

THE TRISAGION

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

Behold, the Bridegroom Comes!



To celebrate the Sunday of Orthodoxy and the restoration of icons, the faithful of Holy Trinity, led by the children, marched in procession around the temple and sang, “O Lord, save Thy people.”

Holy Week: An Overview

The following is a description, adapted from that of Archpriest Lawrence Margitich, of the Holy Week services we will be celebrating at Holy Trinity this year, including when they will be celebrated, and about how long each service will take. For those unable to join us in person, the typica (reader’s) services will be posted on the church website.

GREAT AND HOLY MONDAY

6:00 PM, Sunday evening: Bridegroom Matins, about 1.5 hour in length. The Matins on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday take their name from the Gospel reading about the Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins waiting for the Bridegroom (Matt. 25), and from the hymn: “Behold! The Bridegroom comes at midnight, and blessed is the servant

whom He shall find watching...” On Monday we read Matthew 21:18–43. Midnight is the moment when the old day comes to its end and a new day begins. It is thus the symbol of the time in which we live as Christians. For, on the one hand, the Church is still in this world, sharing in its weaknesses and tragedies. Yet, on the other hand, her true being is not of this world, and her mission is to announce and to reveal the coming of the Kingdom and of the new day. Her life is a perpetual watching and expectation, a vigil pointed at the dawn of this new day. One of the most beloved hymns from these services is the *exapostilarion*: “Thy Bridal Chamber I see adorned, O my Savior, but I have no wedding garment that I may enter, O Giver of Light, enlighten the vesture of my soul and save me.”

(continued, see HOLY WEEK, next page)

Schedules

		TELLERS	SERVERS
April 4		K. Cattell, D. McNulty	All Servers welcome each Sunday.
April 11		G. Cattell, M. Fiori	
April 18		D. McNulty, M. Fedkin	
April 25		K. Cattell, M. Fiori	
May 02		G. Cattell, M. Fedkin	
May 09		K. Cattell, D. McNulty	<i>Altar Server</i> <i>Co-Captains:</i> <i>I. Cadman and</i> <i>S. Oleynik</i>

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH
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■ HOLY WEEK

Holy Week: An Overview

9:00 AM, on Monday morning: Presanctified Liturgy, about 1.5 hours in length. At this Service we begin to read from the Book of Job, since Job is an icon of the innocent suffering of Christ, and we read again from the Gospel of Matthew, 24:3–35, about the end, judgement, the Coming of the Son of Man.

GREAT AND HOLY TUESDAY

6:00 PM, Monday evening: Bridegroom Matins, about 1.5 hour in length. We read Matthew 22:15–23, 39, and ponder the Lord’s condemnation of religious hypocrisy.

9:00AM, Tuesday morning: Presanctified Liturgy, about 1.5 hours in length. The words of Christ and Parables about the End. Matthew 24: 36–26:2.

GREAT AND HOLY WEDNESDAY

6:00 PM, Tuesday evening: Bridegroom Matins, about 1.5 hour in length. Gospel readings switch to John 12:17–50, and we hear about the rejection of Christ.

9:00AM, Wednesday morning: Presanctified Liturgy, about 1.5 hours in length. At this last Presanctified of the year, we hear the Gospel (Matt. 26:6–16), and hymns about the woman who poured precious ointment on Jesus, especially the famous “Hymn of Kassiani.” We will also pray for the last time this year the Prayer of St. Ephraim the Syrian, “O Lord, and Master of my life...”

GREAT AND HOLY THURSDAY

6:00PM, Wednesday evening: Matins of Holy Thursday and Holy Unction, about 1.5 hours in length. The theme of the bridegroom is replaced with the theme of the mystical supper and Judas’ lack of repentance, which is reflected in the hymns and the Gospel reading from Luke

9:00AM, Thursday morning: Vespereal Liturgy of St Basil for the Mystical Supper, about 2 hours in length.

The name “Last Supper” for Christ’s meal with His Apostles is only last in earthly terms, but first in its initiating the Apostles and us into the Eucharistic Love offered to us in the Body and Blood of Christ. The Kingdom is revealed as True Food, which is the antidote to death and the Medicine of Immortality. This scene of love and offering is the context for the ultimate betrayal of Christ by the disciple Judas and God’s humility.

GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY *THE DAY OF THE CROSS*

This day is kept as one of the most significantly holy days of the year for Orthodox Christians. We take the day off from work in honor of the Lord’s voluntary crucifixion, and fast strictly from all food and drink the entire day, eating only after sundown, only if we must. We work toward an attitude of inner and outer quietness (with radios and TVs off). Friday begins the Three-Day Pascha of our Lord. We have reached the destination of our Lenten Journey.

6:00 PM, Thursday evening: Matins of Holy Friday: the Reading of the 12 Passion Gospels, about 2.75 hours in length. In this dramatic service we hear in 12 selections from the Holy Gospel readings of the Passion of the Lord. The first reading, from John 14 is especially lengthy, and sets the context for everything else that is to happen. These Gospel readings are interspersed between the profound hymnography, which is our response to the dreadful occurrences. Bells are tolled at the beginning of each reading, indicating the number Gospel being read. This very important Service is one of the highlights of Holy Week and one in which all Orthodox Christians ought to participate. We leave the Church having venerated the Holy Icon of the Savior on the Cross, “The Lord of

(continued, see HOLY WEEK, next page)

Upcoming Liturgies:

PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY:

LITURGY: Fri., April 2, 6pm
(A. Stickles, Prosphora)

MEMORIAL LIGURGY:

LITURGY: Sat., April 3, 9am
(A. Stickles, Prosphora)

PRESANCTIFIED LITURGIES:

LITURGY: Wed., April 7, 6pm
(S. Hunter, Prosphora)

LITURGY: Fri., April 9, 6pm
(S. Hunter, Prosphora)

LITURGY: Wed., April 14, 6pm
(A.T. Pelikan, Prosphora)

LITURGY: Fri., April 16, 6pm
(A.T. Pelikan, Prosphora)

LITURGY: Wed., April 21, 6pm
(P. Doty, Prosphora)

LITURGY: Fri., April 23, 6pm
(P. Doty, Prosphora)

HOLY WEEK LITURGIES:

LAZARUS SATURDAY LITURGY: Sat., April 24, 9am
(P. Doty, Prosphora)

HOLY MONDAY LITURGY: Mon., April 26, 9am
(A. Stickles, Prosphora)

HOLY TUESDAY LITURGY: Tues., April 27, 9am
(A. Stickles, Prosphora)

HOLY WEDNESDAY LITURGY: Wed., April 28, 9am
(A. Stickles, Prosphora)

HOLY THURSDAY LITURGY: Thurs., April 30, 9am
(A. Stickles, Prosphora)

HOLY SATURDAY LITURGY: Sat., May 1, 9am
(S. Hunter, Prosphora)

BRIGHT WEEK LITURGIES:

BRIGHT MONDAY: Mon., May 3, 9am
(S. Hunter, Prosphora)

■ NEWS & NOTES

Come Make Palm Crosses

The Sunday School will be learning to make palm crosses at 5PM on Lazarus Saturday, April 24, in the basement before Vigil. Please come join us!

Special April Adult Ed

"My God, My God, why hast Thou forsaken me?"

This cry of the Lord Jesus as he hung upon the Cross, recorded in the Gospels of Matthew and Mark, has been a source of confusion for many would-be interpreters in Christian history, including some of the very first people who heard it! Join Fr. Ignatius via Zoom for a special teaching which will explain what the Lord Jesus is saying with these words on Thursday, April 22 at 7 pm.

Coming Changes for the End of the Pandemic

As we give thanks to God that the end of the pandemic seems to be drawing near, we note the following changes which will go into effect on June 20, Pentecost Day: (1) we will no longer be supplying Reader's Typika services on our website, (2) we will no longer be stocking disposable masks in the narthex, (3) the doors and windows will be able to be closed throughout divine services (until this time, service attendees are asked to please make sure these portals are open to ensure that there is sufficient airflow, as we have been having some lapses in this regard in recent months), and (4) communion by appointment will no longer be available to those without a pressing circumstance (e.g. serious illness, debility, hospitalization, etc.).

For the foreseeable future, it is our intention to continue offering live broadcasts of our Saturday evening and Sunday morning worship on YouTube and to continue providing hand sanitizer in the narthex and in the altar. It is also possible that certain parish meetings and events will continue to occur over Zoom going forward. Thank you for your patience, your prayers, and your forgiveness during this most difficult year, and may God bless us all with a peaceful and spiritually productive 2021.

■ HOLY WEEK

Holy Week

the Psalms all night long at the Shroud, keeping watch until the next Service on Saturday morning.

9:00 AM, Saturday morning: Vesperal Liturgy of Great and Holy Saturday, about 2.5 hours in length. The morning hours of this particular Saturday are profoundly quiet, and full of expectation. There is no other day in the entire Church year with this kind of prayerful and inner stillness. Come to the Church early just to feel this sense of preparation and focus, as we enter into the great Sabbath Rest of Christ. In this most liturgically magnificent of creations of the Church, we hear the choir chant: “Today Hades groans and cries aloud: ‘my power has been destroyed. I accepted a Mortal Man as one of the dead. Yet I cannot keep Him prisoner...’” We hear 12 readings from the Old Testament, prophecies concerning Baptism, Resurrection and Salvation which are the last catechesis of the Catechumens prior to Baptism—and the way in which we too rekindle the baptismal Grace given personally to each one of us. The purple cloths throughout the Church are put away and white cloths take their place during the hymn “Arise, O God, and judge the earth...”. We hear the Gospel of the Empty Tomb, sing the hymn “Let all mortal flesh keep silence...,” receive Holy Communion, and break our fast in a modest way with bread, dried fruits, nuts and wine. This is a strict Fasting day, with no food or drink taken prior to the receiving of Holy Communion. No oil is taken on this day. We resume our fasting for only a little longer, from about 6 PM until the Paschal Communion. Naturally, kids, the sick, elderly or infirm fast with less strictness.

GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA, *THE RESURRECTION*

11:30 PM, Saturday evening: Nocturns, Matins and the Divine Liturgy, about 3 hours in length. The Feast of Feasts, and the Holy Day of Holy Days. Pascha is the day that fulfills the old Sabbath, and is called the Eighth Day, the day beyond the time and

days of this world and age, and the image of the Age to Come, the Eternal Day. We begin the Service in a darkened Church with the Nocturns solemnly chanted before the Shroud. Come at 11 PM to secure a good spot to stand. At the conclusion of the Nocturn all the candles in the Church are extinguished. Out of the darkness comes the voices of the clergy singing “Thy Resurrection, O Christ our Savior, the angels in heaven sing, enable us on earth, to glorify Thee with purity of heart.” And with this hymn, the Altar doors open and the newly lit candle is brought out and passed from person to person. We make a procession around the church —recalling the baptismal procession of the newly-illuminated—singing the same hymn over and over. When all have exited the Church and made the procession, we stand before the closed doors and begin the magnificent hymn: “Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered...Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.” We all enter back into the magnificently lit Church, hearing again and again the greeting: Christ is risen! Indeed, He is risen! As children doze on the floor we begin to celebrate the Divine Liturgy of Pascha, fully celebrating His Resurrection and the death of death and of sin. As the Services comes to an end, we each receive a red egg from the priest, a symbol of new life in Christ. We go downstairs where our Pascha baskets, filled with festive foods, are blessed. Together we keep the feast and joy of our Risen Lord.

4:00PM, Sunday afternoon: Agape Vespers of Pascha, about 45 minutes long. After sleeping for a few hours, we return to the Church for a bright, beautiful Vespers Service—exuberantly melodic with the joy of the Resurrection of the Lord, our own spiritual resurrection, and the pledge that we too will rise from the dead. Following the Service we have a festal potluck and celebrate together the joy of the Resurrection. ■

Holy Week

Continued from previous page

Glory.”

9 AM, Friday morning: Royal Hours, about 1.5 hours in length. This is a quiet Service with the reading of 4 Passion Gospels, along with Old Testament prophecies of the Crucified Messiah, New Testament commentaries of the events of the Day and hymns from the evening before.

4:00 PM, Friday afternoon: Vespers of the Shroud (“Epitaphios,” “Plaschanitsa,”), about 1.75 hours in length. The Day of the Cross is a day of darkness, in which we see God rejected, a day of redemption on which the death of Christ is revealed to us as a saving death for us and for our salvation, and a day of the destruction of death itself by Divine Love in Christ. At the end of Vespers we place in the center of the Church the image of Christ in the life-giving tomb, the Holy Shroud, called the “Plaschanitsa” in Slavonic, and the “Epitaphios” in Greek. We all kiss it, giving honor not to the material and paint, but to the One Who gave His life as a ransom to death. The long day of fasting comes to an end with Vespers, and the new Liturgical Day—The Blessed Sabbath —begins. The fast, and therefore, the Vigil, continues.

GREAT AND HOLY SATURDAY: THE BLESSED SABBATH

This is the Liturgical center of the Orthodox Church year, a day which leads us from sorrow to joy, from death to life, from prophecy to fulfillment, the day of the destruction of death and the victory of the Cross.

6:00 PM, Friday evening: Matins of Holy Saturday with the Lamentations, about 3 hours in length. With the end of Holy Friday Vespers comes the “Blessed Sabbath,” the Day of Rest, and the revelation of the Life-Giving Tomb of Christ. This is the Day that connects Great Friday with the Resurrection: sorrow is transformed into joy, and so, this is one of the most favored of Holy Week Services. We gather around the “Tomb” in the center of the Church, and like the Theotokos, and the women bearing

myrrh, we sing our lamentations—short verses of profound theological depth, interspersed with that most magnificent of hymns, Psalm 118 (119), the longest Psalm in the Bible, which is a pure expression of love for the law of God, His Providence, His Will and Providence for mankind, and the very song of the Word of God Himself. When the Lamentations are finished, we continue singing Resurrectional hymns which offer to us the meaning of what the Lord has done and does for us. Near the end of the Service we proceed out of the Church, with candles, in a solemn Procession, singing “Holy God.” This is not a “funeral procession,” but a procession of the Son of God, the Holy Immortal One, who proceeds through the darkness of Hades, announcing to “Adam of all generations” the joy of the forthcoming Resurrection. He proclaims that the “dead in the graves will arise.” We re-enter the Church passing under the Shroud. Once within the Church we hear the Prophecy of the Resurrection from Ezekiel 37, the Lessons from Galatians 3:13–14, and I Cor. 5:6-8, and the reading from Matthew 27:62–66. People take turns reading

(continued, see HOLY WEEK, next page)

Sunday Liturgies:	
SUNDAY OF THE HOLY CROSS:	
LITURGY:	Sun., April 4, 9am <i>(I. Andrzhietskaya, Prosphora)</i>
CROSS:	<i>K. Fedkin, Cross icon</i>
ICON:	<i>A.T. Pelikan, Cross</i>
SUNDAY OF PALMS:	
LITURGY:	Sun., April 25, 9am <i>(I. Andrzhietskaya, Prosphora)</i>
ICON:	<i>E. George</i>
PASCHA:	
LITURGY:	Sun., May 2, 12am <i>(A. Stickles, Prosphora)</i>
ICON:	<i>K. Fedkin</i>

Holy Trinity Calendar

† to join remotely, visit holytrinity-oca.org/zoom.
LIVE this service will be livestreamed on YouTube (visit holytrinity-oca.org/YouTube).

All events take place at 119 South Sparks Street in State College, unless where noted.
Events listed at **Trinity House** take place at 123 South Sparks Street, in State College.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div>✠</div> <div>28</div> <div>St. Gregory Palamas Divine Liturgy, 10am LIVE <i>(Hours, 9:40am) or Typika @ Home</i></div>	<div>✠</div> <div>29</div> <div></div>	<div>✠</div> <div>30</div> <div>Reading of the Life of St. Anthony (46-94), 6pm</div>	<div>✠</div> <div>31</div> <div>Confessions, 4pm-6pm Presanctified Liturgy, 6pm Lenten Potluck, 7:30PM</div>	<div>✠</div> <div>April 1</div> <div></div>	<div>✠</div> <div>2</div> <div>Confessions, 5pm-6pm Presanctified Liturgy, 6pm</div>	<div>✠</div> <div>3</div> <div>Memorial Divine Liturgy, 9am Great Vespers, 6pm LIVE Confessions, following</div>
<div>✠</div> <div>4</div> <div>Sunday of the Holy Cross Divine Liturgy, 10am LIVE <i>(Hours, 9:40am) or Typika @ Home</i></div>	<div>✠</div> <div>5</div> <div></div>	<div>✠</div> <div>6</div> <div>Reading of the Martyrdom of St. Perpetua, 6pm</div>	<div>✠</div> <div>7</div> <div>Confessions, 4pm-6pm Presanctified Liturgy, 6pm Lenten Potluck, 7:30PM</div>	<div>✠</div> <div>8</div> <div>OCF – Stump the Priest, 7pm ZOOM</div>	<div>✠</div> <div>9</div> <div>Confessions, 5pm-6pm Presanctified Liturgy, 6pm</div>	<div>✠</div> <div>10</div> <div>Great Vespers, 6pm LIVE Confessions, following</div>
<div>✠</div> <div>11</div> <div>Sunday of St. John of the Ladder Divine Liturgy, 10am LIVE <i>(Hours, 9:40am) or Typika @ Home</i></div>	<div>✠</div> <div>12</div> <div></div>	<div>✠</div> <div>13</div> <div>Reading of the Martyrdom of Polycarp, 6pm</div>	<div>✠</div> <div>14</div> <div>Confessions, 4pm-6pm Presanctified Liturgy, 6pm Lenten Potluck, 7:30PM</div>	<div>✠</div> <div>15</div> <div>OCF – On-campus, 7pm @ Pasquerilla Parish Council meeting, 7pm ZOOM</div>	<div>✠</div> <div>16</div> <div>Confessions, 5pm-6pm Presanctified Liturgy, 6pm Akathist to the Theotokos, 7:30pm</div>	<div>✠</div> <div>17</div> <div>Parish work-day, 9am-1:30pm Great Vespers, 6pm LIVE Confessions, following</div>
<div>✠</div> <div>18</div> <div>Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt Divine Liturgy, 10am LIVE <i>(Hours, 9:40am) or Typika @ Home</i></div>	<div>✠</div> <div>19</div> <div></div>	<div>✠</div> <div>20</div> <div>Reading of the Life of St. Mary of Egypt, 6pm</div>	<div>✠</div> <div>21</div> <div>Confessions, 4pm-6pm Presanctified Liturgy, 6pm Lenten Potluck, 7:30PM</div>	<div>✠</div> <div>22</div> <div>Adult Ed, “My God...Why hast Thou forsaken me?”, 7pm ZOOM</div>	<div>✠</div> <div>23</div> <div>Confessions, 5pm-6pm Presanctified Liturgy, 6pm</div>	<div>✠</div> <div>24</div> <div>Divine Liturgy, Lazarus Saturday, 9am Altar society meeting, 10:30am Vigil of Palm Sunday, 6pm LIVE</div>
<div>✠</div> <div>25</div> <div>Sunday of Palms Divine Liturgy, 10am LIVE <i>(Hours, 9:40am) or Typika @ Home</i> Altar society decorating, 11:45am Bridegroom Matins, 6pm</div>	<div>✠</div> <div>26</div> <div>Presanctified Liturgy, 9am Bridegroom Matins, 6pm</div>	<div>✠</div> <div>27</div> <div>Presanctified Liturgy, 9am Bridegroom Matins, 6pm</div>	<div>✠</div> <div>28</div> <div>Presanctified Liturgy, 9am Confessions, 4pm-6pm Matins of Holy Thursday and unction, 6pm</div>	<div>✠</div> <div>29</div> <div>Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil, 9am 12 Passion Gospels, 6pm</div>	<div>✠</div> <div>30</div> <div>Royal hours of Holy Friday, 9am Altar society decoration/ Myrrhophores, 12pm Undwinding Vespers, 4pm Matins of Holy Sat., 7pm</div>	<div>✠</div> <div>May 1</div> <div>Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil, 9am</div>
<div></div> <div>2</div> <div>GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA Nocturns, 11:30pm GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA, midnight Blessing of the baskets, 2:30am Agape vespers, 4pm Agape meal, 5pm</div>	<div></div> <div>3</div> <div>Paschal Divine Liturgy, 9am</div>	<div></div> <div>4</div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div>5</div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div>6</div> <div></div>	<div></div> <div>7</div> <div>Men’s barbeque, 6pm @ Father’s house</div>	<div></div> <div>8</div> <div>Great Vespers, 6pm LIVE Confessions, following</div>

Chapel Calendar

All events take place at 145 North Kern Street in Beavertown, unless where noted.

Saturday 3	Saturday 24
Great Vespers, 6pm, Confessions, following	Lazarus Saturday Divine Liturgy, 10am <i>(Hours, 9:40am)</i>
Sunday 4	Decorating the chapel for Palm Sunday immediately thereafter
Divine Liturgy, 10am <i>(Hours, 9:40am)</i> † Study of missionary saints, 1:30pm	
Tuesday 6	Saturday 24
Choir Rehearsal, 6pm	Great Vespers, 6pm, Confessions, following
Wednesday 7	Sunday 25
Presanctified Liturgy, 6pm, soup/bread potluck following	Divine Liturgy, 10am , Blessing of the Palms <i>(Hours, 9:40am)</i> †
Saturday 10	Sunday 25
Great Vespers, 6pm, Confessions, following	Great and Holy Monday Bridegroom Matins, 6pm
Sunday 11	Wednesday 28
Divine Liturgy, 10am <i>(Hours, 9:40am)</i> † Catechesis, 1:30pm <i>via Zoom</i> †	Great and Holy Thursday Vespersal Divine Liturgy & Unction, 6pm
Wednesday 14	Thursday 29
Presanctified Liturgy, 6pm, soup/bread potluck following	Great and Holy Friday Matins w/12 Passion Gospels, 6pm
Saturday17	Friday 30
Spring cleaning for Pascha, 10am	Great and Holy Friday Unnailing Vespers, 6pm
Saturday 17	Saturday May 1
Great Vespers, 6pm, Confessions, following	Great and Holy Saturday Baptism (of Juliana Maria Hoffman), 10am
Sunday 18	Saturday May 1
Divine Liturgy, 10am <i>(Hours, 9:40am)</i> † Catechesis, 1:30pm <i>via Zoom</i> †	Nocturns/Matins/Divine Liturgy of Great and Holy Pascha; blessing of Pascha baskets and festal meal immediately thereafter, 11:30pm
Tuesday 20	Sunday 2
Choir Rehearsal, 6pm	Fellowship meal of Pascha leftovers followed by Vespers
Wednesday 21	Sunday 2
Presanctified Liturgy, 6pm, soup/bread potluck following	Agape Vespers, 6pm

April 2021