



Epiphany of Our Lord Byzantine Catholic Church

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—Schedule of Live-Stream of Divine Services—

FLOWERY AND PALM SUNDAY—TONE 1 (FEAST OF OUR LORD, TODAY IS NOT A DAY OF FAST)

- Sunday Apr. 5** 10:00AM Divine Liturgy of St. Basil for the faithful of Epiphany Parish
Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9; John 12:1-18
- Monday Apr. 6** 10:00AM **Holy Monday:** Bridegroom Matins
- Wednesday Apr. 8** 7:30PM **Holy Wednesday:** Divine Liturgy of St. Gregory (simple abstinence from meat)
- Thursday Apr. 9** 7:30PM **Holy Thursday:** Vespers with Divine Liturgy of St. Basil
- Friday Apr. 10** 10:00AM **Holy Friday:** Passion Matins
7:30PM Burial Vespers

PASCHA: THE FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD, GOD, AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST!

- Saturday Apr. 11** 7:30PM Vespers with Divine Liturgy of St. Basil
- Sunday Apr. 12** 9:00AM Resurrection Matins
10:—AM Divine Liturgy of for the faithful of Epiphany Parish
Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9; John 12:1-18

*Mystery of Repentance also available by appointment or before and after weekday services

During the month of April, the Altar Lamp burns before our Lord in the tabernacle for +Edward and Marie Klotz, by Ed Klotz

Welcome to our parish! We are glad that you have chosen to participate in the Divine Liturgy with us today and we pray that it has been a spiritually nourishing experience. If you would like to register as a parishioner or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.

The Mysteries (Sacraments) of the Church are available for all Baptized Catholics in Good Standing. This means that a

LET US REMEMBER IN PRAYER:

Those who are ill or convalescing: Clara Vranich, Daniel Cunningham, James Murray, Patricia Rabayda, Catherine Garcia, Betty Yurchik, Patricia Anne Reidy, and Jeff Lovall. *May our Lord Jesus Christ, the Physician and Healer of souls and bodies, grant them peace and good health for many blessed years.*

Catholic attends Divine Liturgy on Sundays and Holydays of Obligation, utilizes the Mystery of Repentance at least once a year, receives the Eucharist at least once a year, observes the church's penitential seasons and fasting regulations to include abstaining from meat or an equivalent penance on all Fridays except when mitigated, supports the Church in Her temporal needs through offering of time, talent, and treasure, and believes the Church's teachings on faith and morals.

Also, our deployed military members: Lt. Commander William Bridges, and Specialist Francis "Joseph" Fuchko. *May God's Divine Care and Mercy be given to them and may their Guardian Angels protect them from harm. —Please let Fr. Lewis know if anyone should be added or taken away from these lists.*

Stewardship 3/01/2020	Stewardship 3/22/2020
Offertory \$3,413.00	Offertory \$630.00
Capital Imp. \$705	Capital Imp. \$75
Lent \$20	Easter Flowers \$25
Stewardship 3/08/2020	Stewardship 3/29/2020
Offertory \$2,637.00	Offertory \$2,760.00
Capital Imp. \$205	Mar. Off. Total: \$13,547.00
Easter Flowers \$20	Cap. Imp. Total: \$1,085
Stewardship 3/15/2020	Lent \$20
Offertory \$4,107.00	Easter Flowers \$195
Capital Imp. \$100	Mar. Operating Budget \$11,183
Easter Flowers \$150	April Operating Budget \$10,291

HOLY WEEK AS DESCRIBED IN THE TYPICON: "In this week, the most solemn of the Church Year, we re-live the mystery of God's merciful loving-kindness, when He suffered death and burial for our salvation, and is risen for our hope of eternal life. During Holy Week, we do not only observe what happened in history, but through our acts of repentance, our prayers and fasting, our processions and veneration, we take an active part in what we remember as having happened and what is happening now through divine remembrance. We die in Christ and rise in the fullness of life."

In these odd times in moder history it will be all the more difficult for us to fully engage in this most important week. We must, therefore, make a special effort to devote ourselves to payer, to read the Scriptures of Christ's saving passion, and to contemplate the reality of Jesus' Resurrection, and how we are invited to rise with Him as well at the end of this age.

CONTRIBUTIONS CAN BE MAILED IN: Fr. Lewis would like to remind everyone that those who are in the financial position to continue to support the church to please continue to do so. Weekly or monthly contributions may be mailed, or one can use their on-line banking Bill Pay services. We may also be setting up online giving for those who would prefer that option. If we do not continue to receive contributions, we will not be able to continue the great success we have had these past two years. We are on our way to funding many much needed repairs and improvements in the

coming years, and we hope to retain the momentum we have seen from your abundant generosity. May God continue to bless you and your families and keep you healthy and safe in these uncertain times.

CONFESSION AVAILABLE: Fr. Lewis will be available for confession at almost anytime in the near future. We are obliged by Canon Law to confess at least once each year, and usually, The Great Fast is the one time that we should confess. Fr. Lewis will make arrangements to hear confessions in accordance with proper social distancing, and/or confessions may be heard outside. Please avail yourselves of this opportunity you are one of the more vulnerable because of health issues.

FURTHER DISPENSATION OF OBLIGATION: Bishop Kurt has extended the dispensation from attending the Sunday Divine Liturgy for all of the faithful of the Eparchy of Passaic through April 30. In the bishop's latest letter, he has also suspended the possibility for outside services. However, he reminds the faithful that we must still keep Sunday a Holy Day.

PALM SUNDAY: Palms will be blessed before the Divine Liturgy on Palm Sunday. These will be retained so that the faithful may bring them home the next time they are able to come to Epiphany. Also, this day, is NOT A DAY OF FAST. For those adhering to the traditional fast of no meat or dairy for all days of Lent, this is a fast free day, anything may be eaten.

LIVE-STREAMING NOTES: We have been trying to improve our live-streaming setup. We should have much better audio beginning Wednesday night. If anyone would like copies of the books for liturgy or any of the Holy Week services they can be picked up at the church (pew books can be wiped down and the Holy Week books have not been touched since last year), or PDFs can be downloaded from the Metropolitan Cantor Institute's webiste at: <https://mci.archpitt.org>. Also, if one has a smart TV, one may watch the streamed liturgies on a larger screen. Also, if having trouble streaming the

service live, they will be available afterwards, and may be viewed more smoothly.

Also, when participating at home, please avail yourselves of the proper liturgical posture, especially when we make prostrations or the sign of the cross during these services and encourage your children to follow along as well. This way, we can truly be together in our prayer and worship.

Also, also: For the **Basket Blessings** after both the Saturday Night Vigil Liturgy and the Sunday Morning Liturgy of Pascha, we will pray the Basket blessing at the end of the services, and the Father of the household, or next in line of authority may sprinkle Holy Water on their basket of Easter Foods.

**Changeable Parts of the Divine Liturgy
Palm Sunday for the Teal Pew Book**

Propers: Palm Sunday p. 235

Closing Hymn, then

Prayers After Receiving Holy Communion p. 95

Altar Lamp Memorials and Divine Liturgy Intentions can now be accepted for 2020. Remaining Months for

Altar Lamps:

October, November, and December.

Altar Lamps suggested donation is \$50, and Divine Liturgy and Panachida suggested stipend is \$15.



OFFICE OF THE BISHOP

March 31, 2020

To the faithful of the Eparchy of Passaic,

On March 16, all public services were suspended for the entire Eparchy of Passaic for two weeks. For the safety of our people and on the recommendation of the President of the United States, by this letter, I extend the suspension of public services in the Eparchy of Passaic through Thursday, April 30, 2020. The suspension of public services includes services inside buildings and also outdoor services or "parking lot" services. All activities at a church that involve a physical gathering of parishioners or interaction with the public are also suspended.

By this letter, I dispense all the people of the Eparchy of Passaic from any legal obligation to attend church services through Thursday, April 30, 2020. Please keep in mind that Divine Law still requires us to keep the Lord's Day holy by prayer and by refraining from unnecessary work. The bishop cannot dispense from Divine Law.

I thank all of our people and clergy who have made our services available through a variety of electronic media. If your parish is not making services available through the internet, please help the priest in making it happen in your parish. Very few of our priests have the technical expertise to accomplish these things without your help.

Baptisms, weddings, and funerals may only be celebrated privately with immediate family, and in compliance with the guidelines of the civil authorities, at this time no more than ten people present counting everyone. Communion should not be distributed at these events except the precious blood to the newly baptized. People who do not live together should keep social distancing in compliance with public health guidelines.

Confession or individual communion may be administered on request, but only in compliance with public health guidelines. No priest is required to put his own health at risk, especially those over 65. The lay people should not ask the priest to put his life in danger with unreasonable requests.

In ministering to the sick or dying, the priest should follow the advice of health workers. If communion is possible, the spoon must be sterilized or destroyed afterwards.

My dear friends, let us recall that throughout history, the Lord God has called us to repentance—a change of heart. Speaking on behalf of God, the prophets told the chosen people that liturgical services and fasting from food are not pleasing to God unless they are accompanied by charity in the heart. The wrath of God is especially inflamed by gossip, by slander, by accusations, and by other sins of the mouth. As the Apostle James says, "One does not get clean water and foul water from the same spring. How can you bless God with your mouth, and then curse your brother who is made in the image of God?" The prophets tell us to replace these sins with works of charity for the poor, the widow, the orphan, and the strangers in our midst.

For those of us who live through this pandemic, God is calling us again to turn our minds back to him, to put aside all earthly cares, that we may live our lives in peace and doing everything to please our Creator.

For those of us who will "finish the race", that is finish our earthly life, Jesus said, "I go ahead of you to prepare a place of you. I will come back and take you with me that you also may be where I am." St. Paul said, "Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor has it entered into the heart of man the things that God has prepared for those who love Him," and he also says, "When Christ, your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory." And in the Apocalypse of St. John it says, "He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death nor mourning nor crying nor pain." And also, "Maranatha. Come Lord Jesus!"

I commend all the people of the Eparchy of Passaic to the protection of the great Archangel Michael, to the gentle kindness of St. Joseph, and especially to the care of the all holy Mother of God.

Your servant,

+ Kurt

Most Rev. Kurt Burnette
Bishop of Passaic

