



St. George Melkite-Greek Catholic Church

1617 West State Street Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233-1246

"An Eastern Church in communion with the Church of Rome"

Rectory and Office: 414-342-1543

The Rt. Rev. Paul G. Frechette, Pastor

Website: byzantinemilwaukee.com

Facebook: [fb.me/ByzantineMilwaukee](https://www.facebook.com/ByzantineMilwaukee)

March 29, 2026 — Palm Sunday



Icon of the Entrance into Jerusalem

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Today! Palm Sunday Breakfast

Noon-1:30pm

Adults: \$15

Children (under 12):
donations gratefully accepted

Pancakes, Eggs, Tater Tots, Fresh Fruit, Juice, Coffee Pastries and More

Bakery table: We need your tempting sweet treats and savory items. Syrian-Lebanese especially appreciated. Please include a note with a description of donated bakery item and suggested sale price (round dollars only). Just drop off your bakery at the table before Liturgy that Sunday. Please let Sarah Brickus know if you can help.

Divine Liturgy

Hymns

Eisodikon: O Son of God, who rode upon a donkey's foal, save us who sing to You, alleluia!

First Troparion: O Christ God, when You raised Lazarus from the dead, before the time of your passion, you confirmed the future resurrection of all. We too, like the children of old, carry before You the symbols of your triumph and victory and cry out to You, the conqueror of Death: "Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!"

Second Troparion: O Christ God, when You raised Lazarus from the dead, before the time of your passion, you confirmed the future resurrection of all. We too, like the children of old, carry before You the symbols of your triumph and victory and cry out to You, the conqueror of Death:

Prokimenon: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. God is the Lord and he has appeared to us.

"Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!"

Kontakion: O Christ God enthroned in heaven, and on earth riding upon an ass; You have accepted the praise of the angels and the hymns of the children who were crying out to You: "Blessed are You who come to restore Adam."

Hirmos: The Lord is God and He has appeared to us. Therefore, let us celebrate and sing for joy. Come, let us glorify Christ, and with palms and branches, sing to Him canticles of praise: "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord: our savior!"

Kinonikon: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. The Lord is God and He has appeared to us. Alleluia!

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Stichon: Sing to the Lord, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever.

Apostolic Reading: Phil 4:4-9

Gospel: Entrance into Jerusalem, Jn 12:1-18

Stewardship

Last Sunday: bookstore=\$70.00; candles=\$12.00; ordinary collections=\$761.00. Thanks for your generosity!

Owed to eparchy (assessment, retirement and medical insurance; last updated January 12, 2025): \$25,828.49.

Want to automate donations? One-time or monthly payments via

PayPal: byzantinemilwaukee.com/donate. Use your bank's **online billpay** (payee information): St. George's Syrian Congregation ·

1617 W State St · Milwaukee, WI 53233-1246; phone: (414) 342-1543; email: info@byzantinemilwaukee.com.

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Prayer List

Please remember—All those who are sick and in need: Natalie Herder, Walter Lourdes Najera Herder (family of Katerina Lessard), Nick Lagendfield, Barb Moden (sister of Jan Taylor), Edin Najera, Sandy Rabuse (godmother of Katerina Lessard), the Rebholz family, Eva Saseen (Theresa and Janelle Herro's niece), Geri Spankowski, Kathy Tomaz and John Zambo. For those who have died: Michael Lessard (uncle of Tyler Lessard), Rose Ernst (aunt of Benjamin Neumann). For the people of the Middle East.

Schedule for this Week

Monday *Start of Great and Holy Week*

6pm Bridegroom Orthros

Wednesday 6pm Vespers & Liturgy of St. Basil the Great for the Mystical Supper

Friday 6pm Eulogy Service ("Lamentations")

Sunday *HOLY RESURRECTION*

10:30am Divine Liturgy

Bridegroom Orthros

Summarized and adapted from melkite.org/faith/sunday-scriptures/ behold-the-bridegroom-is-coming

It has been a few years since Bridegroom Orthros has been on the parish's Holy Week schedule. On Holy Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, the Gospel story of Christ's teaching in the temple during these days is read at each Orthros and Presanctified Liturgy. The "Bridegroom" in the name of services comes from the troparion, which is based on the parable of the wise and foolish virgins (cf., Matthew 25:1-13):



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Behold the Bridegroom is coming in the middle of the night. Blessed is the servant He shall find awake! But the one He shall find neglectful will not be worthy of Him. Beware, therefore, O my soul. Do not fall into a deep slumber lest you be delivered to death and the doors of the kingdom be closed on you. Watch instead and cry out, 'Holy holy, holy are You, O our God...'

The troparion calls to mind the Jewish marriage practices in the first century, which consisted of two parts: the betrothal and the time of preparation. After the betrothal, the man and woman were considered committed to one another but did not yet live together. When the time of preparation came to an end, the bridegroom would bring his wife to their new home with great ceremony.

This practice is seen in the portrayal of Mary and Joseph in the Gospel ("After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit", Matthew 1:18). St. Paul describes the Christians in Corinth as pledged to Christ ("I have betrothed you to one husband, that I may present you as a chaste virgin to Christ", 2 Corinthians 11:2), and Christ Himself describes His preparation ("In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you", John 14:2).

The Great Fast is a similar time of preparation, as we await uniting with Christ at Pascha in a new homeland.

Misplaced Expectations

A young boy returned from his first major league baseball game very disappointed. Even though his favorite team won the game, the young boy said to his grandfather, "I'll never go to another game again!" "Why not," his grandfather asked, "your team won the game. Why are you disappointed?" The boy answered, "I wanted my favorite player to hit a home run to where I was sitting and I wanted to catch the ball and I wanted to get it autographed after the game!" "I've been hoping for that all my life, too," said his grandfather with a smile.

Quite often, the disappointment that we feel towards a person or about a situation or circumstance is due to the fact that our expectations of that person or about that situation are misplaced, misguided, or misunderstood. We see an example of this

in today's Gospel reading about our Lord's entrance into Jerusalem.

Many of the same people who enthusiastically greeted Jesus when He entered into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday would just as passionately demand His crucifixion only a few days later. Why? It is because their expectations of Him were misplaced. That is, many people presumed that the long-awaited Messiah would be a great military leader or a political revolutionary who would lead them out of Roman subjugation and into independence. They did not consider the possibility of a Messiah who would conquer not armies, but death itself.

What do we expect from God? Like the little boy at the baseball game, are we disappointed when we don't get what we want? Let us recall that the Lord knows what we need even before we ask or are aware of it!

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