



METROPOLIS
OF DENVER

ARCHANGEL MICHAEL GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Holy Week and Pascha Schedule and Notes

Dear Faithful in the Lord,

Please review the times for the Holy Week and Pascha services. Below is information regarding upcoming events and some needs for our parish. –Fr. Dennis

Church Cleaning: In preparation for Holy Week and Pascha we will be cleaning the hanging lamps, oil lamps, brass candle stands the week of April 10-14 (or the previous week as well). To help with these projects, please see or contact Fr. Dennis.

Lazarus Saturday: On Saturday April 8, we invite all children and teenagers to decorate their Paschal candles (λαμπάδα – lambatha) after we finish folding the palms for Palm Sunday. Please see Connie Leonard or Sara LaBrie for details: 719-660-2190.

Annual Palm Sunday Luncheon: Following Palm Sunday Services, April 9, we will have our traditional fish dinner. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend with your family. Free will donations are asked for the meal.

Dying Eggs: We will dye our eggs red on Holy Thursday, **April 13**, following services. We need at least 15 dozen eggs. If you would like to donate toward the purchase of the eggs let Fr. Dennis know. Volunteers to dye the eggs red are needed. Please contact Fr. Dennis to volunteer.

Decorating Kouvouklion (the Tomb of the Lord): Following the Royal Hours on Holy Friday, **April 14**, we need the ladies of our parish to help decorate the kouvouklion with flowers. The flowers to be ordered will be similar to last year's. Please see or contact Fr. Dennis if you plan to help.

Myrrh Bearers: It is a custom at the Holy Friday Lamentation Service to have the young girls of the community to be myrrh bearers during the third stasis of the lamentations that we introduced a few years ago. At a certain point during the Service, **all** the Myrofores (myrrh bearers) will stand together around the Epitaphion. Father will chant "ERANON TON TAPHON" and at that moment all the girls will throw the flowers from their baskets onto the Epitaphion. Normally the girls wear white dresses and shoes. Also, they will need to have a small basket for the rose petals. When we go outside with the kouvouklion (The Lord's Tomb) the girls will continue to throw the flower petals. Please contact Constadina Vasiliades constadina@shaw.ca

Agape Vespers and Pascha Picnic: On Pascha, **April 16**, we serve the Agape Vespers and the Gospel is read in many languages. Please let Fr. Dennis know the language you can read (besides Greek or English). The gospel reading for this service has three sections, so we can have more than one person read for each language. Also, following the services we are planning a picnic with lamb, pork and chicken! We ask the faithful to bring in side dishes, soft drinks and desserts. A free will donation is asked for the cost of the picnic. Contact Jake Topakas to help.

Easter Egg Hunt Donations Needed: We will have an Easter Egg Hunt following the Agape Service on Pascha for our children. We need a volunteer to organize the assembly of the plastic eggs. We are also in need of jelly beans, chocolates, etc.

Holy Confession: Please try to schedule your confession before or by Holy Tuesday evening.

2023 Schedule of Services for Holy Week and Pascha

April 7:	Small Compline with Canon to St. Lazarus	6:00 p.m.
April 8:	St. Lazarus Saturday Orthros	8:00 a.m.
	Divine Liturgy.....	9:00 a.m.
	Great Vespers for Palm Sunday.....	5:00 p.m.
April 9:	Palm Sunday Orthros.....	8:00 a.m.
	Palm Sunday Liturgy— <i>Blessing of Palms</i>	9:00 a.m.
	Palm Sunday Evening— <i>Bridegroom Matins I</i>	6:00 p.m.
April 10:	Holy Monday Presanctified Liturgy	9:00 a.m.
	Holy Monday Evening— <i>Bridegroom Matins II</i>	6:00 p.m.
April 11:	Holy Tuesday Presanctified Liturgy	9:00 a.m.
	Holy Tuesday Evening— <i>Bridegroom Matins III</i>	6:00 p.m.
April 12:	Holy Wednesday Presanctified Liturgy	9:00 a.m.
	Holy Wednesday Evening— <i>Mystery of Holy Unction</i>	6:00 p.m.
April 13	Holy Thursday Matins.....	7:00 a.m.
	Holy Thursday Liturgy— <i>Mystical Supper</i>	9:00 a.m.
	Holy Thursday Evening— <i>The 12 Passion Gospels</i>	6:00 p.m.
April 14:	Holy Friday Morning— <i>The Great Royal Hours</i>	8:00 a.m.
	Holy Friday Afternoon— <i>Vespers for the Taking Down from the Cross</i>	3:00 p.m.
	Holy Friday Evening— <i>Lamentations</i>	6:00 p.m.
April 15:	Holy Saturday Morning— <i>1st Announcement of the Resurrection</i>	9:00 a.m.
	Vigil	11:30 p.m.
April 16:	Paschal Resurrection Orthros & Liturgy	12:00 a.m.
	Pascha Sunday Agape Vespers	12:00 p.m.

Note: Please note that Memorial Services for the departed **are not permitted** from the Saturday of Lazarus to St. Thomas Sunday (*inclusive*). The Church does this so we may focus our attention completely on the Resurrection of our Lord. It also reminds us that death in and of itself, is not final for the true believer. As followers of the Risen Lord, we too shall rise from the dead to live eternally with our Savior.

