

THANK YOU

We appreciate our Office Volunteers for their help and dedication on Tuesdays/Thursdays every week since the beginning of January. We love seeing your smiling faces, thank you for your willingness to do anything we ask, and look forward to your continued help and support throughout the year.

Mindi Armatas
Vivian Bouzarelos
Charlene Eliopulos
Christie Finch
Todd Pickton
Vana White

We can't thank you enough, Love, Jenée and Valerie

STAFF UPDATE & THANK YOU

On behalf of the St. Catherine community, Staff and Parish Council we would like to thank Jenée Horan for two and a half years of service to the Parish in the role of Office/Facilities Manager. She has decided to leave the role for a new opportunity. While this is a bittersweet decision we're happy that Jenée will remain an active member of the St. Catherine Parish.

SAINT CATHERINE STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

For 2024, as of April 24th we have 335 stewards pledging \$959,341 and we have received \$358,348. If you did not receive a stewardship packet at home, you may pick one up in the Narthex or the Fellowship Hall.

Contact Jenée Horan at: Jenee@stcatherinechurch.org.

ST. CATHERINE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

5555 South Yosemite Street, Greenwood Village, CO, 80111

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Clergy: Father Theodore Dorrance, Protopresbyter • Father Dino Sinos, Economist

• Deacon Konstantinos Bardossas

Staff: Jenée Horan, Office/Facilities Manager • Valerie LeVier, Executive Assistant to Father Theodore/Communications Coordinator • Mary-Elaine Priddy, Accountant • Presvytera Stacey Dorrance, Lead Chanter
Maja Buck, Youth & Young Adult Ministry Director • James Tavlarides, IT Support
• Stephen Woodruff, Facility Assistant

Parish Council: Alex Buck (President), Judy Jones (1st VP of Fellowship), Elena Paich (2nd VP of Stewardship), Mike Hillier (Treasurer), John Holder (Secretary), Kris Bates, Dr. Nicholas Gagner, Dr. Andrew Gaines, Dr. Leon Greos, Todd Hallberg, Douglas Kasten, Pete Papilion, Jamie Payne, Niko Poulos, Evan Stathopoulos.



WELCOME TO SAINT CATHERINE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

"There are no strangers here; only friends you have not met!"

PALM SUNDAY-APRIL 28, 2024
The Holy Nine Martyrs of Cyzikos

Palm Sunday

Yesterday (the Saturday of Lazarus) and today (Palm Sunday) serve as a transition weekend bridging Great Lent with Holy Week. On Saturday, we remember the resurrection of our Lord's friend Lazarus after being dead in the tomb four days. This feast provides us a foreshadowing of Christ's own resurrection. We hear Jesus tell Martha, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in Me, though he die, yet shall he live" (Jn. 11:25). This is important for us to remember as we see Jesus enter Jerusalem and undergo His betrayal, arrest, trial, mocking, scourging, and crucifixion. Our faith needs to become truly great in order for us to believe in Christ's victory beyond these horrifying events.

Today, we celebrate Christ's triumphant entry into Jerusalem. This is arguably one of the most interesting feasts of Christ's life, because it is filled with so many seeming paradoxes. First, we know that Jesus is the King of kings and Lord of lords, but instead of victoriously entering His city riding on a stallion with a powerful army, Jesus enters "humble and mounted on a donkey" (Matt. 21:5). Secondly, we know that Jesus's disciples did not feel very triumphant, but were scared for their Master and for themselves. Thirdly, a crowd of people laid down their garments on the road while others spread palm branches, but it is safe to assume that some of these same people, at the end of the same week, were part of a different crowd crying out, "Crucify Him!" The final paradox is that Jesus did not enter the city of Jerusalem to conquer it or sit upon a throne. He came to prepare His disciples for His death by instituting the Mystical Supper (the Eucharist) and to suffer and die on a Roman Cross.

We know that each of these paradoxes reveal important truths. Jesus's Kingdom is not of this world. Heaven and earth shall pass away, but Christ's Kingdom is eternal. As Christians, our citizenship is not of this world. As the King of kings, Jesus is humble and a servant. His life expresses that the first shall be last, and the last shall be first. Finally, the real enemies of our Lord were never the human beings He created, but the Evil One, sin, and death. Our Lord's power is in His self-sacrificial love and His purity of heart, thought, and life. Nothing in the universe can compare to these all-powerful weapons. His entry into Jerusalem teaches us to fight the same enemies with the same weapons. "Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!"

Discussion Questions:

1. It is challenging to live in the world, but not be of the world. Peer pressure—or following the "herd"—makes this challenge particularly difficult. How can we in our everyday life stay true to our convictions about our Christian faith and not give in to contrary peer pressure?
2. Holy Week is upon us, and we have the opportunity to participate in many beautiful services. Discuss how we can more fully participate this year over previous years.

WEEK AT A GLANCE

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

- **PALM SUNDAY Orthros 8:15am, Divine Liturgy 9:30am**
- Palm Sunday Luncheon is hosted by Philoptochos
- Philoptochos Bake Sale in Fellowship Hall
- **BRIDEGROOM SERVICE 7:00pm**

MONDAY, APRIL 29

- **HOLY MONDAY PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY 9:00am**
- **BRIDEGROOM SERVICE 7:00pm**

TUESDAY, APRIL 30

- **HOLY TUESDAY PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY 9:00am**
- **Myrrh Bearing Practice 4:30pm**
- **BRIDEGROOM SERVICE (HYMN OF KASSIANI) 7:00pm**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

- **HOLY WEDNESDAY PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY 9:00am**
- **HOLY UNCTION 4:00pm**
- **BRIDEGROOM SERVICE WITH ANOINTING 7:00pm**

THURSDAY, MAY 2

- **HOLY THURSDAY VESPERAL DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT BASIL 9:00am**
- **PASSION GOSPELS ORTHROS 7:00pm**

FRIDAY, MAY 3

- **ROYAL HOURS 9:00am**
- **HOLY FRIDAY YOUTH RETREAT 10:30am**
- **TOMB DECORATING 10:30am-1:00pm**
- **TAKING DOWN OF JESUS FROM THE CROSS 1:30pm**
- **LAMENTATIONS 7:00pm**

SATURDAY, MAY 4

- **HOLY SATURDAY VESPERAL DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. BASIL 9:00am with His Grace Bishop Constantine**
- **Egg Hunt 11:30am & Reception in Fellowship Hall**
- **RESURRECTION SERVICE 11:15pm-RESURRECTIONAL ORTHROS & DIVINE LITURGY AT MIDNIGHT**
- **Anastasi Dinner Hosted by Parish Council**

SUNDAY, MAY 5

- **GREAT & HOLY PASCHA-CHRIST IS RISEN CHRISTOS ANESTI!**
- **AGAPE VESPERS 1:00pm**

HELP MAKE PROM MAGICAL FOR STUDENTS WITH INTELLECTUAL & DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

Join us for a Prom Clothes & Accessories Drive benefiting



Laradon is a local non-profit whose mission for the past 75 years is to empower kids and adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

One of the branches of the non-profit is the Laradon School-- which serves 67 students with intellectual and developmental disabilities, providing them with education, support, and opportunities to thrive. These students come from over 18 school districts in Colorado.

LET'S TALK PROM!

Laradon is looking forward to hosting their Candyland themed prom on May 24th.

Their prom is a cherished event, offering their students a chance to dress up, dance, and create lasting memories with their peers just like any other teenager would.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

They are seeking donations of gently used prom dresses (bridesmaid dresses work too), suits & ties, dress shoes, accessories, and grooming items to help their students look and feel their best during this special event. Donations in a variety of sizes- with sizes large and x-large being the most requested, are greatly appreciated.

As you spring clean your closets this month, please consider donating these special items.

**Donations can be dropped off directly with Toula Stathopoulos until May 14.
Connect with her at 303-792-5661 or TStathopoulos@comcast.net.**

Prom is important for kids with intellectual and developmental disabilities because it promotes social inclusion, boosts self-esteem, marks a significant milestone, fosters independence, creates lasting memories, and promotes a culture of inclusivity. It allows them to fully participate in the high school experience and feel like valued members of their community.

LEARN MORE ABOUT LARADON AT LARADON.ORG



MESSAGE FROM PARISH COUNCIL ON ANASTASI (RESURRECTION) DINNER

The St. Catherine Parish Council invites you to a Anastasi (Resurrection) dinner immediately following the Midnight Paschal Divine Liturgy on Sunday May 5th. Lamb will be graciously donated by Yanni's Restaurant; salad and rolls along with wine, beer, margaritas, soft drinks, and bubbly water, will be provided by the parish council.

You are invited to bring a dish to share and place on the buffet table that will be set up in the Event Room. Please label your dishes if they have nuts or are gluten free or vegetarian. Please bring your shared food items on a disposable dish to alleviate washing dishes and loss of anyone's personal dishware. Also, please bring serving utensils. We ask that you please clean up and take home your dishes.

Thank you, St. Catherine Greek Orthodox Church-Parish Council

BOOKSTORE NOTICE

The bookstore will be open briefly today and close early so our volunteers may enjoy the luncheon. Thank you for supporting the St. Catherine Bookstore!

ORTHODOX DAY OF SERVICE RESULTS

- Thank you to all that attended the Orthodox Day of Service. We combined together with 14 other locations and parishes to serve our local communities. The Saint Catherine location had 96 volunteers that worked with Project Our Town to create 1,600 meals, and 109 Cards to be delivered to local veterans.

REMINDER

EGG DYEING: Volunteers please pick up your dye kits. Kits will be distributed on Palm Sunday and dyed eggs need to be returned Holy Thursday.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

TOMB DECORATING-Holy Friday, May 3rd from 10:30am to 1:00pm. All ladies please consider offering your time to help decorate the Tomb. No experience necessary, please join us in the Fellowship Hall.

SAVE THE DATE

- **PALM SUNDAY PHILOPTOCHOS BAKE SALE:** Pre-orders will be available for pick up today during coffee hour.
- **FLOWER DONATIONS:** If you would like to make a monetary donation towards flowers for Holy Week, please make a check payable to St. Catherine – memo Holy Week Flowers and place in the basket in the Narthex. Deadline for donations is Tuesday, April 30th by 12:00pm. Thank you!
- **EGG HUNT:** Holy Saturday, May 4th at 11:30am-Little Angels and Hope & Joy can participate in our annual Easter Egg Hunt after the Vesperal Divine Liturgy. Please have your children bring their own Easter baskets to fill.

HYMNS AND READINGS FOR PALM SUNDAY

APOLYTIKION MODE 1: Before your passion you confirmed the resurrection of all by raising Lazarus from the dead, O Christ our God. Therefore, like the children of old, we also carry symbols of victory, and to you, the victor over death, do we cry out: Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

APOLYTIKION MODE 4: In our baptism we were buried with you, O Christ our God, and by your resurrection you have granted us eternal life. Therefore, we sing your praises, O Lord: Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

PALM SUNDAY KONTAKION-MODE PL. 2: Being born upon a throne in Heaven, and upon a colt on the earth, O Christ God, You did accept the praise of the Angels and the laudation of the children as they cried to You: Blessed are You Who comes to recall Adam.

THE EPISTLE READING IS FROM PAUL'S LETTER TO THE PHILIPPIANS 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 GOSPEL READING IS FROM JOHN 12:1-18: Six days before Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazaros was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. There they made him a supper; Martha served, and Lazaros 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 Lazaros, whom he had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazaros 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 donkey and sat upon it; as it is written, "Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey'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 Lazaros 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.

PRAYER FOR THE BLESSING OF THE PALMS

Deacon: Let us pray to the Lord

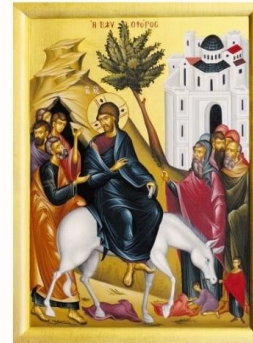
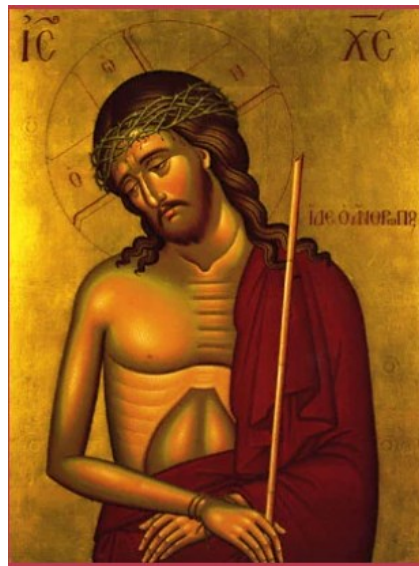
Choir: Lord have mercy

Priest: O Lord our God, who sits upon the cherubim, who has reaffirmed Your might, You sent out Your only-begotten Son our Lord Jesus Christ. Through His Cross and grave and Resurrection He saved the world. As He approached Jerusalem, unto His voluntary passion, the people that sat in darkness and in the shadow of death took the symbols of victory, the boughs of trees in branches of palms, foretelling the Resurrection. Do You Yourself, O Master, preserve and keep us also who on this feast, following their example, bear in our hands palms and boughs of trees. And like those multitudes and children who cried to You "Hosanna," may we also in hymns and spiritual songs participate in the life-giving Resurrection on the third day, through the same Christ Jesus our Lord, with whom You are blessed, together with Your all-holy and good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages.

Choir: Amen

The Bridegroom Services of Holy Week

Beginning on the evening of Palm Sunday and continuing through the evening of Holy Tuesday, the Orthodox Church observes a special service known as the Bridegroom Service. Each evening service is the Matins or Orthros service of the following day, celebrated one half day in advance. The name of the service is from the figure of the Bridegroom in the parable of the Ten Virgins found in Matthew 25:1-13. The first part of Holy Week presents us with an array of themes based chiefly on the last days of Jesus' earthly life. The story of the Passion is preceded by a series of incidents located in Jerusalem and a collection of parables, sayings and discourses centered on Jesus' divine Sonship, the Kingdom of God, the Second Coming, and Jesus' castigation of the hypocrisy and dark motives of the religious leaders. The observances of the first three days of Holy Week are rooted in these incidents and sayings. The three days constitute a single liturgical unit. They have the same cycle and system of daily prayer. The Scripture lessons, hymns, commemorations, and ceremonies that make up the festal elements in the respective services of the cycle highlight significant aspects of salvation history, by calling to mind the events that anticipated the Passion and by proclaiming the inevitability and significance of the Second Coming and Judgment. The title Bridegroom suggests an intimate relationship of love. It is not without significance that the kingdom of God is compared to a bridal feast and a bridal chamber. The Christ of the Passion is the divine Bridegroom of the Church. The imagery connotes the final union of the Lover and His beloved. The title Bridegroom also suggests the Second Coming and Judgment. In the patristic tradition, the aforementioned parable is related to the Second Coming; and is associated with the need for spiritual vigilance and preparedness, by which we are enabled to keep the divine commandments and receive the blessings of the age to come. The troparion "Behold the Bridegroom comes in the middle of the night...", which is sung at the beginning of the Orthros of Great Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, relates the worshiping community to that essential expectation: watching and waiting for the Lord, who will come again to judge the living and the dead.



ST. CATHERINE GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

Sunday-April 28th

- Palm Sunday Orthros 8:15am, Divine Liturgy 9:30am
- Luncheon hosted by Philoptochos
- Bridegroom Service 7:00pm

Holy Monday- April 29th

- Presanctified Liturgy 9:00am
- Bridegroom Service 7:00pm

Holy Tuesday-April 30th

- Presanctified Liturgy 9:00am
- Bridegroom Service (Hymn of Kassiani) 7:00pm

Holy Wednesday-May 1

- Presanctified Liturgy 9:00am
- Holy Unction 4:00pm
- Bridegroom Service with Anointing 7:00pm

Holy Thursday-May 2

- Vesperal Divine Liturgy of Saint Basil 9:00am
- Passion Gospels 7:00pm

Holy Friday-May 3

- Royal Hours 9:00am
- Holy Friday Youth Retreat 10:30am
- Tomb Decorating from 10:30am to 1:00pm
- Taking Down of Jesus from the Cross 1:30pm
- Lamentations 7:00pm

Holy Saturday-May 4th

- Vesperal Divine Liturgy of St. Basil with Bishop Constantine 9:00am
- Pascha Egg Hunt 11:30am
- Resurrection Service 11:15pm
- Resurrectional Orthros & Divine Liturgy at Midnight followed by Anastasi Dinner hosted by Parish Council
- [Great & Holy Pascha-May 5th-Christ is Risen! Chistos Anesti!](#)
- AGAPE VESPERS AT 1PM

