

**SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH**  
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## ***BULLETIN OF MAY 11, 2014***

*A Warm Welcome to our Parish!*

### ***CHRIST IS RISEN!***

#### **4<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF PASCHA/MAY 11**

##### **Ss. Cyril & Methodius**

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy  
Coffee Hour; Church School  
12-2:00p.m. Church Open Doors

#### **TUESDAY/MAY 13**

7:00p.m. Vespers  
7:30p.m. Lesser Blessing of Waters

#### **WEDNESDAY/MAY 14**

##### **Mid-Pentecost Feast (25<sup>th</sup> Day of 50)**

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy  
7-8:30p.m. Adult Study Class Part 2:  
*"The Descent of Christ Into Hades"*

#### **THURSDAY/MAY 15**

7:00p.m. Parish Council Meeting

#### **SATURDAY/MAY 17**

9:30a.m. Akathist to Risen Jesus; Confessions  
5:30p.m. Vigil; Confessions

#### **5<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF PASCHA/MAY 18**

##### **The Samaritan Woman at Jacob's Well**

9:10a.m. Hours; 9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy  
Coffee Hour; Church School & Teen Class  
12-200p.m. Church Doors Open



### **Offerings Week of May 11**

**Olive Oil:** in memory of Michael, Justina, Rosalia, and Anastasia; in memory of Vaschen and Emilia;  
**Wine:** on the birthday of Constantine, health, forgiveness and salvation.

**Flowers:** in memory of Vasil, Katusha and Bukhuti; in memory of Rose Lorenick.

### **Parish Synodicon: Memory Eternal!**

May 11, 1962 Olga Kluchnik  
May 11, 1999 Peter Grenther  
May 12, 1990 John Yalsh  
May 13, 1933 Maria Yaskovsky  
May 13, 1958 Jacob Popko  
May 14, 1933 Peter Chromoho  
May 14, 1953 Della Marchisin  
May 14, 1956 Pelegia Carko  
May 14, 1965 Metropolitan Leonty  
May 15, 1925 Maria Barna  
May 15, 2005 Olga Shemansky  
May 16, 1953 Michael Hobora  
May 16, 1962 Theodore Janushenko  
May 18, 1975 Wasil Kosticz

### **Coffee Hour Hosts**

May 11 Motoviloff, Torrisi, Kachek and Stone  
May 18 Combs, Mantzafos, Parsells and Sokol  
May 25 Sarchisian, Dunaenko & Wypych

### **Usher Schedule**

May 11 Timothy G. & Jerome S.  
May 18 Dennis F. & Charles D.  
May 25 Edward S. Adrian M. & Kakha K.

### **Altar Server Schedule**

May 11: Zachary S., George J, Nicholas M, Matthew P, Antoniu & Alexandr C.  
May 18: Nicholas T, George J, Nicholas M, Matthew P, Andre & Mattei M.

### **Adult Study Classes: "On the Mystery of Death: Wednesdays 7-8:30p.m.**

May 14: The Descent Into Hades of the Lord  
May 21: Resurrection/Ascension/Pentecost  
June 04: Death Before and After Christ

### **Cemetery Care Appeal**

In this month of May please make an offering for cemetery care, this is our annual appeal. Thanks

### **Spring Clean-Ups & Yard Work Projects**

Javier (part-time cemetery worker) is available for work you may have. You may contact Fr. James, to make any arrangements in this regard.

### **Face Book: Friends of Ss. Peter & Paul Orthodox Church**

On this page you will find a wealth of photos, church news, lives of saints, spiritual and moral content and a whole world of food for the mind and soul. You are invited to join!

### **New Feature on Parish Website**

A 360 virtual tour of our Church is now available on our parish website. Share this information with your relatives and friends.

### **The 40 Days of Pascha: April 20 – May 28**

- We do not kneel or make prostrations in church or in our homes
- We greet each other with the Paschal Greeting, "Christ is Risen!"
- The Prayer "O Heavenly King" is omitted until Pentecost Sunday.
- On Wed. and Fri., while remaining fast days, wine and oil are permitted.
- We read from the Gospel of St. John and The Acts of the Apostles.

### **Summer Orthodox Camping**

Have you submitted your registration forms?

### **Graduates of 2014**

Please let Fr. James know the names of those graduating this Spring. Thanks.

### **St. George Gazebo**

Is a great place to sit, talk and read, but not eat. Please help us keep the gazebo in good order and "break bread" with the community in the hall.

### **Movie Presentations**

The movies were discontinued due to lack of viewers, especially during the week nights. Maybe Sundays after Coffee Hour is the better time to present them. Think about it and voice your opinion to Father James.



**CONCERNING THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST**  
*By St. Nicholas of Zicha (+1956)*

***The first question: How can it be said that the Risen Lord has conquered death,  
When men still die?***

They who come into this world through their mother's womb will leave it through death and the grave. This is the rule. Only, death for us who did in Christ is no longer a dark abyss, but is birth into new life and a return to our homeland. The grave is, for us, no longer an eternal darkness but a gateway at which God's resplendent angels await us. For all who are filled with love for the beautiful and living Lord, the grave has become only the last obstacle to His presence – and this obstacle is as weak as a spider's web. And so the glorious Apostle Paul cries: *For to me to live is Christ and to die is gain* (Philippians 1:21).

How has the Lord not conquered death, when death is no more visible in His presence? The grave is no more a deep abyss, because He has filled it with Himself; neither is the grave dark any more, for it marks, not the end but the beginning; neither is it our eternal homeland, but only the door to that homeland.

The difference between death before Christ's Resurrection and after it is like the difference between a terrible conflagration and the flame of a candle. Christ's victory is fundamental and therefore, through Him, *death is swallowed up in victory* (1 Corinthians 15:54)

***The second question: How can it be said that the Risen Lord has conquered sin,  
When men still sin?***

The Lord has indeed conquered sin. He conquered it by His sinless conception and birth; then by His pure and sinless life on earth; then by His suffering on the Cross, being righteous; and finally He crowned this conquest by His glorious Resurrection. He became the medicine, the appropriate and infallible medicine against sin. He who is infected by sin can only be healed by Christ. He who wants not to sin can only with Christ's help make this desire a reality. When men found a cure for smallpox, they said: we have conquered this disease. They said the same thing when they found a cure for tonsillitis, toothache, gout and other similar illnesses: we have conquered them! The finding of a cure for an illness, then, means the conquering of it.



Christ is by far the greatest Physician in human history, for He brought men the cure for the sickness beyond all sicknesses – for sin, from which all other sicknesses and all man's other sufferings, both physical and spiritual are born. This medicine is He Himself, the Risen and Living Lord. He is the one and only effective Medicine for sin. If men, Even today, sin and, and by sinning, come to ruin, this does not mean that Christ did not conquer sin, but only that the men in question have not taken the one and only medicine against their mortal sickness; it means either

that they do not sufficiently know Christ as the Medicine or if they know the Lord, they do not make use of Him for one reason or another. But history testifies, with thousand upon thousand of voices, that those who make use of this medicine for their souls and take it into their bodies, are healed and made whole. Knowing the weakness of our being, the Lord Christ intended it for the faithful, for them to take Him as food and drink under the visible forms of bread and wine. This, the Lover of Mankind did out of His immeasurable love for men, simply in order to facilitate their approach to the life-giving medicine for sin and for the corruption brought about by sin. *He that eats my flesh and drinks my blood, dwells in me and I in him...and He shall live by me* (John 6:56-57).

Those who sin feed on sin, and the life that is in them is gradually lost through sin. Those, though, who feed on the living Lord, feed on life and the life within them increases more and more, and death decreases. And as much as life is increased, so much is sin decreased. The insipid and gloomy sweetness of sin is replaced in them by the joyful and life-giving sweetness of Christ the Victor.

Blessed are they who have tested and experienced this mystery in their lives. They can be called the sons of light and children of grace. When they pass from this life, they will, as it were, leave the hospital, being no longer sick men.



***Christ is Risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,  
And upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!***

*Upon those in the tombs....* has at the very same time two meanings, for the Resurrection of Christ destroys sin and death. If we be in the tomb of sin, we are brought out; if we be in the tomb of death, we will be brought out.

This is made manifest in the Gospel of John (5:25)...*"the hour is coming and now is, when the dead (those in sin) will hear the voice of the Son of God and those who hear will live."* This is a reference to the "first resurrection," which is the resurrection of the soul from sin. "Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all those who are in the graves will hear His voice and come forth" (verses 28-29). This refers to the future or "second resurrection," which is that of the body.

The immediate resurrection we experience and the first benefit of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, is that of the soul being raised from the deadness of sin. The nature of the "second resurrection" whether it will be for "the resurrection of life" (5:29) or "the resurrection of condemnation" (5:29), is dependent upon what is our experience of being raised now from sin.

So, when we sign the hymn, "Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death and upon those in the tombs bestowing life" – we the living are being raised from sin and the biologically dead, will be raised; the fruitfulness of the Resurrection of Christ is beneficial for both the living and the dead; and for the present age and the age to come.