

The Martyr

St. George Orthodox Church

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Archpriest Dennis Rhodes, Rector

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April 1, 2018

Up-coming Services and Events

Today: Palm Sunday

- 9:30 a.m. Church School
- 9:45 a.m. General Confession
- 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy

Holy Week—See Service Schedule insert

8: Pascha—The Resurrection of Christ

- 11:00 a.m. Paschal Vespers and Easter Egg Hunt

9: 10:00 a.m. Paschal Divine Liturgy

10: 7:00 a.m. Paschal Matins

11: 7:00 a.m. Paschal Matins

12: 7:00 a.m. Paschal Matins

13: 7:00 a.m. Paschal Matins

14: 4:00 p.m. Great Vespers

15: St. Thomas Sunday

- 9:30 a.m. Church School
- 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy and 40-Day Prayers for Eileen Bochino

Prayers for Blessings and Health

Bishops Paul and John of Aleppo, *captive in Syria*.

Nicole Dionis, *our Catechumen*.

Those who are sick: Archbishop Nikon; Fr. Steven Belonick; Fr. Daniel Montgomery; Fr. Dimitrie Vincent; Christy & Christina Adams; Mildred & Michael Arendacs; Thomas Batura; Paul Betts; James Brideau; Debi Broadus; Arlene Bunnell; Sharon Buzi; Jim Cerner; Joyce Chadwick; Frank Chamberlain; Bernard & Annie Christenson; Bobby Christo; Tara Coppola; Anthony Cordero; Peter Costa; Richard Crane; Renate Deer; Armando Dias; Pandora Dionis; Mary Galich; Louise Karoli Gallagher; Luba Geeza; Irene Jordhamo Hughes; Shirley Hunter; Nancy Hurd; Kiril Ivanov; Sug Jones; Donald & Shirley Jordan; Christy Lambert; Violet Laska; Bruce Lazar; June Lopen; Carole Lundquist;

Steven Malandra; Karen Marlin; Jeannine Masek; Thomas Matthews; Jaimie McCarvill; Serge Mihaly; Michael Moras, Jr.; Theodore Morrison; Andy Nunn; Kimberly Orosz; James Pando; Katherine Pando; Pat Perrotta, Judi Petro; Dena Soter Reardon; Helen Reh; Linda Rich; David Schutte; Andrea Snedegar; Angie Soter; Charles & Joann Soter; Tessie Sotir; Sue & Thomas Spero; Christian Tallcouch; Thomas Terzakis; Thalia Thomas; William Thomas; Paullette Todisco; Margaret Torre; Alice Vasil; Ann Vitale.

Prayers in Memoriam

40 Days

Eileen Bochino; Vangel Michael

April

- 2 Vasil George (1951)
- 4 Fotios M. Vasis (1954)
Pulo Themel (1964)
Alexandra Panoli (1966)
- 6 Jimi Tallcouch (1954)
- 7 Irakli Naum (1931)
Peter Tushi Nichio (1959)
Joyce Athanas (2010)

Coffee Hour

Today: ??????????????????????????????????????????

8: Paschal Easter Egg Hunt

15: The Jaworski Family, in memory of Eileen Bochino

If you would like to sponsor Coffee Hour, please sign up on the poster in the Church Hall.

Readers Wanted

We are looking for people to read the Epistle during the Divine Liturgy on Sunday.

If you would like to help with this, please speak with Father Dennis.

A note of thanks

Thank you for the outpouring of support for *Fairfield County Giving Day* on March 1st. Your contributions helped **LifeBridge** come in *second place* for unique donors, which earned a \$10,000 bonus for the children and families who benefit from our many services. You are making an important difference in our community. I greatly appreciate your willingness to help me help others.

Thank you for your love and support.

Laura Coughlin

Book Donation received

We extend our gratitude to the family of **James Dionis** for donating to our Church several books from his collection:

- A commemorative album from the 50th Anniversary of the Albanian Archdiocese, and
- Two Albanian-language service books.

Thank you! And may James' memory be eternal!

Sunday Lenten Vespers Services

On the Sundays of Great Lent, services are celebrated at 4:00 p.m. in various parishes in the Greater Bridgeport area. Here is the last of those services for this year.

- Today: Bridegroom Matins at All Saints Church in Hartford.

Lenten refreshments will be served following the service.

Myrrhbearing Women

It's that time again for our **Myrrhbearing Women** to gather to decorate the *Petafi* (*Christ's Tomb*).

Great and Holy Friday is on April 6th. We will meet at 10:00 a.m. and the decorating will take approximately 2 hours.

Everyone is welcome. If you have any questions, please contact *Pauline Dionis* at 203-261-0611.

Easter Egg Hunt

We will have our traditional **Easter Egg Hunt** after Paschal Vespers on Easter Day, April 8th.

We are looking for donations of candy and plastic eggs in preparation. See *Sue Galich* if you can help.

Memorials and the Paschal Season

According to Orthodox teaching, from Lazarus Saturday to Thomas Sunday no Memorial Services may be served in the Church—our departed will only be commemorated at the *Proskomedie* (Liturgy of Preparation).

New Educational Mini-Series to be held

On the last Wednesday of April and May, there will be another adult education "mini-series" offered. This series will focus on Angels and will be held in our Church Hall at 7:00 p.m., following the celebration of the Akathist Hymn, "Glory to God for All Things." Watch *The Martyr* for more information.

Brother Gregory's address

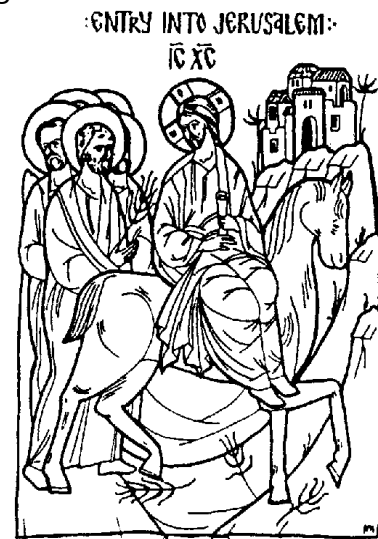
For those who would like to correspond with **Brother Gregory (Buzi)**, here is his address:

Brother Gregory (Buzi)
c/o Holy Cross Monastery
505 Holy Cross Rd.
Wayne, WV 25570-5403

Charity Collection

This month, our Charity Collection will help support **Trumbull Food Pantry**, an organization that assist needy people in our area.

Please be generous!



Philippians 4:4-9

Brethren, rejoice in the LORD always; again I say rejoice. Let your moderation be known to all men. The LORD is near. Have no anxiety, but in every prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your petitions be made known to God. And may God's peace that surpasses all understanding guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. For the rest, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever honorable, whatever just, whatever holy, whatever lovable, whatever of good repute, if there be any virtue, if anything is worthy of praise: consider these things. And what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, these things practice—and the God of peace will be with you.

John 12:1-18

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany the home of Lazarus, He had raised from the dead. And they made Him a supper there; and Martha served while Lazarus was one of those sitting at table with Him. Mary therefore took a pound of ointment, genuine nard of great value, and anointed the feet of Jesus, and with her hair wiped His feet dry. And the house was filled with the odor of the ointment. Then one of His disciples, Judas son of Simon the Iscariot, the one who was about to betray Him, said, "Why was this ointment not sold for three hundred denarii, and given to the poor?" Now he said this, not that he

cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and holding the purse, used to take what was put in it. Jesus therefore said, "Let her be; she was to keep it for the day of my burial. For the poor you have always with you, but you do not always have me." Now the great crowd of the Jews learned that He was there; and they came, not only because of Jesus, but that they might see Lazarus, the man He had raised from the dead. But the chief priests planned to put Lazarus to death also. For on his account many of the Jews began to leave them and to believe in Jesus. Now the next day the great crowd which had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem, took up palm fronds and went out to meet Him. And they cried out, "Hosanna! Blessed is the One who comes 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 Sion; behold your King comes, sitting upon a donkey's colt." These things His disciples did not at first understand. But when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered these things were written about Him, and that they had done these things to Him. The crowd therefore, which was with Him when He called Lazarus from the tomb and raised him from the dead, bore witness to Him. And the reason why the crowd also went to meet Him was that they heard He had worked this sign.

Filipianëve 4:4-9

Vëllezër: Gëzohuni përherë në ZOTIN; përsëri do të them: Gëzohuni. Butësia juaj le të njihet në të gjithë njerëzit. ZOTI është afër. Mos kini kujdes për asgjë; po në çdo gjë kërkesat tuaja le t'i bëhen të njohura Perëndisë me falënderime me anë të faljes e të lutjes. Edhe paqja e Perëndisë që kapërcen çdo mendje do të ruajë zemrat tuaja dhe mendimet tuaja me anë të Jisu Krishtit. Prandaj, vëllezër, sa janë të vërteta, sa janë të hijshme, sa janë të drejta, sa janë të pastra, sa janë të dashura, sa janë të lavdëruara, nëse ka ndonjë mirësi, dhe nëse ka ndonjë lavdërim, këto mendoni. Ato që edhe mësuat dhe morët dhe dëgjuat e patë tek unë, këto bëni; dhe Perëndia i paqes do të jetë bashkë me ju.

Joani 12:1-18

Gjashtë ditë përpara pashkës erdhi Jisui në Betani, ku ishte Llazari që pati vdekur, të cilin e kishte ngjallur prej së vdekurish. Edhe i bënë darkë atje; dhe Marta shërbente; dhe Llazari ishte një prej atyre që rrinin në tryezë bashkë me të. Atëherë Maria mori një litër vaj ere prej nardi të papërzier, shumë të shtrenjtë, dhe leu këmbët e Jisuit, dhe me flokët e saj fshiu këmbët e tij; dhe shtëpia u mbush me aromën e vajit të erës. Një, pra, nga të dymbëdhjetë nxënësit e tij, Juda Iskarioti, i biri i Simonit, ai që do ta tradhtonte,

thotë: "Përse të mos shitej ky vaj ere treqind dinarë e t'u jepej të varfërve?" Edhe këtë e tha, jo se donte të dinte për të varfrit, po se ishte vjedhës dhe kishte kuletën e asprave, dhe mbante ç'visheshin në të. Jisui pra tha: "Lëre, se e ruajti për ditën e varrimit tim. Sepse të varfrit i keni përherë bashkë me vete, po mua nuk më keni përherë." Një turmë e madhe pra prej Judenjve morën vesh se është atje; dhe erdhën jo për Jisuin vetëm, po që të shohin edhe Llazarin, të cilin e kishte ngjallur prej së vdekurish. Po kryepriiftërinjtë bënë këshillë, që të vrasin edhe Llazarin. Sepse shumë veta prej Judenjve vinin për atë, dhe i besonin Jisuit. Të nesërmen një turmë e madhe që kishte ardhur në të kremten, kur dëgjuan se vjen Jisui në Jerusalem, morën degë palmash, dhe i dolën përpara ta presin, dhe thërrisnin: "Hosanna, i bekuar është ai që vjen në emrin e ZOTIT, mbreti i Izraelit." Edhe Jisui gjeti një pulisht, dhe ndenji mbi të, siç është shkruar: "Mos ki frikë, bijë e Sionit, ja mbreti yt tek po vjen duke ndenjtur mbi pulisht gomareje." Edhe nxënësit nuk i kuptuan këto në fillim; po kur u lavdërua Jisui, atëherë u ra ndër mend atyre se këto ishin shkruar për të, dhe se këto ia bënë atij. Turma pra që ishte bashkë me të dëshmonte se thirri Llazarin nga varri, dhe e ngjalli prej së vdekurish. Prandaj edhe turma i doli përpara, sepse dëgjoji se ai kishte bërë këtë çudi.