

Bulletin for April 14-27, 2019



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES & EVENTS FOR APRIL 14-21, 2019

MON 4/15/2019

8:30 AM Parastas/Memorial Service (Chapel)
++*Benic Family (Perpetual)*
++*Karas Family (Perpetual)*

6:00 PM Board Meeting

WED 4/17/2019

6:00 PM Divine Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
Lenten Pot-Luck Meal (Last one for this Lent!)

FRI 4/19/2019

6:00 PM Deanery Lenten Mission Presanctified Liturgy
St. Nicholas, 1115 East Avenue, Erie
Meal to Follow
(No Services at Our Church)

SAT 4/20/2019

LAZARUS SATURDAY

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy (*Chapel*)
Coffee and Refreshments
Palm and Willow Preparation

SUN 4/21/2019

PALM SUNDAY—ENTRANCE OF OUR LORD INTO JERUSALEM

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
Blessing of Palms and Willows

4:00 PM Vespers for the Start of Holy Week



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES & EVENTS FOR HOLY WEEK & PASCHA

MON	4/22/2019	HOLY MONDAY
	6:00 PM	Confession Available
	6:30 PM	Presanctified Liturgy
TUES	4/23/2019	HOLY TUESDAY
	6:00 PM	Confession Available
	6:30 PM	Presanctified Liturgy
WED	4/24/2019	HOLY WEDNESDAY
	6:00 PM	Confession Available (<i>Last Chance Before Pascha!</i>)
	6:30 PM	Sacrament of Holy Unction (Anointing)
THURS	4/25/2019	HOLY THURSDAY – THE INSTITUTION OF THE EUCHARIST
	9:00 AM	Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great
	6:30 PM	Matins with the Reading of the Passion Gospels <i>Preparation of the Tomb for Good Friday after Services</i>
FRI	4/26/2019	HOLY FRIDAY – CRUCIFIXION, DEATH AND BURIAL OF CHRIST
	9:00 AM	Royal Hours – Morning Prayer Service (<i>Chapel</i>)
	6:30 PM	Vespers Procession with the Holy Shroud (<i>Outdoors, Weather Permitting</i>)
SAT	4/27/2019	HOLY SATURDAY – AWAITING THE RESURRECTION
	9:00 AM	Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great <i>Decorating of Church for Easter After Liturgy</i> <i>– Church Open All Day for Visits to the Holy Tomb –</i>
	7:45 PM	Chrismation of David and Irene Beight
	8:00 PM	Procession (<i>Outdoors, Weather Permitting</i>) Resurrection Matins Service <i>Blessing of Paschal Food Baskets</i>
SUN	4/28/2019	PASCHA – THE GREAT DAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST
	10:00 AM	Divine Liturgy <i>Children’s Easter Egg Hunt (Weather Permitting)</i>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

¶ **Our Final Lenten Pot-Luck** will take place on Wednesday, April 17th after the Presanctified Liturgy. Please bring a Lenten dish, dessert, beverage, etc. to share, as we come together in Christian fellowship!

¶ **The final Youngstown Deanery Lenten Mission** for this season will be held at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church, 1115 East Avenue, Erie on Friday, April 19th. The Presanctified Liturgy will be at 6:00 PM, with a homily by Fr. David Mastroberte. Dinner to follow in the hall. All are invited!

¶ **Confessions** are heard beginning at 5:25 PM before most evening Lenten services; before Divine Liturgy on Sunday mornings, starting at 8:25 AM; and by appointment. If the door is open and the light is on, you can walk into the Confessional. *All Orthodox Christians are expected to approach this sacrament during Lent! Confessions will **not** be heard Holy Thursday, Good Friday, or Holy Saturday, so please plan accordingly.*

¶ **Reminder About the Eucharistic Fast:** Those receiving Communion at an evening Liturgy are to fast for a minimum of 3 hours prior to the service. (*Ideally, we should not eat after lunch.*) Fasting from midnight is still observed before receiving Communion at any morning Liturgy. (*Also, remember that only services called "Liturgy" have the distribution of Holy Communion. Other services – Vespers, Matins, Canon, Moleben, Parastas, Paraklis – do not have Communion.*)

¶ **Decorating Reminders:** We will arrange the church for Good Friday after services on Holy Thursday evening; and decorate the church for Pascha after services on Holy Saturday morning (around 10:45 AM).

¶ **2nd Annual Diocesan Senior (55+) Retreat** will take place May 13-16, 2019 at Camp Nazareth. The Theme of the Retreat is "How's Your 'Eyesight'?: Keeping your Focus on God as a Senior". Information can be found at: <https://www.acrod.org/news/events/10731> Registration for this event is now open.



*Our deepest condolences are extended to the family and friends of **Robert Banas**, who passed away on Wednesday, April 10th. May God grant blessed repose to Robert! Eternal Memory!*



Stewardship

By Dan Hromyak

"Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the father has sent me, so I send you.'" - John 20:21

Peace - the first gift of the risen Lord. Just as Jesus sent the apostles out into the world, so too, He sends us. As disciples of Jesus, we are called to be grateful and generous. Look for opportunities to share His peace, not only within our local parish boundaries, but outside of them as well. In giving, we receive the peace of Jesus Christ.

"Peter was distressed that Jesus had said to him a third time, 'Do you love me?' and he said to him, 'Lord you now everything; you now that I love you.' Jesus said to him, 'Feed my sheep.'" - John 21:17

All of us are challenged to show our love for Jesus and others. Discern how God is calling you to use your time in prayer, your talent in charitable works and your treasure to assist those who in need. Remember that giving is an act of worship and helps advance the mission of our parish and greater Church.

THANK YOU!

We express our thanks to all who gave of their time and talents to help with the following recent activities:

- **Pirohi Making** on March 6, 7, & 8 and April 3, 4, and 5
- Our **Lenten Mission and Dinner** on April 13th
- Our Pancake “**Communion Breakfast**” on April 14th

We were able to do so much because of your hard work and dedication! God bless you!

A Note of Gratitude

Dear Friends of Marlene Roach,

Thank you so much for hosting the delicious pre-Lenten breakfast for the parish in memory of Marlene. It is so heartwarming to know she has not been forgotten and still holds a special place in your hearts.

Fondly,
The Roach & Hellmann Families

HOLY WEEK AND PASCHA ANNOUNCEMENTS 2019

Some Notes from Fr. David

Holy Week is the high point of the Christian year. We liturgically celebrate in a *chronological* manner the saving events of Our Lord's Suffering, Death and Resurrection. Our church becomes the Upper Room, Calvary and the Tomb. All those things done by Christ are *re-presented* – made present again. Needless to say, we only get this experience if we come to the divine services.

Please take a moment to review the Holy Week service schedule, then look at your personal schedule.

Life presents many demands upon us: work, school, family. Even our physical condition and our health take their toll. Some things are unavoidable: your employer may be less than accommodating; your doctor may only have one appointment available; you don't see well at night. But for every valid reason, there are plenty of *excuses* that are given for lack of participation in Holy Week services. Yes, we have to clean the house; cook and bake; and welcome our guests. But all of these are secondary to the mystery that unfolds within the church's services.

There is at least one service a day during Holy Week, and two on Holy Thursday, Holy Friday, and Holy Saturday. If you have to prioritize church attendance, the services on the evenings of the three days at the end of Holy Week – Holy Thursday, Good Friday and Holy Saturday – *should not be missed*.

Don't ask yourself "What is the *least* I have to do during Holy Week?" but "What is the *most* I can do to accompany Our Lord to His Passion, Cross, and Tomb?"

Service Times: Please pay special attention to the times of services this year! None of the evening services will be at our "usual" 6:00 PM time-slot.

Holy Monday through Holy Friday, our evening services will begin at 6:30 PM. We hope that this extra half-hour will be of assistance to those who work and have commutes, students who have homework, etc.

Resurrection Matins will begin at 8:00 PM, following the practice of our Diocesan Cathedral and most Diocesan parishes. Since the early days of the Christian Church, the Paschal Night has been an important time. Resurrection Matins itself speaks of "this holy, radiant, and saving night." We hope to recover this aspect of sanctifying the Paschal Night, yet still at a reasonable hour.

Holy Week Fasting Reminders: Holy Week, as the most solemn week on the Church's calendar, is observed as a week of fasting. A minimum fast from meat and meat products is to be observed on Holy Monday, Holy Tuesday, Holy Wednesday and Holy Thursday. (If you are able, you can do more and keep a strict fast all week.) All are enjoined to strict fast from meat and dairy products on Good Friday and Holy Saturday, ending after Liturgy on Easter Sunday. (*No sneaking eggs or kolbasi on Saturday night! Jesus is watching.*)

Perpetual Commemorations of the Departed will not be made during Holy Week and Bright Week, in order that our focus be on Christ's Passion, Death and Resurrection. All commemorations will be made after St. Thomas Sunday.

Notes for Students and Parents: Since there is a one-week difference between the Orthodox and Western dates of Easter this year, our children will be on their Easter Break from school and extracurriculars for the *Western* date. *Parents, I am more than happy to write a letter of excuse for your child for Good Friday—just ask!*

Our church will be open all day on Holy Saturday for prayer and for visits to the Holy Tomb. This is an old tradition, and it is wonderful that we are able to keep it going. Take a moment out of your busy schedule and come quietly to pray in preparation for Pascha.



CONGRATULATIONS to Dina and Matthew Fabian on the birth of their daughter **Sawyer Violet**. *May God grant her many, blessed years!*

Don't Forget Your Basket!

If you think Easter baskets are just about chocolate and marshmallows, think again!

Included in this bulletin is information about the custom of blessing Paschal foods, a practice of many in and from Eastern and Central Europe (Carpatho-Rusyns, Russians, Ukrainians, Slovaks, Poles, Romanians) as well as elsewhere. This information includes lists of the traditional Carpatho-Rusyn foods that many in our parish know and love.

If you bring a basket faithfully every year—*great!* Keep it up! But if you stopped bringing one (either because you can't eat the foods anymore, or making those foods is too labor intensive), or if you have *never* brought one (because you didn't grow up with this custom), please consider bringing one this year! EVERYONE is invited to bring a basket of foods that are representative of those things which were given up during the Lenten fast. You are not required to only bring the "traditional" foods—bring the food you will eat as your Easter feast!

If you need a little guidance, bring something from each of these categories:

- Bread: usually sweet. (If you don't bake, check your grocery store's bakery, or use a "King's Hawaiian" bread.)
- Hardboiled eggs in the shell, usually dyed (These are symbols of Christ "breaking" out of the tomb.)
- Dairy: cheese, butter. (You need something to put on that bread!)
- Meat: pork or lamb or chicken or turkey or beef or... (The possibilities are endless.)
- Other Foods: chocolate, sweets, whatever!

The most important thing is that you bring for God's blessing the "first fruits" of your meal that will break the Fast after Pascha Liturgy. This is a way of extending the feast—and God's blessing—from the church into your home.

If you're *still* not sure, here are a couple anecdotes about some creative Easter foods:

- In one parish, a man faithfully brings two chili dogs from Sheetz to be blessed on Pascha, because he gives up meat—and his favorite chili dogs—for Lent.
- In one family, the wife couldn't have ham or kolbasi anymore. The solution? A roasted turkey breast was added to the basket. It is now a family tradition!

Paschal Foods will be blessed in the fellowship hall after the 8:00 PM Resurrection Matins service on Saturday, April 27th.

March 2019 Special Fund Winners



2 nd	407	Dan Ristvey, Hermitage
3 rd	087	Sunday
5 th	837	Barbara Johnson, Hermitage
6 th	380	Lorraine Amos, Hermitage
8 th	196	Amy Blair, Sharpsville
9 th	543	Lorene Burprich, Hermitage
10 th	952	Sunday
11 th	852	Donald Yasnowsky, New Wilmington
12 th	942	Gino Tofani, Transfer
14 th	472	John Napotnik, Sharpsville
15 th	890	Rose Garzoni, Hermitage
16 th	166	Janice Bobanick, Mercer
17 th	676	Sunday
20 th	322	Melinda Ristvey, Hermitage
22 nd	331	Carrie Baldwin, Floral City, FL
23 rd	123	Robert Fetsko, West Middlesex
24 th	827	Sunday
26 th	621	Robert Amos, Hermitage
27 th	746	Carlos Barba, Aliquippa, PA
28 th	747	Jarad Baldwin, Floral City, FL
29 th	798	Monica Rishel, Greenville, PA
31 st	766	Sunday

SAINT JOHN'S ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Fax: 724-308-6615 • Website: www.stjohnacroc.org

Clergy:

Rev. Father David Mastroberte
Very Rev. Protopresbyter Michael Polanichka
Rev. Deacon John Anderson

A Parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese – Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople

Sacramental and Membership Information

Sick Calls can be made at any time. Please phone the rectory (724-346-4457) when a family member is admitted to the hospital, or to request a home visit. Hospitals do *not* call to alert the parish when someone is admitted.

Marriages are solemnized on Saturdays or Sundays. Circumstances may require a dispensation from the diocesan bishop. Consult the pastor at least six months in advance and before any plans have been made for the wedding reception. Marriages cannot be celebrated during the fasting seasons of the church, or on Fridays.

Baptisms are usually scheduled on Saturdays or Sundays. Consult the pastor. Two godparents (godfather and godmother) are required, at least one of whom must be a practicing Orthodox Christian in good standing, and the other a practicing, baptized Christian.

Church Funerals are, under ordinary circumstances, provided for practicing Orthodox Christians who are current in their spiritual and material obligations to the parish; otherwise, the funeral service is conducted at the funeral home. The Church does not permit cremation.

Parishioners in "good standing" are those Orthodox Christians who, as members of Saint John's Orthodox Church, strive to live according to the teachings of the Orthodox Church; participate in the life of the parish through regular church attendance, regular reception of Holy Communion and periodic Holy Confession (and receive these sacraments no less than once a year); and financially support the parish (especially through an annual "pledge").

Prospective members and returning members are asked to fill out an application form, copies of which are available in the church office.

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Diocesan Website: <http://www.acrod.org>

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MEN TO HOLD
CANDLES

Sunday, April 21st

Emil Maurer
Paul McMahon
Robert Miller
John Moon
John Parimuha

Sunday, Sunday 28th

Tom Patrick
Dan Ristvey
Joel Ristvey
Matt Ristvey
Tom Ristvey



Happy Wedding
Anniversary

April 24th
Melinda & Tom
Ristvey

Bulletin Sponsor
Sunday April 14

In honor of
Anne Kudelko's
91st Birthday

April Birthdays

April 14th Michael Obermiyer
April 17th Steven Lukac
April 19th Ryan Chupak
April 19th Matthew Fabian
April 19th Judy Ference
April 19th Christine Frejik
April 21st Karsten Baker
April 21st John Kraynak Jr.
April 23rd Pauline Koval
April 26th Robert Maykowski
April 27th Debbie Moon

Sunday, April 14th

Please join us in the
Fellowship Hall
for our Pancake
“**Communion Breakfast**”

Eternal Lamp Sponsor
Sunday, April, 14th

In Loving Memory of Mother
Catherine Pavlick
on the 15th Anniversary of her repose
Sponsored by: Debbie & Greg Cross

Sunday, April, 21st

In Loving Memory of Husband
Joseph E. Blasko
Sponsored by: Mary Blasko

Candelabrum

In Loving Memory of Father
Joseph Blasko
Sponsored by: Helen Blasko