

Lazarus Saturday — April 19

- 8:00 AM Orthros
- 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy
- 6:00 PM Great Vespers and Litia for the Great Feast of Palm Sunday

Palm Sunday — April 20

- 7:30 AM Matins of Palm Sunday and the Blessing of Palms
- 8:30 AM Divine Liturgy
- 10:30 AM Divine Liturgy and Outdoor Procession

- 6:00 PM Bridegroom Matins of Great and Holy Monday

Great and Holy Monday — April 21

- 10:00 AM Presanctified Liturgy
- 7:00 PM Bridegroom Matins of Great and Holy Tuesday

Great and Holy Tuesday — April 22

- 10:00 AM Presanctified Liturgy
- 7:00 PM Bridegroom Matins of Great and Holy Wednesday

Great and Holy Wednesday — April 23

- 10:00 AM Presanctified Liturgy
- 7:00 PM Holy Unction*

Great and Holy Thursday — April 24

- 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy of Holy Thursday: the Institution of the Eucharist
- 7:00 PM Matins of Holy Friday
Reading of the Twelve Gospels

Great and Holy Friday — April 25

- 10:00 AM Royal Hours
- 3:00 PM Vespers of the removal of Christ from the Holy Cross

- 7:00 PM Matins of Great and Holy Saturday
The Lamentations at the Tomb

- (overnight) **Vigil at the Tomb** — reading of Psalms and Lamentations at the Tomb of Christ

On HOLY FRIDAY, Orthodox Christians should stop from their daily cares and attend the divine services. Since it is a day of strict fasting (no food or as little as possible) and prayer, we should take the day off, come to the various services, pray and keep watch. Televisions, radios and stereos should be kept turned off and our homes should have a very subdued atmosphere.

Great and Holy Saturday — April 26

- 10:00 AM Holy Saturday Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great
Decoration of the Church for Pascha

Great and Holy Pascha — April 27

- 11:00 PM (*Saturday evening, April 26*)
Midnight Office, Rush Procession, Matins, and Divine Liturgy
Followed by Blessing of Pascha Baskets and breaking of the fast in the Hall

- 1:00 PM Paschal Agape Vespers with the Gospel in many languages at the Church followed by the Pascha Picnic at Zilker Park

* To participate in the Sacrament of Holy Unction on Holy Wednesday, one should fast from the noon meal and have been to the sacrament of Confession during Great Lent.

Confessions will be heard after every evening service from Lazarus Saturday through Holy Thursday, after every service on Holy Friday, and by appointment through the week. **Every Orthodox Christian should go to Confession prior to Holy Pascha.**

Preparing for our Lord's Resurrection:

Confession: Every Orthodox Christian should participate in the Sacrament of Confession at least once during Great Lent and preferably prior to Holy Wednesday Unction and Holy Thursday Liturgy. Orthodox Christians should not approach the chalice at Pascha without participating in a sacramental confession during the Lenten season. **Do not neglect this important sacrament of the Church.**

Fasting: Great Lent and Holy Week are traditional times of fasting in the Orthodox Church. The fast should be more intense during Holy Week and in particular on Holy Friday. Fasting is an important part of our spiritual preparation. Even if you do not fast any other time of the year, you should make every effort to participate in this time of self denial as you mystically join with our Lord in this important week.

Attending the Services: Every Orthodox Christian should attend as many of the Holy Week services as possible—even at the expense of taking a day or two of vacation. Holy Week only comes once a year. Our participation is a small thing in consideration of what our Lord has done for us.

Alms Boxes: During Holy Week, be sure to bring in your full alms boxes of money that you collected during Great Lent for poor and needy people throughout the world. Let us not forget to give our alms during this important time of the year.

DONATIONS... are needed for flowers, candles, incense, olive oil, breakfast, etc. during Holy Week. Special offerings for altar items or icons for the Church are also welcome.

Holy Week Services 2008

*Thy Angels in heaven,
O Christ our Saviour,
sing to Thy Resurrection.
Do Thou enable us on earth
to glorify Thee with pure hearts.
Matins, Holy Pascha*

Saint Elias Antiochian Orthodox Church

408 East 11th Street
Austin, Texas 78701
(512) 476-2314

www.sainteliaschurch.org