

HOLY ASSUMPTION ORTHODOX CHURCH

110 EAST MAIN STREET, MARBLEHEAD, OH 43440

APRIL 9, 2023



LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

**APRIL 9, PALM SUNDAY, 9:10 AM HOURS /
9:30 PM DIVINE LITURGY FOLLOWED BY
LENTEN COFFEE HOUR**

**APRIL 12, HOLY WEDNESDAY, 6:00 PM
MYSTERY OF HOLY PRAYER OIL**

**APRIL 13, GREAT AND HOLY THURSDAY,
10:00 AM VESPERAL DIVINE LITURGY;
6 PM PASSION GOSPELS**

**APRIL 14, GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY, 3:00
PM VESPERS; 6:00 PM MATINS WITH
LAMENTATIONS**

**APRIL 15, GREAT AND HOLY SATURDAY,
1:00 PM VESPERAL DIVINE LITURGY
FOLLOWED BY NOCTURNS**

**APRIL 16, GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA,
8:00 AM PASCHAL MATINS FOLLOWED BY
DIVINE LITURGY, BLESSING OF BASKETS**

EPISTLE **Philippians 4:4-9**

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!

Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand.

Be anxious for nothing, 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 minds through Christ Jesus.

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy – meditate on these things.

The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

GOSPEL **John 12:1-18**

Then, six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was who had been dead, whom He had raised from the dead.

There they made Him a supper; and Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with Him.

Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil.

But one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's son, who would betray Him, said,

Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?

This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it.

But Jesus said, "Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial.

For the poor you have with you always, but Me you do not have always."

Now a great many of the Jews knew that He was there; and they came, not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead.

But the chief priests plotted to put Lazarus to death also,

because on account of him many of the Jews went away and believed in Jesus.

The next day a great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem,

took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, and cried out: "Hosanna! 'Blessed is He who comes in the name of the LORD!' The King of Israel!"

Then Jesus, when He had found a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written:

"Fear not, daughter of Zion; behold, 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 were written about Him and that they had done these things to Him.

Therefore the people, who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of his tomb and raised him from the dead, bore witness.

For this reason the people also met Him, because they heard that He had done this sign.

FOR YOUR PRAYERS Diane Tryon, 109 Joslyn Street, Arcadia, OH 44804; Ed & Irene Vangeloff, 454 Strouse Lane, Sandusky, OH 44870

PRAYER LIST Parishioners & Family: Fred Soski / Chris Hannon / Roger Pinta / Tony Monastra / Tina / Ed Vangeloff / Irene Vangeloff / Diane Tryon / Sonja Rose / David Mazurik / Valerie Schutt / Joe Schutt / Ron Royhab / James Bargdill / John Beadle / Carole Conaway / Gary Conaway / Maryann Cook / Sharon Dietrich / Michael Glovinsky / Shirley Gresh / Joseph Habegger / Elaine Hileman / Betty Kovach / Helen Lis / Child Stella Miller / William Pipenur / Earl Rindfleisch / Helen Jean Rofkar / Elaine Libb / George Royhab / Marianne Royhab / Stephanie Royhab / Stacy Kaplan / Kathy Jacob / Tom Twarek / the child Bodhi Cassell / Nikki Williams & newborn Brexly / Gleice & newborn Chloe / Natalie & newborn Caleb / Gabrielle and her unborn child **Other Requests:** Archpriest David Lis / Bishop Matthias / Donny / Marge Dziama / Child Ezra / Kurt

Franck / Ben Franklin / Donald Gresh / Mark Ludvik / Marsha / Mark Masica / Jamie Philpot / Robert Piznar / Valerie Ritzenthaler / William / Rick Rowe / Sandy Scafaria / David Warner / Chuck Wiedenhoft / Sara / Chris / Tamman Haddad **Military:** Craig Cassell / Jake Ellithorpe / Jordon Fulton / Justin Issler / Tikhon / Nicholas / & All Military

APRIL BIRTHDAYS 5-Nicholas Weisend;10-Jean Hileman; 13-Jennifer Heffernan; 17-Natalie Twarek; 18-Nancy Bunge; 18-Diane Tryon; 22-Greg Tryon; 27-William Jerome; 27-Katie Cassell; 28-Serena Byngton; 29-Katie Twarek

APRIL CANDLE AND BULLETIN SPONSORS **Altar Candles:** (\$50) Available **Bulletin:** (\$50) Available **Chandelier:** (\$50) In blessed memory of the immigrants who established Holy Assumption Orthodox Church 125 years ago **Eternal Light & Icon Screen:** (\$25) Available **Candles at the Cross:** (\$15) Laura Kovach in memory of my mom Margaret and brother-in-law Russ **Candles at St. Tikhon's Icon:** (\$15) For Safety of Nicholas, Tikhon, Gleice, and baby Chloe

VIGILS FOR APRIL 2

Laura Kovach (2) For health of Sarah F., Joe H., Irene V., Tony M., Robin C., Betty K., Ben F., Earl R., Mark M., Dana M., Bodhi C., Sharon D., John D., and Karen D. Safe travel for friends

Sandy Martin (1) Special intentions

Ron & Roberta Royhab (1) For the health of Fred Soski

Natalie Twarek (6) Health and recovery Diane, Health and recovery of Pauline, Scott, Joe, Health and recovery of Tony, Irene, Father David, Don & Judy, Mimi, For the health of Tina, Robin, Valerie, Joe, Ed, Ron, Carole, Gary, Sharon, Kurt, Leslie & Ed, Health of Amber, Zach, Dottie, Jamie, Jim, Stephanie, Ezra, David, Helen Lis and Tina's dad, Earl, Tom, Loren, Sonya, Margi & Joe, Betty, Jackie, MaryAnn & Bob, Chuck, Bodhi, Stella, Jake, Pat, Karen, special intentions

APRIL REPOSED Dolores Martin (1974); Herb Hobson (2004); Charles Rose (2015); 1-Larry Twarek (2019); 4- Sophia Jump (2012); 4-Harry Flewelling (2018); 5-Nancy Sitzler (2022); 6-John Kotch (2022); 7-Louis M. Benya (1976); 7-Mitered Archbishop Basil Dziama (1969), Former Pastor; 7-Bob Mazur (2018); 9-Julia Guzy (2021); 11-LaVerne Schutt (2014); 12Helen Tomko (1989); 14-Paul Glovinsky (1978); 15-Stephen Brooks (2005); 16-Mary Wright (2005); 17-Lois Mazurik (1999); 22-Olga Belenky (1971); 22-John Beadle (1988); 22-Fred Millie (1996); 24-Demasthony Ballan (1968); 26-Margaret Mazur (1987); 26-Russell Kovach (1981); 28-Ann Kovalick (2018); 29-Olga Kollmeier (1972); 30-Anthony Hubicki (1977)

ATTENDANCE Saturday Ohio Historical Marker Dedication, 69 attending; Saturday Vespers, 17 attending; Sunday Divine Liturgy, 26 attending; Presanctified, 14 attending

CLEANING SCHEDULE April 10, Laura; April 17, Jean; April 24, Laura

APRIL CHARITY IS THE MARBLEHEAD PENINSULA LIONS CLUB The Lions Club is part of a global network, participating in projects to serve the community. They meet at 6:30 PM May through October on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month, and at 6:30 PM from November through April on the 2nd Thursday of the month only, at the VFW Post 7572, 421 West Main Street in Marblehead.

From the Amvon of) Father John Adamcio

LOOK IN THE SKY

OR

HOW WE GOT THE ORTHODOX PASCHALION

Folks may be wondering why the Churches in the West are celebrating Easter this weekend, and the Orthodox will celebrate Pascha next Sunday, April 16. The answer is simple, yet complex.

One of the most ancient ways of calculating long periods of time is to follow the cycles of the moon. Every 28 days, it goes through a cycle of New Moon (when the moon is dark), waxing until it becomes a Full Moon, then waning until it is dark again – the New Moon.

Many of the calendars of the ancient world following this rhythmic waxing and waning of the moon, notably, the Hebrew calendar. It is upon this lunar calendar the Hebrews based their holy days and ultimately the year.

The Romans began to codify the lunar calendar making it possible for the farmers to know when to plant and harvest. Eventually, this calendar would be dedicated to Julius Ceasar, thus becoming the Julian Calendar. In the Roman Empire, the Julian Calendar was in place to calculate time.

The celebration of Jewish Passover is based on the lunar calendar. According to Exodus 12 the first month of the year is Nissan. On the tenth day of Nissan, a lamb without blemish is to be selected and kept until the fourteenth day of Nissan, when it is to be slaughtered. The lamb then is roasted and consumed. The blood of the lamb is to be spread on the door lintel as a sign so the Lord will “passover” that house when the plague comes to destroy the firstborn of the Egyptians.

Then, the fifteenth of Nissan would be celebrated as Passover, a holy day in the Jewish calendar. We read in the Gospels the year Jesus was crucified, the fifteenth of Nissan fell on a Saturday, the Jewish Sabbath, thus making this a High Holy Day.

In that year, Jesus was crucified on Friday, the fourteenth of Nissan. Hence Orthodox hymnography refers to Jesus as the “Paschal Lamb,” as He accepted crucifixion as His Sacrifice, taking upon Himself the sins of the world. On the third day, the first day of the week (which would have been Sunday), He resurrected Himself making a way to salvation for us!

The fifteenth of Nissan typically coincides with the full moon following the vernal equinox.

In the early church, the Christians of the Eastern part of the Empire would celebrate the Resurrection on any day which the civil calendar would reflect fifteenth of the Jewish month Nissan. The timing of this can be traced to the Gospel narrative. However, the Christians in the Western part of the Empire would celebrate the Resurrection on the Sunday after Nissan fifteen. Again, this is found in the Gospel narrative. What to do?

This went on for several centuries until St. Constantine convened the First Ecumenical Council. While the Council was convened to condemn the Arian heresy, which was splitting the Empire, the 318 Holy Fathers gathered devised a compromise formula to solidify the celebration of the Resurrection within the Church.

The Paschalion now sets the Resurrection of Christ as being: the first Sunday, after the first full moon, after the vernal equinox, not coming before or during the Jewish Passover. The Church of Alexandria was accorded the task of determining the dates of Pascha following the astronomical position of the moon. To this end, they developed a marvelous scientific, mathematical formula which is still used today.

In the sixteenth century, western astronomers noted a difference of about 11 days when the Julian calendar calculated the equinoxes as opposed to the astronomical, physical observations. Taking this information to Pope Gregory, the Pope decided to make a change of 10 days in October to compensate for this discrepancy. October 1 was now October 11. This became popularly known as the Gregorian Calendar.

However, the Gregorian Calendar is a solar calendar (based on the movements of the sun), not lunar. This dissonance would continue in succeeding centuries with the Julian calendar falling one day behind the Gregorian calendar approximately every one hundred years. Hence, the old Julian calendar is now 13 days behind the Gregorian. For example, the celebration of our Lord's Nativity (Christmas) has always been December 25. As the discrepancy between the two calendars widened, when the calendar in the church read December 25, the secular calendars read January 7. (Following this progression, in the next few years December 25 on the old Julian Calendar will fall on January 8, according to the civil calendar. The Armenian Orthodox Church changed calendars before the last century, so their celebration of Christmas, December 25 stalled on January 6).

Several of the Orthodox Churches (the Orthodox Church of Greece and the Orthodox Church in America) now follow the Revised Julian Calendar, the official calendar of the United States of America!

So, one can see that our celebration of Pascha is not 13 days behind the Gregorian calendar, but is calculated according to the Alexandrian formula.

Why do we not celebrate Pascha with the other Western churches? As mentioned earlier, the original formula for celebrating Pascha mandates that it not come before or during Jewish Passover. The early Church Fathers did not want any confusion between Christianity and Judaism, especially around the time of the Resurrection of Christ and the Passover.

As the Gregorian, Western, Calendar is solar based, and the Orthodox Paschalion is based on a lunar computation, the last part of the Alexandrian formulation does not really work for the West. This year, Passover began on April 5 and ends on April 13. Therefore, Pascha is celebrated on the Sunday following the end of Passover. There will be times when Passover comes very early, then the Orthodox need to wait for another cycle of the moon to occur before we celebrate Pascha. An example of this will occur next year, 2024 when Western Easter will be March 31, but Pascha will be celebrated May 5! (There are even times on the Western calendar when Easter comes before Passover!)

TO CONTACT HOLY ASSUMPTION ORTHODOX CHURCH, a parish of the Orthodox Church in America, Diocese of the Midwest: info@holyassumptionmarblehead.com; Archpriest John Adamcio, 773-939-0549, troika1709@gmail.com; Ron Royhab, Parish Council President, 419-356-6426; HOLY ASSUMPTION CHURCH WEBSITE, www.holyassumptionmarblehead.org