



# St. Alexander Nevsky Orthodox Cathedral

Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem (Palm Sunday)

Epistle: Philippians 4:4-9

Gospel: St. John 12:1-18

Apostles Jason and Sospater of the Seventy, the Virgin

Cercyra, and those with them

Lenten Fast

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Today's bulletin is sponsored by Elena O'Rourke in memory of her brother Georghy.  
May his Memory be Eternal!

## Sunday, April 28, 2024

### Today's Announcements

- We welcome all visitors and those who are entering an Orthodox Church for the first time. Please join us downstairs after the service for coffee, food and fellowship. We have a dedicated table for those who have questions about Orthodoxy or who just want to learn more by listening to and meeting others who are new to the church. Fr. John and the other clergy look forward to meeting you.
- Many thanks to those who filled gift bags for new moms and babies! Sixty bags were delivered to the three WCN pregnancy centers. The women really appreciate these bags.
- Please continue to pray for the health of Sophia Radinsky, Daniel Casciato, Fr. Paul and Mat. Mary Suda, Vasily, Lindsey, Phyllis, and Fr. Joseph.
- Catechumen class – following coffee hour
- Bridegroom Matins – 7:00 pm

### Monday – April 29 – Great and Holy Monday

- Panikhida for Georghy Efimchuk – 5:30 pm
- Confessions – 6:00 pm
- Bridegroom Matins – 7:00 pm

### Tuesday – April 30 – Great and Holy Tuesday

- Confessions – 6:00 pm
- Bridegroom Matins – 7:00 pm

### Wednesday – May 1 – Great and Holy Wednesday

- Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts – 9:00 am
- Confessions – 6:00 pm
- Bridegroom Matins – 7:00 pm.

### Thursday – May 2 – Great and Holy Thursday

- Vesperal Liturgy – 9:00 am
- Holy Friday Matins with Passion Gospel Readings – 7:00 pm

### Friday – May 3 – Great and Holy Friday

- Royal Hours – 8:00 am
- Holy Friday Vespers – 3:00 pm
- Holy Saturday Matins with Praises – 7:00 pm

### Saturday – May 4 – Great and Holy Saturday

- Reception of Catechumens – 9:00 am
- Vesperal Liturgy with 15 Old Testament Readings – 10:00 am
- Nocturnes – 10:30 pm
- Paschal Matins/Festal Divine Liturgy – 11:00 pm
- Blessing of Food Baskets and Agape meal – Following Liturgy

### Next Sunday – May 5 – Holy Pascha

- Paschal Vespers – 2:00 pm
- Agape meal at rectory – 3:00 pm

### Coming Events – Mark Your Calendar

- Diocesan Youth Day at PNC Park – May 10
- Easter Egg Hunt – following Liturgy May 12

### The Holy Apostles Jason and Sospater, and the Virgin Cercyra

The first two were of the Seventy Apostles and the latter was the daughter of a king from the island of Corfu. Jason and Sospater are mentioned by St. Paul and he calls them his kinsmen (Romans 16:21). Jason was born in Tarsus, as was the Apostle Paul, and Sospater was born in Achaea. The first was appointed bishop of Tarsus by the apostle and the other was appointed Bishop of Iconium. Traveling about and preaching the Gospel, these two apostles arrived on the island of Corfu, where they succeeded in building a church to the honor of St. Stephen the Protomartyr and in winning over some to the Church. The king of the island threw them both into prison, where seven thieves were also imprisoned. Their names were Saturnius, Jakischolus, Faustianus, Januarius, Marsalius, Euphrasius and Mammius. The apostles converted these seven to the Christian Faith, turning these wolves into lambs. Upon hearing this, the king ordered that these seven be put to death in boiling pitch. Thus they received wreaths of martyrdom. Later, while the king was torturing the apostles, his daughter, the virgin Cercyra, watched the suffering of these men of God from the window. Learning for what reason they were being tortured, she declared herself a Christian and distributed all of her jewels to the poor. The king became enraged at his daughter and shut her in a special prison. Since he was unable to dissuade her from Christ by this imprisonment, he ordered that the prison be burned. The prison burned, but the virgin remained alive. Upon seeing this miracle, many people were baptized. The infuriated king then ordered his daughter to be tied to a tree and slain with arrows. Those who believed in Christ fled from the terrible king to the nearest island and hid themselves. The king pursued them by boat in order to apprehend them, but the boat sank into the sea, and thus the unrighteous one perished as once did pharaoh. The new king embraced the Christian Faith and was baptized, receiving the name Sebastian. Jason and Sospater freely preached the Gospel and strengthened the Church of God in Corfu unto deep old age. There they ended their earthly lives and took up their habitation in the mansions of the Lord.