

ST. JOHN OF DAMASCUS ORTHODOX CHURCH

A PARISH OF THE ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA, THE DIOCESE OF THE WEST

April 2026

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>29</p> <p>St Mary of Egypt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30AM 3rd & 6th Hours 9:00AM Divine Liturgy 11:30AM Mini-concert 	<p>30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00PM Orthodox Christianity 101 	<p>31</p> <p>St Innocent of Alaska</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00PM Holy Unction 	<p>1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30AM Father's Cafe (Hybrid) 6:00PM Presanctified Liturgy followed by Lenten Potluck 	<p>2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00AM Auxiliary Baking/Cooking 	<p>3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00AM Assemble Bake Sale Orders 11:00AM Sacrament of Confession 4:00PM Sacrament of Confession 6:00PM Sacrament of Confession 	<p>4</p> <p>Lazarus Saturday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00AM Hours & Divine Liturgy 11:00AM Pancake Breakfast 11:30AM Decorate Church for Palm Sunday/ 12:00PM Auxiliary Bake Sale 6:00PM Vigil for Palm
<p>5</p> <p>Palm Sunday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30AM 3rd & 6th Hours 9:00AM Divine Liturgy 10:30AM Church School 6:00PM Bridegroom Matins 	<p>6</p> <p>Holy Monday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00PM Bridegroom Matins 	<p>7</p> <p>Holy Tuesday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00AM Presanctified Liturgy 6:00PM Bridegroom Matins 	<p>8</p> <p>Holy Wednesday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00PM Matins for Holy Thursday 	<p>9</p> <p>Holy Thursday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Institution of the Lord's Supper 10:00AM Vespers & Divine Liturgy w/ OT Readings 6:00PM Matins for Holy Friday w/ 12 Gospels 	<p>10</p> <p>Great & Holy Friday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9:00AM Royal Hours 12:00PM Decorate Tomb of Our Lord 3:00PM Vespers w/ Entombment of our Lord 6:00PM Matins for Holy Saturday w/ Lamentations & Procession 	<p>11</p> <p>Holy Saturday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00AM Vespers & Divine Liturgy w/ OT Readings 11:30PM Paschal Vigil
<p>12</p> <p>Adopt a Seminarian</p> <p>Great & Holy Pascha</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ... Paschal Vigil 1:00PM Paschal Vespers w/ Procession & Reading of Gospel in Many Languages 2:00PM Paschal BBQ 	<p>13</p> <p>Bright Monday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:00AM Paschal Divine Liturgy w/ Procession 	<p>14</p> <p>Bright Tuesday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 11:00AM Diamond Circle Meeting 	<p>15</p> <p>Bright Wednesday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30AM Father's Cafe (Hybrid) 	<p>16</p> <p>Bright Thursday</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Bright Friday</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Bright Saturday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00PM Great Vespers for the Resurrection
<p>19</p> <p>Charity Collection</p> <p>Thomas Sunday</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30AM 3rd & 6th Hours 9:00AM Divine Liturgy 10:30AM Church School 10:30AM Monthly Service for the Departed 	<p>20</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00PM Orthodox Christianity 101 	<p>21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30PM Parish Council Meeting 	<p>22</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30AM Father's Cafe (Hybrid) 	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 6:00PM Great Vespers for the Resurrection
<p>26</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:30AM 3rd & 6th Hours 9:00AM Divine Liturgy 10:30AM Youth Choir 6:00PM Paschaltide Vespers w/ San Diego Parishes 	<p>27</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:00PM Orthodox Christianity 101 	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10:30AM Father's Cafe (Hybrid) 	<p>30</p>	<p>1</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Ladies' Luncheon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8:00AM St John's men's breakfast 4:30PM Choir Rehearsal 6:00PM Great Vespers for the Resurrection

Greeters

Evening	Morning
April 1 Jaclyn W	
April 4 Valerie L Lisa B	April 4
	April 5 Sar/Mann
April 5 Jaclyn W	
April 6 Iryna/John T	
	April 7 Lisa B
April 7 Iryna/John T	
April 8 Viorica R	
	April 9 Lisa B
April 9 Iryna/John	
	April 10 TBD
April 10 3pm Viorica R Valerie L	April 10 6pm
	April 11 Marina S
April 11 Valerie L	
	April 13 Viorica R
April 18 Iryna/John	April 19 Sus/Sara/Man
April 25 Valerie L Marina/Viori	April 26
April 26 Iryna/John	

Divine Liturgy Readers

April 4	George R
April 5	Rdr James S
April 9	Erik W
April 11	Nate C
April 12	Rdr John K
April 13	Linda K
April 19	Rdr Roman
April 26	Dale F

Candle Stand

April 5 - Bill S
April 12 - Dakota W
April 19 - Michael G
April 26 - Art S
Questions?
Gene F

Counters

April 5 - Mike W, Ken T
April 12 - Dmitriy P, Elena S
April 19 - Marina S, Linda K
April 26 - Margie H, Terry M

Prosphora

April 1 (antidoron) George R	April 7 (antidoron) George R	April 13 George R
April 4 Pdn George	April 9 Pdn George	April 19 Pdn George
April 4 (litya) George R	April 11 Pdn George	April 26 George R
April 5 Pdn George (+1)	<u>Pascha</u> Pdn George	
	(+ Additional Lambs - George R)	

Commemoration Loaves

April 5 - Jim S April 19 - Justin G
April 12 - PASCHA April 26 - Pat S
Questions? Contact Fr Michael

Scrip

April 5 - Erik W April 19 - Valerie L
April 12 - Carmen B April 26 - Gene F
Questions? Contact Carmen B

Handmaidens

4/4 1. Nina 2. Layla 3. Anna 4. Rebekah PASCHA 1. Layla 2. Alina 3. Rebekah 4. Anna
4/5 1. Maggie 2. Sophia 3. Tessa 4. Emily 4/19 1. Layla 2. Sophia 3. Emily 4. Tessa
4/11 1. Nina 2. Layla 3. Maggie 4. Alina 4/26 1. Rebekah 2. Anna 3. Maggie 4. Alina
Questions? Contact Desiree G or Sally M

Koliva/Kutya

April 19 - Natalya E

Electronic Sign

Jaclyn W

Evening	Altar	Morning
April 1 — Sbdn Ken, Mike W, Ed L		
April 4 — Sbdn Ken, Mike W		April 4 — Sbdn Ken, Mike W, Ed L
April 5 Jaclyn W		April 5 - Sbdn Ken, Mike W, Ed L, Michael G Nicholas G, Leo K, Nathan M
April 5 — Sbdn Ken, Mike W		
April 6 — Sbdn Ken, Mike W, Ed L		April 7 — Sbdn Ken, Mike W
April 7 — Sbdn Ken, Mike W, Ed L Andrew C, Oliver C		
April 8 — Sbdn Ken, Mike W, Ed L		April 9 — Sbdn Ken, Mike W
April 9 — Sbdn Ken, Mike W, Ed L		April 10 — TBD
April 10 (3pm) - Sbdn Ken, Mike W Andrew C, Oliver C		
April 10 (6pm) — Sbdn Ken, Mike W, Ed L Andrew C, Oliver C		April 11 - Sbdn Ken, Mike W, Ed L, Andrew C, Oliver C, Nathan M, Liam S
April 11/12 - Sbdn Ken, Mike W, Ed L, Michael G Andrew C, Oliver C, Nicholas G		
April 12 (Agape) — Sbdn Ken, Mike W, Ed L		April 13 — Sbdn Ken
April 18 - Sbdn Ken		April 19 — Sbdn Ken, Andrew C, Oliver C, Nicholas G Nathan M
April 25 - Sbdn Ken		April 26 - Sbdn Ken, Andrew C, Oliver C, Nathan M Liam S
April 26 — TBD		

Holy Week - Passion Week

In the Orthodox Church the last week of Christ's life is officially called Passion Week. In popular terminology it is called Holy Week. Each day is designated in the service books as "great and holy." There are special services every day of the week which are fulfilled in all churches. Earthly life ceases for the faithful as they "go up with the Lord to Jerusalem" (Matins of Great and Holy Monday).

Each day of Holy Week has its own particular theme. The theme of Monday is that of the sterile fig tree which yields no fruit and is condemned. Tuesday the accent is on the vigilance of the wise virgins who, unlike their foolish sisters, were ready when the Lord came to them. Wednesday the focus is on the fallen woman who repents. Great emphasis is made in the liturgical services to compare the woman, a sinful harlot who is saved, to Judas, a chosen apostle who is lost. The one gives her wealth to Christ and kisses his feet; the other betrays Christ for money with a kiss.

On each of these three days the Gospel is read at the Hours, as well as at the Vespers when the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is served. The Old Testamental readings are from Exodus, Job, and the Prophets. The Gospel is also read at the Matins services which are traditionally called the "Bridegroom" services because the general theme of each of these days is the end of the world and the judgment of Christ. It is the common practice to serve the Bridegroom services at night.

Behold, the bridegroom comes in the middle of the night and blessed is the servant whom he shall find watching, and unworthy the servant whom he shall find heedless. Take care then, O my soul, and be not weighed down by sleep that you will not be given over unto death and be excluded from the Kingdom. But rise up and call out: Holy, Holy, Holy art Thou O God, by the Theotokos have mercy on us (Troparion of the First Three Days).