

Слава Ісусу Христу ~ Слава на віки! Glory be to Jesus Christ ~ Glory forever!
Вітаємо до Парафії Воздвиження Чесного Хреста! Welcome to Exaltation of the Holy Cross Parish!
~ May your participation in today's Divine Liturgy be thoroughly enriching and truly meaningful ~

Sunday, April 5, 2020 ~ Palm Sunday ~ The Lord's Triumphant Entry into Jerusalem

Epistle: *Philippians 4: 4-9*

Gospel: *John 12: 1-18*

Troparia are located in the **grey book** on page 26

Epistle Readers

Saturday (5 p.m.): n/a
Sunday (10 a.m.): n/a



Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday (5 p.m.): n/a
Sunday (10 a.m.): n/a

Your Return Gift to God

Let us strive to live as Christian stewards, receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them generously and lovingly with others, and return them with increase to the Lord.

Please note: During the shutdown, our parish may experience some shortfalls in cash flow. Therefore, we are sincerely requesting that you mail in your weekly contributions (Sunday envelope and mission donation) to the Parish Office or kindly drop it into the mail slot in the right front door of the Rectory (422 W. Victoria Ave.). *Thank you!*

MARCH 28/29

Envelopes: \$440.⁰⁰
Mission: \$5.⁰⁰

FYI: Since donations are being received throughout the week, totals will be approximated.

Дякуємо за вашу щедрість!
Thank you for your generosity!

The Mission Collection from **January to June 2020** is for the TBRHSC **"Our Hearts at Home"** cardiovascular campaign. We will, therefore, publish the running total at the end of every second month. If desired, parishioners can make a larger donation to this cause and get a receipt from the parish. For more information about this programme, you can log on to www.healthsciencesfoundation.ca.

Schedule of Liturgical Services

PLEASE NOTE/УВАГА!

All public services are still **suspended** until further notice. Regarding Holy Week and Easter, His Excellency Bishop Bryan Bayda, CSsR, has decreed the following:

- 1) There is to be **no** distribution of pussy willows/palm branches to parishioners on Palm (Willow) Sunday;
- 2) There is to be **no** public Vespers Service and Veneration of the Holy Shroud (kissing) on Good Friday;
- 3) There is to be **no** Easter Basket (Paschal) food blessing;
- 4) Easter Sunday services will be conducted privately — the faithful will **not** be allowed to enter into the church.

During the shutdown, you can access a number of live streaming liturgical services on the Internet. The full list can be accessed on our Facebook page (Facebook/holycrosstbay) or you can click on the following link to view them as well:

www.royaldoors.net/2020/03/2020-streaming-liturgical-services.

Until we meet together again, please continue to pray daily!

Parish News and Events

We extend our sincerest condolences to the Chicorli, Brown, Douglas, Harapiak, and Stasiewicz families on the recent passing of their beloved **†Harry (Chicorli)** at his residence on Wednesday, April 1. Services will be arranged at a later date. May the Lord accept the soul of His servant **†Harry** into His heavenly kingdom, grant him rest among the saints, and may his memory be everlasting ~ вічна йому пам'ять.

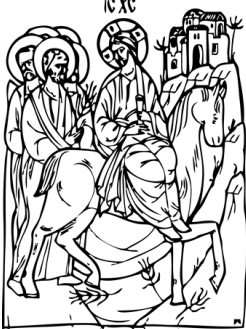
Due to the fact that Ontario schools will be closed at least until **May 1**, and that the closure may be extended if necessary to protect the health and safety of students, families and staff, the St. George's Society Scholarship Programme will be put on hold at this time. All potential high school graduates who are parishioners of Holy Cross parish may still apply. If you would like an electronic copy, please email your request to mawatral@tbaytel.net.

FYI: Weekly donations are accepted online through the parish website: www.holycrosstbay.com/donate. Parishioners, family and friends can regularly donate by setting up automatic donations or by one-time donation. All donations are eligible for tax receipts. If you have any questions about this service, call the Parish Office and leave a message for our bookkeeper Michele. *Thank you for your generous contributions to our parish community!*



The reason Jesus came into Jerusalem on that Sunday so long ago was not to get a thrill. He did not come into the capital city in order to set up an earthly kingdom while His popularity was peaking and having countless followers. He did not come, even to overthrow the religious establishment and re-direct the Temple worship according to God's intentions for how it should have been carried out. No, His journey into Jerusalem, amidst

ENTRY INTO JERUSALEM:
IC XC



the loud "Hosannas" and the palm branches waved in His honour was to be a journey to death. Jesus was not swayed from His mission by the adoring crowds. He was there for one reason only: to die for the sins of the world. At this point in His earthly life, the Lord had kept the law of God perfectly for some 33 years. He had indeed now come to the place where the Law of God, the moral code, which all people fall short of, would soon be fulfilled, and Jesus could take His stand against the death penalty of sin, by absorbing that penalty Himself. "Blessed is He Who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the King of Israel!"

Readings for the Easter Sunday

(to help prepare for the nourishment of the Word of God at Liturgy)

Epistle: Acts 1: 1-8

Jesus' last command and promise

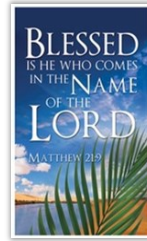
Gospel: John 1: 1-17

The Word of Life

As you read each passage, ask yourself these questions:
"What thoughts, ideas, words or images come to mind?"
and "What are the connections between them?"

This will help make them easier to follow and understand.

Prophetic Words of Truth and Glory



Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!
Lo, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is He,
humble and riding on a donkey —
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

Zechariah 9: 9

HOLY CROSS GOLDEN AGERS

Attention all members! All activities (including evening buses to Grant Portage) are now cancelled until further notice. We encourage you to practice social distancing/self-isolation especially if you have a pre-existing condition that might further aggravate the situation. Limit family member gatherings and visits as well. Unless you are in need of supplies or medical assistance, please remain at home. Spend this time sorting through pictures, recording and sharing memories that you have yet to do, and practicing excellent hygiene.

*"Do not regret growing older.
It's a privilege denied to many."*

Prayer for Healing and Comfort

† In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Father in Heaven, have mercy on us and on the whole world. We come to You today with our fears and concerns — You know what's in our hearts. We love You, trust You, we need You. We ask You to be with us. Stay with us. Help us through these times of uncertainty and sorrow.

We know You are the Divine Physician, the Healer of all. And so, we ask that You bring Your loving and healing presence to all those who are sick and suffering right now. Please comfort them. Please be with the grieving families of those who have passed away. Please have mercy on those who have died — may they be with You in heaven. Please stand at the side of all medical professionals who are putting themselves at risk while they are working to bring healing to others.

Lord, we are scared and we are sorrowful. Please heal us. Send us Your peace and overwhelming presence. (Mention your intentions here.)

St. Jude and St. Rita, patrons of impossible causes, pray for us!

Jesus, we thirst for You. You chose to enter this world as a vulnerable baby. Be with the most vulnerable now. Help us to continue to return to You with our whole hearts throughout this ordeal. Amen.

† In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

POWER
of
PRAYER



ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY

Superior Shores Gaming Centre remains closed to ensure that volunteers, players, and staff remain healthy and safe. The AGCO and the OLG will inform each association when re-opening of the halls can happen. In the interim, the bingo schedule for the next quarter has been released; our next session is a matinée on **Tuesday, April 21**. That date is tentative at this time. The dates for May and June as well as upcoming training sessions will be published in future bulletins. SSGA administration will be closely monitoring the situation and will provide updates as changes happen.



All members please note the following: the annual **Easter Vigil** (Guarding of our Lord's tomb) has been cancelled; and our monthly meeting on April 26 is contingent upon the overall health situation; members will be advised of any change via email and/or a phone call.

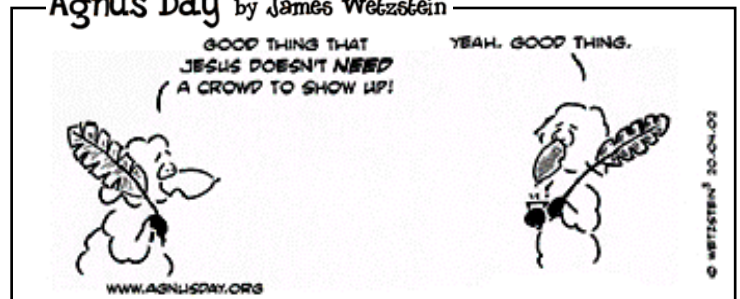
Plans for our 60th anniversary celebrations are also on hold until such time as the local venues are allowed to re-open their doors. The tentative date was set for Saturday, June 20.

Everyone is encouraged to self-isolate and limit interaction with others at this time to help curtail the spread of COVID-19.

*O victorious great-martyr George, as a liberator of captives
and helper of the poor, physician of the sick and champion
of kings, entreat Christ God to save our souls.*

Sunday Smile

Agnus Day by James Wetzelstein



COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Due to government restrictions, most community events and gatherings have been cancelled/postponed at this time. Please check our local newspaper or online version for updates. Let us all strive our best to 'plank' the curve, and to end this pandemic soon.

PROPERs FOR PALM SUNDAY

The Lord's Triumphant Entrance into Jerusalem

First Antiphon

I am filled with love* for the Lord will hear the voice of my plea.
Through the prayers of the Mother of God, O Saviour, 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...

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

I met with anguish and pain,* and called upon the name of the Lord.
Through the prayers...



Third Antiphon

Cantor: Give thanks to the Lord for He is good,* for His mercy endures forever.

Troparion, Tone 1: 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.

Cantor: Therefore, let the house of Israel say that He is good,* for His mercy endures forever.

Troparion, Tone 1: 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.

Cantor: Therefore, let the house of Aaron say that He is good,* for His mercy endures forever.

Troparion, Tone 1: 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.

Cantor: Let all who fear the Lord say that He is good,* for His mercy endures forever.

Troparion, Tone 1: 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.

Entrance

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

Troparia and Kontakion

Troparion, Tone 1: 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.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

Troparion, Tone 4: 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.

Now and forever and ever. Amen.

Kontakion, Tone 6: 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.

Holy God, as usual

Prokeimenon, Tone 4

Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord;* God the Lord has appeared to us.
verse: Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, for His mercy endures forever.

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9

Brothers and sisters! Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, Rejoice! Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry 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 surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, meditate upon these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Alleluia, Tone 1

verse: Sing to the Lord a new song, for He has worked wonders.

verse: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Gospel: John 12:1-18

At that time, six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for Him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with Him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of His disciples (the one who was about to betray Him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred silver pieces and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of My burial. You always have the poor 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 because of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead. So, the chief priests planned to put Lazarus to death as well, since it was on account of him that many of the Jews were deserting and were believing in Jesus.

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So, they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord — the King of Israel!" Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written: "Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion. Look, your king is coming, sitting on a donkey's colt!" His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of Him and had been done to Him. So the crowd that had been with Him when He called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised Him from the dead continued to testify. It was also because they heard that He had performed this sign that the crowd went to meet Him.

Hymn to the Mother of God

Cantor: 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;* God the Lord has appeared to us.* Alleluia, alleluia,* alleluia.

Blessing of Pussy Willows and Palm Branches on Palm Sunday

(Priest: Let us pray to the Lord.

All: Lord have mercy)

O Lord our God, seated on the cherubim: You exalted Your strength and sent Your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to save the world by His cross, burial and resurrection. Today, as He goes into His voluntary passion in Jerusalem, the people who sat in darkness and the shadow of death go out to meet Him. And taking up the emblems of risen life — boughs of trees and branches of palms — they signify His resurrection.

O Master, bless these branches and palms in our hands on this pre-festive day. Like the nations and the children who offered cries of "Hosanna," grant that we too, singing songs and hymns, may attain His life-giving resurrection on the third day.

With Him, O Father, You are blessed together with Your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and forever and ever. Amen.

Priest (sprinkling holy water): These pussy willows (and palm branches) are blessed and sanctified by the sprinkling of this holy water and the grace of the Holy Spirit, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



I Love a Parade: Let the Celebration Begin!

Most of everyone loves parades. There is something about them that really gets our hearts pumping. We often have parades to celebrate special events such as a circus coming to town or the opening of a fair. Sometimes we have a parade to honour an important person who has come to our city.

Sadly, during this time of self-isolation and social distancing, there can be no parades. However, let's imagine that we are watching a parade. Our city is honouring the very first astronaut from our city to ever walk on the moon. When the astronaut passes by, let's wave our flags and blow our noise makers. There's even a band. It is leading the parade and behind the band there are floats carrying a lot of important people...the mayor of our city, council members, and even some provincial and federal members of Parliament. As they pass by, we smile and wave. Finally, here comes the astronaut -- our hero! We cheer, wave our flags, and blow our noise makers! Then as the parade moves on down the street, the sound of the band fades away in the distance -- it is over. The celebration is over.

That is a little bit like something that took place in the city of Jerusalem about 2000 years ago. A King was visiting their city. People lined the streets of the city hoping to get to see the King. The King came riding on a small donkey, and as he rode through the streets of the city, the people waved palm branches and shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

You probably know who that King was -- it was Jesus. Today is Palm Sunday. Today we remember the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem and the people cheering and waving palm branches. It was a day that marked the beginning of a week that would see Jesus cheered, then arrested, tried, beaten, and put to death on a cross. But as that week came to an end, another week began just as the previous week had begun, with a celebration.

Dear Jesus, our voices join with the voices of the people in Jerusalem some two thousand years ago. Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Amen.

Source: www.sermons4kids.com

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