

SAINTS PETER & PAUL ORTHODOX CHURCH

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

BULLETIN FOR BRIGHT WEEK 2016

SUNDAY/MAY 1

HOLY PASCHA: BRIGHT RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

THE FEAST OF FEASTS

12:01a.m. Matins & Divine Liturgy; Blessing of Paschal Foods & Festal Meal

12:00p.m. Vespers

X

BRIGHT MONDAY/MAY 2

St. George & St. Boris

9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy & Festal Meal; 700p.m.

BRIGHT TUESDAY/MAY 3

Ss. Nicholas, Raphael & Irene

9:30a.m. Divine Liturgy; 7:00p.m. Vespers

B

BRIGHT WEDNESDAY/MAY 4

9:30a.m. Akathist to Risen Lord

*7:00p.m. Vespers with Archbishop Michael at Christ the Savior Church in Paramus
with faithful of the NJ Deanery & Festal Meal*

BRIGHT THURSDAY/MAY 5

St. Nicholas of Zicha

9:30a.m. Akathist to Life-Giving Tomb of the Lord

BRIGHT FRIDAY/MAY 6

Life-Giving Spring Icon of Theotokos

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

BRIGHT SATURDAY/MAY 7

St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre

9:30a.m. Akathist to St. Alexis; Confessions

5:30p.m. Distribution of Artos; Vigil; Confessions

NEW SUNDAY/MAY 8

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

Offerings Week of May 1

Olive Oil: in memory of Michael, Justina, Anastasia, Mary and Rosalia; in memory of Vaschen and Emilia; in memory of Gabriella, Floarea, Gheorghe, Elena, Grigore, Maria, Valeria, Elena, Ion, Alexandru, Sasinca, Mihail, Alexandru, Aurelia, Valeria, Anicuta and Ion; for the health of Leigh and Zachary (anniversary).

Wine: for the health of Barbara (birthday); in thanksgiving to God and for the salvation of Mariana, Simona, Gabriel, Tabitha, Kurt, David, Maria, David and Ira-Crista; for safe travelling.

Flowers: in honor of the Bright Resurrection of Christ.

The Parish Synodicon: Memory Eternal!

May 01, 1986 Mary Julio
May 02, 1989 Deacon Gregory Lapchuk
May 02, 1998 Rose Lorenick
May 03, 1926 John Petrovich
May 03, 1984 Olga Saffron
May 03, 1985 Helen Kudelko
May 04, 1973 John Holovach
May 05, 1961 John Ivaniec
May 05, 1970 Katherine Nebozinsky
May 05 2012 William Basil Neudachin
May 06, 1971 Basil Pawlik
May 06, 1982 Philip Recetz
May 08, 1917 Demetrius Polegonsky

Coffee Hour Hosts

May 01 - No coffee hour
May 08 - Kita, Nevitt, Keller & Turri
May 15 - Inga, Eka, Marina & Nona

Usher Schedule

May 01 Timothy S. & Peter B.
May 08 Jerome S. & Adrian M.
May 15 Dennis F. & Peter B.

Counters

May 01 No counting
May 08 Ciprian C. & L. Mattei
May 15 Ekaterini M. & Irina S.

Sunday Readers Schedule

May 01 Zachary S.
May 08 John Z.
May 15 Ciprian C.

Names Day Greetings

St. George/Bright Monday: George Hadzithedoru, George Janiashvili
St. Alexandra/Bright Monday: Alexandra Erkman; Alexandra Lapchuk
Many Blessed Years!

New Website for Cemetery

www.orthodoxchristiancemetery.org is the new site. The cemetery is open to all Orthodox Christians from all parishes and jurisdictions.

Paschal Memorial Service at the Cemetery

The service is scheduled for Monday, May 9th at 6:30p.m. (Rain date: Wednesday 6:30p.m. – if still rain on Wednesday, 7:00p.m. in church).

Adult Study Classes: May 12 & 26 Thursdays, 7-8:30p.m.

May 12th: The Three Day Passover (Pascha): What was accomplished by our Lord on the Cross, in Hades and by His Resurrection?

May 26th: Ascension & Pentecost: Why our Lord ascended into Heaven and why the Holy Spirit was set.

The St. George Gazebo

As the weather becomes warmer, everyone is invited to use the gazebo, but not for eating.

Appreciation To All!

During these past weeks, many helping hands have been offered for church cleaning, offering of products, performance of various tasks and special donations. The Lord bless you in your offerings of time, talent and treasure!

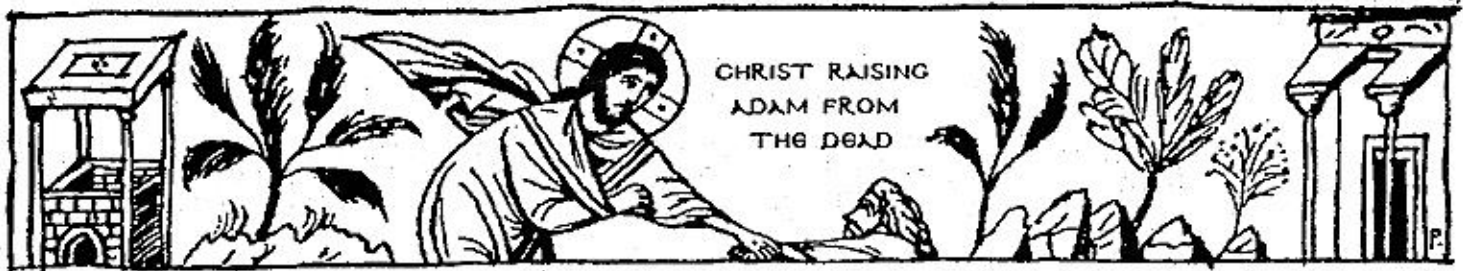
St. Tikhon's Summer Camp

Will be held July 3 thru 9. Registration forms are posted on one of the Bulletin Board. We hope again, to have a good number of our kids going.

The Calendar

May 14/Sat. "A Day in NYC – For 20's something and teens – How You Can Serve the Church" (see posted flyers)

May 19/Thurs. 7:00p.m. Parish Council Meeting
May 30/Mon. Pilgrimage St. Tikhon's Monastery
June 09/Thurs. Ascension Day



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 italic 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

The Paschal Greeting, **Christ is Risen!** and the response, **Indeed He is Risen!** is exchanged many times during the Paschal 40 day period. It is a greeting to be exchanged among Christians as a proclamation of our faith in the Risen Lord. The greeting expressed in various languages, demonstrates the catholicity and accord of the Church in the entire 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! VOSITINU VOSKRESE!
(Russian)

CHRISTO A RESUCITADO! EN VERDAD A RESUCITADO!
(Spanish)

EL MESSIESH KAHM! HAKKEN KAHM!
(Arabic)

KRISTO AZUKKIDE! AMAZIMA AZUKKIDE!
(Ugandian)

JIDU FU HUA LA! ZHEN DE TA FU HUA LA!
(Madarin Chinese)

PCHRISTOS AFTOOUN! ALETHOS AFTOOUN!
(Coptic)

GRISDO GGESUH! BOO-HOL HA-SHON-NAE!
(Korean)

Archpastoral Letter for Great and Holy Pascha 2016

Prot. No. 01-002/2016
Great and Holy Pascha
Sunday, May 1, 2016

Dearly Beloved Members of our Diocesan Family:
Christ is Risen! – Indeed He is Risen!

“This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!”

(Psalm 117:24 LXX)

Christ is Risen! He has burst open the gates of Hades, and freed the dead from captivity! He has renewed the earth through the members of His Church, now born anew in Baptism, and He has made creation blossom afresh with men and women brought back to life! He has unlocked the doors of Heaven, which now stand wide open to receive those who rise up from the earth!

Because of Christ’s Resurrection, the thief ascends to Paradise, the bodies of the Saints enter the Holy City, and the dead are restored to the company of the living! There is an upward movement in all of creation – each element being raised to something higher! We see Hades releasing its victims to the upper regions, the earth sending its buried dead to Heaven, and Heaven presenting its new arrivals to the Lord! In one and the same movement, Our Savior’s Passion raises men from the depths, lifts them up from the earth, and sets them in the heights!

Christ is Risen! His rising brings life to the dead, forgiveness to sinners, and glory to the Saints! It is no wonder David the Psalmist summons all creation to join in celebrating the Paschal Feast: *“This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.”*

And so, my brothers and sisters, each of us ought truly to rejoice on this Holiest of Days! Let no one, conscious of his sinfulness, withdraw from this glorious celebration. Nor let anyone be kept from the Holy Liturgy because of the burden of his guilt. Sinners we may indeed be, but we must not despair of pardon on this day which is so highly privileged. If a thief could receive the grace of Paradise, how could a repentant Christian be refused forgiveness?

Christ is Risen! The Conqueror has redeemed us! He handed Himself over to wicked men so that He could transform the wicked into Saints truly dear to Him! By focusing our attention upon the glory of Our Redeemer, there is sufficient hope for our resurrection. Through faith we know that we are already risen from the dead. Saint Paul tells us, *“Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him”* (Romans 6:8).

Even as regards our departed loved ones, the Apostle does not want us to grieve about those who have fallen asleep. Let the hope of the Resurrection encourage us, because we shall see again those whom we have lost here below. Of course, we must continue to firmly believe in the Risen Christ; we must continue to obey His commandments. But we know that His power is so great that it is easier for Him to raise the dead to life than it is for us to arouse those who are sleeping.

As we ponder these things, some feelings may cause us to weep for those we love; some hidden feelings may discourage our minds from trust and hope. Such is the sad human condition – without Christ, all of life is emptiness! But with Him, we share in His victory: The triumph of His light over darkness! The triumph of His goodness over evil! The triumph of His love over hate! The triumph of His healing over suffering! The triumph of His salvation over sin! The triumph of His life over death!

True, for a time death separates those who are joined to each other in marriage. Yes, it harshly and cruelly divides those whom friendship unites. But, Christ is Risen! Death's power is broken! Its heinous yoke has been destroyed by the One who threatened it with the cry of the Prophet Hosea: *"O Death, I shall be your death"* (Hosea 13:14). And with the words of the Apostle Paul, we too deride it: *"O Death, where is your victory? O Death, where is your sting?"* (I Corinthians 15:55).

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen! On this joyous day, my beloved, let us truly celebrate! But let us also remember: We do not really belong to ourselves. We belong to the One Who has redeemed us! Our will should always depend upon His! For this reason we say in the Lord's Prayer: *"Thy will be done!"* Yes, we belong to the Risen Savior ... the One Who has triumphed on Holy Pascha! We belong to the Resurrected Christ ... the One Who promises us: *"I am the Resurrection and the Life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, yet shall he live. And whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die"* (John 11:25-26). We belong to the Lord of Glory ... the God Who loves us more than we love ourselves!

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen! May the Resurrected Lord bless you and your loved ones on this great Feast of Feasts and always – with all the good things that come from His hands!

With my humble prayers, my Archpastoral blessing and my sincere love,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

+ MICHAEL

Archbishop of New York and the
Diocese of New York and New Jersey