

·THE RES· URRECTION·



CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN OF APRIL 27, 2008

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

Looking for a Church?

Christ the Savior is a church for people of all ages, ethnicities, and races, for both families and singles, and for all those who are searching for the anchor of a traditional Christian community in our rootless society. Come and worship with us, as we seek to be conformed to Christ's example of true humanity, so that we can become, as the Apostle Peter says, "partakers of His divine nature." (2 Peter 1:4)



HOLY PASCHA, APRIL 27TH

Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!

12:00a.m. Matins

Divine Liturgy

Blsq. of Baskets & Meal

12:00p.m. Paschal Vespers

BRIGHT SATURDAY, MAY 3RD

6:00p.m. Great Vespers

ST. THOMAS SUNDAY, MAY 4TH

8:40a.m. Hours

9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy

Coffee Hour

Egg Hunt

Many Thanks to All!

During 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 God bless you!



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. In the back of the church there are papers with this Paschal Greeting in some of the more popular languages. Please feel free to pick one up and learn (if you haven't already) to proclaim Christ's Resurrection to all!

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 following 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. If you would like a copy of the Paschal Hours please pick one up from the back of the church.



Egg Hunt

Next Sunday, May 4th, there will be an egg hunt for the children of the parish during the coffee hour. Should the weather be poor, the egg hunt will be held the following Sunday, May 11th.

Please Remember in Prayer

Carol Boris, Nina Gordon, and Jane Koshutko who are recovering from treatment, as well as Constantina and Christos. If you have a prayer request, let Fr. John know.

Homemade Kielbasa Available For Purchase

There is a little frozen kielbasa available for purchase. If you would like to buy some please see the ushers in the back of the church.

READER SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 4th

Jodi McElwee

Sunday, May 11th

Kathy Parrish



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.



ARCHPASTORAL MESSAGE OF HIS BEATITUDE, METROPOLITAN HERMAN FOR THE FEAST OF PASCHA

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

The Gospel of St. John tells of St. Mary Magdalene's encounter with the Risen Christ at the empty tomb. St. Mary weeps, believing that someone has taken the Lord's Body away. Christ approaches her and asks her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom do you seek?" Not recognizing the Lord at first, she asks Him if He knows where the body of her Master has been taken. Jesus replies, "Mary!" and immediately she recognizes Him.

In this passage we witness a profound encounter between the Lord and His servant. Simply by saying her name, Christ transforms St. Mary Magdalene's lamentation into joy. What a difference even one word, spoken at a critical moment, can make in one's life.

Writing on this passage, St. Ambrose of Milan offers an important insight into the nature of faith. He states that by asking St. Mary, "Whom do you seek?" the Lord was in effect saying: "You are the cause of your own weeping; you are the author of your own lamentation, because you are disbelieving of Christ. Believe and you will see Him."

Looking at the world from the perspective of belief makes a profound difference in what we see. The homeless person that we pass on the street, through eyes of faith, is recognized as a living icon of the living God. The crying child in our arms, through eyes of faith, is embraced as a sacred trust that God has given us to raise according to His Way. The struggles and toils of daily life, through eyes of faith, are known to be the Cross which we are called to take up as disciples of the Lord.

For most in our society, "Easter" is long gone this year. For faithful Orthodox Christians, we have only just arrived at the celebration of Pascha. Our fasting, our prayer, our Lenten journey is only now fulfilled.

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EX-MARINE WHO SERVED AS COP IN KOSOVO DECRIES KOSOVO'S RELIGIOUS BIGOTRY, CONVERTS TO ORTHODOXY

MASSILLON - D. Hunter Haynes said when he traveled to Kosovo in 2000, he was seeking adventure. What he found was a personal mission to raise awareness of religious persecution around the world.

Haynes, 41, who went to Kosovo as a U.N. peacekeeper, said at least 150 Orthodox churches have been systematically destroyed or profaned there; the result of fighting between Serbs, and Albanians, Kosovo's majority population. In response, he started the Orthodox Christian Advocacy Institute, a company that investigates incidents of religious persecution — particularly involving Orthodox Christians — around the world.

"I've thought about doing this for a couple of years," said Haynes, who has a tiny office in downtown Massillon decorated with Orthodox icons, maps, and books from his great-grandfather's library. Haynes moved his family to Massillon after graduating from Ohio State in January. His wife, Valerie, is from Waynesburg.

A lifelong Presbyterian, Haynes said that what he witnessed in Kosovo, led to his conversion to Orthodoxy. "With my experience, I thought, 'How can I benefit the church?'" he said. "I felt responsible to do some kind of human-rights work."

HOT SPOTS

A former Marine, and a police officer and sheriff's deputy for 12 years, Haynes was recruited for the U.N. peacekeeping force by DynCorp, a private contractor, for the U.S. Department of State. From September 2000 through Sept. 19, 2001, he was a precinct captain at one of 34 police stations in Kosovo.

"After the NATO bombing campaign in Yugoslavia in 1999, the United Nations set up an interim government in Kosovo," he explained. "They wanted a civilian police force, but how do you do that? They decided to import veteran officers for training. It sounded like a worthy cause. I believe it was." Haynes said there remains a disconnect about reli-

gious persecutions, even among Western Orthodox Christians. "Kosovo's just the top of the iceberg," he said. "In at least 12 hot spots around the world where Orthodox churches are present, where people are being killed daily."

'STILL GOING ON'

Because Serbs are a minority in Kosovo, Haynes said many live in heavily fortified enclaves. "They were basically unprotected. The Albanian paramilitary attacked them. The most disturbing thing we found out is that after we were on the ground, that's when the killing of Serbs began and the churches were destroyed. It's still going on."

When Kosovo emerged in 1999 after war unraveled Yugoslavia, the U.N. and NATO placed the region under the sovereignty of Serbia. On Feb. 18, Kosovo declared its independence from Serbia. The U.S., Great Britain, France, Italy, Turkey, Albania and Germany recognize the new Republic of Kosovo. Serbia, Russia and Spain contest it.

Haynes said his goal is to provide information so that church authorities and human-rights advocates can voice their concerns to policy makers, who can exert economic and diplomatic pressure on governments. "The international laws are on the books," he said. "They just need to honor

them. That hasn't been done."

ACCOUNTABLE TO LAW

Haynes plans to submit his findings to Christian periodicals, government agencies and human rights groups. Every year, the federal government publishes the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom. "But there isn't a lot said about Kosovo," he said, "But this isn't just about Kosovo. I won't hesitate to speak out about persecution of other religions.

"This is an issue that affects everyone on certain levels. Everybody has a right to religious freedom...

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PEACE SEEKER Massillon resident D. Hunter Haynes, a former police officer and a United Nations peacekeeper in Kosovo, is founder of the Orthodox Christian Advocacy Institute, which seeks to investigate incidents of religious persecution around the world. Haynes said thousands Christians are killed every year in persecutions.



ARCHPASTORAL MESSAGE OF MET. HERMAN
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"Believe and you will see Him." The reality of the Resurrection, witnessed through eyes of faith, changes everything. No longer do we need to be subject to sorrow or fear. Christ is risen, and nothing can take His victorious gift of everlasting life away from us. The holy confessors and martyrs were well aware of this. This awareness gave them the courage to stay the course of their faith, under the greatest of hardships. Even facing the threat of death, through eyes of faith, they were acutely aware of the Victor of death strengthening and comforting them.

It is only through our belief that we behold the full splendor and beauty of Pascha. With eyes of faith, on Pascha we become witnesses to the complete and ultimate victory of life over death, of freedom over captivity, of God over the evil one. "Trampling down death by death," our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ grants new life to all who believe in Him as King and as God.

I greet all of you on this radiant feast. May we celebrate the most-holy day of Pascha with "faith and with love." May the triumphant brilliance of Christ's resurrection fill our lives with joy and peace. "Believe and we will see Him."

With love in the Risen Lord,

Archbishop of Washington and New York
Metropolitan of All America and Canada



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.

EX-MARINE DECRIES KOSOVO'S RELIGIOUS BIGOTRY
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My goal is to visit 50 churches per year and do two overseas investigations per year."

Haynes doesn't charge a fee for his services, but does accept donations, explaining that OCAI isn't nonprofit because the Internal Revenue Service restricts what representatives of nonprofits can say politically.

He says that 170,000 Christians are killed every year for their beliefs. "The facts are not a secret," he said. "We need to wake up and be vigilant and hold governments and officials accountable to the law."

For information, contact Haynes at (330) 832-4877, dhunterhaynes@sbcglobal.net, or www.ocai.info.