
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

May our Merciful Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ bless you!

There are no words sufficient to express the beauty of yesterday's Divine Liturgy commemorating our Lord's entry into Jerusalem as we enter into Holy Week and walk along the path of our Lord's suffering which leads to His Glorious Resurrection and Triumphant Victory over sin and death.

Yesterday's service was absolutely beautiful as the choir sang with a grace and enthusiasm that united all of us, young and old, in glorious song and adoration of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, His most Holy Mother and of all the Saints. By the power and Grace of this sacred offering we are united and become one voice, one heart and one soul as the body of Christ in this place already bearing witness to His Glorious Resurrection.

Together we are experiencing in our hearts and minds the miraculous and divine revelation of God's love for each one of us individually and as a family in Christ. There are no words to express the awesome joy that Matushka Xenia and I feel in the depths of our hearts as we see each and every one of you growing in your Faith and Love of our Lord and God and Saviour Jesus Christ. Hosanna in the Highest! Blessed is He who cometh in the name of the Lord!

Today is the beginning of our Holy Week and it leads to the actual experience of the Crucifixion, Death, Burial and Glorious Resurrection of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. With all my heart I encourage you to participate, as fully as your circumstances allow, in the experience of the death and resurrection of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ. You have the service schedule, and I encourage you to come to the services as God allows!

You are all welcome to bring your children to the nighttime services. When our children were very young, Matushka Xenia and I brought our children, each with a blanket and pillow and they would rest on the floor on the south side of the church before the large cross and bier under the large Trinity Icon. In most cases the children would sleep and yet we are certain that their hearts and souls experienced the divine mystery of the presence of God in the Church.

Being in the services, hearing the chanting and listening to the Word of God will touch their souls and leave deep impressions in their hearts. These moments will live in them and keep them in the faith throughout their lives. **“Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it.”** (Matthew 19:14-15)

If you need to make confession, I am available Wednesday evening before or after Holy Unction, during the day on Thursday and Friday and Saturday. Please reach out to schedule a time or simply stay after a service. **We will not hear confessions during liturgy on Pascha.**

I look forward, once again to standing with each of you as we witness the reality of the events leading to the resurrection.

With Love in Christ,
Fr. Spyridon