



Epiphany of Our Lord Byzantine Catholic Church

2030 Old Alabama Road · Roswell, Georgia 30076

Parish Office: 770-993-0973 or 404-227-5401

Fr. Deacon James Smith, Administrator

Fr. Philip Scott • Fr. Deacon Michael Tisma

Email: epiphanybyzantinechurch@gmail.com • Website: www.epiphanybyzantinecatholic.org

April 9, 2017 + Flowerly Sunday, The Entry into Jerusalem

| | |
|--------------------------|---|
| Divine Liturgy | Saturday, 5:30 PM · Sunday, 10:00 AM · Holy Days, 7:30 PM |
| Confessions | Saturday, 4:30-5:00 PM · Sunday, 9:00-9:30 AM |
| Collection | Last week: \$1,936.00 . God bless you for your continued generosity. |
| Sunday Readings | Apostolic Letter: Philippians 4:4-9 + Gospel: John 12:1-18 |
| Sacramental Needs | Please call Fr. Deacon James 770-993-0973 or 404-227-5401 |

Thought for Passion Week...

"Today Christ's holy passion dawns upon the world as a saving light. For He comes of His goodness to suffer. He who holds all things in His hand consents to be hung upon the wood in order to save mankind."

Kathisma Hymn of Bridegroom Matins of Great and Holy Monday

+ GREAT AND HOLY WEEK +



In the Eastern Christian Church the last week of Christ's life is officially called Passion Week, though it is often today called Holy Week. Each day is designated as "great and holy" with special services every day of the week. For us as Byzantine Catholics, earthly life ceases as we "go up with the Lord to Jerusalem" (Matins of Great and Holy Monday). The services of Passion Week have a sacramental aspect to them and offer us an opportunity to follow Jesus Christ in the final week of his life on earth.

By the grace of the Holy Spirit we are no longer separated by time from the life of Christ as recounted in the Gospels. Through the services of Passion Week we are there when Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead and when he enters Jerusalem on the donkey. We are there at the Mystical Supper as he gives us his precious Body and Blood. We are witnesses in the Garden as he is betrayed by a kiss from Judas and we are present in Pilate's court as he is denied by Peter. We

stand with Mary and the beloved disciple at the foot of the Cross. All this reaches its splendid climax as we rejoice in the harrowing of Hades and the destruction of death as we share in Christ's glorious resurrection on the third day.

Let us resolve to make this Passion Week our fervent desire to be with our Lord during his great and long suffering: before Great and Holy Thursday let us read together in our families an entire Gospel up to the point where the passion begins; let us try to be a little more strict in our fasting and sacrifices; let us make every effort to participate fully in all the services of Passion Week; let us find the determination and commitment to spend one private hour with our Lord and stand guard over his tomb during the night of Great and Holy Friday.

Let us enter the deep waters of true Eastern Catholic worship and engage ourselves totally in this Passion Week ... foremost as a means of uniting ourselves with our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ and also as an expression of our Byzantine authenticity and identity.



- + Wednesday, April 12, 7:30 PM: **Great Wednesday, Divine Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts**
- + Thursday, April 13, 7:30 PM: **Great and Holy Thursday, Vespers and Divine Liturgy**
- + Friday, April 14, 7:30 PM: **Great and Holy Friday, Vespers and Entombment of Our Lord**
All-Night Vigil at the Tomb of Christ 9:00 PM – 7:00 AM
Please sign up in the narthex so that all hours are covered; a police officer will be on-site
- + Saturday, April 15, 5:30 PM, **Pascha, Resurrection Matins & Liturgy, Blessing of Baskets**
- + Sunday, April 16, 10:00AM, **Pascha, Divine Liturgy, Blessing of Baskets**



Easter Flowers. Thank you to all who have generously contributed to the Easter Flower fund. Our Lord's Holy Temple will be beautifully filled with wonderful scents and beautiful blooms for our celebration of His glorious Resurrection.

Altar Lamp. During April, the Divine Presence Lamp burns continuously before Our Lord in loving memory of +**Carl Bates**, by his beloved spouse, Barbara. If you wish to have the Altar Lamp burn for your intentions, please see Deacon Michael.

Grounds Committee. Our parish grounds are in desperate need of some real work and attention. Please see Deacon Michael if you are able to volunteer to be on an advance steering committee. Our purpose will be to meet to assess the grounds, to set short term and long term goals to beautify our property, and to coordinate eventual parish workdays in anticipation of our fortieth anniversary "Founders Day" celebration this fall. A warm and welcoming visual exterior is often what invites those who seek God to enter and discover the celestial beauty and spiritual richness that await all who draw near to His holy altar.

Together in the Holy Trinitu ... One Faith, One Church, One Future!