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**SAINT STEPANOS
ARMENIAN
APOSTOLIC
CHURCH**

13 Ապրիլ 2014

**ԿԻՐԱԿՆՕՐԵԱՅ ԹԵՐԹԻԿ
SUNDAY BULLETIN**

April 13, 2014

**ԾԱՂԿԱԶԱՐԴԻ ԿԻՐԱԿԻ
PALM SUNDAY**

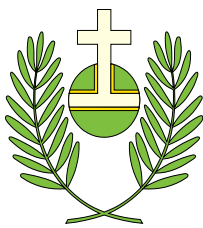
Join us in worship this Sunday
Morning Service 9:30 AM
Divine Liturgy 10:30 AM

Church Website: www.ststepanos.org

1184 Ocean Avenue, Elberon, NJ 07740 / office (732) 229-3661

Rev. Fr. Daniel Karadjian - Pastor

Տ Դանիէլ Բինյ. Գարաճեան - Հոգեւոր Հովիւ



PALM SUNDAY

Jesus enters into Jerusalem, greeted with shouts of Hosanna, a Hebrew word which means Save us now, we pray.

Zechariah 9:9-15; Philippians 4:4-7; Matthew 20:29-21:17

*Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout aloud,
O daughter of Jerusalem! Lo your king comes to you; (Zechariah 9:9)*

Today's reading from Zechariah weaves together two messianic themes; the greatness of the royal descendant of David and the lowliness of the One through whom God brings about salvation and universal peace. The result is a strong paradox, which is only intensified on Palm Sunday. At the beginning of the solemn commemoration of Jesus' final days on earth, we are invited to rejoice and shout with gladness. A King arrives in Jerusalem. He is triumphant and victorious. And yet he does not ride in on a warlike steed, but on a simple donkey, and his victory in war is a victory over war. By passing through war he establishes peace.

The acceptance of Jesus on Palm Sunday with waving palm branches and hosannas is contrasted sharply with the rejection he received a few days later. It is worth noting that it is not simply a case of Jesus having to undergo suffering. You can suffer as a hero, receiving great admiration and support. The rejection robs his passion of any halo of earthly glory. It is suffering without honor. The cross means death as a despised reject. Those like Peter who refused the whole notion of his being destined to suffer grievously (Mark 8:33), ended up fleeing into the night, leaving him alone. This is not the kind of Lord they wanted.

This is suggestive of the various paradoxes of the passion: Jesus walks through sorrow to attain the joy of heaven, experiences rejection to enter into glory, endures suffering to come to eternal rest, undergoes death to pass over to life. Jesus is the final example, the one who is our leader in faith and who brings faith to perfection.

Church Website: www.ststepanos.org

We are very happy to introduce you to our updated Website www.ststepanos.org.
We hope you will enjoy its new format as we continue to give you information for the church's events and chronicle life within our Saint Stepanos Armenian Church's community in Long Branch, NJ.
Please feel free to share your comments, suggestions and ideas regarding our updated Website.
Enjoy !

**Pastor's Office and Church Office Hours Tuesday - Friday: 10AM - 2PM.
After hours in an emergency, please contact: Pastor's Cell: (732) 312-8661**

As we stand at the beginning of Holy Week, we read that Jesus endured the cross “for the sake of the joy which was still in the future” (Heb. 12:2). This recalls the parable of the man who found a treasure hidden in a field and who with great joy goes off and sells everything he owns in order to possess it (Matt. 13:44). The joy he looks forward to is so great he thinks nothing of giving up all he owns to possess it.

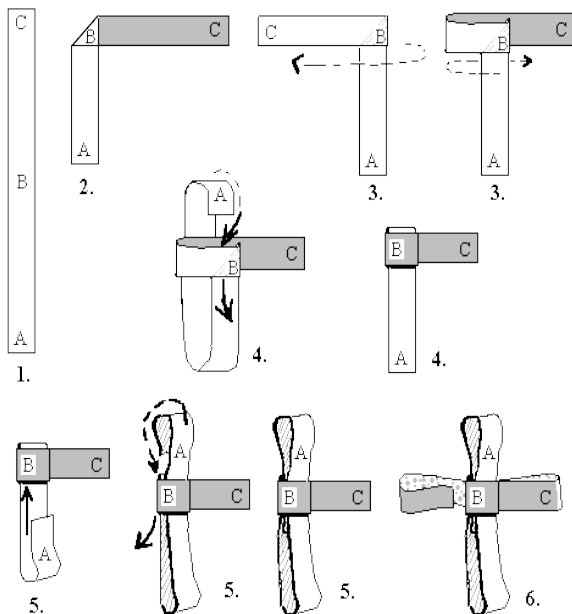
So Jesus, as he enters the Holy City, is fortified by faith to remain firm. But his faith gives him strength and courage because it is an unshakable conviction of the joy that is in his future according to the promise of the faithful God. How blessed we are to have Him as our Lord and God.

Today, Palms will be blessed in our churches and will be distributed to the faithful. The palms remind us of the glory and joy with which Jesus was received by the inhabitants of Jerusalem. Palm branches were waived and placed on the ground by the people in honor of Christ’s entry into Jerusalem as King, but at the same time, they left them there to dry up and turn to dust, reminding us of how glory and joy too soon passes and only dust remains.

As one write stated: Although we hold branches and palms in our hands as a sign of victory, we also know that we must, from here on, take up the cross to experience the passion. Each year it is a new experience, for living the cross with Christ implies our giving our entire life, right up to the point of death.

Palm Weaving: Cross (style no.1)

Basic instructions as told to Anita Wosky by Mike Melfi in April 2000. Mike learned to weave crosses at St.Rocco School in Cleveland, OH in the late 1920's or early 1930's. Additional illustrations by Cindy Salvarola (Feb 2002).



START with a long vertical strip of palm as shown in the upper left drawing.

Step 1 - Make a diagonal fold near the middle of the strip so that the top part of the strip extends out to the right.

Step 2 - Fold C over B so that the top of strip extends to the left.

Step 3 - Fold C end under B so that top of strip extends to the right again.

Step 4 - Fold A under B and through slot and pull tight (shape looks almost the same but B now has more slots).

Step 5 - Bring A end up and through bottom slot at B and pull half way through and tuck A into top slot at B.

Step 6 - Bring C end over and through right slot at B and pull half way through and tuck C into left slot at B.

NOTES: In step 4 be sure to pull end A all the way through, snug and tight but gently. It is this step that creates the flat knot that has the slots you will use in steps 5 and 6.

When you have completed step 6, push/pull to adjust the limbs of

the cross and shape it.

The size of the cross depends on the size of the palm strip that you

~ If the palms weaving fronds begin to dry out refresh them by soaking them in water.

~ Place the fresh palm weaving fronds a plastic bag and store in a refrigerator or a cool place, to keep them pliable and easy to bend.

<http://webspaces.webring.com/people/r1/1046salv/craft01b.html>

LENTEN SUNDAYS

• April 13 – Palm Sunday – The forty-day period of Great Lent having ended on the Friday before Palm Sunday, Lazarus Saturday, the church now calls her faithful to enter into the Holy City of Jerusalem on Palm Sunday. The triumphant entry into Jerusalem by our Lord also signals the beginning of the holiest days of Christianity. (Matthew 20:29-21:17)

In the Armenian Apostolic Orthodox Church, the final week of Christ’s Life is called “Avak Shapat” or, Great Week. Each day offers its own unique and meaningful services with their own significance and special themes.

HOLY WEEK

The Holy Week contains a series of events in the life of Christ the Savior linking prophecy with its fulfillment. For those who would like to participate in the services during the Holy Week, please mark your calendar as follows:

SUNDAY, April 13 PALM SUNDAY

Morning Service 9:30a.m. - Divine Liturgy 10:30 a.m.

At the conclusion of Service the "Opening of the Doors" ceremony and procession.

Women's Guild Choreg Sale and ACYOA DAY with Annual Lahmajoun Luncheon.

Please come and support our young adults and enjoy some delicious lahmajoun and tasty delights.

Donations: Adults -\$12; Children -\$5

April 17, GREAT AND HOLY THURSDAY

7:30 PM Ceremony of the Washing of the Feet (Vodunluva)

The Priest will kneel and will wash the feet of 12 men, as Christ did to his disciples as an example to us of loving service.

8:30 PM Great Vigil [Khavarum]

Passion Gospels and Extinguishing of Candles and the beautiful hymn

Որ Ես Մայր Իմ "Oor es Mayr eem"

April 18, GOOD FRIDAY

7:30 PM - Burial Service.

Commemoration of the Crucifixion and Burial of our Lord Jesus Christ. Bible readings from the Old and New Testaments show how the Prophets foretold the death of Christ.

Saturday, April 19 GREAT SATURDAY

6:30 p.m. Vigil of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ - JRAKALOOYTS.

Reading of Sacred Prophecies

7:00 p.m. Easter Eve's Divine Liturgy

Sunday April 20, - EASTER CELEBRATION

Morning Service at 9:30 - Divine Liturgy 10:30 AM

12:30 PM Women's Guild Egg Cracking and Choreg Sale,
Coffee and Fellowship.

Let us share Easter joy with our special greeting of the season:

KRISDOS HARYAV EE MERELOTZ. ORHNYAL EH HAROOTIUNUN KRISDOSEE.
CHRIST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD. BLESSED IS THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST.

HOSPITAL VISITATIONS BY THE PASTOR: If you, a member of your family or a friend are hospitalized, please contact the Church Office so that the Pastor may visit, to pray for the recovery and spiritual well being of the patient/parishioner.

MIDDAY READINGS ASCRIBED FOR THIS SUNDAY:

SONG OF SONGS; 1:1-2:3: This is "the Song of songs," excellent above any others, for it is wholly taken up with describing the excellences of Christ, and the love between him and his redeemed people.

ZECHARIAH 9:9-15: The prophecy concerning the Prince of Peace, who will come to the children of the Covenant (The Church) in triumph and victory.

PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7: A hymn of joyful trust in the coming of the Lord, concluded by a committal to the Peace of God.

MATTHEW 20:29-21:1-17: Jesus enters into Jerusalem, greeted with shouts of Hosanna, a Hebrew word which means Save us now, we pray. He then proceeds to the Temple where religion had become so commercial; it degenerated into no more than business transactions, giving emphasis to the giving of money in order for the business of the Temple to continue. Jesus drives out the moneychangers and those who sold animals for sacrifice, calling them thieves. What would he do if Jesus came to your church?



On **Friday, April 11th** Lenten Dinner was held by the Lahham and Garabedian families. We would like to express our deep gratitude for their generous support and good will to be a part of our ministry.

CITY OF LONG BRUNCH POLICE DEPARTMENT

On **Sunday, April 27, 2014** the NJ Marathon will be taking place within our city.

The event will start at 06:00am and will end at 2:00pm.

The Ocean Ave. (between Brighton Ave-Deal boarder and Brighton Ave-Joline Ave) will be affected.

Please follow all detours and directions given by traffic controls

SAVE THE DATE

April 22, Tuesday - 7:00 P.M. Armenian Genocide Remembrance Program sponsored by CHHANGE featuring guest lecturer KHATCHIG MOURADIAN at the Warner Student Life Center, Navesink Rooms, Brookdale Community College in Lincroft (Parking Lot 7).

Saturday April 26, 2014 at 9:45 a.m. **Sunday School Easter Breakfast** The Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt will be on Saturday, April 26th. This breakfast is for the children of the parish, not just Sunday/Armenian School. If you know of other children in the parish, please let them know of the time and date and tell them to RSVP to haytaian@optonline.net, so we have a head count.



MEMORIAL SERVICE DEVOTED TO 99th ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

On **Thursday April 24, 2014** our Church will be open from 5:00PM until 7:00 PM.

Our parishioners may come and light candles for the Genocide victims.

The Requiem Service will be held at 7:00 PM, followed by the movie "The Lark Farm". It is an Italian-French-Bulgarian-Spanish co-production and takes a close look at Turkey's most sensitive taboo — the 1915 genocide against our Armenian

DER VOGHORMYA / A SPECIAL PRAYER at the altar today is for the healing and health of **Trudy Takakjian, Annette Serabian, Seroun Wang and Joan Yates**. Please offer your prayers for our brothers and sisters in Kessab. In this hour of need, please remember them in your prayers.