

THE RESURRECTION



CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN OF APRIL 24, 2011

Please Remember in Prayer

Don Young, Mat. Maura, Jerrie Rife, Wallace & Michelle Wilson, Victoria Kokkinos, Ed Tucker, Karen Nichols, Irene Clenney, Denise Royal, Gabriela Jones, Simeon, Scott & Maryann, Roman Szwec, Mat. Dunia, Patti Lease, Garrett Cuppels, Frs Michael & Andrew, Fr. Christian, Jane Koshutko, Robert Evanusa, Nicholas & Linda, Nicholas, Anna, Nina Gordon, Mirela & Chris, Jaroslav, Troy, Frank & Mary Miranda, Kathy T., Bruce, Julia Plisko & family, Stella.

You're Invited!

to continue celebrating Pascha with us following the Midnight Service, when we share in a festal meal together. All are invited! The meal will begin immediately after the blessing of the Paschal Baskets.



Bright Week

is the week immediately following Pascha. During this week, we do not fast, even on Wednesday or Friday, as we celebrate the presence of the Risen Lord among us. During this week, our "normal" morning and evening prayers may be replaced by singing or reading the Paschal Hours. Page 4 of this bulletin has the Paschal Hours for those interested in keeping this custom.

Egg Hunt

Next Sunday, May 1st (rain date 5/8), there will be an egg hunt for the children of the parish. Please bring a basket with a handle for your children and two dozen candy filled eggs per family.



The Paschal Greeting

During the forty days of Pascha, Orthodox Christians greet one another with the words, "Christ is risen!" They likewise respond with the words, "Indeed He is risen!" And to show that the Good News of the Resurrection is for all of mankind, we often exclaim the Paschal Greeting in many different languages. Paschal Greeting in some of the more popular languages can be found at the back of the church. Please feel free to pick one up and learn (if you haven't already) to proclaim Christ's Resurrection to all!

Looking for a Church?

Christ the Savior has been serving Delmarva for more than 10 years. Our community is filled with people from all different backgrounds who have found their spiritual home in the Orthodox Church. You are invited to become part of our church family! Questions? Please see Fr. John or fill out an "information card" in the back of the church.



Fr. John will be away

from Pascha evening through Bright Thursday. If you need to reach him for anything, please do so by phone (302-537-6055) or email (frjohn@orthodoxdelmarva.org).

HOLY PASCHA, APRIL 24TH

Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!

12:00a.m. Matins

Divine Liturgy

Bls. of Baskets & Meal

12:00p.m. Paschal Vespers

BRIGHT MONDAY, APRIL 25TH

9:00a.m. Orthros @ St. George's

10:00a.m. Liturgy @ St. George's

BRIGHT SATURDAY, APRIL 30TH

5:50p.m. Paschal Hours

6:00p.m. Great Vespers

THOMAS SUNDAY, MAY 1ST

8:40a.m. Hours

9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour

Egg Hunt

Many Thanks to All!

Through Great Lent and Holy Week there were many things which needed to be done (cleaning, singing, serving, decorating, cooking, etc). Your labors, time, and offerings did not go unnoticed but instead are greatly appreciated! May the Risen Lord bless you!



READER SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 1st

Jodi McElwee

Sunday, May 8th

Constantine Mitsopoulos



HOLY PASCHA – THE MIDNIGHT SERVICE

Shortly before Midnight, the Resurrectional Nocturns is sung and all of the lights in the church are extinguished. The faithful wait in silence for the moment when the Priest will come out of the Altar with a lit candle, symbolizing the Light of the Risen Christ and the beginning of the Holy Pascha of the Lord – the Feast of Feasts.

At the stroke of Midnight, the clergy come out of the Holy Altar, all of the candles are lit, and a joyous, festive procession circles the church three times with the singing of the hymn: "Thy Resurrection, O Christ our Savior, the angels in heaven sing. Enable us on earth to glorify Thee in purity of heart." Then stopping before the closed outer doors of the church, the Priest reads the Gospel and exclaims the Paschal verses, "Let God arise...", while the Faithful sing the triumphant Paschal hymn, "Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life."



Faithful receiving the Paschal Fire at the Holy Sepulcher in Jerusalem.



Distribution of Paschal Fire

The Clergy and Faithful now re-enter the church and the singing of the Paschal Canon, "This is the Day of Resurrection...", with numerous repetitions of the Paschal hymn, "Christ is risen...", begins. At many points during the Service the Clergy exclaim, "Christ is risen!" and the Faithful respond, "Indeed, He is risen!" The church is filled with the Faithful holding lit candles and the Clergy in bright vestments. At the conclusion of the Matins, the catechetical address of St. John Chrysostom is read, summoning all, even those who have come only at the eleventh hour, to the great Paschal Banquet. Matins is then followed by the Paschal Liturgy.

BRIGHT WEEK

Bright Week is the first week following the Resurrection of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, which is celebrated each year at Pascha. It ends the following Sunday, the Sunday of St. Thomas. For Orthodox Christians Bright Week begins a period of celebration that continues for fifty days until Pentecost.

This celebration includes the practice of the faithful joyously greeting each other with the salutation of Christ is risen, followed by the response indeed He is risen or truly He is risen, as the whole of creation is renewed by Our Lord and Savior. The services of Bright Week are done with the Royal Doors fully open. This unblocked view of the altar symbolizes the open door of Christ's empty tomb as well as the rent veil of the Jewish Temple, which was torn apart at the moment Christ died. The entire week is considered to be one continuous day and the main reason why fasting is completely prohibited to all Orthodox during the week.



LITURGICAL NOTES ABOUT THE PASCHAL SEASON

This period of great festivity and joy finds its liturgical expression in the following manner:

- ❖ We greet each other with the Paschal salutation, "Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!" for 40 days, until Ascension Day.
- ❖ We do not kneel or make prostrations either at church services or in our homes until the "Kneeling Prayers" at Pentecost.
- ❖ The Paschal Troparion, "Christ is risen from the dead" is sung or said at the beginning or end of all prayers until the Leave-taking of Pascha on the Eve of Ascension.
- ❖ During Bright Week, morning and evening prayers are replaced by the Paschal Hours.
- ❖ The prayer, "O Heavenly King" is omitted until Pentecost, being replaced with the Troparion of Pascha and then Ascension.



MOUNT ATHOS FEATURED IN 60 MINUTES SEGMENT PASCHA EVENING

From GoArch.org

NEW YORK, NY [GOARCH] -- The Holy Mountain Athos, which for over 1000 years has been a sanctuary of Orthodox Christian monasticism, and which is directly under the spiritual jurisdiction of His All Holiness, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, will be featured on the CBS News program "60 Minutes", scheduled to air on Pascha Sunday.

The segment, "The Monks of Mount Athos," will recount 60 Minutes Correspondent Bob Simon's journey to a remote peninsula in North Greece that millions of Orthodox Christians consider the most sacred place on earth, Mount Athos.

On the recommendation and with the blessing of Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, doors were opened for the 60 Minutes team. After two trips to the mountain and two years of dialogue with the Anthonite community, Simon and the 60 Minutes team were given unprecedented access to document monastic life on the Holy Mountain. The result is a portrait of a place rarely seen, where prayer has been offered by holy men everyday, with no interruption, for more than a thousand years.

The "Monks of Mount Athos" will be broadcast Sunday, April 24, 2011 on the CBS Television Network at 7:00 PM EST. Harry Radliffe and Michael Karzis are the producers of the segment.

60 Minutes is the pre-eminent investigative television news show in the United States and has run on CBS since 1968. It has been among the top-rated TV programs for much of its life and has garnered numerous awards over the years. The show will also be broadcast online at www.60minutes.com.

ARCHPASTORAL LETTER OF HIS BEATITUDE, METROPOLITAN JONAH PASCHA 2011

Dearly Beloved in the Lord: Christ is Risen!

"This is the day that the Lord has made." Today, our Lord is risen from the dead, releasing each of us from our sins and, ultimately, death itself. It marks the beginning of a new life filled with the radiance of Christ's resurrection. "Let us rejoice and be glad in it!"

This newness of life has the power to transform us. The efforts and struggles we faced on our journey through Great Lent have prepared us for Christ's victory over death. Our prayers, fasting, and almsgiving were not ends unto themselves; rather, they were the tools that allowed us to empty ourselves of our passions and receive Christ into our hearts. As the Apostle Paul wrote to the Galatians, "it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me" [Galatians 2:20].

As our Paschal Lamb, Jesus Christ sacrificed Himself so that each of us may live a new life filled with joy, faith, and love. By His resurrection from the dead -- and our resurrection in Him -- we have become partakers of His divine nature. He has become our daily bread, nourishing us and giving us the strength to live as Christians in today's world. Let us cast off the shackles of our former lives, and be clothed in the robe of light, illumined by the light of Christ's resurrection. Let us open our minds and hearts to the light that beams forth from the empty tomb.

Our Lord has given us an example of love so beautiful, so wonderful, and so powerful that it must be the foundation of everything we do in our lives. The love of God has destroyed the power of death and overcome the devil. What a magnificent blessing! The love of God the Father, revealed in Christ's obedience unto death, has wiped the slate clean, and we are given a new beginning. What an amazing treasure! The sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the Cross has conquered death. We are set free. What a divine gift!

The Paschal joy that we feel today cannot and must not end with the dismissal of today's Liturgy or our agape meal -- and certainly not with the return to our "daily routines." When we allow Christ's joy and love to permeate every facet of our lives, the light of Christ's resurrection will continue in our hearts long after our Paschal candles have been extinguished.

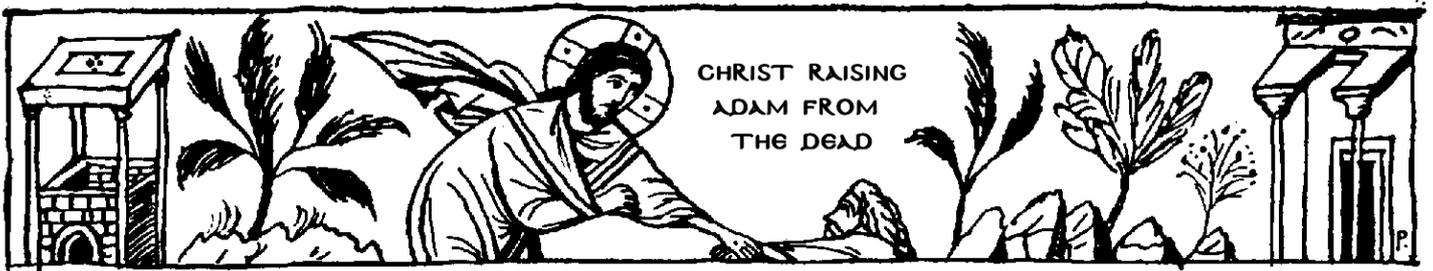
My dear brothers and sisters in Christ! Let us give glory to the One Who rose from the dead! And let us, as members of the Body of Christ, partake in His love, and share it with everyone one around us!

Christ is risen! Indeed, He is risen!

With love in the risen Christ,

+ JONAH





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.

