

# Saints Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Christian Church

*A Parish of the Diocese of New England of the Orthodox Church in America*

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## Sunday, April 17, 2022

### Palm Sunday

**ENTRY OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM. Palm Sunday** . Hieromartyr Simeon, Bishop in Persia, and those with him: Martyrs Abdechalas and Ananias—Presbyters, Usthazanes, Fusicus (Pusicus), Ascitrea, Azades the Eunuch, and many others (344). Saint Akakios, Bishop of Melitēné (ca. 433). Ven. Zosíma, Abbot of Solovétsky Monastery (1478). Uncovering of the Relics of Ven. Alexander, Abbot of Svir (1641). Martyr Adrian of Corinth (251). St. Agapitus, Pope of Rome (536). Repose of Ven. Makarios of Corinth (1805).

<https://www.oca.org/saints/lives/2022/04/17>

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## Services and Events, Upcoming

- **Sunday, April 17, Palm Sunday, 9:15 AM:** Divine Liturgy for the Feast of Palm Sunday, followed by a Coffee Social Hour.
- **AT CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH, SOUTHBURY, CT: Sunday afternoon/evening, April 17, 4:00 PM:** Bridegroom Matins to mark our entry into the Holy Week of Our Lord's Saving Passion.
- **Great and Holy Monday, April 18, 7:00 PM:** Bridegroom Matins.
- **Great and Holy Tuesday, April 19, 7:00 PM:** Bridegroom Matins.
- **Great and Holy Wednesday, April 20, 7:00 PM:** The Matins of Holy Thursday, commemorating Our Lord's Last Supper with His Disciples.
- **Great and Holy Thursday, April 21, 10:00 AM:** Vespers and Divine Liturgy of Holy Thursday, commemorating Our Lord's Last Supper with His Disciples.
- **Great and Holy Thursday, April 21, 7:00 PM:** Matins of Holy Friday, with the Reading of the 12 Passion Gospels ("The Service of the 12 Gospels").
- **Great and Holy Friday, April 22, 3:00 PM:** Entombment Vespers with the bringing out of the Large Icon of Our Entombed Lord (the "*Epitaphios*" or "*Plaschinitsa*") for veneration by the Faithful.
- **Great and Holy Friday, April 22, 7:00 PM:** Matins of Holy Saturday, with the Lamentations at the Lord's Tomb, and the Procession with the *Epitaphios*.
- **Great and Holy Saturday, April 23, 10:00 AM:** Vespers and Divine Liturgy, with the 15 Old Testament Readings, the Changing of the Liturgical Colors from Dark to Bright, and the Gospel of the Resurrection.

## Services and Events, Upcoming (Continued)

- **Great and Holy Saturday, April 23, 11:30 PM:** Nocturnes of the Vigil of Pascha, *which is followed immediately by...*
  - **Great and Holy Pascha (The Sunday of Our Lord's Glorious and Saving Resurrection), April 24, 12:00 AM (Midnight):** *(These services immediately follow the preceding service of Nocturnes)* The Matins and Divine Liturgy of Holy Pascha, followed by the Blessing of Paschal Baskets.
  - **NOTE:** We will not have Agape Vespers this year, during the day on Holy Pascha
  - **Bright Monday, April 25, 9:15 AM:** Paschal Divine Liturgy, with Festive Procession
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### Metropolitan Kallistos Ware, writing about the Jesus Prayer, from his book, *The Orthodox Church*

[There is a] type of personal prayer which has for many centuries played an extraordinarily important part in the life of Orthodoxy — the Jesus Prayer: "**Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me a sinner.**" Since it is sometimes said that Orthodox do not pay sufficient attention to the person of the Incarnate Christ, it is worth pointing out that this — surely the most classic of all Orthodox prayers — is essentially a Christo-centric prayer, a prayer addressed to and concentrated upon the Lord Jesus. Those brought up in the tradition of the Jesus Prayer are never allowed for one moment to forget the Incarnate Christ.

As a help in reciting this prayer many Orthodox use a rosary, differing somewhat in structure from the western rosary; an Orthodox rosary is often made of wool, so that unlike a string of beads it makes no noise.

The Jesus Prayer is a prayer of marvelous versatility. It is a prayer for beginners, but equally a prayer that leads to the deepest mysteries of the contemplative life. It can be used by anyone, at any time, in any place: standing in queues, walking, traveling on buses or trains; when at work; when unable to sleep at night; at times of special anxiety when it is impossible to concentrate upon other kinds of prayer. But while of course every Christian can use the Prayer at odd moments in this way, it is a different matter to recite it more or less continually and to use the physical exercises which have become associated with it. Orthodox spiritual writers insist that those who use the Jesus Prayer systematically should, if possible, place themselves under the guidance of an experienced director and do nothing on their own initiative.

For some there comes a time when the Jesus Prayer 'enters into the heart,' so that it is no longer recited by a deliberate effort, but recites itself spontaneously, continuing even when a man talks or writes, present in his dreams, waking him up in the morning. In the words of Saint Isaac the Syrian: 'When the Spirit takes its dwelling-place in a man he does not cease to pray, because the Spirit will constantly pray in him. Then, neither when he sleeps, nor when he is awake, will prayer be cut off from his soul; but when he eats and when he drinks, when he lies down or when he does any work, even when he is immersed in sleep, the perfumes of prayer will breathe in his heart spontaneously' (*Mystic Treatises*, edited by Wensinck, p. 174).

Orthodox believe that the power of God is present in the Name of Jesus, so that the invocation of this Divine Name acts 'as an effective sign of God's action, as a sort of sacrament' (Un Moine de l'Église d'Orient, *La Prière de Jésus*, Chevetogne, 1952, p. 87). 'The Name of Jesus, present in the human heart, communicates to it the power of deification ... Shining through the heart, the light of the Name of Jesus illuminates all the universe' (S. Bulgakov, *The Orthodox Church*, pp. 170-171).

Alike to those who recite it continually and to those who only employ it occasionally, the Jesus Prayer proves a great source of reassurance and joy.



# PARISH PRAYER LIST

**NOTE:** *This week in the Parish Prayer List, we are listing all the anniversaries of repose, birth and marriage that will take place during the two weeks from Palm Sunday, through to and including Bright Saturday (the Saturday after Pascha), as by custom we do not pray for specific individuals during Holy Week, Pascha, and Bright Week, but rather pray for the whole world during that holy time.*

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## We pray for all victims of disease, disaster, difficulty, and senseless violence throughout the world.

### + THOSE WHO HAVE DEPARTED THIS LIFE: *Memory Eternal!*

*We pray for all the thousands of victims of COVID-19. We pray for all those who have perished in Ukraine, due to the war going on there. Lord have mercy.*

#### **Newly Departed**

Anthony K.—man associated with the Waterbury Parish d. 3/16/22  
Kevin—son of a Hartford parishioner; victim of cancer d. 4/13/22

#### **Anniversaries of Repose – Memory Eternal!**

Rosalia Macibora	4/17/1965
Samuel Glowa	4/17/1971
Gregory Fill	4/18/1918
Gregory Nikolaichik	4/18/1950
Andrew Fedak	4/18/1969
Harry N. Banziruk	4/19/2007
Frank Kiriluk	4/20/1990
Gregory Kaschak	4/21/1927
Leon Gurlowski	4/21/1983
Thomas Raineault	4/21/2002
Sonia Rozyk	4/21/2007
Joseph Naymchik	4/22/1929
Helen Kowaleski	4/22/1979
Richard Kowaleski	4/22/2000
John Bayda	4/23/1954
Anthony Tkach	4/23/1961
Diane Wrettick	4/23/1979
Nadejda Loshoski	4/24/1966
Joanna Pawelchak	4/24/1979
Aftan Pastyrnak	4/25/1978
John Maichack	4/26/1997
Louis "Lou" Kopcha	4/26/2013
Maria Komansky	4/27/1925
Theodore Hrabsky	4/27/1939
Konstantine Yatsenick	4/27/1961
Eva Yacknick	4/30/1960
Protodeacon Simeon "Sam" Kopcha	4/30/2010

### THOSE IN NEED OF GOD'S MERCY AND HELP

*First of all, we pray for all those suffering due to COVID-19, and those working to alleviate their suffering. We pray for all those suffering presently in Ukraine, due to the war going on there.*

#### **Persons captive and suffering for the Faith**

Metropolitan Paul and Archbishop John—hostages in Syria

#### **Those who are sick and suffering**

Archbishop Paul of Chicago—diagnosed with a grievous illness  
Priest John M.—a young priest, suffering with a vexing illness  
Matushka Anne Hosking—chronic illness; in need of our prayers  
Matushka Ann S.—chronic health challenges  
Fyodor (Frank) G.—suffering from Multiple Sclerosis (MS)  
Dolores T.—permanent colon malfunction following colon cancer treatment  
child Drew—grandson of friends of the Nimcheks; ongoing treatment for eye cancer  
Donna—Ann S.'s niece, Deb W.'s cousin; kidney disease  
Dayrl—Ann S.'s niece, Deb W.'s cousin; kidney disease  
JoAnn—acquaintance of Jeanne Moore; ovarian cancer  
MaryEllen—Louine K.'s daughter-in-law; suffering with Huntington's Disease  
Yelena "Lenna" M.—overcoming, by God's grace, serious health challenges

Katie and Aubrey—a mother and daughter for whom we have been asked to pray  
Tanya B.—suffering long-term and lingering effects of brain hemorrhage  
Claudia A.—Waterbury parishioner; health challenges and now widowed  
Mary Lynn—friend of Donna O.; battling breast cancer  
Barbara—friend of Patty N.; unwell and in need of prayerful support  
Dorothy F.—Waterbury parishioner; still recovering from a serious surgery  
Michael "Mike" L.—ongoing health issues  
child George—young son of a Kenyan Orthodox priest; quite unwell  
Bill M.—struggling with health issues, please keep in prayer  
Paula—friend of Jim L.; struggling with cancer  
Dimitri—brother of Carolyn P.; health issues  
Maryna B.—dealing with some health issues  
Thomas—Patty N.'s nephew; battling cancer  
Wayne—Donna O.'s father  
George Kla.—our fellow parishioner; facing a variety of health challenges  
Lorraine—friend of Joan M.; cancerous blood disease  
Joseph—friend of Jeanne M.; in need of prayers  
Dianna—Jennifer W.'s mother; suffering some health problems  
Thomas—fighting cancer; father of a friend of the Parish (S.H.)  
Yvonne K.—a person we have been asked to pray for; multiple myeloma  
Mark—friend of a parishioner (F.G.); critically ill  
Domenic—friend of a parishioner (F.G.); facing serious illness  
Louis—friend of a parishioner (F.G.); facing serious illness  
Brittney—facing possibly severe health issues; at the request of Kathy M.  
Albert ("Al")—in need of prayers for healing; very unwell  
Kathy S.—Waterbury parishioner; facing health challenges  
Earlene L.—Mike and Jim L.'s mother; health issues  
Natonya L.—Mike and Jim L.'s family member; heart surgery  
Bach-Loan—a neighbor of Jeanne M.'s; recent serious health challenges  
Barbara S.—W'bury parishioner; recovering from surgery  
Rick—Deacon Paul and Patty's nephew; Rick is unwell and in need of prayers  
Peter—Deacon Paul and Patty's acquaintance; battling leukemia  
Christina—surgery for cancer on March 14; acquaintance of Fr. John H.  
James B.—husband of a Waterbury parishioner; very unwell recently  
Marisa—a 13-yr-old girl, acquaintance of the Nimcheks, who is quite unwell  
Stephen—facing health challenges; at request of Marilou P.  
Emily—acquaintance of the Nimcheks; a person facing serious illness, courageously

#### **Shut-ins and those resident in long-term Care Facilities**

Alex—John D.'s brother; suffering permanent effects of stroke  
Dolores—Bob M.'s mother; resident in long-term eldercare

#### **New Mother and child**

Tracey and the son Theodore Michael newly born of her—Tracey is G. and J.  
W.'s daughter-in-law ("Many Years" to Theo, Tracey and Zachary!)

#### **Expectant Mothers**

Lucy and the child to be born of her—Lucy C. is our fellow parishioner  
Maura and the child to be born of her—Maura is Lucy and David C.'s friend  
Katherine and the child to be born of her—relative of the Hopkos

#### **Travelers, Those Soon to be Traveling, and Those Apart from Us**

All those traveling, soon to be traveling, and apart from us

#### **Those from among us serving on active duty in the Armed Forces**

Joel O.—U.S. Navy; hospital corpsman ("medic")  
Joseph B.—a Terryville neighbor; U.S. Marine Corps  
Joshua P.—husband of a niece of Fr. John's; U.S. Army officer and helicopter pilot  
Alexander—relative of Carolyn P.; 82<sup>nd</sup> Airborne Division U.S. Army soldier  
Derek—relative of Carolyn P.; U.S. Army soldier  
Ruben—acquaintance of the Hopkos, deployed U.S. Marines Corps pilot

#### **Wedding Anniversaries**

NONE THIS WEEK

#### **Birthdays this coming week**

Alex W. – George and Jennifer W.'s son	4/18
Greg Wegh	4/25
Frank Guba	4/25
Laura Koski	4/26
Julie Kowaleski	4/26
Natalie Wingate	4/27
Sarah (Senetcen) Gaulin	4/27
Christopher Aaron Osuch	4/27

## Additional Prayers Requested

**Prayers Requested:** Maryna B., friend of our Terryville Parish, and a native of Kharkiv, Ukraine, asks prayers for the health and salvation of her family and friends in Ukraine, including, specifically, her grandmother **Larissa**, her brother **Dmytro**, her sister-in-law **Yuliia** (who is with child), and, also, for **Alexander** and **Aleksey**. Maryna's grandmother, Larissa, and other family and friends, are still in Kharkiv, a city whose people are suffering greatly at this time, due to ongoing attacks by the military of the country of Russia. (Lord, hear us and have mercy!)

**Prayers Requested:** Lenna M., our fellow parishioner, also asks prayers for the health and salvation of family members in Ukraine, including, specifically, her second cousin **Ludmilla**, Ludmilla's daughter **Nadia**, Nadia's husband **Alexei**, and their children **Sofia** and **Anna**. (Lord, hear us and have mercy!)

**Prayers Requested:** One of our parishioners who is a teacher has asked prayers for one of her students. This student is battling a very serious, life-threatening illness—indeed, the prognosis is now dire: A miracle is needed. Please, keep this child and their loved ones in your prayers. Thank you. (Lord, hear us and have mercy!)

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## Pertaining to Pascha

- **Paschal Appeals:** Please give generously to our Parish's General Paschal Appeal and to the Easter (Paschal) Flower Offering. We always have lovely flowers in the Church for Pascha and our contributions help cover the cost of these beautiful additions to our Paschal worship. Your support of these two appeals is deeply appreciated. Appeal envelopes are available at the Candle Desk in the Church Narthex.
  - **Blessing of Paschal Baskets:** The Blessing of Paschal Baskets will take place at the conclusion of the Paschal Midnight Services in the Church Basement Social Hall, after which time the Parish Paschal "Agape" Meal will take place in the same location. (Note: If you would like your Pascha Basket blessed at some other time than after the Midnight services, please, see Fr. John H.)
  - **Paschal Agape Meal:** The Parish Paschal "Agape" Meal, which will happen after the Paschal Midnight Divine Liturgy, will take place in the Church Basement Social Hall, immediately following the Blessing of the Paschal Baskets. We will not have a general food table, but will be eating from and sharing the contents of our family Paschal Baskets, while enjoying each other's company. If you are planning to stay for this meal, please bring everything you need with you—your own plates, cups, and cutlery, your own beverages and condiments, etc. (P.S. The word "agape," pronounced "ah-GAH-pay," means "love" in the Greek language and is the traditional word used to describe this Paschal meal.)
  - **Thomas Sunday Blessing of Graves:** On Sunday, May 1, weather and ground conditions permitting, we will celebrate the Sunday after Pascha, Thomas Sunday. As is the parish's custom for Thomas Sunday, we will bless the graves in the parish cemetery that day beginning at 12:15 PM.
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# Readings from Holy Scripture

## *Scripture Readings for Palm Sunday*

### **The Reading from the Epistle of the Holy Apostle Paul to the Philippians (Phil. 4:4-9)**

Brethren: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let all men know your forbearance. The Lord is at hand. Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will keep your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, do; and the God of peace will be with you.

### **The Reading from the Gospel according to Saint John (John 12:1-18)**

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made him a supper; Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at table with him. Mary took a pound of costly ointment of pure nard and anointed the feet of Jesus and wiped his feet with her hair; and the house was filled with the fragrance of the ointment. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (he who was to betray him), said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not that he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the money box he used to take what was put into it. Jesus said, "Let her alone, let her keep it for the day of my burial. The poor you always have with you, but you do not always have me." When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came, not only on account of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus also to death, because on account of him many of the Jews were going away and believing in Jesus. The next day a great crowd who had come to the feast heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, crying, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" And Jesus found a young ass and sat upon it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on an ass's colt!" His disciples did not understand this at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that this had been written of him and had been done to him. The crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet him was that they heard he had done this sign.

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## **Prayer to Bless the Palms and Branches on the Feast of Palm Sunday**

O Lord, our God, Who rests upon the cherubim, You have reaffirmed Your power and sent Your Only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to save the world through His Cross, Burial, and Resurrection. When our Lord Jesus drew near to Jerusalem for His voluntary Passion, the People that sat in darkness and the shadow of death took, as tokens of victory, boughs of trees and branches of palms, thus foretelling His Resurrection. Do You Yourself, O Master, keep and preserve us also, who, following their example, on this eve of the Feast carry in our hands palms and branches, and who like the crowds and the children cry to You, "Hosanna!". With hymns and spiritual songs may we attain the life-giving Resurrection on the third day: through Jesus Christ our Lord, with Whom You are blessed, together with Your most holy, good, and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.