

March 29nd, 2026

Palm Sunday

SUNDAY, 3/29 **9:00 am** Divine Liturgy (English) for all parishioners
 10:30 am Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) for special intention

MONDAY, 3/30 **7:15 am** Liturgy of Pre-sanctified Gifts

WEDNESDAY, 4/1 **6:15 pm** Liturgy of Pre-sanctified Gifts

THURSDAY, 4/2 **5:00 pm** Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great
 6:30 pm STRASTI- Passion of Our Lord retold in 12 Gospels

FRIDAY, 4/3 **5:15 pm** Vespers with the placement of the Holy Shroud (English)
 7:30pm Vespers with the placement of the Holy Shroud (Ukrainian)

SATURDAY, 4/4 **8:30 am** Jerusalem Matins
 4:30 pm Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

SUNDAY, 4/5 **Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ**
 8:00 am Easter Procession
 8:15 am Divine Liturgy (English) for all parishioners
 10:00 am Resurrection Matins
 11:15 am Divine Liturgy (Ukrainian) for special intention

Announcements

1-Confession

Confession is available after each service or per request. Please let us know if there is somebody who wants to go to confession but can't come to the church due to the health condition.

2-Fast & Abstinence

- On Holy and Great Friday, required abstinence is from meat and dairy products
- On Holy and Great Saturday, required abstinence is from meat.

3-Blessing Of Easter Food Baskets

Easter foods baskets will be blessed on Easter Sunday after the 8:00 AM Divine Liturgy. You may read more about beautiful Easter food baskets blessing by visiting this website: <https://archpitt.org/a-basket-filled-with-faith-eastern-europe-easter-tradition-explained/>

The Importance of Confession Before Easter

Confession before Easter is a sacred opportunity to prepare our hearts to fully receive the joy of the Resurrection. As we approach Pascha, the Church invites us to examine our lives honestly, to repent of our sins, and to be reconciled with God. Through the Mystery of Confession, Christ offers us not only forgiveness, but healing and renewal. Just as we prepare our homes for the feast, we are called to prepare our souls—cleansing them of burdens that weigh us down. A sincere confession allows us to enter Easter with peace, freedom, and a renewed relationship with God, ready to rejoice in the victory of Christ over sin and death.

Palm Sunday – The King Who Comes in Humility

Palm Sunday marks the joyful entrance of Christ into Jerusalem. The crowds greet Him with palm branches and cries of “Hosanna!”, recognizing Him as King. Yet the way He enters reveals a different kind of kingship—not with power or force, but in humility, riding on a donkey.

This moment is filled with both joy and tension. The same voices that praise Him today will soon cry out, “Crucify Him.” Palm Sunday reminds us how quickly human hearts can change and invites us to examine our own faithfulness. Do we follow Christ only in moments of joy, or are we willing to follow Him even to the Cross?

Christ enters Jerusalem knowing what awaits Him. He freely chooses the path of suffering out of love for us. His kingship is revealed not in earthly glory, but in sacrificial love.

As we hold our branches, we are called not only to welcome Christ with our lips, but to receive Him into our hearts and lives. Palm Sunday invites us to walk with Him through the coming days of Holy Week—through humility, suffering, and ultimately, the joy of the Resurrection. May we remain faithful to Christ not only in celebration, but also in sacrifice, so that we may share in the victory of His Pascha.

Holy Week – Walking with Christ

Holy Week is the most sacred time of the Church year—a journey in which we are invited not simply to remember, but to enter into the saving events of Christ’s Passion, Death, and Resurrection.

Each day of this week reveals the depth of God’s love. From the humility of the Last Supper, to the agony in the Garden, to the silence of the Cross, we witness a love that gives itself completely. Christ does not suffer by accident—He freely embraces the Cross for our salvation.

Holy Week calls us to slow down and to be present. It is a time to set aside distractions and to walk with Christ more intentionally—through prayer, participation in the services, and quiet reflection. We are invited to stand with Him in His suffering, to recognize the cost of our redemption, and to respond with gratitude and repentance.

This is also a deeply personal journey. The question of Holy Week is not only what happened to Christ, but how we respond to Him. Are we like the crowd that turns away, or like the faithful who remain near the Cross?

As we walk through these holy days, may we open our hearts more fully to Christ. And as we follow Him through the Cross, may we be prepared to rejoice with Him in the light and victory of His Resurrection.

THANKS FOR YOUR GENEROSITY

Sunday collections for the weekend of 3/22/26, including envelope offerings - \$821, donations -\$234, candles -\$32, annual parish contributions - \$200
Weekly budget: \$1250, Income \$1287

Support Mother of God
Ukrainian Catholic Church



**Protection of the Mother of God
Ukrainian Catholic Church
Byzantine Rite**

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Confession before or after Divine Liturgy.

Confession is recommended as a regular monthly practice. The graces received from confession are an excellent way to help us become closer to Jesus.

***THE CHURCH WAS A MOTHER TO YOU IN LIFE, PROVIDING FOR YOUR SPIRITUAL NEEDS;
PLEASE REMEMBE YOUR PARISH AND THE EPARCHY OF SAINT JOSAPHAT IN PARMA IN
YOUR LAST WILL AND TESTAMENT.***