

Misplaced Expectations

A young boy returned from his first major league baseball game very disappointed. Even though his favorite team won the game, the young boy said to his grandfather, "I'll never go to another game again!" "Why not," his grandfather asked, "your team won the game -why are you disappointed?" The boy answered, "I wanted my favorite player to hit a home run to where I was sitting and I wanted to catch the ball and I wanted to get it autographed after the game!" "I've been hoping for that all my life, too," said his grandfather with a smile.

Quite often, the disappointment that we feel towards a person or about a situation or circumstance is due to the fact that our expectations of that person or about that situation are misplaced, misguided, or misunderstood. We see an example of this in today's Gospel reading about our

Lord's entrance into Jerusalem.

Many of the same people who enthusiastically greeted Jesus when He entered into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday would just as passionately demand His crucifixion only a few days later. Why? It is because their expectations of Him were misplaced. That is, many people presumed that the long-awaited Messiah would be a great military leader or a political revolutionary who would lead them out of Roman subjugation and into independence. They did not consider the possibility of a Messiah who would conquer not armies, but death itself.

What do we expect from God? Like the little boy at the baseball game, are we disappointed when we don't get what we want? Let us recall that the Lord knows what we need even before we ask or are aware of it!

THE ENTRANCE INTO JERUSALEM PALM SUNDAY



Icon of the Entrance into Jerusalem



PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD
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Divine Liturgy Schedule: Saturday, April 4th; at 4:00pm

PATRONAGE CHURCH SERVICES SCHEDULE

| Date | Time | Service | Intention |
|---|--------|--|---|
| Flowery (Palm) Sunday 3.29.2026 | 9:00am | Divine Liturgy Blessing of Palms & Pussywillows Anointing/Mirovanije | For the Health and Salvation of Parishioners |
| Holy Tuesday 3.31.2026 | 6:00pm | Presanctified Liturgy with Anointing | For the Health and Salvation of Parishioners |
| Holy Thursday 4.2.2026 | 5:00pm | Vigil Divine Liturgy | For the Health and Salvation of Parishioners |
| Holy Friday 4.3.2026 | 5:00pm | Vespers with Burial Shroud Procession | For the Health and Salvation of Parishioners |
| Sunday Resurrection of Our Lord – Pascha 4.5.2026 | 8:00am | Resurrection Matins and Procession Divine Liturgy Anointing/Mirovanije Blessing of Paschal Food | For the Health and Salvation of Parishioners |
| Bright Monday 4.6.2026 | 6:00pm | Vigil Divine Liturgy | For the Health and Salvation of Parishioners |

Flowery (Palm) Sunday

The Propers for today are a handout, and can be found on the shelf in the Narthex.

Slava Isusu Christu! Slava na viki! Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER: The people of Ukraine, that peace may be soon be restored to their land, our parishioners, the founders of our parish, our benefactors, those who are sick, and those who cannot make it to church. Also, Fr. Vasyl Symyon, Charlie Toth, Larissa Toth, Tony Kotlar, Jr., Mary Hrinda, Michael Demyan, Michael Skovran, Mary Ann Ondrish, Betty Charlock, Elizabeth Hresko, John Hanyok, Ann Marie Elwell, James DeWolfe, Clara Valeika, Joe Belensky, Kay Dinko, Doris Ruszin, Veronica Ruszin, Anna Martin, Joseph Repasi, Mary Jo Kelly Wilhelm, Howard Guba, Melanie Copper, Julie Wiegand, Natalie, Edin, and +Walter Lourdes Najera Herder, Mark and Betsey Herder, our first responders, and all military service men and women throughout the world. Please help us keep our prayer list up to date. Let us know if we need to remove or add a name by sending an email to our church.

*May our Lord Jesus Christ, the Physician and Healer of souls and bodies,
grant them peace and good health for many blessed years!*

STEWARDSHIP: You honor God and our Church by continuing to tithe each week. An offertory basket is on the table in the back of our Temple for your weekly donation. You may also mail your donation to our church, or donate using Tithe.ly online at: <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2346733>. The link is also on the first page of our website. **“Remember then, it is the Lord, your God, who gives you the power to acquire wealth” (Dt. 8:18).**

BLESSED PALMS AND PUSSYWILLOWS: The palms and pussywillows that are blessed today should be kept in your home, usually displayed at the corner of an icon or cross, and even in your car as a witness to the Lord’s presence in your life. Blessed palms and pussywillows can also be taken to the cemetery and displayed at your loved one’s grave. Last year’s palms and pussywillows are blessed sacramentals and should be destroyed by either burning or burying them. **Many thanks to Dan Bobby and Michael Kakalec for their generous donation of this year’s pussywillows, those who bundled the palms/pussywillows, and those who decorated our church for Palm Sunday.** Your efforts are greatly appreciated!

SLAVIC FOOD FESTIVAL – DAY AFTER SALE: Thank you to everyone who assisted in any way to make our festival a success. We appreciate all of your time and energy! **There are a limited number of kitchen and bake table items, along with religious articles for sale in our social hall. Please check it out after Liturgy today!**

HOLY MYSTERY OF REPENTANCE: Confession is available beginning an hour before Divine Liturgy, and ending 15 minutes before the start of services.

HOLY EUCHARIST AND VISITATION OF THE SICK: Eucharist can be brought to a parishioner who is ill, in the hospital, or at home. You can request a visit by either sending our church an email, or contacting either Fr. Vasyl or Deacon Tony, personally.



Children's Corner

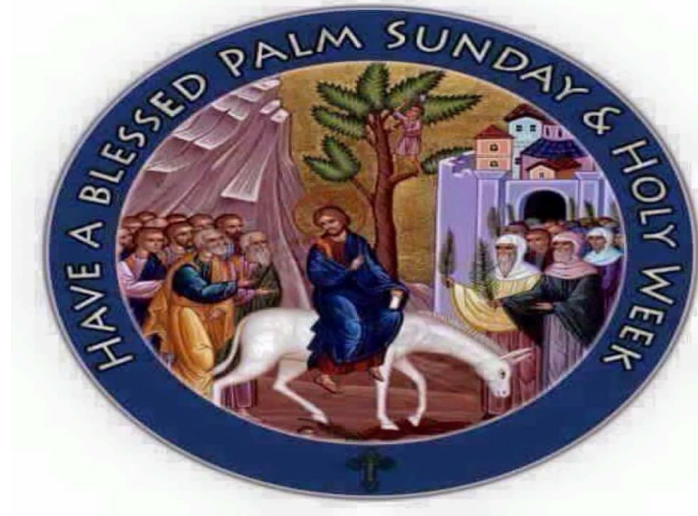
Flowery (Palm) Sunday

The Entrance of our Lord into Jerusalem

We recall our Lord's entry into Jerusalem six days before His Passion by blessing branches and palms. The faithful hold the palms and pussywillows in their hands during Divine Liturgy as a symbol of Christ's victory, and a sign we will live a good Christian life. These branches and palms are also kept in our home, and brought to the graves of loved ones. Today is also an important Feast in our Church, as it marks the end of the Great Fast and the beginning of Holy Week.

Circle True (T) or False (F) for each sentence:

1. When Jesus entered into Jerusalem, he rode on a donkey. T or F
2. The donkey represents peace and humility. T or F
3. The Greek letters (IC XC) inscribed on Jesus' halo stand for "Jesus Christ." T or F
4. Jesus held a scroll in his left hand, which symbolizes wisdom. T or F
5. When people heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, they waved branches of palms shouting "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord." T or F
6. The biblical story of the entry of our Lord into Jerusalem is recorded in all four Gospels – Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. T or F



THE PRAYER OF ST. EPHREM

*Lord and Master of my life, spare me from the spirit of indifference, despair, lust for power, and idle chatter.
Instead, bestow on me, your servant, the spirit of integrity, humility, patience, and love.
Yes, O Lord and King, let me see my own sins and not judge my brothers and sisters; for you are blessed forever and ever. Amen.*

**Having Suffered the Passion for Us, Jesus Christ, Son of God,
Have Mercy, Have Mercy, Have Mercy on Us!
Preterp'ivyj Za Nas Strasti, Isuse Christe, Syne Bozij,
Pomiluj, Pomiluj, Pomiluj Nas!**

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ST. THOMAS SUNDAY: Please join us on **April 12th**. We will begin with Divine Liturgy, followed by our annual St. Thomas Sunday Pot-Luck Luncheon, and an outdoor Easter Egg Hunt for children (weather permitting). If you plan on attending the pot-luck luncheon, please contact Mary Demyan (mdemya1@verizon.net), and let her know how many people from your family will be attending and what dish you will be providing no later than **Wednesday, April 8th**. Thank you for your assistance!

2026 BYZANTEEN YOUTH RALLY: If your child is planning on attending this Rally at John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio on July 9-12, the **Early Bird Deadline is March 31st.** Please see Fr. Vasyl immediately, if your child is planning on attending.



380TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNION OF UZHGOROD: The Eparchy of Passaic warmly invites clergy and faithful to commemorate the 380th Anniversary of the Union of Uzhhorod (1646-2026), on **Wednesday, April 15, 2026**, at 2:00pm, at St. Michael's Chapel, Woodland Park, NJ, with a solemn Hierarchical Divine Liturgy followed by a Celebration Conference. This special gathering will honor the spiritual, historical, and ecclesial significance of the Union of Uzhhorod, and its enduring legacy in the life of our Church. Attending the Liturgy and Conference is free of charge. The Conference dinner is \$20/person. Registration is required, and space is limited. For additional information, please send an email to: uzhgorod380@gmail.com, or call (609) 394-5004.

ECF LENTEN SERVICE PROJECT: ECF is collecting monetary donations to benefit Holy Annunciation Monastery (founded in 1977) located in Sugarloaf, PA, for this year's Lenten Service Project. This monastery of Byzantine-Ruthenian Catholic Nuns is part of our Eparchy of Passaic. ECF is currently planning a visit to the monastery on **Saturday, April 25th**. If you would like to support our Lenten service project, please place your donation (cash or check made payable to: Patronage Church) in the marked white poor box in the back of our church. Donations will be accepted through Sunday, March 29th. Thank you for your generosity! Visit www.byzantinediscalcedcarmelites.com, to learn more about Holy Annunciation Monastery.

SAVE THE DATE – 3RD ANNUAL PATRONAGE CHURCH'S PARISH

PICNIC: Please join us on **Sunday, May 17th**, at Holy Trinity (Cathedral Gardens) Cemetery pavilion in Elkridge. Divine Liturgy will begin at 11:00am, followed by our parish picnic. A planning meeting has been rescheduled for **Sunday, April 26th**, after Liturgy. All are welcome to attend!

2026 GCU ANNUAL ART & PHOTO CONTEST: The theme for 2026 is "My Favorite Place." **Now through June 5, 2026**, the GCU is accepting artwork and photos for this contest. For the rules and more information, visit www.gcuusa.com, and click on "Events." You must be a GCU member for at least one year to participate.

2026 BYZANTINE CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULT CONVOCATION: This summer, encounter "*The Heart of the God-Bearer*," on **July 31st to August 2nd**, at St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church in Hillsborough, New Jersey. Young adults ages 18-35 will gather for fellowship, communal praying of the Liturgy of the Hours, and talks from speakers like Mother Natalia of *Christ the Bridegroom Monastery* and co-host of the *What God Is Not* podcast and Very Rev. Paul Varchola West, MFA, MDiv of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church, Levittown, PA; host of the "*Building Athos in Our Hearts Podcast*;" and "*Spiritual Father of the Springs in the Desert ministry*." Join us for three days of faith, friendship, and transformation. For more information and regular updates, go to <https://www.heartofthegodbearer.org/>. Online registration is open from now until June 30th! Not a young adult? Contact us if you're interested in helping sponsor scholarships to help the young adults in our Church grow and share their faith!

2026 "OUR DAILY BREAD" CASSEROLE DONATIONS: Our Daily Bread relies on churches, like ours, to help with this important mission by supplying casseroles to the homeless in the Baltimore area. How can you help?

1. If you can donate your time, ingredients, and supplies (pans and recipes will be available at Patronage Church on the kitchen counter in our social hall), take a pan home and prepare the casserole per the recipe provided. Please cover the tray completely with aluminum foil and FREEZE IT (NO plastic wrap, please). Do not substitute ingredients.
2. Write the name of the casserole (i.e., Zippy Beef), Patronage Church, the date on a label, and place it on the aluminum foil.
3. Casseroles need to be dropped off at Patronage Church (place it in the freezer in the back of our social hall), and then they will be delivered (frozen) to Our Daily Bread.
4. The first casserole collection date for 2026, will be on **Sunday, April 19th**. Due to limited church freezer space, please do not drop off casseroles until AFTER our Slavic Food Festival on March 28th.

Tentative dates for the remainder of the year are as follows: **Sunday, June 7th, August 16th, and October 25th**. Churches that participate in this program offer 2.0 service hours for students who need volunteer hours. If your son or daughter needs volunteer hours, they can make the casserole to donate. Please see Greg Calvitt (gregcalvitt@gmail.com) to sign off on volunteer hours.

in preparation for **The Great Fast 2026**
regulations for the season

The fasts of the liturgical year are to be kept in accordance with the
Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic.

[simple abstinence](#)

- The law of simple abstinence forbids the use of meat, but permits the use of eggs and dairy products.
 - All faithful of the Eparchy who receive the Eucharist are obliged to observe simple abstinence when prescribed.
- Abstinence is obligatory on all Wednesdays and Fridays of the Great Fast.

[strict abstinence](#)

- The law of strict abstinence (fasting) forbids the use and consumption of all meat, eggs and dairy products.
- All faithful of the Eparchy who receive the Eucharist are obliged to observe strict abstinence when prescribed.
- Strict abstinence (fasting) is to be observed on Great and Holy Friday, April 3rd.

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH: We are glad that you have chosen to participate in the Divine Liturgy with us today, and we pray that it will be a spiritually nourishing experience. All Catholics may receive the Eucharist if you are in good standing and prepared. We receive the Body and Blood of Christ in our mouth by spoon. Please DO NOT stick out your tongue. ***If you would like to become an active part of our parish community, be added to our email list, and register as a parishioner,*** please complete a “Census” form. Forms are located on the bookrack in the Narthex, or on our website, and can either be mailed to our church, or placed in the offertory basket in the back of our Temple. On-line donation information can be found under “Stewardship” in this bulletin. ***“My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples” (Isaiah 56:7).***

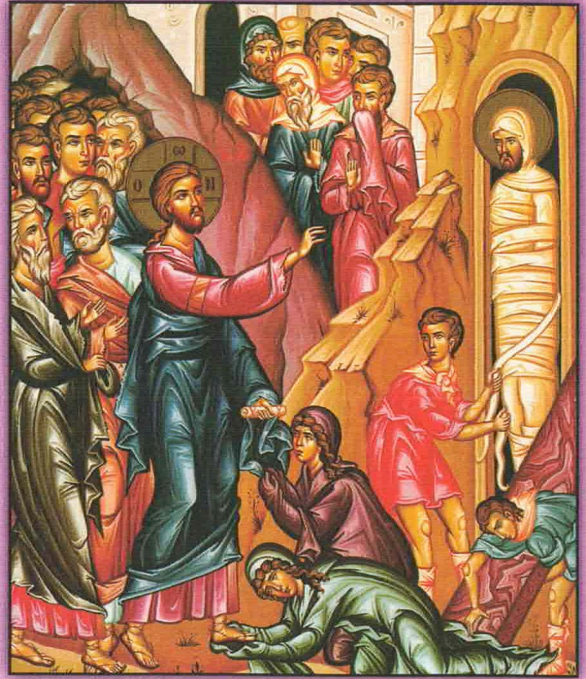
THE GREAT WEEK

THE HOLY DAYS OF OUR LORD'S PASSION

Lazarus Saturday

Taking pity on the tears of Martha and Mary, O Christ our God, you ordered the stone to be rolled away from the tomb; by your call, You raised the dead man and broke the bolts of Hades to establish our faith in the life-giving resurrection of all. Glory to your power, O Savior; glory to your sovereign majesty; glory to You, for by your word, You uphold the whole world.

O Fountain of wisdom and eternal knowledge, arriving at Bethany, You asked those who were with Martha: Where have you placed Lazarus, my friend? You wept tears of compassion over the one who had been dead four days; and, by your voice, You raised him, O Giver of life and compassionate Lord.

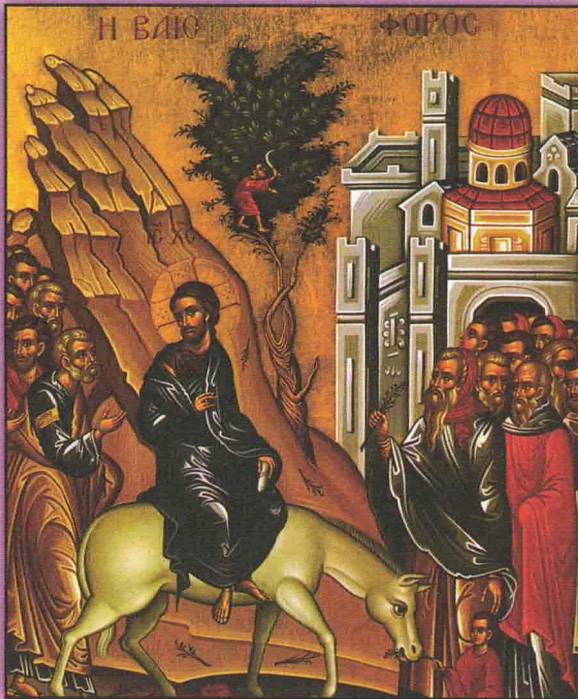


Palm Sunday

The Entrance of Our Lord into Jerusalem

Carrying palms in spirit and with our souls purified, as the children of old, let us praise Christ in faith; and let us sing to Him with a full voice: Blessed are You, O Savior, who comes into this world to save Adam from the ancient curse, and who have willed to become the new spiritual Adam. O Word, You have fulfilled all things for our salvation, glory to You.

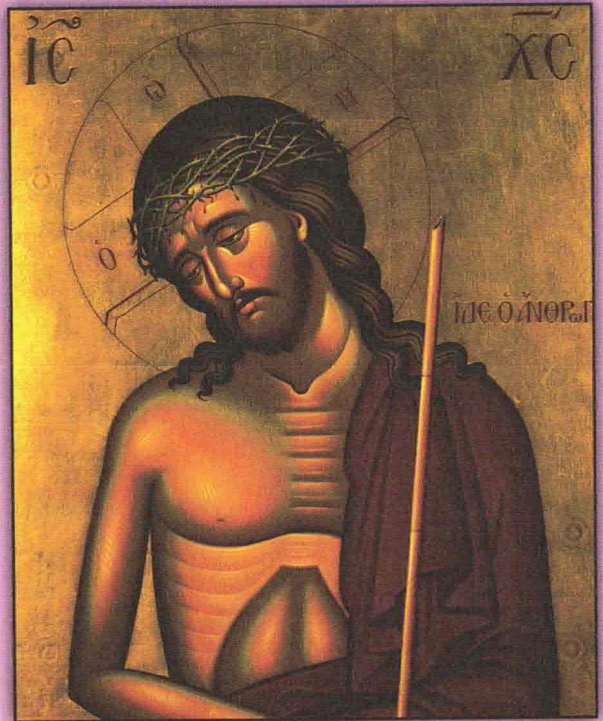
O peoples and nations, sing with one voice: The King of the angels comes, seated upon the colt of a donkey, to conquer the Enemy by the power of the Cross. The children carry palms and cry out to Him: Glory, victory and welcome; glory to You, O Christ our Savior; glory and praise to our only God!



Great and Holy Monday

Commemoration of the unproductive fig tree the Lord Jesus curses as He walks outside Jerusalem (Mt 21:18)

The coming day shines with the beginning of the Passion of the Lord. Come, let us celebrate this mystery; let us go meet Him with our hymns. For the Creator draws near to endure the Cross; led before Pilate, He submits to the questions, the whipping and the judgment; struck by a servant, He endures all to save the human race. Therefore, we cry out to Him: O Christ our God, the Lover of Humankind, grant the forgiveness of their sins to those who venerate your holy Passion with faith.

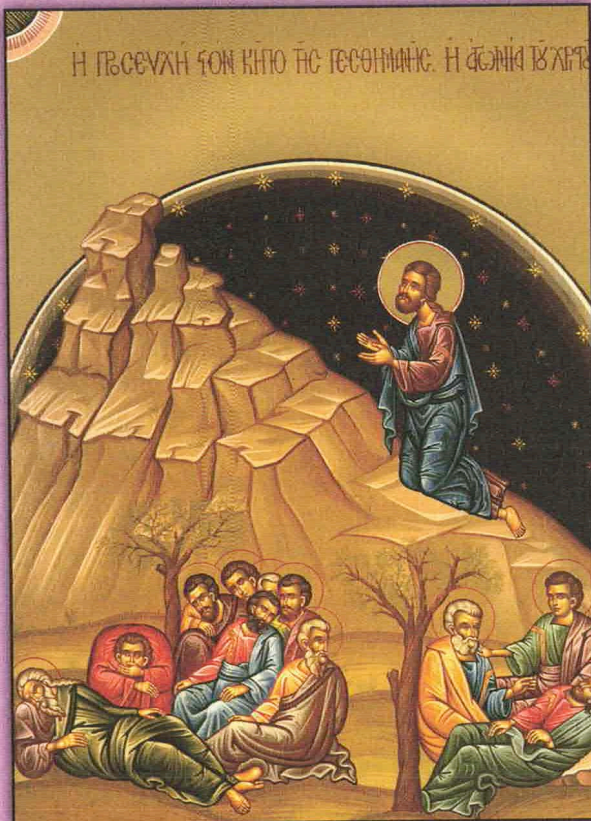


Great and Holy Tuesday

Commemoration of the Lord's parable of the Ten Wise Virgins (Mt 25:14)

The priests, scribes and the council of the impious have gathered against You, O God our Savior; through jealousy they persuaded Judas to betray You: he was not ashamed to go out and speak against You, saying to the lawless ones: What will you give me if I hand Him over to you? O Lord, spare our souls from such a condemnation.

Impelled by his burning love of money, the impious Judas ponders and plots the betrayal of his Master. He falls from light into darkness; he sells the One who is beyond all price; and for the price of his betrayal, the miserable one meets death through hanging. Spare us this same destiny, O Christ our God, and grant the forgiveness of sins to those who with love praise your holy Passion.

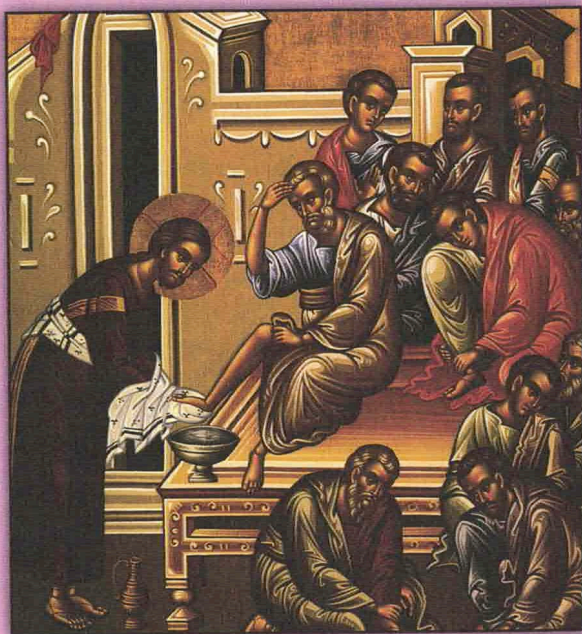


Great and Holy Wednesday

Commemoration of the betrayal of Lord by Judas, and the anointing of our Lord by Mary at Bethany

The harlot drew near to You, O God of goodness, to pour upon your feet the precious ointment along with her tears; at your command, she was delivered from the scourge of evil; but the ungrateful disciple who was filled with your grace, turned away from You and sunk into the mire by betraying You through his greed. Glory to your infinite mercy, O Christ.

With her sighs, the sinful woman cried out to You, O God of goodness, and as she fervently dried your most pure feet with her hair, she said from the depths of her heart: Do not scorn me, my God, nor cast me far from You; but accept my repentance, and in your goodness, save me.

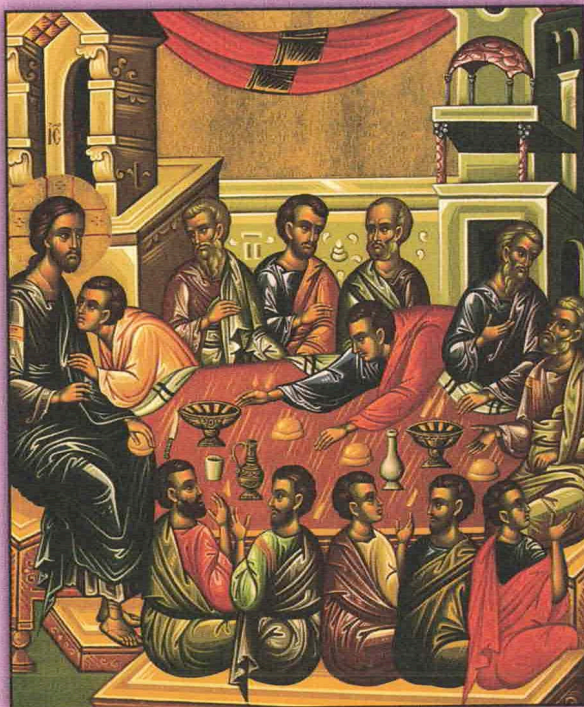


Great and Holy Thursday

Holy Eucharist at the Last Supper, and the washing of the feet of the disciples by Jesus

He who made the lakes, the springs and the seas, shows us the greatest humility: He girds himself with a linen cloth and washes the feet of his disciples; in his infinite mercy, He lowers himself, and He draws us up from the abyss of evil, for He alone is the Lover of Humankind.

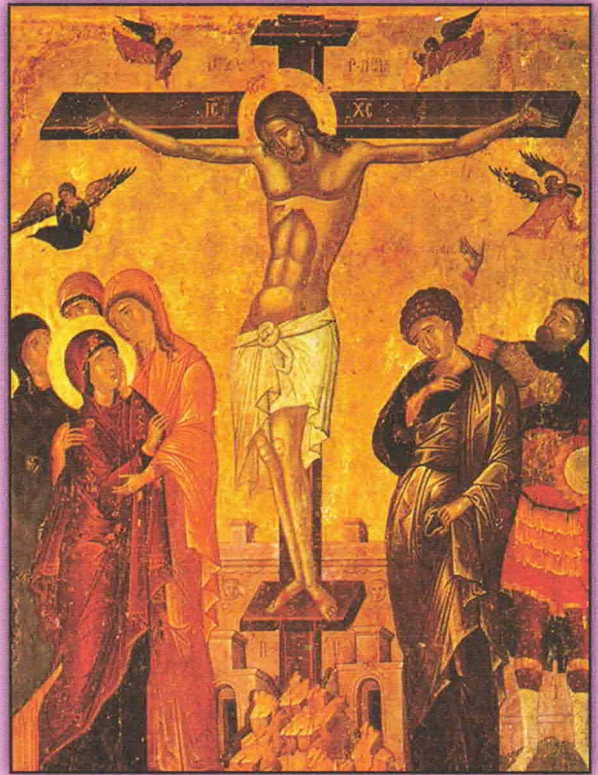
In your mercy, You humbled yourself and washed the feet of your disciples, thus preparing them to walk in the divine footsteps. Peter at first refused to be washed, but then obeyed your divine command; and while you were washing him, O Lord, he earnestly begged You to grant us your great mercy.



*Great and Holy Friday
The Crucifixion, Death and Burial of Our Lord*

O God, when You stood before Caiaphas and let yourself, O Judge, be delivered to Pilate, the heavenly powers trembled in fear. O sinless Lord, You were crucified between two thieves and numbered among the lawless ones. You did all this just to save humankind. O most kind Lord, glory to You.

You have redeemed us from the curse of the Law with your precious blood; nailed to the Cross and pierced with the lance, You have gushed forth immortality to all. O our Savior, glory to You.

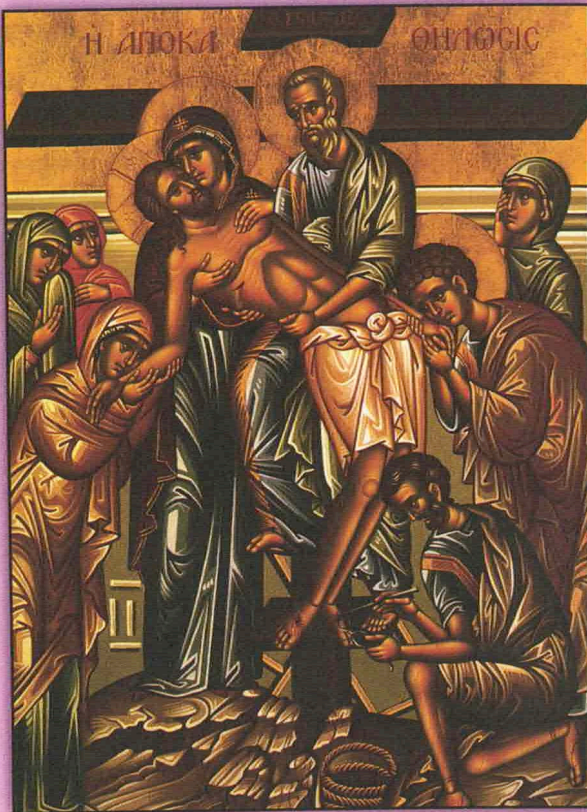


*Great and Holy Saturday
The Great and Holy Sabbath rest in the tomb
and the conquering of Hades*

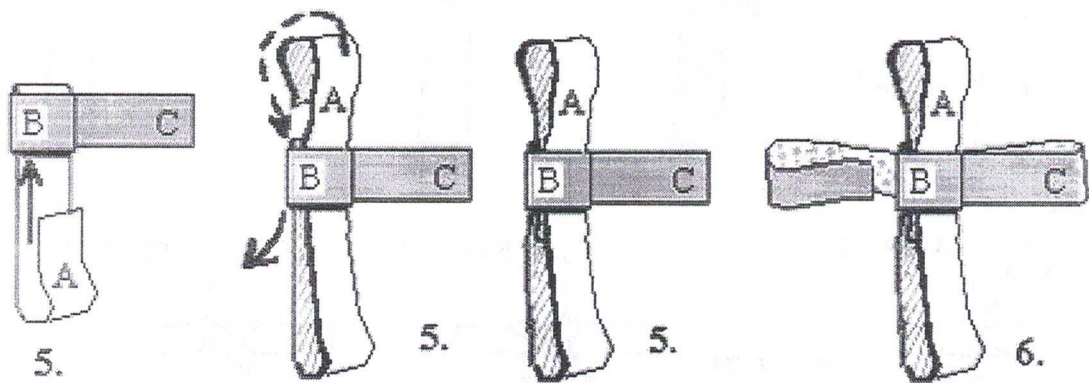
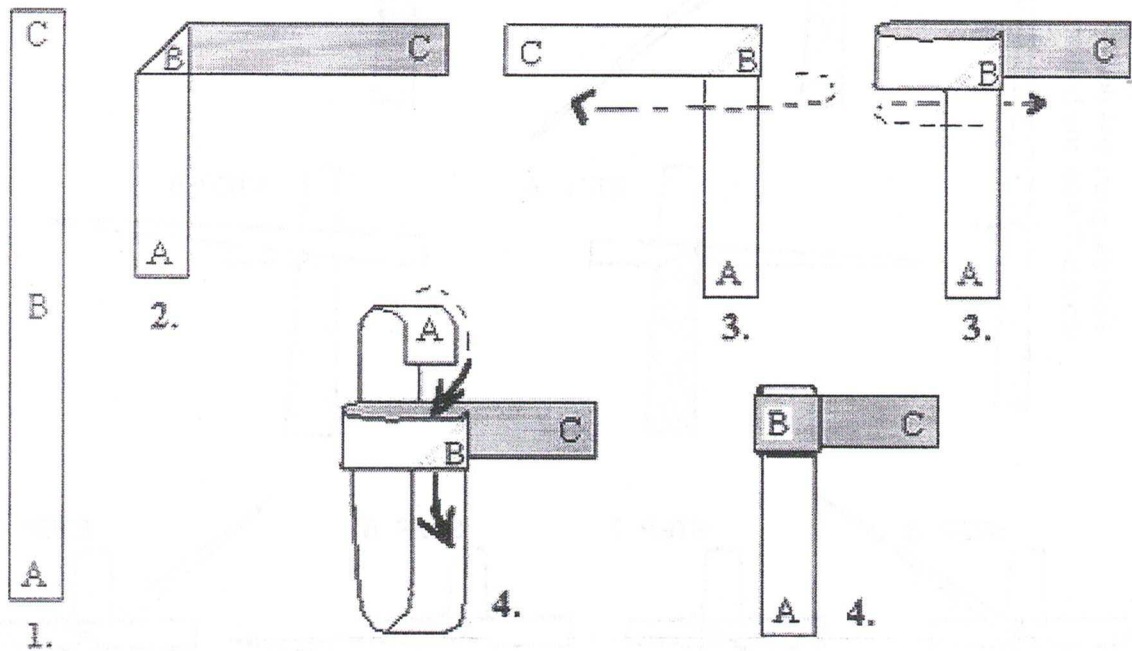
Joseph went to Pilate and begged for your body; he wrapped it in a pure linen cloth, anointed it with precious spices and placed it in a new tomb. Early in the morning, the holy myrrh-bearers cried out: O Christ, as You foretold, show us your Resurrection.

The soldiers guarding your tomb, O Savior, became as dead men at the lightning flash of the angel who appeared to announce your Resurrection to the women. We glorify You, for You have cleansed us from corruption. We fall down before You, for You rose from the tomb, our only God.

*All text from Vesper Stichera of Holy Week, The Lenten
Triodion, Sisters of Saint Basil, Uniontown, PA*

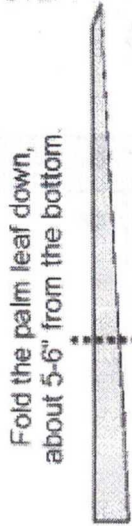


HOW TO MAKE A PALM CROSS



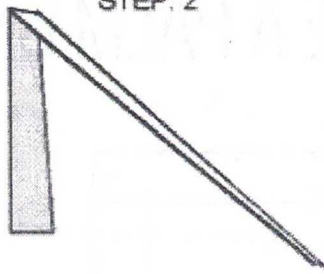
Supplies: One palm leaf strip about 24-26" in length, 1/2" in width, tapering to the end.

STEP: 1

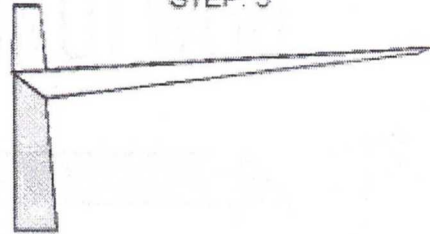


Fold the palm leaf down, about 5-6" from the bottom.

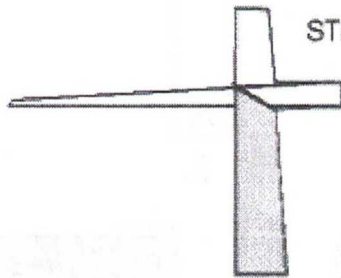
STEP: 2



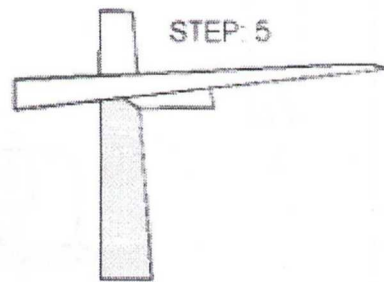
STEP: 3



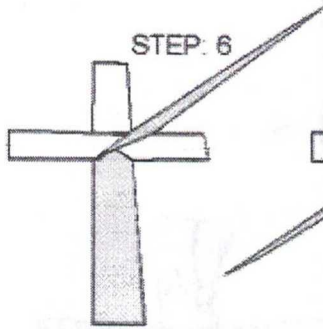
STEP: 4



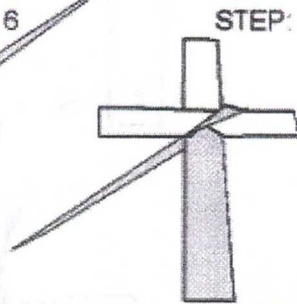
STEP: 5



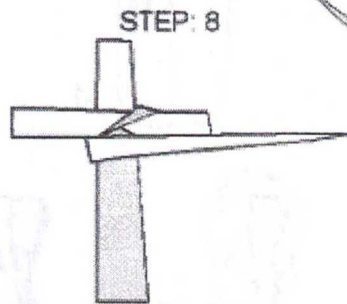
STEP: 6



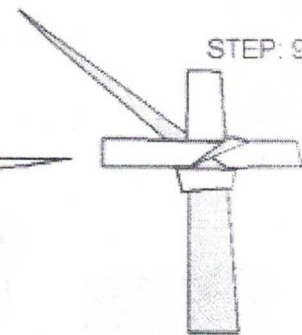
STEP: 7



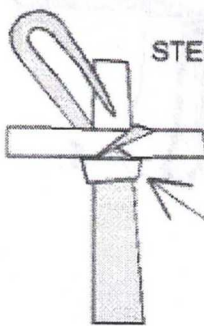
STEP: 8



STEP: 9

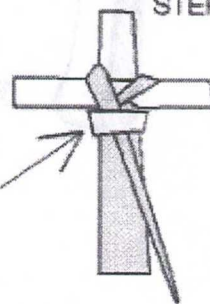


STEP: 10

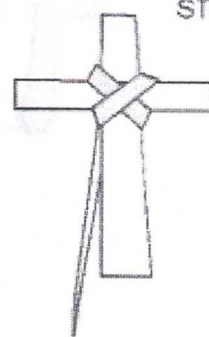


Tuck in the tapered end of the palm leaf and pull it through.

STEP: 11



STEP: 12



Turn the cross over. This is the front view.