

DAYS OF ORTHODOX EASTER HOLY WEEK

A CHEAT SHEET

1

PALM SUNDAY

This day marks the entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem under branches of the palm tree. This is when people declared him as their King. Shortly after this Triumphant Entry, Jesus predicted His death.

2/3

MONDAY AND TUESDAY

These are the days that set the stage for Christ's death and resurrection. On Holy Monday we commemorate Joseph the Patriarch and the moment that Jesus cursed the fig tree on his way into Jerusalem during His triumphant entry. The Matins service on Tuesday prepares us for the events of Holy Wednesday.

4

WEDNESDAY

The focus during the service of Holy Wednesday is on repentance and confession, and the oil is said to be very healing. This day commemorates the day that Christ's feet were anointed with myrrh.

5

THURSDAY

Holy Thursday declares the final events that lead to the Lord's Passion. On this day, the Mystical Supper, also called the Last Supper, is celebrated. There are two services (one morning and one evening) on this day.

6

GOOD FRIDAY

Orthodox Christians commemorate the moment Jesus died on the cross on this day. During the afternoon service, Jesus is taken off the cross and laid in the tomb (Epitafio). During evening service, we mourn his death, read Bible passages, and sing hymns. This procession represents Jesus entering Hades.

7

SATURDAY

During Holy Saturday, we mourn Christ's death. For several hours before midnight, we sing hymns and spend time in church, anticipating His resurrection. Just before midnight, the church quietens and darkens. Finally, it erupts in candlelight and the traditional hymn, Christos Anesti (Christ is Risen) is sung.