240 Center Street – Nanticoke, PA 18634 Nanticoke Rectory: (570)735-2262

Church Email: TransfigurationUCC@comcast.net

Website: www.transfigurationucc.org

Pastor; Fr. Walter Pasicznyk CELL PHONE NUMBER: (570)-406-5882



# Divine Liturgy Schedule March 24, 2024, A. D.

Slava Isusu Christu! Slava Na Viki! Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

LAZARUS SATURDAY

PALM SUNDAY

God's Blessings & Health for America

-Tom & MaryAnn Potsko

Sunday, March 24 10:30 AM

6:00 PM

Monday, March 25

10:30 AM 6:30PM

Wednesday, March 27

4:00PM

Thursday, March 28

6:30PM

Friday, March 29

5:30PM

Saturday, March 30

3:00 PM

6:30 PM

**PALM SUNDAY** 

⊕Stanley Vincent II & Helen Bogdan-Stanley Bogdan

HOLY MONDAY – Annunciation of the Theotokos

⊕Irene Hvozda- daughters, MaryAnn & Donna

LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS

**HOLY WEDNESDAY** 

LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS

General Anointing

**HOLY THURSDAY** 

Matins of the Holy and Saving Passion of our Lord

**GOOD FRIDAY- Strict Abstinence** 

Vespers with Placement of the Holy Shroud

**HOLY SATURDAY** 

**Basket Blessing** 

Service at the Grave, Vespers, Divine Liturgy of Saint

Basil the Great Blessing of Artos (Myrovania)

Sunday, March 31

**EASTER SUNDAY** 

**11:00AM** Divine Liturgy, Blessing of Artos (Myrovania)



. Petitions & Prayers for Our Parishioners: Please pray for our Parishioners Assisted Living: Mary Hoolick. At Home: Geraldine Adamchak; Shirley Kozar, Dolores Miller, Rita Kurtz, Diane Petry, Mary Louise Bailey. Away: Leona Kobela. Prayer Request: Michelle Miller; Kerri; Ellen

Kobela, Fr. Peter Waslo; Sister Evhenia Prusnay MSMG; Mary Oresick; Fr. Paul Wolensky, Pavlyk Motychka (baby in Ukraine with SMA); Joyce Kishbaugh, Ken Weber; Marie Slota; Fr. Gregory Maslak, Angel Ocasio, Elizabeth Biasci, Dolores Jennings, Barnett Kurtz, Mike Oresick., Debbie Schwartz, Ed Schwartz.

# PALM SUNDAY- THE LORD'S ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM March 24, 2024



Pick up your Palms as you enter the church. Hold your Palms when Father Walter incenses the church-following that Father will bless the Palms while you hold them.

#### FIRST ANTIPHON: IN PLACE OF "SHOUT TO THE LORD" ...

I am filled with love for the Lord will hear the voice of my plea.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

For He has inclined His ear to me, and I will call to Him all the days of my life.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

The pangs of death encircled me, the trials of Hades befell me.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

I met with anguish and pain and called upon the name of the Lord.

Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Savior, save us.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER...

O ONLY BEGOTTEN SON...

### ANTIPHON 3: Give praise to the Lord for He is good, for His mercy is forever.

Assuring us before Your Passion of the general resurrection, You raised Lazarus from the dead, O Christ God: and so, like the children we also carry signs of victory and cry to You, the conqueror of death: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

## Let the house of Israel say He is good, for His mercy is forever.

Assuring us before Your Passion of the general resurrection, You raised Lazarus from the dead, O Christ God: and so, like the children we also carry signs of victory and cry to You, the conqueror of death: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

### Let the house of Aaron say He is good, for His mercy is forever.

Assuring us before Your Passion of the general resurrection, You raised Lazarus from the dead, O Christ God: and so, like the children we also carry signs of victory and cry to You, the conqueror of death: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

### Let all who fear the Lord say He is good and that his mercy endures forever.

Assuring us before Your Passion of the general resurrection, You raised Lazarus from the dead, O Christ God: and so, like the children we also carry signs of victory and cry to You,

the conqueror of death: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.



### WELCOMING JESUS WITH PALMS -Now is the time to hold up your palms/ willows.

**ENTRANCE HYMN:** Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord; we bless You from the house of the Lord. God is Lord and has appeared to us.

**TROPAR:** Assuring us before Your Passion of the general resurrection, You raised Lazarus from the dead, O Christ God: and so, like the children we also carry signs of victory and cry to You, the conqueror of death: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

**TROPAR:** Buried with You through Baptism, O Christ our God, we have been granted immortal life by Your resurrection, and we sing Your praises, crying out: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. Now and forever and ever. Amen.

**KONDAK:** Mounted on the throne in heaven, O Christ God, and on a colt here on earth, You accepted the praise of the angels, and the hymn of the children who cried to You: Blessed are You who have come to call Adam back.

**PROKIMEN:** Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord; the Lord is God and has appeared to us. Acknowledge your allegiance to the Lord publicly, for he is good: for his mercy endures forever. Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord; the Lord is God and has appeared to us.

### A Reading of the Epistle from the Holy Apostle Paul to the Philippians 4:4-9:

Brethren, Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice! Let your gentleness be evident to all. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things. Whatever you have learned or received or heard from me or seen in me—put it into practice. And the God of peace will be with you.

**ALLELUIA:** Alleluia (3). Sing to the Lord a new song for the Lord has done wondrous things. Alleluia (3). All the ends of the earth saw the salvation of our God. Alleluia (3).



# WELCOMING JESUS WITH PALMS-Now is the time to hold up your palms/willows. A Reading from the Gospel of John 12:1-18:

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It is worth a year's wages." He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it. "Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me." Meanwhile a large crowd of Jews found out that Jesus was there and came, not only because of him but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. So, the chief priests made plans to kill Lazarus as well, for on account of him many of the Jews were going over to Jesus and believing in him. The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the king of Israel!" Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it, as it is written: "Do not be afraid, Daughter Zion; see, your king is coming, seated on a donkey's colt." At first his disciples did not understand all this. Only after Jesus was glorified did they realize that these things had been written about him and that these things had been done to him. Now the crowd that was with him when he called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to spread the word. Many people, because they had heard that he had performed this sign, went out to meet him.

AFTER.....Let us who mystically represent the Cherubim..... DURING THE ENTRANCE OF GIFTS: WELCOMING JESUS WITH PALMS-Now is the time to hold up your palms/willows.

**INSTEAD OF "IT TRULY RIGHT":** O my soul, magnify Christ who was seated on a foal. Irmos: The Lord is God and has appeared to us: together let us celebrate. Come with great rejoicing; let us magnify Christ with palms and olive branches, and with songs let us cry aloud to Him: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

**COMMUNION HYMN:** Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord; the Lord is God and has appeared to us. Alleluia (3).



**PRAYER TO SAINT MICHAEL:** Holy Michael, the Archangel, defend us in battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray; and do you, O Prince of the heavenly host, by the power of God cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits who wander through the

world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.

### St. Theophan the Recluse- Lazarus Saturday

If one has Martha's love of labor-all manner of good works, and Mary's sitting at Jesus' feet-an attentive and warm appeal to the Lord with all his heart, then the Lord Himself will come to him and resurrect his Lazarus-his spirit and will release him from all his emotional and fleshly bonds. Then a truly new life will begin in him, bodiless in the body and unearthly on earth. It will be a true resurrection in the spirit before the future resurrection, which will include the body.

### St. Theophan the Recluse-Palm Sunday

Who did not meet the Lord when he triumphantly entered into Jerusalem as a king; and who did not cry out then, *Hosanna to the son of David*? (Matt: 21:15) But only four day passed, and the same crowd cried with the same tongues, *Crucify Him, crucify Him!* (John 19:6) An amazing change! But why should we be surprised? Do we not do the very same thing when, upon receiving the Holy Mysteries of the Body and Blood of the Lord, we barely leave the church before forgetting everything – both our reverence and God's mercy toward us? We give ourselves over as before to self-pleasing deeds – at first small and then also large. Perhaps before even 4 days have passed, although we do not cry, "Crucify Him!" we will crucify the Lord within ourselves. The Lord sees all this and endures it. **Glory to Your long-suffering O Lord!** 

# CHURCH NEWS .... Every day is a Holy Day of Opportunity. Pray Always.- Father Daniel Gurovich



# Please pray for all clergy both in America and Ukraine. Please keep Ukraine in your prayers.

\*\*\*\*\*SCHEDULE: CHANGE: There will be a change in the Holy Wednesday-General Anointing Service from 6:30 PM to 4:00 PM to allow Parishioners to attend the zone variance meeting. If this presents a problem with work, etc. please contact Father Walter at the rectory at 570-735-2262.

**PYROHY FOR SALE:** We have potato pyrohy for sale in the church basement for \$10.00 a dozen.

**SOROKOUSTY SERVICE:** The fifth Sorokousty is Saturday, May 18 at 8:00 am.

**CONFESSION:** Let us prepare our souls by making a good Confession and receiving Communion. Holy Confession will be held about 30 minutes before Divine Liturgy. Please make a good confession before Holy Week, do not wait until the last minute, <u>there will be no confessions after Holy Wednesday</u>. Holy Wednesday will be the General Anointing.

**EARTH DAY CLEANUP:** The Nanticoke Conservation Club will have it's City-Wide Earth Day Clean-up on Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. Please come out and help. Details to follow.

**ZONING VARIANCE:** Please note that on Wednesday, March 27, the City of Nanticoke will hold a meeting at 6:00PM to discuss an application for a zoning variance which is required to establish 4 apartment buildings (12 Units each) "behind Birchwood Nursing," which is the general location of this apartment complex. (See the pink sign outside our Parking Lot.)

**SETTING UP GRAVE & LINENS:** We will be setting up the grave immediately following services on Holy Thursday. Everyone is invited and encouraged to help prepare for Good Friday Services. We will be changing the linens immediately following the blessing of Easter Baskets on Holy Saturday.

**ADORATION SCHEDULES:** Adoration schedules are in the back of the church. Please sign up to spend time with Christ.

**ADORATION USE LIBRARY:** We are again "borrowing" books of faith to be used during the adoration of the grave from Good Friday until Easter Week. Please make sure your name is on the cover so we can return it to you. The library will be in the back of the church for meditation and use during the Lenten/adoration period. Please sign out books if you take them home.



#### March 2024

The **Candles on the Tetrapod** are given by Joan Cominsky for a Special Intention.

The **Eternal Light** is given by Parish in For God's Blessings on Rev. Fr. Walter Pasicznyk.

**The Proscomedia Table** is given by Bob Matosky in loving memory of his parents, Mike & Lillian, and his brother, Ron.

The **Candle Before the Theotokos** is given by Lisa Placek for Nicholas & Benjamin Placek.

The **Candle before the Icon of Jesus Christ** is given by the Pasicznyk Family for Ihor Pasicznyk.

The Icon Table Candle of the Transfiguration of Our Lord is by Joan Cominsky in loving memory of her parents, John & Marion, and her brother, Sonny.

The **Candle before John the Baptist** is given by Joan Cominsky in Memory of John Cominsky.



ASK FATHER A QUESTION... Father, why is Lazarus Saturday important? Is it just another miracle of Jesus Christ? Lazarus being raised from the dead is a pre-hinge (think I am the Door.) to the hinge of Holy Saturday that ALL of salvation history pivots. Jesus comes for the lost so that we could return to the Garden of Eden which God created for us in the beginning, for God did not

intend that we should die. We did this to ourselves by sin. So, when Jesus says, this bad circumstance that Lazarus is going through — and Martha and Mary, the friends of Jesusthis is being done so that the glory of God will be shown to all men, including the Pharisees and the Sadducees. Even Mary and Martha who are very close to Jesus and they understand His teaching, they still don't fully grasp that God, Jesus, can do anything! So those people who started to grasp Jesus is God, and the Messiah, begin to truly believe and follow Him and live a life of Holiness. On the other hand, the priests in the temple, the Pharisees and Sadducees, who prefer their humanistic re-interpretation of God's Law and did not like being corrected by Jesus, sought to put Him to death so that they would no longer have to deal with Him. (They did not believe Jesus was God. He blasphemes because He makes Himself God.) They claim to be experts on the Scriptures, but they deny the Scriptures. The Gospel Chapter is not read in its entirety at Liturgy on Lazarus Saturday, because the message of the Gospel Reading is the Glory of God, not the plotting of the enemies of Jesus. Lazarus Saturday is the Saturday before Palm Sunday because Jesus raises Lazarus shortly before entering Jerusalem (Palm Sunday) on Holy Week.

### Gospel of Lazarus Saturday- John 11:1-56 (Douay-Rheims 1899)

Now there was a certain man who sick, named Lazarus, of Bethania, of the town of Mary and Martha her sister. (And Mary was she that anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair: whose brother Lazarus was sick.) His sisters therefore sent to him, saying: Lord, behold, he whom you love is sick. And Jesus hearing it, said to them: This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God: that the Son of God may be glorified by it. Now Jesus loved Martha, and her sister Mary, and Lazarus. When he had heard therefore that he was sick, he still remained in the same place for two days. Then after that, he said to his disciples: Let us go into Judea again. The disciples say to him: Rabbi, the Jews but now sought to stone thee: and you go there again? Jesus answered: Are there not twelve hours of the day? If a man walks in the day, he stumbles not, because he sees the light of this world: But if he walks in the night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him. These things he said, and after that he said to them: Lazarus our friend sleeps; but I go that I may awake him out of sleep. His disciples therefore said: Lord, if he sleeps, he shall do well. But Jesus spoke of his death; and they thought that he spoke of

the repose of sleep. Then therefore Jesus said to them plainly: Lazarus is dead. And I am glad, for your sakes, that I was not there, that you may believe but let us go to him. Thomas, therefore, who is called Didymus, said to his fellow disciples: Let us also go, that we may die with him. Jesus therefore came and found that he had been four days already in the grave. (Now Bethania was near Jerusalem, about fifteen furlongs off.) And many of the Jews were come to Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother. Martha, therefore, as soon as she heard that Jesus had come, went to meet him: but Mary sat at home. Martha therefore said to Jesus: Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But now also I know that whatsoever you will ask of God, God will give it to you. Jesus said to her: Your (Lazarus Saturday Gospel cont.)

brother shall rise again. Martha said to him: I know that he shall rise again, in the resurrection at the last day. Jesus said to her: I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, although he be dead, shall live: And every one that lives, and believeth in me, shall not die for ever. Do you believe this? She said to him: Yes, Lord, I have believed that you are the Christ, the Son of the living God, who have come into this world. And when she had said these things, she went, and called her sister Mary secretly, saying: The master is come, and calls for you. She, as soon as she heard this, rose quickly, and came to him. For Jesus was not yet come into the town: but he was still in that place where Martha had met him. The Jews, therefore, who were with her in the house, and comforted her, when they saw Mary that she rose up speedily and went out, followed her, saying: She goes to the grave to weep there. When Mary therefore was come to where Jesus was, seeing him, she fell down at his feet, and said to him: Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. Jesus, therefore, when he saw her weeping, and the Jews that were come with her, weeping, groaned in the spirit, and troubled himself, And said: Where have you laid him? They say to him: Lord, come and see. And Jesus wept. The Jews therefore said: Behold how he loved him. But some of them said: Could not he that opened the eyes of the man born blind, have caused that this man should not die? Jesus therefore again groaning in himself, came to the sepulcher. Now it was a cave; and a stone was laid over it. Jesus said: Take away the stone. Martha, the sister of him that was dead, said to him: Lord, by this time he surely stinks, for he is now dead four days. Jesus said to her: Did not I say to thee, that if thou believe, thou shalt see the glory of God? They took therefore the stone away. And Jesus lifting up his eyes said: Father, I give thee thanks that thou hast heard me. And I knew that you heard me always; but because of the people who stand about have I said it, that they may believe that you

have sent me. When he had said these things, he cried with a loud voice: Lazarus, come forth. And presently he that had been dead came forth, bound feet and hands with winding bands; and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus said to them: Loose him and let him go. Many therefore of the Jews, who were come to Mary and Martha, and had seen the things that Jesus did, believed in him. But some of them went to the Pharisees and told them the things that Jesus had done. (This is where the Gospel reading ends for the Holy Day Liturgy.)

(John 11: 47 continues): The chief priests therefore, and the Pharisees, gathered a council, and said: What do we, for this man does many miracles? If we let him alone so, all will believe in him; and the Romans will come and take away our place and nation. But one of them, named Caiphas, being the high priest that year, said to them: You know nothing. Neither do you consider that it is expedient for you that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not. And this he spoke not of himself: but being the high priest of that year, he prophesied that Jesus should die for the nation. And not only for the nation, but to gather together in one the children of God, that were dispersed. From that day therefore they devised to put him to death. Wherefore Jesus walked no more openly among the Jews; but he went into a country near the desert, unto a city that is called Ephrem, and there he abodes with his disciples. And the Passover of the Jews was at hand; and many from the country went up to Jerusalem, before the Passover to purify themselves. They sought therefore for Jesus; and they discoursed one with another, standing in the temple: What think you that he is not come to the festival day? And the chief priests and Pharisees had given a commandment, that if any man knew where he was, he should tell, that they might apprehend him.

#### **Our Weakness and God's Help**

Blessed is the person who knows his own weakness, because of awareness of this becomes for him the foundation and beginning of all that is good and beautiful. For whenever someone realizes and perceives that he is truly and indeed weak, then he draws in his soul from the diffuseness which dissipates knowledge, and he becomes all the more watchful of his soul. But no one can perceive his own weakness unless he has been remiss a little, has neglected some small thing, has been surrounded by trials, wither in the matter of things, which cause the body suffering, or in that of ways in which the soul is subject to passions. Only then, by comparing his own weakness, will he realize how great is the assistance which comes from God. When someone is aware that he is in need of divine help, he makes many prayers. And once he has made much supplication, his heart is humbled, for there is no one who is in need and asks who is not humbled. 'A broken and humbled heart, God will not despise.' As long as the heart is not humbled it cannot cease from wandering; for humility concentrates the heart. - Saint Isaac the Syrian

### **Do Not Despair**

Do not fall into despair because of your stumblings. I do not mean that you should not feel pain because of them, but that you should not consider them incurable. For it is better to wounded than to be dead. There is indeed a healer: he who on the cross asked for mercy on those who were crucifying him, who pardoned murderers as he hung on the cross. Christ came on behalf of sinner, to heal the broken-hearted and to bind up their wounds. The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, he says: for that reason he has anointed me in order to proclaim good tidings to the poor. 'He has sent me to heal the broken-hearted, to proclaim deliverance to the captive, recovery of sight to the blind,' and to strengthen the bruised by forgiveness. And the Apostle says in his Letter, 'Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners.' And his Lord also testifies, 'I am not come to call the righteous, for they who are in good health have no need of a doctor, only those who are sick.'- Saint Isaac the Syrian