



DIVINE SERVICES FOR HOLY WEEK AND PASCHA

Monday, April 11 ***Great and Holy Monday***

9:30 A.M. Bridegroom Matins

Tuesday, April 12 ***Great and Holy Tuesday***

11:00 A.M. Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts & Holy Mystery of Anointing

Wednesday, April 13 ***Great and Holy Wednesday***

7:00 P.M. Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts & Holy Mystery of Anointing

* Holy Wednesday Services ask us to repent our sins and to forgive others. During the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts we celebrate the Holy Mystery of Anointing during which the priest anoints us with Holy Oil that we may be healed physically and spiritually.

Thursday, April 14 ***Great and Holy Thursday***

7:00 P.M. Vespers and the Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

* "Accept me this day, O Son of God, as a partaker of Your Mystical Supper" is the predominate message of this Service, which commemorates the Mystical Supper and the institution of the Holy Eucharist.



Friday, April 15 ***Great and Holy Friday-Good Friday***

Strict Fast

9:00 A.M. Matins of Our Lord's Passion-12 Passion Gospels (St. John's Cathedral, Munhall)

* We listen to the narratives from the four Gospels that relate to the events of Jesus' Holy Passion and His last instructions to His disciples.

12:00 noon Royal Hours – Office of Readings

7:00 P.M. Vespers with the Procession and Burial of the Holy Shroud-The Office of the Burial of Our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ

* During this Service we sing hymns that tell of Christ's Saving Passion, of His Mother's grief as she and her friends watch His agony, and the meaning of the Cross for all Creation. At the end of Vespers, the Shroud, which is really a cloth Icon depicting Christ's sacred body is carried in procession and placed in flowered bier that represents Christ's tomb.

Saturday, April 16 ***Great and Holy Saturday***

9:30 A.M. Jerusalem Matins - The Lamentations at the Tomb

* During this Divine Service, we accompany the faithful Myrrh-bearing Women and their Companions, who, keeping Vigil at the Graveside, mourn the Crucified Christ.



Saturday, April 16

Pascha Vigil begins....

7:30 P.M. Resurrection Matins, Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Paschal-Easter Food

* In the darkened Church, the faithful receive the Resurrection Light from the priest and form a procession out of the Church. The joyous hymn of Christ's Resurrection is triumphantly chanted- "Christ is Risen!-Christos Voskrese!" The Paschal Divine Liturgy invites us to partake in the Feast of the Resurrection and to receive Holy Communion.

Sunday, April 17

Great and Holy Pascha-Easter Sunday

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Paschal-Easter Food

* We sing "Christ is Risen!-Christos Voskrese!" repeatedly. As we receive the Holy Eucharist, we share in the mystical communion with the Risen Christ, who has conquered death once and for all.

HOLY WEEK is an invitation to walk into the joy and wonder of life in Christ. Each one of these gatherings has a profound meaning and a specific spiritual purpose, and together they provide a profound opportunity for growth in union with God through Jesus Christ. Please take time to read the description of each service and make plans to be present for as many as possible. Every decision you make about the Holy Week services should ask this question: Can I and will I open myself - heart, soul, mind, and body - to receive the grace that is being offered to me through this service?

*Holy Week worship is not about rules, it is about life!
It is not a burden; it is a release!*

