

CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN OF APRIL 15, 2018

A Warm Welcome!

We warmly welcome all our visitors. It's good to have you with us!

The "Day of Joy"

According to pious custom, a commemoration of the dead is made on Tuesday of Saint Thomas Week, so that, having celebrated the bright festival of Christ's Resurrection, the joy of the Paschal feast might be shared with those who have departed this life in the hope of their own resurrection. On this day, we have a special memorial service at 9:00am.

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!



Meeting of Parents

Today during Church School there will be a short meeting of parents.

Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 15th, (rain date: April 22nd). Each family is requested to bring baskets for their children and two dozen filled plastic eggs. Questions? Please see Mat. Emily.

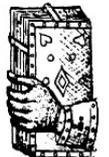


Photos From Holy Week and Pascha

Are now available on our website: orthodoxdelmarva.org. Thanks to the photographers! Check them out!

Bible Studies Resume

this Saturday at 5:00pm before the Great Vespers. All are welcome to attend and bring a friend!



Appreciation is Expressed

To the donors of a new laptop so that the treasurer can manage the financial books! May the Lord bless you for your generosity!

Contemplate the Risen Lord

- ❖ How during the 40 days after the Resurrection He showed Himself to the disciples, confirming them in the Faith;
- ❖ How His Resurrection brought great joy to those who loved Him, but unspeakable bitterness to those who hated Him;
- ❖ How His 2nd Coming, in glory and power, will evoke different feelings among different people – either joy or bitterness.
- ❖ How by His Resurrection, He destroyed the fear of death in the faithful, confirming their hope in everlasting life.

THOMAS SUNDAY, APRIL 15TH

8:40a.m. Hours
 9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy
 Coffee Hr; Church School
 Egg Hunt

TUESDAY, APRIL 17TH

Day of Joy

9:00a.m. Paschal Memorial

SATURDAY, APRIL 21ST

5:00p.m. Bible Study
 6:00p.m. Great Vespers

SUNDAY, APRIL 22ND

Holy Myrrh-bearing Women

8:40a.m. Hours
 9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy
 Coffee Hour
 Egg Hunt (rain date)

READER SCHEDULE



Sunday, April 22nd

Rdr. George Kaloroumakis

Sunday, April 29th

Joanne Patrick

CASH FLOWS THROUGH 3/31/18					CASH FLOWS IN APRIL 2018					FINANCIAL SNAPSHOT		
OPERATING		OTHER		ALL	OPERATING		OTHER		ALL	AS OF: 4/15		
Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Net	Income	Expense	Income	Expense	Net	Available	Restricted	Savings
21,918	27,699	4,100	2,000	-3,681	6,800	9,233	1,000	1,000	-2,483	6,053	5,234	12,000

THE TESTIMONY THAT CHRIST ROSE FROM THE DEAD

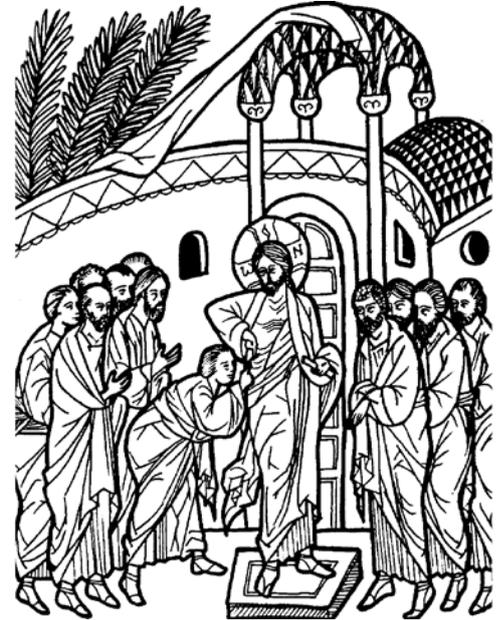
From *Mystagogy*: johnsanidopoulos.com

It may come as a surprise that one of the most reliable testified events in the ancient world is the resurrection of Christ, recorded in writing within a generation after the event (see 1 Corinthians 15) and fully testified within two generations while the majority of the witnesses were still alive. To understand how rare this is in the ancient world, one need only look at such a historical figure as Alexander the Great, whose earliest biography was not written until about 400 years after his death, after the earliest written testimony for Jesus.

Twelve Resurrection Appearances in the New Testament

There are twelve indisputable resurrection appearances recorded in the New Testament which spanned a time period of forty days following the event of the resurrection. They are to the following people:

- ❖ Mary Magdalene (Mk. 16:9-11; Jn. 20:11-18)
- ❖ The Myrrh-bearing women (Mt. 28:9-10)
- ❖ Two disciples on way to Emmaus (Mk. 16:12-13; Lk. 24:13-32)
- ❖ Peter (Lk. 24:34; 1 Cor. 15:4)
- ❖ Ten disciples (Lk. 24:36-43; Jn. 20:19-25)
- ❖ Eleven disciples (Mk. 16:14; Jn. 26-29)
- ❖ Seven disciples (Jn. 21: 1-23)
- ❖ Eleven disciples on the mountain (Mt. 28:16-20)
- ❖ Over five hundred disciples (1 Cor. 15:6)
- ❖ James, the brother of our Lord (1 Cor. 15:7)
- ❖ Disciples in Bethany at Ascension (Lk. 24:50-53; Acts. 1:2-12)
- ❖ Paul (1 Cor. 15:8)



We should mention that Acts 1:3 records that the Lord appeared many times over a forty day period following His resurrection from the dead, so the appearances are not limited to only twelve.

How many saw the resurrected Christ?

Over a period of forty days Christ rarely appeared to only one individual disciple. Usually many were present, and He gave ample evidence that His resurrection was in His physical body (they touched His wounds and saw Him eat). From the testimony in the New Testament, we know that well over five hundred people saw the risen Jesus, usually in groups, and there are no contradictions in the accounts nor recorded disputes about these appearances by those who saw Him.

When did they see the resurrected Christ?

Interestingly, all the resurrection appearances occurred either during the day, afternoon or towards evening. Never is a resurrection appearance recorded at night, lest it be confused with a dream.

Where was the risen Christ seen?

The risen Christ appeared in many different areas, both indoors and outdoors. He was seen:

- | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|------------|
| ❖ Near His tomb | ❖ Inside a home | ❖ Outdoors |
| ❖ On a well travelled road | ❖ A mountain | ❖ Judea |
| ❖ The seashore | ❖ A city | ❖ Galilee |

How did they see the risen Jesus?

The appearances of Christ were not passing visions, but they lasted over many hours to people of different backgrounds and occupations, where He would eat with those He appeared to and have conversations with them. None of them had previously believed that He would rise from dead, so initially the appearances confirmed the event and clarified teachings they may not have understood.

- ❖ The Apostle John writes in 1 Jn 1:1-4 that they heard, they saw, and they handled the risen Christ.
- ❖ The Apostle Peter says in Acts 10:41 that they ate and drank with the risen Christ.



ON THE SAVING WORK OF CHRIST

He was wrapped in swaddling clothes, but when he rose from the tomb he laid aside the shroud ... He asks where Lazarus has been laid, for he is man; but he raises him to life, for he is God. He is sold, dirt cheap, for thirty pieces of silver, but he redeems the world, at great cost, with his own blood ... He was weak and wounded, but he cures all infirmity, and all weakness. He was nailed to the wood and lifted up, but he restores us by the tree of life ... He dies, but he brings to life, and by his own death destroys death. He is buried, but he rises again. He descends into hell, but rescues the imprisoned souls.

—St. Gregory the Theologian

ABOUT THE TESTIMONY OF RELIABLE WITNESSES

A Homily By St. Nikolai Velimirovich

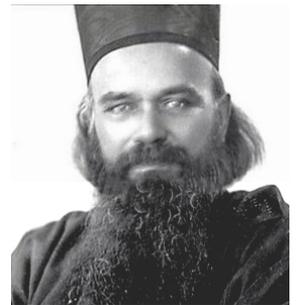
"But we have been eyewitnesses of His mighty glory" – 2 Peter 1:16

When the apostles speak about the glorious resurrection of the Lord, they speak in plurality. For each one of them gives his testimony and the testimony of other companions. Thus, the Apostle Peter writes: "We do not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty" (2 Peter 1:16).

Nathaniel did not want to believe only by hearing. That is why the Apostle Philip invited Nathaniel to "Come and see!" (St. John 1:46). Nathaniel came, saw and believed. So it was with the other apostles, until they approached Christ, until they heard, and until they saw, they did not want to believe. Cleverly devised myths did not attract the apostles. Their common sense sought visual facts and not myths.

O my brethren, our Faith is well established and proved. The trail of God is well blazoned in the world. No one has need to doubt. Christ's resurrection is well witnessed. No one need to despair. Doubt and despair are two worms that are born of sin. He who does not sin, clearly sees the blazoned trail of God in the world and clearly recognizes the resurrection of Christ.

O resurrected Lord, strengthen us by the power of Thy Holy Spirit so that we sin no more and that we do not become blinded to Thy trail in the world and to Thy glorious resurrection. To Thee be glory and thanks. Amen.



ABOUT THE HOLY FIRE

From Wikipedia.org

The Holy Fire ("Holy Light") is described by Christians as a miracle that occurs every year at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem on Holy Saturday, the day preceding Orthodox Easter. It is considered by many to be the longest-attested annual miracle in the Christian world. It has only been consecutively documented since 1106 A.D., previous references being sporadic. The ceremony is broadcast live in Greece, Russia, Romania, Belarus, Bulgaria, Georgia, Cyprus, Lebanon and other Orthodox countries like Egypt. Furthermore, the Holy Fire is brought to certain Orthodox countries, such as in Russia, Belarus, Greece, Serbia, Georgia, Bulgaria, Romania, Ukraine, Syria, Lebanon and Armenia, every year by special flights, being received with honors by state leaders at the respective airports.

CAUTION: SENSE OF HUMOR NEEDED!

From Steve the Builder's Blog, *Pithless Thoughts*, pithlessthoughts.blogspot.com

