

Saint Nicholas Romanian Orthodox Church Shrewsbury Massachusetts Biserica Ortodoxă Română Sfântul Nicolae Shrewsbury Massachusetts

34 Gold Street, Shrewsbury, MA, 01545
Parish Priest Vasile Aileni
www.stnicholaschurch.org || tell (508) 320 0645

WEEKLY BULLETIN Sunday April 13, 2025

Liturgical Services

Sunday: 9:00 a.m. - Matins;
10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy;
11:30 a.m. - Coffee Hour.

DURING LENT

Saturday: 9:30 a.m. - Akathist;
10:00 a.m. - Divine Liturgy;
11:30 a.m. - Memorial Service.

This Week's News

PALM SUNDAY LUNCHEON – April, 13 everyone is invited to our fish luncheon. This traditional meal brings the community together and financially supports our church. St. Nicholas's kitchen will delight you once again!

BAKING ORDERS FOR EASTER - If you have family or friends who would like pitas, pastry, or pastry platters for the holiday, please make sure you get the orders in on time! Please contact Betty Anderson by email: (bettya16@verizon.net) or by phone 508-353-9449.

THE GREAT FRIDAY CHILDREN'S RETREAT for the younger children and youth will be held on Friday, April 18 starting at 3:30 pm, and concluding with a celebration of Great Vespers at 6:00 pm. Older children and teens are also welcome to participate.

MUSTARD SEED MEAL - Looking ahead - our next meal for the Mustard Seed is scheduled for Friday, April 19th. Sponsor are needed to underwrite the \$500 cost of the meal. If you have it in your heart to contribute, you can offer whatever amount you can afford. Please contact Betty Anderson (508) 353-9449.

RESSURECTION NIGHT – After the Divine Liturgy we will have an Agape Meal - Potluck. Stephen and Margareta Ellis have graciously offered to cook and donate the lamb for everybody. We invite everyone to celebrate Pascha in our church family atmosphere!



The Sixed Sunday of Great Lent PALM SUNDAY

*Apostolic Reading: Philippians 4:4-9
Gospel: John 12:1-18*

*(The Entrance of our Lord into Jerusalem)
Everything According to the Feast*

APOLYTIKION OF LAZARUS SATURDAY

In confirming the common Resurrection, O Christ God, Thou didst raise up Lazarus from the dead before Thy Passion. Wherefore, we also, like the children, bearing the symbols of victory, cry to Thee, the Vanquisher of death: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

APOLYTIKION OF PALM SUNDAY

As by baptism we were buried with Thee, O Christ our God, so by Thy Resurrection we were deemed worthy of immortal life; and praising Thee, we cry: Hosanna in the highest; blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord.

KONTAKION OF PALM SUNDAY

Being borne upon a throne in Heaven, and upon a colt on the earth, O Christ God, Thou didst accept the praise of the angels and the laudation of the children as they cried to Thee: Blessed art Thou Who comest to recall Adam.





"Not all of man's needs have the same value, but some are higher and others lower; and the moderate fulfillment of them brings peace to man. Spiritual needs are the highest, and when these are fulfilled, then there is peace even if the others remain unfulfilled. But when spiritual needs remain unfulfilled, even if the others are fully fulfilled, peace is not possible.

This is why their fulfillment is called the only thing that is needed."

Saint Theophan the Latter 1815 – 1891



**Happy Birthday! God Grant You
Many More Years!**

April 1 – Ana Branco
April 10 – Mihaela Ionete
April 30 – Rev. Fr. Nicholas Apostola

Let us Pray for the good health of:

Andrei, Mark, Irene - Ekaterina, Psa Aza,
Betty Ekaterina, Psa Ileana, Luiza, Andrew,
Margareta, Marius-Nicolae, Loredana-
Anca, Teodora, Joanne, Deborah-Ann,
Rebeka, Fr. George, Fr. Stefan and his son
Andrei for their helath and for their
salvation!

Amin!

Dates to remember:

Sun April 13 - Palm Sunday
**Sun April 20 - GREAT AND HOLY
PASCHA**

A Prayer of Fr. Laurence

LET US PRAY TO THE LORD! O you who are serenity and peacefulness itself, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: When the cares and labors of another day are over, we come to you with our evening prayers. We stand before you and reflect on the day that has passed, and we pray that, by your grace, this lenten season will make a difference in our lives. Do not permit us to be consumed with thoughts of the pastor of the future, but teach us to live always in the present. Take our attention off things that perish, and focus our mind's eye on you and the things that last forever. Enable us to attain a share of the peace that only you can give, so that we may one day join the saints in the paschal celebrations of the world to come. For you are indeed our God, and we give you glory, Father Son and Holy Spirit: now and forever, and unto ages of ages. Amen!



LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FOR HOLY WEEK

Holy Monday - April 14, 2025 - 6:00 p.m. Bridegroom Service
Holy Tuesday - April 15, 2025 - 6:00 p.m.- Bridegroom Service
Holy Wednesday - April 16, 2025 - 6:00 p.m. Bridegroom Service – Holy Unction
Holy Thursday - April 17, 2025 – 9:00
6:00 p.m. - Holy Passions (12 Gospels)
Holy Friday - April 18, 2025: -1:30 p.m. Royal Hours.
- 3:30 p.m. Great Friday Children's Retreat
- 5:00 p.m. Descend from the Cross Service
- 6:00 p.m. Bridegroom Service- Lamentation (Prohodul)
Great and Holy Saturday - April 19, 2025 - 9:30 a.m. Vesperal Liturgy of St. Basil

Beautiful Thoughts from our PC President Cristina Iusco about the pastoral visit of Very Rev. Fr. Daniel Adrian Ene, the Vicar of the Metropolis and the Dean of East Coast Deanery

It is a few minutes before midnight, after a long day of my daughter's birthday, work and a long afternoon filled with the service of the Holly Unction.

For those who do not know, on Wednesday we gathered together for this service and if you listen carefully to the prayers ,the gospels, you realize, we are so small, we are all in a way or the other (physical or mental and spiritual) sick or in in need of help. If you never participated to this service , please make it a priority to attend the next time we have one. But, this is not why I'm writing this at midnight. I'm somehow too little and I know not enough from the theological point of view, to share things about this service. I will let this to fr Vasile. I want to share with you all, something I realized tonight. My worlds were colliding tonight. The priest of my childhood, who passed away 2 years ago, was somehow represented tonight by Fr. Onisie. My childhood priest, Fr. Dunca (memory eternal) and Fr. Onisie, went to

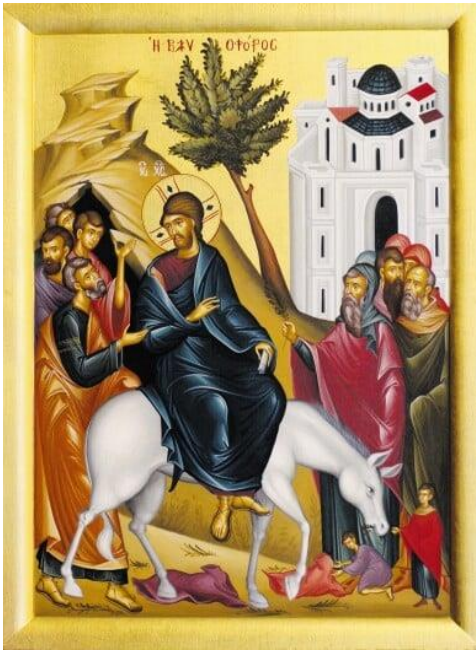
the same theological school together. After the service, I sat with fr Onisie and talked. So good to hear the specific accent and language from the same part of the country we both are. He said something very interesting: when you and your childhood friend get together, you relive parts of your life. It is therapy, he said. So it was therapeutic to speak, to hug and laugh with him tonight. And to remember our dear Fr. Dunca.

And then I got to see and hug Fr. Nick. And Fr. Nicolae and I got to talk to him a little as well. Father, we will pray for you! All these priests somehow shaped my life as an orthodox Christian. This is where my worlds met. In church. Past and future. Childhood and adulthood. All under God's watch for each period of my life from a child to my adult life, with Fr. Vasile as a spiritual father now. We all have a story of how and when or what the church or the priests we came in contact with, helped us. How they shaped us. How they were and are parts of us even when they are gone. And for that, I thank all of them. Tonight, we got to listen Fr. Daniel Ene. What an amazing miracle God made for him. He saved his life and doctors could not explain the miracle of life he was given. I have a feeling it is not the last time I will be listening to father Ene's sermons. So this is my story and the presence of these priests in my life. Maybe, take a moment and think about yours. May God grant them all health and divine guidance and grace and to Fr. Dunca ,memory eternal!

Cristina

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Time	Service Type
April			
Friday	4-Apr	6:00 PM	Akathist - Annunciation of the Theotokos
Saturday	5-Apr	9:30	Akatist
		10:00	Divine Liturgy - Lazarus Saturday. Memorial Service. Confesions.
Sunday	6-Apr	9:00 AM	Matins
		10:00 AM	The Fifth Sunday of Great Lent - St. Mary of Egypt
Wednesday	9-Apr	6:00 PM	Pre-Sanctified Liturgy at St. Mary's Church.
Saturday	12-Apr	9:30	Akatist
		10:00	Divine Liturgy - Lazarus Saturday. Memorial Service. Confesions.
Sunday	13-Apr	9:00 AM	Matins
		10:00 AM	The Entrance of our Lord into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday). Fish Luncheon.
Monday	14-Apr	6:00 PM	Holy Monday - Bridegroom Service
Tuesday	15-Apr	6:00 PM	Holy Tuesday - Bridegroom Service
Wednesday	16-Apr	6:00 PM	Holy Wednaesday - Bridegroom Service - Holy Unction
Thursday	17-Apr	9:00 AM	Divine Liturgy of the Holy Supper (of St. Basil)
		6:00 PM	Holy Thursday - Passions (12 Gospels)
Friday	18-Apr	6:00 PM	Holy Friday - Bridegroom Service - Lamentations
Saturday	19-Apr	9:30	Akatist
		10:00	Divine Liturgy of St. Basil
		23:15	Vigil of Pascha
		23:30	Resurrection Service
Sunday	20-Apr	0:00	(†) Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom - - Agape meal - Potluck
		12:00	Vespers. Egg hunt
Monday	21-Apr	9:30 AM	Matins
		10:00 AM	(†) HOLY PASCHA - Divine Liturgy
Tuesday	22-Apr	9:30 AM	Matins
		10:00 AM	(†) HOLY PASCHA - Divine Liturgy
Wednesday	23-Apr	9:30 AM	Matins
		10:00 AM	(†) George the Great Martyr and Triumphant
Friday	25-Apr	9:30 AM	Matins
		10:00 AM	†) Bright Friday: Theotokos of the "Life-giving Spring"
Saturday	27-Apr	9:00	Matins
		10:00	Divine Liturgy - The Fourth Sunday after Pascha (Sunday of St. Ap. Thomas)



Palm Sunday

On Sunday, five days before the Passover of the Law, the Lord came from Bethany to Jerusalem. Sending two of His disciples to bring Him a foal of an ass, He sat thereon and entered into the city. When the multitude there heard that Jesus was coming, they straightway took up the branches of palm trees in their hands, and went forth to meet Him. Others spread their garments on the ground, and yet others cut branches from the trees and strewed them in the way that Jesus was to pass; and all of them together, especially the children, went before and after Him, crying out: "Hosanna: Blessed is He that cometh in the Name of the Lord, the King of Israel" (John 12:13). This is the radiant and glorious festival of our Lord's entry into Jerusalem that we celebrate today.

The branches of the palm trees symbolize Christ's victory over the devil and death. The word Hosanna means "Save, I pray," or "Save, now." The foal of an ass, and Jesus' sitting thereon, and the fact that this animal was untamed and considered unclean according to the Law, signified the former uncleanness and wildness of the nations, and their subjection thereafter to the holy Law of the Gospel.

HOLY WEEK DONATIONS

General donations in any amount to defray the cost of decorations for the Paschal Feast are most appreciated. Some specific needs are:

Flowers for Palm Sunday Icon	50.00
Palms	\$100.00
Flowers for Bridegroom Icon	\$50.00
Holy Thursday Gospel Candles	\$60.00
Wreaths for Cross (Great Friday)	\$75.00
(Resurrection)	\$75.00
Resurrection Icon	\$50.00
Bay Leaves for Holy Saturday	\$100.00
1 Gallon of Olive Oil	\$25.00
1/2 lb Incense	\$40.00
Priest's Paschal Candle	\$50.00
Rose Oil for Epitaphion	\$25.00
Flowers for Epitaphion	\$600.00
Decorations/Plants for Pascha	\$250.00
Easter Candy/Gifts for Children	\$100.0

Please contact Betty Anderson by email (bettya16@verizon.net) or by phone 508-353-9449.

HOLY TRINITY NEWS

April 13, 2025

THIS WEEK AT HOLY TRINITY

Sunday: Palm Sunday Holy Week Catholic Mass and Divine Liturgy. A Christian Service with Jeremy & Noah.

Monday: 9:00 Library Cart/Rm Visit, Resident Council 10:30a, Board Games and Jazz music 3p-5p

Tuesday: Library Cart visits 9a, Manicures by Worcester Tech Cosmetology 9a-11a, FIT USA Exercise 2p, 2p to 3p Games and Trivia Fun

Wednesday: Divine Liturgy 9:30a Coffee talk 10a, Spiritual reflection 9:30 and Spiritual Scrambles, Arts and Crafts 2p. Wii Bowling 3:30p

Thursday: Library Cart Visits, Yoga & Meditation w Eileen 9:30, Rosary Prayer Group 10:30a, Egg Dying Easter traditions.

Friday: Library cart room visits 9am, Coffee and News 10:30, Artist corner 1:30p, Movie Matinee 2:30p.

Saturday: Holy Saturday Anastasi

If you have any questions or plans to stop by for an activity, please contact Isabelle Bouchard, at 508-852-1000.

This weekend begins the most serious and the most joyful week in the Christian faith. Our residents are ready for Palm Sunday. Divine Liturgy airing at 9:30am, a Catholic mass airing at 8am, and a Christian Service with Jeremy & Noah at 1:30pm. Holy Thursday we will be dyeing red eggs for Orthodox Easter which our residents love to do. Keeping traditions is especially important to our community. Holy Friday and Good Friday we will have meditation and reflection along with Holy Saturday Anastasi.

We would like to thank the Worcester Tech Cosmetology School students for coming in and spending time with our residents talking, telling stories, and being pampered. It is such a treat, and our residents will be ready for Easter Sunday!

STAY CONNECTED: Like our Facebook.

**ST. NICHOLAS
FISH LUNCHEON - April 13, 12:00 PM**



St. Nicholas Church invites you to celebrate a memorable day together on Palm Sunday!
An Agape Meal, or as we like to call it “Love Feast” is an ancient tradition of table fellowship, also helping and supporting our church.

The meal includes breaded fish fillets served with rice and mixed veggies. Crackers, fruits, salad served with fresh bread or pita.

Lenten sweets for dessert.

The drinks are on us!

We hope to see you all on April 13th.

Suggested donations \$ 25

Our Community – Holy Unction and Pre-Sanctified Liturgy





Cercetează-ți Credința

Vă invităm să participați, prin intermediul Programului educațional „Cercetează-ți Credința!”, la o nouă serie de evenimente dedicate celebrării Anului Omagial al Centenarului Patriarhiei Române și Anului Comemorativ al Duhovnicilor și Mărturisitorilor Ortodocși Români din Secolul al XX-lea.

În fiecare a doua joi a fiecărei luni, începând cu ora 7:00 PM EST | 6:00 PM CST | 4:00 PM PST, catehezele vor fi susținute de către Domnul Profesor Dragoș Ursu, având ca temă principală „O istorie a Ortodoxiei în spațiul românesc. Devenire instituțională și biografii spirituale”.

Prima conferință va avea loc Joi, 9 Ianuarie 2025, și va aborda subiectul: „Introducere în istoria Ortodoxiei românești. O privire teologică asupra trecutului”.

Pentru a participa la conferință, vă rugăm să accesați link-ul de conectare prin portalul ZOOM.
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82458482255?pwd=el4Lvw2IbLBcWMlcXwqtS0hCMI6AKa.1>

Vă reamintim că Joi, 27 Februarie, la ora 7.00 pm EDT | 6pm CST | 4pm PST, sunteți invitați la o nouă întâlnire din programul de STUDIU BIBLIC în LIMBA ROMÂNĂ despre Sfânta Evanghelie după Marcu susținut de Dl. Prof. Gheorghe Butuc, profesor la Seminarul Teologic „Sfântul Andrei” din Galați. Studiul Biblic se va desfășura prin portalul ZOOM: <https://link.mitropolia.us/zCJTZm>
Meeting ID: 819 0536 3350 Passcode: Romania

St. Nicholas Orthodox Church
34 Gold St | Shrewsbury, MA 01545-6238
508-845-0088 | e-mail: info@StNicholasChurch.org
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Sunday Services: Matins at 9:00 am and Divine Liturgy at 10:00 am