряду, вельми дорогого, помазала ноги Ісуса й обтерла їх волоссям своїм; і наповнився дім пахощами мира. Каже тоді один з його учнів Юда Іскаріотський, що мав його зрадити: "Чому не продано це миро за триста динаріїв і не роздано бідним?" Сказав же так не тому, що піклувався про бідних, але тому, що був злодій: із скарбнички, яку тримав при собі, крав те, що туди вкидувано. Тож Ісус промовив: "Лиши її. На день мого похорону зберегла вона те миро. Бідних матимете з собою повсякчас, мене ж матимете не завжди."

Тим часом дізналася сила народу, що Він там, то й посходились - не тільки Ісуса ради, а й щоб побачити Лазаря, якого Він з мертвих воскресив. Тоді первосвященики ухвалили і Лазаря вбити, численні бо юдеї залишили їх із - за нього й увірували в Ісуса.

Наступного дня сила людей, що прийшли на свято, зачувши, що Ісус іде в Єрусалим, узяли пальмове гілля й вийшли йому назустріч з окликами: "Осанна! Благословен той, хто йде в ім'я Господнє, ізраїльський

цар!" І знайшовши осля, Ісус сів на нього, - як ото написано: не страхайся, дочко, Сіону, ось іде твій цар верхи на жереб'яті ослициному. Не збагнули того спершу його учні, але коли Ісус прославився, згадали вони, що то було написано про Нього й що то з Ним так вчинено. Але й народ, що був при Ньому, коли то Він був викликав Лазаря з гробу та його з мертвих воскресив, - про те свідчив. Тим то, власне, народ і вийшов йому назустріч: довідався бо, що Він учинив те чудо.

### **Gospel Reading for Palm Sunday (St. John 12: 1-18)**

Six days before Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the village of Lazarus whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they gave Him a banquet, at which Martha served. Lazarus was one of those at table with Him. Mary brought a pound of costly perfume made from genuine aromatic nard, with which she anointed Jesus' feet. Then she dried His feet with her hair, and the house was filled with the ointment's fragrance. Judas Iscariot, one of His disciples (the one about to hand Him over), protested: "Why was not this perfume sold? It could have brought three hundred silver pieces, and the money have been given to the poor." (He did not say this out of concern for the poor, but because he was a thief. He held the purse, and used to help himself to what was deposited there.) To this Jesus replied, "Leave her alone. Let her keep it against the day they prepare Me for burial. The poor you will always have with you, but Me you will not always have."

The great crowd of Jews discovered He was there and came out, not only because of Jesus, but also to see Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead. The fact was, the chief priests planned to kill Lazarus too, because many Jews were going over to Jesus and believing in Him on account of Lazarus.

The next day the great crowd that had come for the feast heard that Jesus was to enter Jerusalem, so they got palm branches and came out to meet Him. They kept shouting: "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the king of Israel!" Jesus found a donkey and mounted it, in accordance with Scripture: "Fear not, O daughter of Zion! Your King approaches you on a donkey's colt." (At first, the disciples did not understand all this, but after Jesus was glorified they recalled that the people had done to Him precisely what had been written about Him.) The crowd that was present when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead kept testifying to it. The crowd came out to meet Him because they heard He had performed this sign.

### **SERMON FOR PALM SUNDAY**

Glory to Jesus Christ! My dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ.

In today's Palm Sunday epistle reading, we hear St. Paul offer these words - "Rejoice in the Lord always" - to the persecuted believers in Philippi, while he himself languished in a prison cell. How can anyone in prison, someone suffering, anyone facing difficult circumstances, exhort others to "rejoice?" What is this holy joy that such people as St. Paul radiated.

*"Rejoice always! Rejoice in the Lord always."* Such phrases obviously imply JOY, yet in our world today too many people don't understand what brings joy. Many think joy comes with constant pleasure, and thus busy themselves with trivial and meaningless pursuits to occupy and fill their time. Others think that material success and excess will make their lives joyful, while still others say that popularity and fame are the only way for true happiness.

Ultimately for us Christians, there is only one source of everlasting impenetrable joy – and that source is God Almighty. To know Jesus Christ in the depths of our souls, to allow Him to enter

into our hearts and guide our lives, and to be filled with his Holy Spirit is the ultimate definition and experience of joy, because He is precisely the source.

When someone abides in God, he or she is connected to all that God has created, and thus, the entire world becomes a beautiful place. Even in the midst of chaos and darkness, sadness and evil, when logic tempts us to despair, our relationship with Christ gives us a different and refreshing perspective, filling us with hope and love. This is why the saints radiated joy in spite of their hardships and martyrdoms. This is how St. Paul could rejoice under any and every circumstance.

The saints discovered the secret of the Christian life – that God is always with us, and that faith in Him chases away all fear, despair and hopelessness. When we abide in His love, we discover the security and comfort to rejoice even in the midst of tragedy or uncertainty. I don't say we rejoice because of tragedy, but instead, we can rejoice in the midst of tragedy. In any and every situation, we will be able to see something positive and good. If God is with us, there is always hope and a glimmer of light.

This upcoming Holy Week, which begins tonight and will take us through the darkest days of humanity, reminds us of this unquenchable joy in the midst of tragedy. On Holy Thursday we will travel through the passion of Christ, when everything seems dark and hopeless. Jesus is betrayed by one of His dear friends, His followers abandon Him, and His closest companion denies even knowing Him. Christ is put on trial, condemned, ridiculed, beaten, and crucified by His own people. Yet the story does not end with suffering and death. Although evil seems to prevail, God has the final say!

Our sadness and despair turn to inexpressible joy as we hear on Pascha morning, "Come receive the light from the unwaning light, and let us glorify Him who is risen from the dead!" From a human perspective, the situation seems hopeless. From God's point of view, victory was certain. Here is the secret of how the saints could rejoice in even the worst of situations. If we know the Risen Lord, and have His Spirit abiding within us, then we automatically have His Joy shining from our lives!

So how can we make joy a central part of our lives? Let me offer three concrete suggestions:

**First, we need to allow Christ to ENTER INTO AND rule our lives.** Today on Palm Sunday, we celebrate the feast of Jesus entering into Jerusalem as a king. People lined up on the streets to greet and praise him. "Hosanna to God in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord." We are called to join with the crowd in praising Him, yet just like the crowd, we have a decision before us. Will our cry of "Hosanna" be a sincere cry, where we ask Christ to come and dwell at the center of our lives, or will we cry out in a superficial manner like they did 2000 years ago, honoring him for a day, but rejecting, denying and even crucifying him later in our lives. If Christ is truly our king, we need to find time not only during Lent but

throughout the entire year to commune with Him through prayer and meditation, Bible study and frequent participation in the Holy Sacraments, no matter how busy our schedule is. Excuses of being too busy simply reflect our insincerity

**A second way of being filled with joy is to NEVER ALLOW THE ANXIETIES AND TROUBLES OF LIFE TO DROWN OUT OUR FAITH AND TRUST IN GOD.** In the same passage where St. Paul says to "Rejoice in the Lord always!" he also *counsels "don't worry about anything, but in everything, through prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your request be made known to God. And the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will abide richly in your heart."* In other words, holy joy comes when we learn to place all our concerns and troubles in God's hands, and then believe through our faith in Him that He is in control!

**A third way to discover joy is to be thankful for everything in our lives.** Rejoicing is easy if we follow St. Paul's lesson to "Rejoice with those who rejoice." When we learn to rejoice with all those who rejoice, we have plenty of motivation for joy. For example, I sit in jail yet I rejoice with those who are free. I can't go to Church because I am infirmed and am not able to receive Holy Communion, but I rejoice with the millions of people around the world who go to Church and receive Communion every week. I can't see my children and my grandchildren, but I rejoice with those surrounded by their loved ones . . . When we rejoice with those who rejoice, we can find many reasons to radiate joy.

Let us celebrate Palm Sunday today by praying that Christ may enter more fully into the depths of our hearts and lives as our Lord and King! If Jesus abides there, guiding us every moment of every day, then we will truly discover the source of ineffable joy! We will be able to "rejoice always" and give thanks in every circumstance. I wish all of you a most blessed Palm Sunday, one filled with the joy of our Lord, and I pray that this Holy Week will be an inspiring journey of deeper discovery, helping each one of us grow in that holy joy promised by our Lord. Amen.

### **ПРОПОВІДЬ НА КВІТНУ НЕДІЛЮ**

Слава Ісусу Христу! Дорогі в Христі браття і сестри!

Шосту неділю Великого Посту Церква називає святом Входу Господнього у Єрусалим. Сьогодні ми згадуємо і святкуємо цю подію не лише як історичний спогад, а подію, яка має глибоке духовне значення для нас. Ісус урочисто в'їхав в Єрусалим, бо він прославився в ньому своїм славним воскресінням з гробу. Цим урочистим в'їздом у святе місто Ісус засвідчив свою гідність Царя небесного, Божого Сина, хоч за кілька днів чекали його страшні муки і смерть на хресті. Однак Ісус все це переміг силою своєї любові і воскресінням з гробу третього дня силою свого божества.

Нинішнє свято має дві традиційні назви: Квітна неділя і урочистий в'їзд Ісуса Христа в Єрусалим. Назва „урочистий в'їзд" вказує на важливість події, яка відбудеться там і на її плоди особливої радості для нас. Сьогодні ми стоїмо на порозі Пасхи і, згадуючи похід Ісуса до Єрусалиму, відчуваємо подих радості цього свята. Ісус іде до Єрусалиму відкрито,

а не потаємно, і цим закликає нас сьогодні набратися молитвою духовної сили і терпіння разом з Ним належно пережити цей останній страсний тиждень посту, щоб відчутти в повноті радість Христового воскресіння, нашого визволення з неволі гріха. Бо у житті так буває, що навіть сама думка чи відчуття майбутнього успіху вже приносить нам радість. Символом нашої радості сьогодні є вербові гілки, знак надії на Ісуса, його поміч у житті.

Сучасна людина, дивлячись на цей натовп людей, сказала б, що це найкращий приклад феномену масовості. Якщо б ми запитали когось із тих людей, що зустрічали Ісуса в Єрусалимі: «Чому він це робить?», – то, швидше за все, почули б відповідь: «Бо так всі роблять». Та сьогодні Ісус Христос намагається запитати кожного із нас про те, який вибір ми робимо у своєму житті. Ісус запитує кожного із нас: «Ти вибереш мене чи Варраву?». І тут вже постає перед нами особистий вибір. Нам не вдасться виправдати себе словами, що ми вчинили так, як всі. Наш особистий вибір: кого виберу я – Ісуса Христа чи Варраву. Натовп обирає Варраву. А що тоді я маю зробити з Ісусом Христом? Віддати ганебній смерті, покарати розп'яттям на хресті, розіпнути, відвернутися від Нього, бо не потрібен мені такий Бог. Такою є драма Вербної Неділі. Драма, коли кожен з нас має особисто вибрати тут і сьогодні. Вибирати завжди важко й непросто, тому що кожен вибір несе за собою певну відповідальність.

В'їзд Ісуса в Єрусалим можна назвати прощею милосердя. Ісус іде виконати своє останнє завдання на землі – добровільно прийняти страждання і смерть, щоб дарувати нам прощення гріхів і життя вічне, як знак любові і милосердя до нас. Там Він хоче сповнити слова своєї науки: „Бо й Син Чоловічий прийшов не на те, щоб йому служили, лише щоб служити й віддати своє життя як викуп за багатьох” (Мк. 10:45). Тому кожне наше визволення з нещастя, звільнення від проблем містить у собі милосердя, приносить спокій і радість у душі. Потвердженням цього є слова псалма: „Милосердя й вірність зустрінулися разом, справедливість і мир поцілувались між собою” (Пс. 85:11). У сьогоднішньому Євангелії бачимо три прояви милосердя: воскресіння з гробу Лазаря, намащення миром ніг Ісуса Марією, в'їзд Ісуса в Єрусалим з місією милосердя.

Бог розсипає довкола нас багато скарбів, а дух милосердя допомагає побачити їх, відкрити у житті. Сьогодні, коли війна в Україні та війни і конфлікти наповнюють світ неспокоєм і терпіннями, ми відчуваємо особливу потребу милосердя, як духовного ліку у терпіннях, сили у труднощах, надійної духовної зброї проти всякого зла. Боже Милосердя має пригадати нам, що люблячий Отець завжди є зі своїм народом, а особливо у моменти важких випробувань, допомогти нам молитвою відчутти його милосердну руку допомоги і опіки. Тож користаймо з цих джерел милосердя, які залишив нам Ісус, і відчуємо його присутність у житті, пізнаємо його силу по його плодах, як говорить у сьогоднішньому апостолі святий Павло: „І мир Божий, що вищий від усякого уявлення, берегтиме серця й думки ваші у Христі Ісусі” (Фил. 4:7). Амінь.

**Communion Verse:** Благословенний Той, хто іде в ім'я Господнє! Бог - Господь і явився нам. Blessed is He who comes in the Name of the Lord. The Lord is God and has revealed Himself to us. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.



# **Parish Announcements**

## **We Welcome You!**

If you are visiting our church today, our parish family is delighted to welcome you here! Thank you and God bless you for visiting with us today! We welcome all our visitors and guests who worship at our parish. We invite families and individuals who wish to become members to register by calling Fr. Ihor at (860) 617-6357.

## **Вітаємо Вас!**

Якщо Ви відвідуєте нашу церкву сьогодні, наша парафіяльна громада рада вітати Вас тут! Щире спасибі Вам, і нехай Бог благословить Вас за Ваші відвідини з нами сьогодні! Ми запрошуємо сім'ї та осіб, які бажають стати членами, зареєструватися у нас по телефоні о. Ігоря на номер (860) 617-6357.

## **Please Pray for our Sick and Homebound Parishioners, Family Members and Friends**

Fr. Ihor Papka, Fr. Zbigniew Brzezicki, Stephen Atamanchuk, Oleh and Valentina Babski, Michaelle Baker, Rick Barr, Marylou Blaisdell, Tracy Crews, Carmel Horangic, Josephine Housty, Christine Kolagji, Helen Kucman, Martha and Ray Majkut, Karen and Jaroslaw Maksymowych, Jean Mandych, Sherri Martel, Katherine Masso, Jennifer McMillan, Katharine McNaughton, Jackie Morales, Lauren Morales, Jonathan Morales, Tanya and Ronald Morales, Elizabeth Mozina, Dean and Terri Nilson, Alan Pasicznyk, Lina Puciw, Billie Sheesley, Derek Stanley, Pauline Stanley, John Terninko, Elisha Wallace, Cindy Wilson, Dr. Mark Windt, Lenora Zelenski. Please contact Fr. Ihor if you would like to add a friend or loved one to this prayer list.

## **March Birthdays**

The following parishioners are celebrating a birthday or wedding anniversary this month:

March 12 – Jonathan M.

March 13 – Nicole and Nick H. (wedding anniversary)

March 16 – Iryna M.

March 19 – Ronald M.

March 25 – Max B.

March 26 – Jonathan M.

Our parish community wishes this month's birthday and anniversary celebrants peace, joy, love and good health on their special day as well as throughout the coming year. May our dear Lord grant all of you many more healthy, happy and blessed years. Happy Anniversary, Happy Birthday and На Многая літа! (На Мнoгaя Лita!).

## **February, 2024 Financial Summary**

Total Income from February Donations: \$6,175.00

Total Expenditures for February: \$4,615.00

Surplus for February: \$1,560.00

Average attendance in February: 42

Thank you and God bless you for your generous support of our parish

## **Lenten Regulations 2024**

By the threefold discipline of fasting, prayer and almsgiving, the Church keeps the Great Fast/Lent, which begins this year on Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup> and lasts through Holy Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup>. The following Great Fast/Lenten regulations apply, in general, to all Ukrainian Catholics of the Stamford Eparchy between the ages of 14 through 60:

- **Abstinence from meat and dairy products is to be observed on the first day of Lent, February 12<sup>th</sup>, and on Good Friday, March 29<sup>th</sup>.**
- **Abstinence from meat is to be observed on all Fridays of the Great Fast and on Holy Saturday.**

- Abstinence from meat is encouraged on all Wednesdays of the Great Fast.
- The following are exempt from abstinence: 1) convalescents who are returning to their strength; 2) the poor who live on alms; 3) the sick and the frail; 4) pregnant women and women who are nursing their children; 5) persons who perform hard physical labor.
- Meat is to be understood as including not only the flesh, but also those parts of warm-blooded animals that cannot be rendered, i.e. melted down, including but not limited to organ meats, blood, etc. Meat gravy or soup made from meat and any other food containing meat is also included in this prohibition.
- Dairy products are to be understood as comprising of products derived from mammals and birds, but not regarded as meat, including but not limited to cheese, lard, butter, milk, eggs, cream, etc.
- **Eucharistic Fast: A fast of one hour from food (prior to the service starting time) should be kept by those receiving the Holy Eucharist at the evening celebration of the Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts as well as at all Divine Liturgies of St. John Chrysostom and St. Basil the Great. NOTE: This Eucharistic fast applies throughout the entire Liturgical year not just during the Great Fast/Lent.**

### Easter Confessions

Fr. Ihor is hearing confessions before and after each Holy Week service and before and after Palm Sunday Divine Liturgy. Father is available thirty minutes before and after each service in the confessional at the back of the church. Please remember that all Catholics are obligated under penalty of sin to receive the Sacrament of Confession during the season of Lent in preparation for Easter.

### St. Patrick's Day Parade

Our church community has been invited to march in this year's City of Manchester St. Patrick's Day Parade after the celebration of Divine Liturgy today, Palm Sunday. If you plan to participate, please RSVP to Christina Vogel either in person, via email at [mrsvogelchristina@gmail.com](mailto:mrsvogelchristina@gmail.com), or by texting to 603-686-2092.

## ***Weekly Reflection:***

### Learning about our Catholic Faith – From Glory to Glory

*Those preceding Him as well as those following kept crying out: "Hosanna!  
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come!  
Hosanna in the highest!" Mark 11: 9–10*

As Jesus entered Jerusalem at the beginning of the first Holy Week, He was welcomed with much enthusiasm, and He accepted the love and devotion of those who welcomed Him. He was their King. He was the Messiah, and the welcome they gave to Him was but a pale gift of the true adoration He deserved. And though Jesus entered Jerusalem with this glorious welcome, less than a week later He would leave Jerusalem with a heavy cross on His shoulders, carrying it outside the city walls to die.

When we contrast the entry of Jesus on Palm Sunday with His arrest, abuse, mock trial, carrying of the cross and death, these two extremes do appear to be at the opposite ends of the spectrum. There is rejoicing and praise as He enters, and sorrow and shock as He leaves. But are these two events all that different from a divine perspective? From the perspective of the

Father in Heaven, the end of the week is nothing other than the ultimate culmination of the full glory of His Son.

Mark's Gospel tells the story in clear detail, but John's Gospel will most notably add the spiritual insight that Jesus' crucifixion and death is nothing other than His hour of glory. We will see His Cross as His new throne of grace, and the earthly glory Jesus receives today as He enters Jerusalem will be fully realized from a divine perspective as He mounts His Throne of the Cross to take up His eternal Kingship.

As we enter into the holiest week of the year, it is essential that each of us see the journey of Christ this week as our own calling in life. We must journey toward the glory of the Cross with our Lord. From a worldly perspective, the Cross does not make sense. But from the perspective of the Father in Heaven, the Cross is not only the source of the greatest glory of His Son, but it is also the path by which we share in that glory. We must die with Him, sacrifice all for Him, choose to follow Him, and hold nothing back in our resolve to lay down our lives out of love.

Reflect, today, upon the events we will commemorate this week. Commit yourself to share in them, not just as an intellectual remembrance but as a living participation. How is God calling You to step forward in a sacrificial way out of love? How is God calling you to courageously embrace your calling to give your life away? Strive to see this week from the perspective of the Father in Heaven and pray that you will also see the ways in which the Father is calling you to imitate His Son. Let us go and die with Him, for it is in the Cross of Christ that we will discover His eternal glory.

Let us pray: *My glorious King, You are worthy of all praise and adoration. Hosanna to You, hosanna in the highest! Draw me into Your glorious passion, dear Lord, and help me to see the glory of Your Cross. As I see its glory, give me the grace I need to share more fully in Your life of transforming sacrificial love. Jesus, I trust in You. Amen.*