



HOLY THEOPHANY ORTHODOX CHURCH “

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” Matthew 28:19

“The Church is a hospital, and not a courtroom, for souls. She does not condemn on behalf of sins, but grants remission of sins. Nothing is so joyous in our life as the thanksgiving that we experience in the Church. In the Church, the joyful sustain their joy. In the Church, those worried acquire merriment, and those saddened, joy. In the Church, the troubled find relief, and the heavy-laden, rest.” ~St John Chrysostom

Location of Services: Holy Theophany Church, N2107 State Road 67, Walworth, WI 53184

Hosanna in the highest!



*Blessed is He that comes
in the Name of the Lord!*

Schedule of Services for April 2024 and Holy Week

[Services (except Reader’s Vespers) will be live-streamed. Hours for Sunday Liturgy start at 9:40 AM.]

Wednesday, April 3, 5:30 PM—Presanctified Liturgy

Saturday, April 6, 5 PM—Readers’ Vespers

Sunday, April 7, [Veneration of the Cross] 10 AM—Divine Liturgy of St Basil the Great

Wednesday, April 10, 5: 30 PM—Presanctified Liturgy

Saturday, April 13, 5 PM— Great Vespers followed by Service of General Confession

Sunday, April 14, [St. John Climacus] 10 AM—Divine Liturgy of St Basil the Great

Wednesday, April 17, 5: 30 PM—Presanctified Liturgy

Saturday, April 20, 5 PM—Readers’ Vespers

Sunday, April 21, 10 AM—[St. Mary of Egypt] 10 AM—Divine Liturgy of St Basil the Great preceded by Service of General Confession

Wednesday, April 24, 5: 30 PM—Presanctified Liturgy

Saturday, April 27, [Lazarus Saturday] 10 AM—Memorial Liturgy (no readers vespers at 5 PM)

Sunday, April 28, [Palm Sunday] 10 AM—Divine Liturgy of St John Chrysostom preceded by the Blessing of Palms

Monday, April 29, START OF HOLY WEEK

Tuesday, April 30, 5:30 PM—Bridegroom Matins

Thursday, May 2, [Great and Holy Thursday] 5:30 PM— Matins with Gospels

Friday, May 3, [Great and Holy Friday]—Vespers at 3 PM; Matins with Lamentations at 6 PM

Saturday, May 5, Egg Dying (TBA)

Saturday May 4—Sunday May 5, [Pascha] 9:30 PM- 12:30 AM—Paschal Service

Sunday, May 5, 11 AM— Vespers of Pascha followed by Paschal luncheon

Please join with us in our First Great Lenten Baby Outreach program



We have joined the 4th annual National Orthodox Baby Shower supported by Orthodox Christians for Life.

Remembering the Feast of the Annunciation of Christ, which illuminates Great Lent, please join us in supporting women facing difficult pregnancies by donating funds or baby items to the New Day Women's Clinic in Delavan, WI.

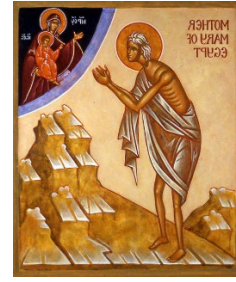
This outreach continues through Palm Sunday. Details in attached file.



Ladder of Divine Ascent



Veneration of the Cross



St Mary of Egypt

Pastoral Reflection: Following the Humility of Christ: We emphasize Christ’s humility during Holy Week in his final journey to the Cross. But divine humility pervades His entire incarnation. This is evident on Palm Sunday; for following on the heels of the raising of Lazarus from the dead, Jesus enters Jerusalem for the last time. The entry is victorious: children throw down their garments before him and wave palm branches. He receives the praise: “*Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.*” (Mk 11.9 and Jn 12.13;). But the pomp and majesty that normally accompanies a royal entry is replaced with humility and meekness. “*O you who ride on the cherubim and are praised by the seraphim, you have sat, O gracious Lord, like David on a foal, and the children honored you with praise fitting for God.*” The humility and meekness that mark Christ’s entry into Jerusalem thus continue the paradoxical and wondrous expression of the compassion that informs his Incarnation as the suffering servant: the one willing to suffer with and for us (compassio): “*Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted.*” (Is 55.4) Moreover, Christ’s humility in his incarnation is expressed in his fundamental solidarity with us and willingness to serve us for our sake—Christ as the Good Samaritan..

Humility involves a radical and honest acceptance of ourselves before God and before our fellow humans and creation. We are, first of all, to be humble before God. This involves an honest and ongoing repentance over our sinfulness—and how that has estranged us from God—as well as profound thanks for the blessings that God has given us, especially through Christ’s Incarnation, to restore us to the fullness of life. However, our humility also involves a fundamental acceptance of the vulnerability and weakness that belongs to us as created being: without God, we are simply nothing. This is, after all, what Adam and Eve could not accept in the Garden of Eden when they decided to disobey God.

Humility, thus, is a “*gateway to dispassion*” (Peter of Damascus). Through dispassion we are rid of the impulses, desires, thoughts, and images of things and our fellow humans that lead us to sin— everything in us that separates us from God and breaks apart our relations with others and with ourselves. Dispassion in particular requires the elimination of those passions and fears by which we denigrate and condemn others. Humility leading to dispassion helps us attain to a perfect love of God which leads us to love and care for our fellow humans as did Christ, the Good Samaritan.

Something for you to ponder during Great Lent as you journey with Christ in his journey to Jerusalem: *God himself is humble because he is love. God humbled himself out of love. Therefore, not only does humility open us to God: it clothes us with Christ, the humbled God. Humility is the ornament of the godhead. The Word clothed himself in it when he became man. By it he lived among us in the flesh . . . And anyone who wraps himself in it truly makes himself like him who came down from on high and clothed his grandeur and glory in humility.* (St. Isaac of Nineveh, *Ascetic Treatises*)

Thanks for service to Holy Theophany Church March 2024! **Cleaning Church and Parish Hall:** Olga Buranicz, Christopher Thies, Alex Cook, Lamont Prospect, Pres. Anastasia; **Prospora Bread:** Filitsa.; **Music:** Adela Fazio, Maria, David, & Sofia Klesmith, Kristy Danna, Joe and everyone for congregational singing; **Artos:** Pres. Anastasia, Maria Condos; **Stewardship:** Thanks to everyone for their financial support; **Reading:** Pres. Eileen, Christopher T., Damian C., Kristy, Lamont, Maria K, Maria Condos, Alex; **Service in sanctuary:** David, Christopher, and Giovanni Wilson; **Setting up for services:** Pres. Eileen, Pres. Anastasia, Christopher, and Lamont; **Attendance Report:** Bessie Mantes; **Coffee Hour:** Maria & David K., Filitsa, Kristy, Bessie, and everyone providing food or beverages; **Purchase of TV screen for Parish Hall:** Steve and Amy Meyer (Chris T, David K, Lamont, Alex, and Fr George for setting it up.). Sincere apologies if we overlooked anyone for the help they provided.

CONTACT INFORMATION: Website: <https://holytheophanychurch.org/>

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