



Palm Sunday

Calendar and Announcements

Holy Week and Pascha Schedule:

- The following services will be prayed, with clergy, servers, and chanters only. Please do not come to the church building for these services. **Also, please note that this schedule is subject to change:**
 - Saturday 4/11
 - Lazarus Saturday Liturgy - 10am
 - Great Vespers – 5pm
 - Sunday 4/12
 - Palm Sunday Orthros and Liturgy – 9:30am
 - Bridegroom Orthros - 6pm
 - Monday 4/13 – Bridegroom Orthros - 6pm
 - Tuesday 4/14 – Bridegroom Orthros - 6pm
 - Wednesday 4/15 – Bridegroom Orthros - 6pm
 - Thursday 4/16
 - Vespertal Liturgy of St. Basil - 10am
 - Orthros and 12 Gospels – 6pm
 - Friday 4/17
 - Royal Hours – 9:30am
 - Vespers – 3pm
 - Orthros and Lamentations - 6pm
 - Saturday 4/18
 - Vespertal Liturgy of St. Basil - 10am
 - Rush, Paschal Orthros, and Paschal Liturgy - 10:30pm
 - Sunday 4/19
 - Agape Vespers – 12:30pm
- The above services will be livestreamed via St. George's [website](#) and [official Facebook page](#).
- There are a limited number of Holy Week liturgical books that the church has and is considering loaning out (1 per family). If you are interested in borrowing a copy for your family, please contact the office (office@saintgeorgeupperdarby.org).

Troparion of St. George

O liberator and deliverer of captives, helper of the poor and needy, a healing physician of the sick, a contender for kings, O great among Martyrs, the victory-clad George; intercede with Christ our God for the salvation of our souls.

Announcements:

- Based on Metropolitan JOSEPH'S latest encyclical (dated 3/17/2020), all non-liturgical events are **cancelled**.
- Dn. Joseph is leading Akathist on Tuesday evenings via Skype. To participate, please email Dn. Joseph at dnjosephclark@gmail.com to receive the link.
- The Ministry Team is organizing small group (less than 10 people) Typika services that meet in local parks. If interested in attending, please contact Ed Donahue at Edjdonahue@gmail.com.
- For the time being, the church building remains closed and appointments for confession and communion are suspended.
- Several members of the ministry team will be contacting parishioners to identify any special needs and to ensure our church family is taken care of during this time. If you or someone you know has a particular need during this time, please contact the church office so we can coordinate with the ministry team.

General notes:

- If you are able to still tithe / contribute to the church during this time, please consider giving online via PayPal on the church's website.
- While we are connected to many Orthodox communities across the country and around the globe, please remember that we are following the guidance of our Archbishop and Bishop, and will be making decisions within this guidance that is specific to the needs of our parish community.
- All communication about services and other updates during this time will be sent via parish email from Fr. Joel (or the office) or posted on the website or official church Facebook page. Please continue to monitor your email and the website for any updates. All questions can be directed to the office (office@saintgeorgeupperdarby.org).

Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday is the celebration of the triumphant entrance of Christ into the royal city of Jerusalem. He rode on a colt for which He Himself had sent, and He permitted the people to hail Him publicly as a king. A large crowd met Him in a manner befitting royalty, waving palm branches and placing their garments in His path. They greeted Him with these words: "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel! (John 12:13).

This day together with the raising of Lazarus are signs pointing beyond themselves to the mighty deeds and events which consummate Christ's earthly ministry. The time of fulfillment was at hand. Christ's raising of Lazarus points to the destruction of death and the joy of resurrection which will be accessible to all through His own death and resurrection. His entrance into Jerusalem is a fulfillment of the messianic prophecies about the king who will enter his holy city to establish a final kingdom. "Behold, your king is coming to you, humble, and mounted on an ass, and on a colt, the foal of an ass" (Zech 9:9).

Finally, the events of these triumphant two days are but the passage to Holy Week: the "hour" of suffering and death for which Christ came. Thus the triumph in an earthly sense is extremely short-lived. Jesus enters openly into the midst of His enemies, publicly saying and doing those things which mostly enrage them. The people themselves will soon reject Him. They misread His brief earthly triumph as a sign of something else: His emergence as a political messiah who will lead them to the glories of an earthly kingdom.

**Wisdom of the Holy Fathers**

"Prayer should be the means by which I, at all times, receive all that I need, and, for this reason, be my daily refuge, my daily consolation, my daily joy, my source of rich and inexhaustible joy in life."

+Saint John Chrysostom