



PARISH CALENDAR - HOLY WEEK & PASCHA at St. Elias Church, Brampton Canada

April 8 – ЛАЗАРЕВА СУБОТА - SATURDAY OF LAZARUS

8:00 a.m. - Matins

10:00 a.m. – Divine Liturgy

7 p.m. – Great Vespers with Matins and Blessing of Willows

“Assuring us before Your Passion of the general resurrection,
You raised Lazarus from the dead, Christ God;....”

Catechesis: Saturday is usually the day for the Commemoration of the Dead. Today we take comfort in the raising of Lazarus, brother of Martha and Mary. Today is also a Baptismal Day. We sing: All you who have been baptized into Christ....

April 9 - КВІТНА НЕДІЛЯ – FLOWER SUNDAY - PALM SUNDAY

No Matins (was served at previous Great Vespers)

10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy

Catechesis: Jesus, who until now constantly rejected all attempts to glorify Him, now accepts, even arranges, for this glorification. The history of Israel is now coming to an end, for the purpose of that history was to announce and to prepare the kingdom of God, the coming of the Messiah. And now it is fulfilled. With our branches we renew our oath to the King, we confess His Kingdom as the ultimate meaning and content of our life.

April 10, 11, 12 - HOLY AND GREAT MONDAY, TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY

Catechesis: Throughout Lent the readings at Vespers were from Genesis and Proverbs. In Holy Week, they are replaced by Exodus (Israel's liberation from Egyptian slavery) and Job, the Sufferer, the Old Testament icon of Christ. Also: The Prayer of St. Ephraim is still said these three days. We are still in the time of repentance, for repentance alone makes us partakers of the Paschal Banquet. These days direct us towards the End, which is the Beginning of new life. One warning runs through all of the sticheras: The end and the judgment are approaching, let us prepare for them....

8 a.m. (each morning) - Bridegroom Matins

“Behold, the Bridegroom cometh in the midst of the night
And blessed is the servant whom He shall find watching....”

5 p.m. (each evening) - Presanctified Liturgy

Monday morning: Matthew 21: 18ff - *The story of the fig tree (a world created to bear fruit, but not doing so).*

Monday evening: Matthew 24: 3ff - *“Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.”*

Tuesday morning: Matthew 22: 15ff – Condemnation of Pharisees who “shut up the Kingdom of heaven to men.”

Tuesday evening: Matthew 24 ff – Parables of the End – the Ten Wise Virgins, the Parable of the Ten Talents (be ready!) and the Last Judgment.

Wednesday morning: John 12: 17-50 – “He that rejects my words has one that judges him, the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last days.”

Wednesday evening: Matthew 26:6ff - The woman who poured the precious ointment on Jesus....

April 13 – ВЕЛИКИЙ ЧЕТВЕР - HOLY AND GREAT THURSDAY

The Last Supper and the Betrayal of Judas.

8 a.m. - Matins

5 p.m. Vespers with Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

“When the glorious disciples were illumined by washing at the Supper,

Then was the impious Judas darkened with love of silver

And to the unjust judges does he betray Thee, the just Judge....”

Catechesis: The Last Supper is the restoration of the bliss, of life as Eucharist and Communion. Exodus 19 – God’s descent from Mount Sinai to His people as an image of God’s coming in the Eucharist Job 38 – God’s conversation with Job and his answer: “Who will utter to me what I understand not? – these “great and wonderful things” are fulfilled in the gift of Christ’s Body and Blood. Isaiah 50: 4ff – the beginning of the prophecies on the suffering servant of God. Epistle: I Corinthians 11: 23ff – St. Paul’s account of the Last Supper. Gospel: The full story of the Last Supper, the betrayal of Judas and Christ’s arrest in the garden

In place of Cherubic Hymn and “Let our mouths be filled” we sing:

“Accept me this day, O Son of God,

as a partaker of Your mystical supper....”

In place of “It is truly right” we sing this Irmos:

“Come, you faithful, come let us lift up our minds on high,

and enjoy the Master’s hospitality,

and the Table of Immortal Life in the upper room;

and let us hear and learn the exalted teaching of the Word

whom we magnify.”

8 p.m. – Страсті - Matins of the Passion – Twelve Passion Gospels

“Слава страстям Твоїм, Господи!”

“Слава долготерпінню Твоєму, Господи!”

“Претерпівши за нас Страсті
Ісусе Христе, Сину Божий, помилуй нас!”



April 14 – ВЕЛИКА ПЯТНИЦЯ - GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY

Christ dies in our place.

8:00 a.m. - Royal Hours

The Vigil continues. An excellent time for Holy Confession

6 p.m. - Vespers of Entombment

The Death and Burial of our Lord, Jesus Christ

Благообразний Іосиф....

“The noble Joseph took Your most pure body down from the Cross,
He wrapped it in a clean linen – with aromatic spices
and sadly laid it in a new tomb.”

9 p.m. - JERUSALEM MATINS

PRAYERS AT THE GRAVE – THE WAKE SERVICE – in English only

“In a grave they laid you, O my life and my Christ,
And the armies of the angels were sore amazed
As they sang the song of your submissive love.”

Catechesis: Life enters the Kingdom of death. The Divine Light shines in its terrible darkness. Then, for the first time, the song of victory in the troparia sung each Sunday morning: “The company of angels was amazed, beholding you, O Savior, numbered among the dead....” At the Canon the theme goes from funeral lamentation to the victory over death.

Irmos 9 of the Canon:

“Weep not for me, O Mother, as you see in the tomb
the Son whom you conceived without seed in your womb;
for I shall rise, and be glorified;
and as God, I shall exalt in everlasting glory
those who magnify you with faith and love.”

Procession with the Plashchanytsia through the Cemetery

(Explanation unnecessary for those who have done this.)

Readings: Ezechiel 37 (The prophecy of the dry bones); I Corinthians 5:6, Gal.3 3:13-14) A little leaven leavens the whole lump – Christ, our Pascha, is this leaven for the resurrection of all. Alleluia verse: “Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered!” Gospel Lesson: Matthew 27:ff. The tomb was “....made secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.”

April 15 – ВЕЛИКА СУБОТА - GREAT AND HOLY SATURDAY

“This is the day of rest, on which from all His works, rests the only begotten Son of God”

9:00 a.m. – Єрусалимська Утреня

Наша Молитва перед Ісусом, що в Гробі. Українською Мовою.

“Величаемо тебе, життєдавче Христе,...”

4:00 p.m. - Vespers with Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

Catechesis: The first Eucharist of Easter – clergy begin in dark vestments, at “Alleluia” change to white. This is a Baptismal Liturgy with 15 readings. The history of salvation is read to us.

*During the reading from Exodus 13, 20ff, this refrain:
“Let us sing to the Lord, for gloriously has He been glorified!”*

*During the reading from Daniel 3: 1ff, this refrain:
“Praise the Lord and exalt Him throughout all the ages!”*

*During the Prokimen we sing:
“Arise, O God, judge the earth for to Thee belong all the nations!”
(at this time dark vestments are replaced by white ones)*

*In place of the Cherubic Hymn, we sing:
Let all mortal flesh keep silent and stand with fear and trembling let it
take no thought for any earthly thing, for the King of Kings and Lord of
Lords draws near to be sacrificed; given as food to the faithful.....*

*In place of “It is truly right” this Irmos 9:
“Weep not for me, O Mother, as you see in the tomb the Son whom you
conceived without seed in your womb; for I shall rise, and be
glorified; and as God, I shall exalt in everlasting glory those who magnify
you with faith and love.”*

April 16 **ПАСХА - PASCHA – ВОСКРЕСЕННЯ - RESURRECTION**

Doors open at 5 a.m. for final visit to the Tomb.

5:30 a.m. – Надгробне - Removal of Burial Shroud - Plashchanytsia
6:00 a.m. – Procession and Resurrection Matins

“Воскресення Твое, Христе Спасе, ангели оспівують на небесах
і нас на землі сподоби чистим серцем Тебе оспівувати і славити!

Angels in heaven, O Christ our Saviour, sing of Your Resurrection,
enable us here on earth to glorify You with a pure heart!”

*Resurrection Matins ends with Paschal Sermon of St. John Chrysostom
Then, the Divine Liturgy, followed with outdoor Blessing of Paschal Food.*

7:00 p.m. – Agape Vespers
The perfect ending to the perfect day!

