St. Nicholas Antiochian Orthodox Church

a parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America
His Eminence Metropolitan SABA, Archbishop of New York &
Metropolitan of all North America
His Grace Bishop THOMAS, Auxiliary Bishop of the Diocese of Oakland & MidAtlantic
The Very Reverend Father Samuel Haddad, Pastor
Deacon Matthew Benefield
211 South Heber Street ☙ POB 5026 ☙ Beckley, WV 25801
Parish (304) 252-5821 - Cell (304) 541-8550 (*use this to contact Fr. Samuel*)
fr.samuel@att.net **www.orthodoxbeckley.org**

April 5, 2026

Great Feast of Palm Sunday

Entrance of Our Lord Jesus Christ into Jerusalem

Today's Reader: Christopher Clay

Holy Pascha – April 12, 2026

Reader for Holy Pascha: **Sdn. James**

Commemorations: **All the Livine &Departed Faithful of St. Nicholas Orthodox Church**
Festal Pascal Banquet after the Divine Liturgy
Bring a Festal Dish to share!

Bread for the Holy Oblation is Offered for the for the health & salvation of Yelena, Grigory, Natalia, Lyudmila, Natalya, Alexander, Victoria, Svetlana, Tatsiana, Ty, Leo, and other friends and family. Also Charles, Chloe, Maryann, Susan, Sandy, Albina, Jeff and other friends and family.

It is also offered in memory of Roman, Zinaida, Anastasia, Natalia, Yelena, Lyubov', Valentina, Victoria Vasiliy, Alexey, Anatoliy, Anatoliy, Alik, Andrey and other friends and family.

"the Disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11:26)

Please note that **Holy Communion is reserved for members of the Holy Orthodox Church** who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting and confession. However, all are welcome to partake of the blessed bread at the dismissal.

Please join us during our fellowship at the
Coffee Hour immediately after the Divine Liturgy.

Important Announcements . . .

PLEASE NOTE: The procession with Palms will take place today after the Divine Liturgy. If it is raining (the forcast is not looking good), we will process inside. Otherwise, the procession go around the outside of the church and will be led by the acolytes with candles and cross, followed by Fr. Samuel, the choir, and then the faithful. Please come up the center aisle to fall in place in the procession

Fr. Samuel is available to hear confessions **during Holy Week by appointment**. Please schedule your confession as soon as possible so that it can be put on his calendar.

Our Paschal Banquet will follow the Resurrection Divine Liturgy on Saturday night—**if you would like to participate by bringing your favorite Festal dish** - there is a sign-up sheet at today's Coffee Hour so that we can make plans!

After the Agape Vespers on Sunday morning, there will be an open house—**this year it will take place in the Church Hall**. There will be food and good fellowship AND An EGG HUNT FOR THE CHILDREN at the Parish House. All are most welcome—the Faithful, Family and Friends - as we celebrate this Light-filled Feast!

May God grant Many Years to the Newly Illuminated

Anthony Pompeii

On his entry into the Holy Orthodox Church
May God shower him with His Choicest Blessings!

"Blessings Box" Collection Update

Beloved in Christ,
This year, we are collecting non-perishable food for our new BLESSING BOX! PLEASE KEEP BRINGING FOOD so that we may continue to stock our shelves and have food to stock adequately. We need to continue our efforts in providing food for those who are truly Hungry. God bless everyone for your holy efforts!

Great Feast of Palm Sunday
Entrance of Our Lord Jesus Christ into Jerusalem

Troparion of Lazarus Saturday, *in the First Tone*

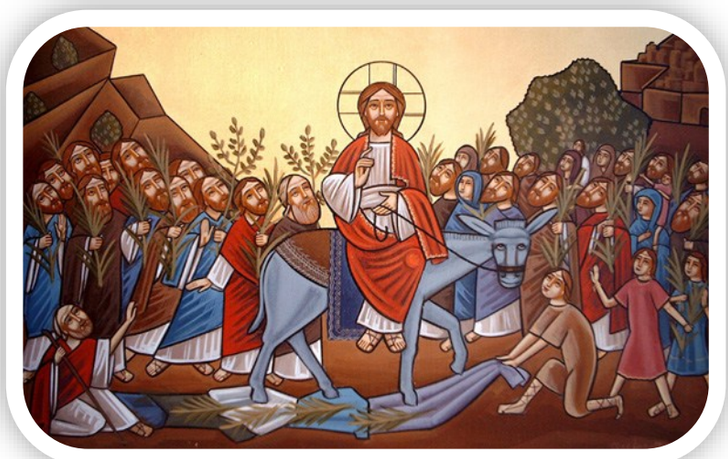
O Christ God, when Thou didst raise Lazarus from the dead, before Thy Passion, Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection. Wherefore, we, like babes, carry the insignia of triumph and victory, and cry to Thee, O Vanquisher of death, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

Troparion of Palm Sunday, *in the Fourth Tone*

As by baptism we were buried with Thee, O Christ our God, so by Thy Resurrection we were deemed worthy of immortal life; and praising Thee, we cry: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

Kontakion of Palm Sunday, *in the Sixth Tone*

Being borne upon a throne in Heaven, and upon a colt on the earth, O Christ God, Thou didst accept the praise of the angels and the laudation of the children as they cried to Thee: Blessed art Thou Who comest to recall Adam.



Epistle

Philippians 4:4-9

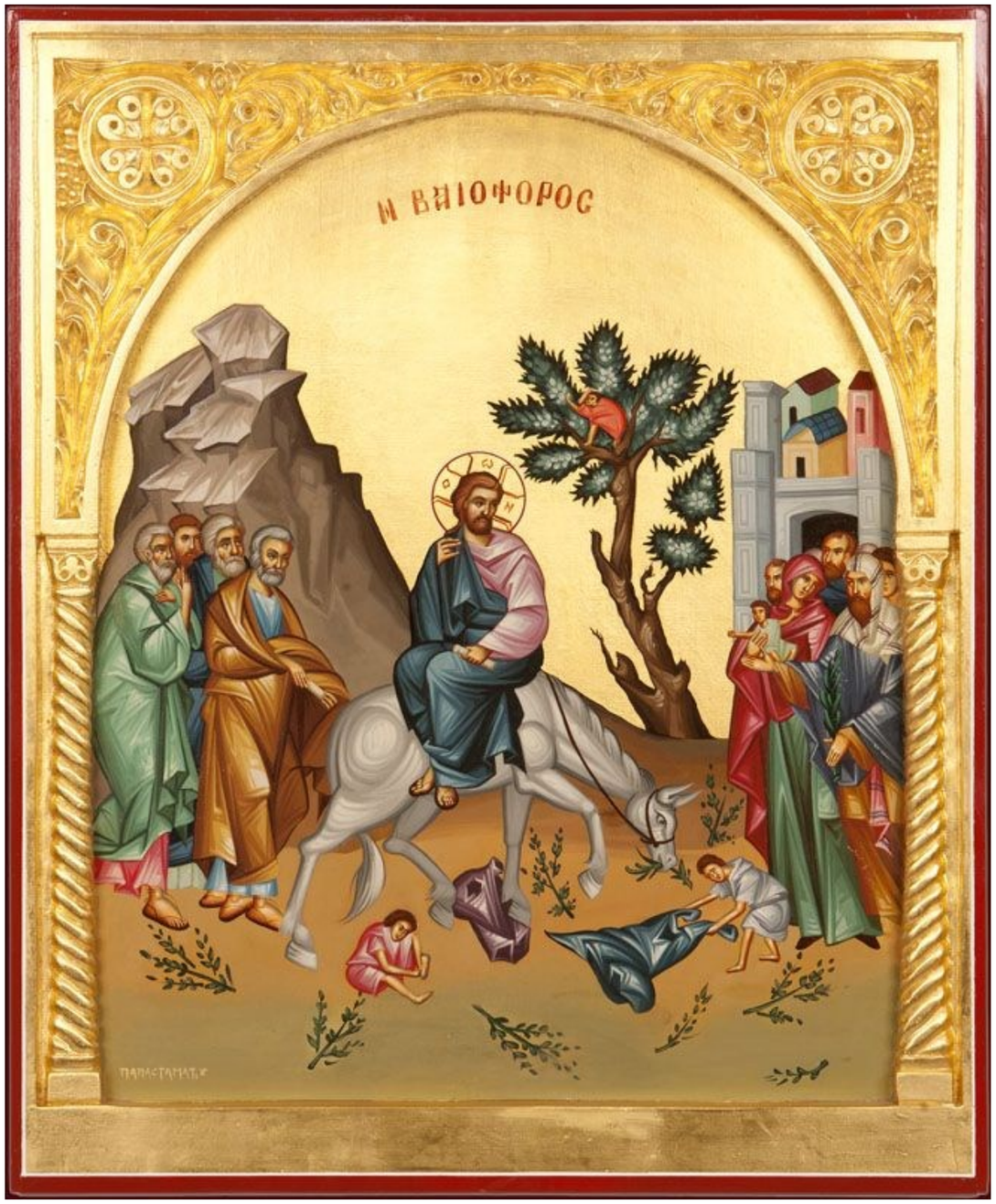
Prokeimenon: Blessed is he who cometh in the Name of the Lord.
Verse: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His Mercy endureth forever.

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, these do; and the God of peace will be with you.

Gospel

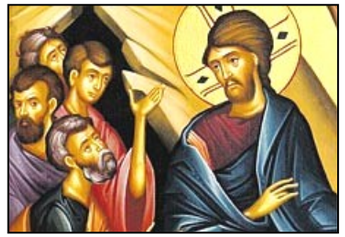
John 12:1-18

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus who had died 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, Simon's son, one of His Disciples (he who was to betray Jesus), said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?" This he said, not because he cared for the poor but because he was a thief, and as he had the moneybox 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 Jesus 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 cometh in the Name of the Lord, 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 Jesus when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead bore witness. The reason why the crowd went to meet Jesus was that they heard He had done this sign.



Palm Sunday

In the Icon of the Feast of Palm Sunday, Christ is the central figure, depicted seated upon the colt of a donkey as He enters Jerusalem, a fulfillment of the prophecy found in Zechariah 9:9. Christ is blessing with His right hand, and in His left hand is a scroll, symbolizing that He is the fulfillment of the Old Testament prophecies concerning the Messiah, the Anointed One who has come to redeem us from our sins and break the power of death. The colt, one of the animals that were considered unclean according to the Law, is symbolic of the inclusion of all peoples of all nations in the new covenant that will come through the death and Resurrection of Christ (Isaiah 62:10-11). It is also a sign that our Lord has revealed a heavenly and spiritual kingdom that offers true and enduring peace.



On the left, the disciples accompany Jesus in His Triumphal Entry. Depicted on the right are the Jews who greet Him crying "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, even the King of Israel!" The word "Hosanna" means "Save, I pray" or "Save now."

The children are the small people who are greeting Christ with palm branches and laying these and their garments on the ground before Christ as tokens of honor for one who is acknowledged as a King. The city of Jerusalem is shown as the walled buildings, and the temple is depicted as the building with the dome.

Great and Holy Week

4/5/26 (Sun)	9:20 am 10:30 pm	Palm Sunday Orthros and Divine Liturgy Followed by the Procession with Palms
4/5/26 (Sun)	6:00 pm	Bridegroom Service
4/6/26 (Mon)	9:00 am	Presanctified Divine Liturgy
4/6/26 (Mon)	6:00 pm	Bridegroom Service
4/7/26 (Tue)	9:00 am	Presanctified Divine Liturgy
4/7/26 (Tue)	6:00 pm	Bridegroom Service
4/8/26 (Wed)	9:00 am	Presanctified Divine Liturgy
4/8/26 (Wed)	6:00 pm	Holy Unction
4/9/26 (Thu)	9:00 am	Divine Liturgy of Holy Thursday
4/9/26 (Thu)	6:00 pm	12 Passion Gospels
4/10/26 (Fri)	9:00 am	Royal Hours – 1st and 3rd Hour (decorate the Tomb afterward)
4/10/26 (Fri)	12:00 pm	Royal Hours – 6th and 9th Hour (decorate the Tomb afterward)
4/10/26 (Fri)	3:00 pm	Taking Down from the Cross Vespers
4/10/26 (Fri)	6:00 pm	Lamentations
4/11/26 (Sat)	10:00 am	Divine Liturgy Great and Holy Saturday
4/11/26 (Sat)	10:00 pm	Rush Service Paschal Orthros Paschal Divine Liturgy Paschal Banquet in the Church Hall
4/12/25 (Sun)	11:00 am	Agape Vespers Service Followed by Open House/Lunch in the Church Hall and Easter Egg Hunt at Parish House

Calendar for the Week of April 5, 2026

Great & Holy Week

Sunday—April 5, 2026 — Palm Sunday
9:20 am Orthros
10:30 am Festal Divine Liturgy & Procession of Palms
1:30 pm Choir Practice
6:00 pm Bridegroom Service

Palm Sunday

Monday— April 6, 2026
9:00 am Presanctified Divine Liturgy
6:00 pm Bridegroom Service

Great & Holy Monday

Tuesday—April 7, 2026
9:00 am Presanctified Divine Liturgy
6:00 pm Bridegroom Service

Great & Holy Tuesday

Wednesday—April 8, 2026
9:00 am Presanctified Divine Liturgy
6:00pm Holy Unction

Great & Holy Wednesday

Thursday—April 9, 2026
8;30 am Vesperal Divine Liturgy
6:00 pm 12 Passion Gospels

Great & Holy Thursday

Friday—April 10, 2026
9:00 am Royal Hours – 1st and 3rd Hour
12:00 pm Royal Hours – 6th and 9th Hour
3:00 pm Taking Down from the Cross Vespers
6:00 pm Lamentations

Great & Holy Friday

Saturday—April 11, 2026
10:00 am Vesperal Divine Liturgy
10:00 pm Rush Service/Paschal Orthros & Divine Liturgy
Paschal Banquet

Great & Holy Saturday

Sunday—April 12, 2026 — Holy Pascha
11:00 am Agape Vespers

Open House and Lunch in Church Hall
& Egg Hunt afterward at the Parish House!

Holy Pascha

Christ is Risen!

Please note that Confessions are heard at the time noted above in the coming week's schedule, or by appointment by calling Fr. Samuel at: (304) 254-0470, (304) 562-9129, or (304) 541-8550.

His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan SABA

Archbishop of New York
and Metropolitan of
All North America

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA

Prot. no.: 147/2026

Palm Sunday, April 5, 2026

Beloved hierarchs, reverend clergy, esteemed faithful in Christ,

Christ is in our midst! As we enter the solemn and life-giving days of Holy Week, our hearts turn with love and filial devotion to our Mother Church of Antioch and to our Father in Christ, His Beatitude Patriarch JOHN X. Each Palm Sunday, the Archdiocese takes up a special collection to support the Patriarchate in its sacred witness. This year, more than ever, your generosity is indispensable.

Our Mother Church continues to endure profound hardship. The ongoing war and strife throughout the Middle East have inflicted deep wounds upon the faithful, the clergy, and the parishes that have stood for centuries as living testimonies of the Gospel. Violence and economic instability have placed unbearable weight on families already struggling to survive. Many of our brothers and sisters face daily uncertainty, and entire communities that once flourished are now diminished.

Yet, the Patriarchate remains steadfast in its mission. With limited means, it tirelessly provides food, housing assistance, medical care, education, pastoral support, and the simple but essential reassurance that the Church has not abandoned her children. His Beatitude and those who labor beside him do all they can to help the faithful who remain, so that their lives may be stable, dignified, and rooted in hope and so that our Christian presence and witness remain steadfast.

For this reason, I ask each of you to give generously to the Palm Sunday collection in your churches for the Patriarchate. Your offering — no matter its size — becomes an act of solidarity, a gesture of compassion, and a tangible expression of love toward those who endure suffering with remarkable faith. Together, we help sustain our brothers and sisters and strengthen the apostolic mission entrusted to the Church of Antioch.

May the Lord Who entered Jerusalem in humility and love, grant you a solemn Holy Week and a joyous and grace-filled Feast of the Resurrection.

With paternal love in Christ,

†. Saba

+SABA
Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America

"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)

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His Eminence
The Most Reverend
Metropolitan SABA

The Right Reverend
Bishop THOMAS

Archbishop of New York and
Metropolitan of
All North America

Headquartered in the
Mid-Atlantic States

ANTIOCHIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTIAN ARCHDIOCESE
OF NORTH AMERICA

Greeting for Holy Week and the
Feast of Great and All-Holy PASCHA – 2026

Beloved in Christ,

As we prepare to enter into our Lord's journey through Holy Week – from the jubilant shouts of his triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday to his passion upon the cross and burial in a borrowed tomb – we are very aware of the reality of both the joy and the sorrow, the hope and the suffering found within the circumstances of our world. Wars and rumors of wars fill the airwaves and the Internet, division and social strife seem to have become the norm around the world. Our plight, however, is not new. The Prophet Habakkuk, responding to the injustice and suffering among his own people, cried out to the Lord, "How long, O Lord, shall I cry out to You, and You will not hear me? Why have You shown me hardship and suffering, to look upon misery and ungodliness?" (Hab. 1:1, 3) We fast and pray, share what we have with those in need, and wait upon the Lord to bring a lasting peace in our hearts and in this world. For if our eyes were to remain fixed upon the trouble in the world and our minds continue to rehearse the madness of our time, we would despair and lose all hope.

Such is the darkness in the world that sought to destroy the King of kings and bury him deep within Hades. But the jeering of the mobs, the thunderous power of the Romans, and the conniving of the Jewish leaders could not contain the uncontainable One. Gregory the Theologian (Nazianzus), in his Second Oration on Pascha, takes up the cry of the prophet and looks with eyes of faith toward the coming of the redemption of mankind.

> "Today is salvation come unto the world, to that which is visible, and to that which is invisible. Christ is risen from the dead, rise ye with Him. Christ is returned again to Himself, return ye. Christ is freed from the tomb, be ye freed from the bond of sin. The gates of hell are opened, and death is destroyed, and the old Adam is put aside, and the New is fulfilled; if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; be ye renewed."

"May the God of all grace, who called us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle you. To Him be the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen." (1 Peter 5:10-11)

Yours in Christ,

+ Bishop Thomas

Rt. Rev. Bishop THOMAS (Joseph)
Auxiliary Bishop
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

"The disciples were first called Christians in Antioch" (Acts 11: 26)

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