

**Schedule of Services**  
**Holy Week & PASCHA**



**Saturday, April 8th -**  
**Sunday, April 16th**

**St Elijah Antiochian**  
**Orthodox Church**

**Oklahoma City, OK**

## **LAZARUS SATURDAY - April 8th**

### **9:00 AM          Divine Liturgy**

The raising from the dead of Lazarus is a pledge of our own resurrection. All those familiar with Orthodox worship know the peculiar, almost paradoxical, character of Lazarus Saturday services. It is a Resurrection service on a Saturday, a day usually devoted to the liturgical commemoration of the dead.

### **5:00 PM          Great Vespers**

The three Old Testament readings help in preparing us to welcome Christ who comes as King to usher in salvation.

## **PALM SUNDAY - April 9th**

### **8:50 AM          Matins & Blessing of Palms**

### **10:00 AM        Divine Liturgy with Procession**

Commemorating the triumphal entry of Christ into Jerusalem before His voluntary death; carrying palm branches, the faithful join in procession around the outside of the church in recognition of this historic event.

### **7:00 PM          Bridegroom Matins**

The commemoration of Joseph, son of Jacob, and the Gospel account of the fig tree that withered remind us that our lives are intended to produce ripe fruit.

## **GREAT & HOLY MONDAY - April 10th**

### **7:00 PM          Bridegroom Matins**

The account of the wise and foolish virgins reminds us of the need to be watchful at all times expecting the arrival of Christ.

## **GREAT & HOLY TUESDAY - April 11th**

### **7:00 PM          Bridegroom Matins**

The anointing of Christ with myrrh by the woman at Bethany gives us an example of seeing our own sinfulness, and our need for humility and mercy.

## **GREAT & HOLY WEDNESDAY - April 12th**

**7:00 PM            Holy Unction**

The Sacrament of Holy Unction is celebrated for the healing of soul and body.

## **GREAT & HOLY THURSDAY - April 13th**

**9:00 AM            Divine Liturgy**

The last supper of Christ with His apostles is remembered as the Mystical Supper of His Body and Blood -- offered for our salvation. He says, "Do this is remembrance of Me."

**7:00 PM            The Twelve Passion Gospels**

The awful passion and terrible death of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is read from the twelve Gospel accounts. The life giving Cross is placed in the center of the church for our contemplation and veneration.

## **GREAT & HOLY FRIDAY - April 14th**

**9:00 AM            Royal Hours**

**3:00 PM            Un-nailing Vespers**

**7:00 PM            The Lamentations & Burial**

The life giving death of Christ on the Cross for our sakes, the removal of His sacred Body, and placing in the Tomb are commemorated. For the most beloved One has given His life for us. The sacred shroud and decorated bier are carried in funeral procession around the church as we relive the burial of our Lord.

***Immediately following the Lamentations is the All Night Vigil***

Following the service, we remain in the church throughout the night keeping watch over the tomb and reading the Psalms.

## **GREAT & HOLY SATURDAY - April 15th**

### **9:00 AM Divine Liturgy**

The tomb of our Lord is our focus as we realize the death and burial of Christ and await the joy of His Resurrection; for Christ is now in Hades conquering death.

### **11:00 PM Resurrection Rush and Matins Procession followed by the Great and Glorious Paschal Divine Liturgy!**

The Glorious Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is the sign of universal life. The “first light” is offered and a candle lit procession makes its way around the church reminding us that Light has overtaken darkness. Eggs are offered as a sign of new life. The Paschal exclamation, **Christ is Risen!** is offered and exchanged -- **Indeed, He is Risen!** The Paschal Liturgy is celebrated in the light filled church as if in the Light giving Tomb of the Resurrection.

## **GREAT & HOLY PASCHA DAY - April 16th**

### **5:00 PM Agape Vespers of the Resurrection**

The Resurrection of Christ is announced and celebrated with the reading of the Holy Gospel in many languages, proclaiming that Christ is Risen!

**Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!**

### **ARABIC**

Al Maseeh Qam! Haqqan Qam!

### **GREEK**

Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!

### **SLAVONIC**

Christos Voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese!