

SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH
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BULLETIN FOR PASCHA AND BRIGHT WEEK 2013

PASCHA – SUNDAY/MAY 05
THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

12:01a.m. Matins and Divine Liturgy; blessing of foods; festal meal
12:00p.m. Vespers of Monday

BRIGHT MONDAY/MAY 06

9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy; procession and festal meal
7:00p.m. Vespers

BRIGHT TUESDAY/MAY 07

9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy

BRIGHT WEDNESDAY/MAY 08

9:30a.m. Akathist to Risen Lord
7:00p.m. Vespers with Bishop Michael and Deanery
Clergy and faithful at Christ the Saviour Church
In Paramus

BRIGHT THURSDAY/MAY 09

St. Nicholas the Wonderworker
9:30a.m. Akathist to St. Nicholas

BRIGHT FRIDAY/MAY 10

Life-Giving Spring Icon
9:30a.m. Akathist to Life-Giving Spring Icon

BRGHT SATURDAY/MAY 11

Ss. Cyril and Methodius
9:30a.m. Akathist to the Tomb of the Lord;
Confessions
5:30p.m. Vigil; Confessions

NEW SUNDAY/MAY 12

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour; Church School



CHRIST IS RISEN!

ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΒΟΚΡΕΣΕ

ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ΑΝΕΣΤΙ

CHRISTOS A INVIAT!



Offerings Week of May 5

Olive Oil – in memory of Michael, Justina, and Rosalia; in memory of Vaschen and Emilia; for the health of Susan; in memory of George; for Andrew Bajowski; for the health of Daniel and Gabriel; in memory of Hamlet and George.

Wine - Glory to God and for the health, protection and salvation of Mariannna, Simona, Gabriel, Maria, David, David, Ira-Crista, Domnica and Sultania; for the health of Stephanie (birthday).

Flowers - for the health of Kulick family; in thanksgiving to God and for protection during time of travel; in memory of Mary and John; in memory of the departed members of the Bartushak and Nevitt families.

Parish Synodicon – Memory Eternal!

May 08 40th Day Olga Romanofsky
May 15 40th Day Mildred Mock
May 06, 1971 Basil Pawlik
May 06, 1982 Philip Recetz
May 08, 1917 Demetrius Polegonsky
May 09, 1972 Pauline Lasin
May 10, 1984 Ignatius Chwat
May 11, 1962 Olga Kluchnik
May 11, 1999 Peter Grenther
May 12, 1990 John Yalsh

Coffee Hour Hosting

May 05 No Coffee Hour
May 12 Peterson, Bakaletz and Mattei
May 19 Kita, Nevitt and Keller

Ushers Schedule

May 05 (Pascha)
May 12 T. Gorbaturk and J. Stone
May 19 D. Fedechko and C. Dunaenko

The Calendar

May 8/Bright Wednesday – NJ Deanery Vespers with Bishop Michael in Paramus 7:00p.m.

May 13/Monday 6:30p.m. Paschal Memorial at Parish Cemetery

May 16/Thursday 7:00p.m. Parish Council Meeting

May 21/Tuesday 7:00p.m. Movie: "Suing the Devil".

For College Students Returning Home

Because Pascha is "late" this year, there will be some college students only returning home after Pascha. If this be the case, be sure to arrange with Father James to receive Holy Confession and Communion as soon as possible.

A Timely Reminder About Approaching for Holy Communion

- If you are visiting another church and wish to receive Holy Communion, it is your responsibility to make sure the priest knows who you are, where you are from and when you last went to Confession.
- This information should be conveyed to the priest before your visit, or at the very least well before the time of the Divine Liturgy.
- It is "not-good order" for Orthodox Christians to approach for Holy Communion, if the priest does not know you.

Namesdays Greetings: Many Years!

St. Emilia/May 8: Emilia Fedchko

Reminder About "The Terrible Foams"

For over 15 years our parish has been "foam free." That is, we use only paper products as foam is very unfriendly to the environment. If you are bringing disposal plates/cups/bowls to the church for usage, please only paper and no foams products.

Open Church Doors Ministry – The Months of May and June

In the months of May and June (for most Sundays), we will again have the "Open Door Ministry." Between the hours of 12:00p.m. and 2:00p.m., we keep (weather permitting) the doors of the church open, so those passing by, people who wish to pray, and those led in by the Lord, may benefit and receive the blessing of our Lord.

On these Sundays, we seek 2 people each week simply to be at the church any greet anyone entering. It is also a great opportunity for those greeting to spend time in prayer, reflection and spiritual reading. A sign-up sheet is on the vestibule stand.

RELEASE NUMBER 2013.11.1

ARCHPASTORAL LETTER FOR
The Feast of the Glorious Resurrection: Holy PASCHA
Sunday, May 5, 2013

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

Dearly Beloved in our Resurrected Lord:

"We celebrate the death of death and the overthrow of hell, the beginning of another life which is eternal, and in exultation we sing the praises of its source. He alone is blessed and most glorious -- the God of our fathers." Saint John of Damascus 7th Ode of the Canon of Resurrection Matins

As all of you know, forty years ago I suffered the greatest tragedy of my life. My wife of only 29 days was killed in an automobile accident at the age of 21. Every one of you who has ever lost someone you love to death has experienced how horrible it is. Even after forty years, there is still pain and suffering and loneliness. Everyone who suffers such a loss realizes that you never ever really get over it.

My only consolation, my only strength through that whole ordeal, my only hope enabling me to continue on, is our Paschal Faith; our firm belief in the Resurrection of Our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ. It is when I hear the voices of the faithful and join in the singing of the greatest hymn of victory of all time ~ ***"Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!"*** ~ that I am truly able to be at peace and experience joy.

Our Lord Jesus Christ is God's great, unspeakable gift to us out of His great love for mankind. But, the world rejected its Savior, tried to nail that Gift of Love to the Cross, and tried to bury Him in a tomb. But, the love of God is greater than the evil of the world -- mightier than the power of Satan that is behind that evil.

Christ in fact did die the humiliating death of crucifixion, reserved only for the worst of criminals, even though He had never committed a crime, never even committed a sin. He experienced, in every sense of the word, the pain and suffering that every human being knows as the onset of death takes its toll, even though He is the Son of the Living God. And, when His soul separated itself from His body at 3:00 that first Great and Holy Friday afternoon, He joined every sinner who had ever been drawn by death into Hades, that world of dark shadows under the control of Satan, even though He was the Light that had come down from Heaven. All of this -- He did for us!

On Great and Holy Friday, it seemed quite clear to anyone who had been near the Cross of Jesus that Our Lord had been defeated by His enemies. He was unjustly convicted by them, humiliated and spit upon by them, scourged and beaten by them, nailed to the Cross and left to die by them. The story of Jesus of Nazareth was seemingly ended, once and for all. But, the Love of God had yet to be heard from.

When Jesus' soul went down to Hades, even the devil himself was convinced Our Lord was the loser and he was the victor. But, Christ broke asunder the gates of brass to the entrance of Hades, shackled Satan himself,

and freed those who had been imprisoned in that underworld of darkness -- generation upon generation, from Adam and Eve onward. He led those who would follow Him out of Hades and opened for them, and for all who would later die, including my wife and your loved ones, the gates of Heaven and eternal life!

On the first Pascha, even before the sun rose that glorious Sunday morning, the pious women came to Jesus' tomb to anoint Him -- only to find it was empty! Peter and John ran to check out their story -- and they saw the same! Finally Christ Himself appeared, alive and well -- He even showed the doubting Thomas the nail prints in His hands and the spear mark in His side -- "proof positive" that He was the Victor. That is the end of the story: He defeated death and sin and the devil, and reclaimed for us the life, the love, and the joy that were meant to be ours from the moment Adam took his first breath in the Garden of Paradise.

Saint Paul, who met the Risen Lord on the road to Damascus, assures us: "*In fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep*" (1 Corinthians 15:20). When a tomato plant produces the very first tiny green tomato, it is the promise of more to come. So, the Resurrection of Jesus, says the Apostle, was the "*first fruit*." He is the promise that those who live with Him will also rise. As the Fathers of the Church tell us, "*Could the Head (Christ) rise and leave the members dead?*"

Our celebration of Pascha, then, is not just a family gathering of loved ones, the sharing of sumptuous foods, or baskets filled with candy and bunnies that light up children's eyes. What we really celebrate is "the death of death, and the overthrow of hell, and the beginning of another life which is eternal," for Matushka Deborah and all our loved ones who have died -- and, yes, for you and for me as well!

On this glorious Feast of Feasts, we can assuredly say with Saint Paul the beautiful words of faith that he wrote to the Romans:

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? ... No! In all these things we are more than conquerors through Him who loved us! For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:35-39)

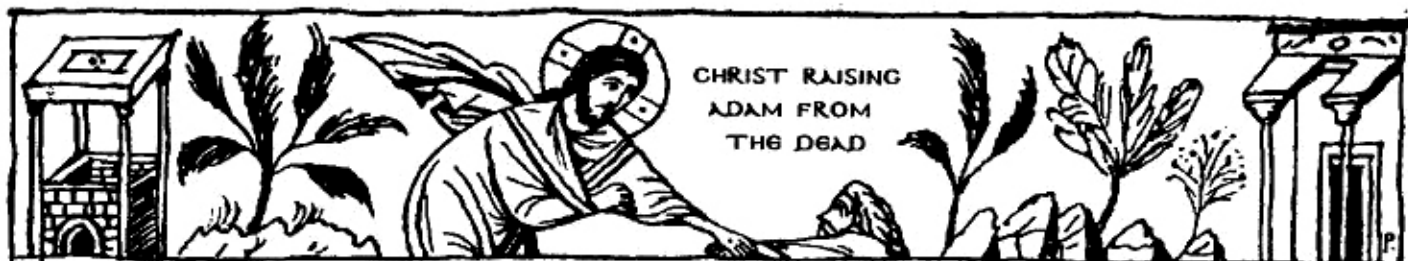
This is so ... because He who loves us more than we love ourselves is risen! Truly, He is risen!

May this Pascha be for you a reaffirmation of your faith in our Resurrected Savior and bring you an exhilarating joy, knowing that we share in "the death of death, and the overthrow of hell, and the beginning of another life which is eternal" through Christ's glorious victory!

With my prayers, my blessings and my love,

+ MICHAEL
Bishop of New York and the
Diocese of New York and New Jersey





THE HOURS OF PASCHA

*During Bright Week, it is customary to replace one's morning and evening prayers with the Paschal Hours. When the Hours of Pascha are sung or read in the absence of a priest, those prayers in *italics* are omitted.*

Priest: Blessed is our God, always, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

Choir: Amen.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life. (3x)

(Tone 6) Having beheld the Resurrection of Christ, / let us worship, the holy Lord Jesus, / the only Sinless One! / We venerate Thy Cross, O Christ, / and we praise and glorify Thy Holy Resurrection; / for Thou art our God, / and we know no other than Thee; / we call on Thy name. / Come, all you faithful, / let us venerate Christ's Holy Resurrection! / For, behold, through the Cross joy has come into all the world. / Let us ever bless the Lord, / praising His Resurrection. / For by enduring the Cross for us, // He destroyed death by death!

(Tone 8) Before the dawn, Mary and the women came / and found the stone rolled away from the tomb. / They heard the angelic voice: "Why do you seek among the dead as a man / the One who is everlasting light? / Behold the clothes in the grave! Go and proclaim to the world: / The Lord is risen! He has slain death, // as He is the Son of God, saving the race of men."

(Tone 8) Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal, / Thou didst destroy the power of death! / In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, / proclaiming "Rejoice" to the myrrhbearing women, // granting peace to Thine apostles, and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

(Tone 8) In the tomb with the body and in hell with the soul, / in paradise with the thief and on the throne with the Father and the Spirit, // wast Thou, O boundless Christ, filling all things.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

(Tone 8) Bearing life and more fruitful than paradise, / brighter than any royal chamber: // Thy tomb, O Christ, is the fountain of our resurrection.

Now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

(Tone 8) Rejoice, O holy and divine abode of the most high! / For through you, O Theotokos, joy is given to those who cry: // Blessed are you among women, O all-undefiled Lady!

Lord, have mercy. (40x)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

More honorable than the cherubim, and more glorious beyond compare than the seraphim: without defilement you gave birth to God the Word. True Theotokos, we magnify you.

Choir: In the name of the Lord, Father, bless.

Priest: Through the prayers of our holy Fathers, Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us.

Choir: Amen.

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life. (3x)

Choir: Lord, have mercy. (3x) Father, bless!

Priest: May He, who rose from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life, Christ our true God, through the prayers of His most-pure Mother, and of all the saints, have mercy on us and save us, for He is good and loves mankind.





THE PASCHAL GREETING

CHRIST IS RISEN! AND THE RESPONSE INDEED HE IS RISEN! IS EXCHANGED MANY TIMES DURING THE PASCHAL 40 DAY PERIOD. THIS GREETING IS NOT JUST A LITURGICAL FORMULA. IT IS A GREETING TO BE EXCHANGED BETWEEN ALL BELIEVING CHRISTIANS AS A PROCLAMATION OF OUR FAITH IN THE RISEN LORD. THE GREETING EXPRESSED IN VARIOUS LANGUAGES, EXPRESSES THE CATHOLICITY OF THE CHURCH AND UNITES US IN ACCORD AND SYMPHONY WITH OUR ORTHODOX FAITHFUL THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!
-ENGLISH-

CHRISTOS ANESTI! ALITHOS ANESTI!
-GREEK-

KRISTE AHZDKHAH! CHEZDMARIDET!
-GEORGIAN-

HRISTOS A INVIAT! ADEVERAT A INVIAT!
-ROMANIAN-

KHRISTOS VOSKRESE! VOISTINU VOSKRESE!
-RUSSIAN-

CHRISTO A RESUCITADO! EN VERDAD A RESUCITADO!
-SPANISH-

EL MESSIESH KAHM! HAKKEN KAHM!
-ARABIC-

KRISTO AZUKKIDE! AMAZIMA AZUKKIDE!
-UGANDIAN-

GRISDO GGESUH! BOO-HOL HA-SHON-NAE!
-KOREAN-