

Variations in the Divine Liturgy

****Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great****

THE EISODIKON (ENTRANCE HYMN) OF PALM SUNDAY

Blessed is He Who cometh in the Name of the Lord: the Lord is God and hath appeared unto us. Save us, O Son of God, Who didst sit upon the foal of a donkey; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.

APOLYTIKION OF LAZARUS SATURDAY IN TONE ONE

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

APOLYTIKION OF PALM SUNDAY IN TONE FOUR

O Christ God, when we were buried with Thee in Baptism, we became deserving of Thy Resurrection to immortal life. Wherefore, we praise Thee, crying: Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

KONTAKION OF PALM SUNDAY IN TONE SIX

Upborne upon the heavenly throne, and seated upon the earthly foal, O Christ our God, receive the praises of angels and the hymns of men, exclaiming before Thee: Blessed is He that cometh to restore Adam.

THE EPISTLE

Blessed is He Who cometh in the Name of the Lord.

O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever.

The Reading from the Epistle of St. Paul 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, these do; and the God of peace will be with you.

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. 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.

Celebrated This Week

Palm Sunday

On Sunday, five days before the Passover of the Law, the Lord came from Bethany to Jerusalem. Sending two of His disciples to bring Him a foal of an ass, He sat thereon and entered into the city. When the multitude there heard that Jesus was coming, they straightway took up the branches of palm trees in their hands, and went forth to meet Him. Others spread their garments on the ground, and yet others cut branches from the trees and strewed them in the way that Jesus was to pass; and all of them together, especially the children, went before and after Him, crying out: "Hosanna: Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, the King of Israel" (John 12:13). This is the radiant and glorious festival of our Lord's entry into Jerusalem that we celebrate today.

The branches of the palm trees symbolize Christ's victory over the devil and death. The word Hosanna means "Save, I pray," or "Save, now." The foal of an ass, and Jesus' sitting thereon, and the fact that this animal was untamed and considered unclean according to the Law, signified the former uncleanness and wildness of the nations, and their subjection thereafter to the holy Law of the Gospel.

Announcements

Evening services will be held every night in this church during Holy Week at 6:30PM. Please see the full schedule in a separate booklet or on our website.

The Ladies Altar Society are having a Mother's day luncheon and Bazaar. The luncheon will take place at the Sweet Water Country Club on April 28. The price per person is \$65. The lunch will start at 11:30 am.

Bioethics Health Care in a Secular Culture: April 29-30, Houston Baptist University. Bp. Thomas of the Antiochian Diocese of Charleston, Oakland, and the Mid-Atlantic will be present as will Daniel Cardinal DiNardo of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Galveston-Houston. Registration: General registration is \$50, Clergy registration is \$30, Student registration is \$30. Registration includes admission to a day-and-a-half conference of panels, breakouts, and discussions, including three plenary addresses. For more information contact: HBU Office of University Events and Conferences

Holy Bread: If you would like to donate Holy Bread for your family, or for remembrance of your loved ones, please sign-up on the sheet in the hall.

Choir Rehearsal and Liturgical Guidance: Tuesday evening at 7:00pm. All are invited to learn our Liturgical music and join the choir.

Confessions: Father is available on Saturday, or at any time by prior appointment. Confessions will not be heard on Sundays.

Visitors and Guests: We welcome you to The Forty Holy Martyrs Mission; a growing pan-Orthodox community in Sugar Land. At the end of the Divine Liturgy you are invited to venerate the Holy Cross and to receive the andidoron (blessed bread). You are also invited to our coffee hour immediately following the Divine Liturgy in the Hall. Please remember that Orthodox Christians practice a closed communion, which means that only baptized or chrismated Orthodox faithful, who have properly prepared themselves, may approach the chalice to receive the Holy Eucharist.

THE FORTY HOLY MARTYRS OF SEBASTE ORTHODOX MISSION

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REGULAR SERVICES

Great Vespers: Saturday 5:00 p.m.
Matins/Orthros: Sunday 8:45 a.m.
Divine Liturgy: Sunday 10:00 a.m.
Arabic Liturgy: Thursday 7:00 p.m.
Please see our website for other services

Divine Liturgy
April 17, 2011

**Glorious and Brilliant Feast of the
Entrance of our Lord Jesus Christ
into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday)**

Hieromartyr Simeon, bishop in Persia; Martyr Adrian of Corinth; Agapitos, pope of Rome; Makarios, archbishop of Corinth; Venerable Zosimas of Solovky; uncovering of the relics of Venerable Alexander of Svir

Fasting guidelines for this week:

Strict fast all week.

*A Mission of the
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America and
The Diocese of Wichita and Mid-America*

