

THE DOUBTING THOMAS



CHRIST THE SAVIOR ORTHODOX CHURCH

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BULLETIN OF MAY 1, 2011

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

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.

THOMAS SUNDAY, MAY 1ST

8:40a.m. Hours
9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour
Egg Hunt

TUESDAY, MAY 3RD

9:00a.m. Paschal Memorial

SATURDAY, MAY 7TH

St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre

5:00p.m. Akathist
6:00p.m. Great Vespers

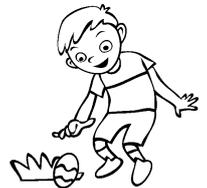
SUNDAY, MAY 8TH

Myrrh-Bearing Women

8:40a.m. Hours
9:00a.m. Divine Liturgy
Coffee Hour

Egg Hunt

Today, 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!"

Last Sunday's Bulletin

If you haven't yet picked up last Sunday's bulletin, it is available at the candle-stand, or on our website, orthodoxdelmarva.org.

Photos From Holy Week and Pascha

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

The Parish Council

will meet Sunday, May 15th, following the coffee hour. All invited.

Open House - Sunday, May 22nd

Everyone is invited to an Open House at the rectory on Sunday, May 22nd. The Open House will be in lieu of the coffee hour. Please try to save the date and let others know. If you would like to bring a dish, please see Mat. Emily. Absolutely everyone is invited - please come!



The May Calendar

is available on page 4. Please check the weekly bulletin for changes.

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.

Many Thanks to All!

Through Great Lent, Holy Week, & Pascha there were many things which needed to be done (cleaning, singing, serving, decorating, cooking, etc). Your labors, time, and offerings are greatly appreciated! May the Risen Lord bless you!



READER SCHEDULE

Sunday, May 8th
Constantine Mitsopoulos
Sunday, May 15th
Gabriela Jones



THE TESTIMONY THAT CHRIST ROSE FROM THE DEAD

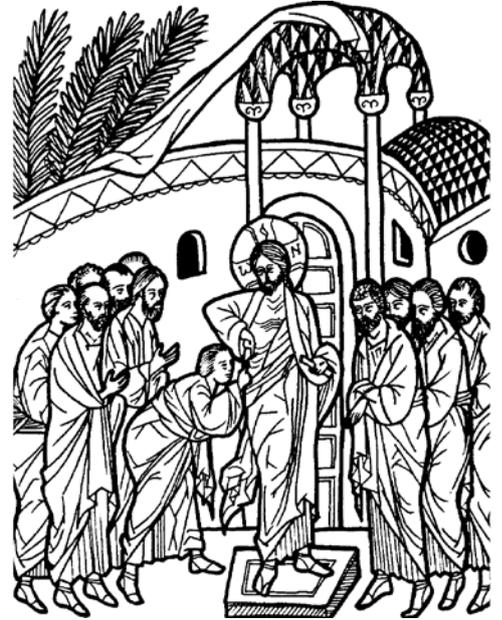
From Mystagogy: johnsanidopoulos.com

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.
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SAINT ALEXIS OF WILKES-BARRE

Commemorated on May 7th

Saint Alexis (Toth) was born in Austro-Hungary on March 18, 1854, to a poor Carpatho-Russian family. He was married and they had a child. He was ordained to the priesthood in the Uniate (Eastern Rite Catholic) Church on April 18, 1878. His wife and child died shortly after that, while he was serving as a parish priest. In October 1889, Alexis was appointed as priest of a Uniate parish in Minneapolis, Minnesota. When he presented his credentials to the American Catholic archbishop, he was treated with open hostility. He knew his rights under canon law, so he convened a meeting of eight of the ten Unia priests in America at Wilkes-Barre who petitioned the bishops of Eastern Europe to aid them, but they would not. He feared deportation and told his congregation that he should just return to Europe. They said "No". They had been under foreign domination long enough. They told Father Alexis to go to the Russian Orthodox bishop for help. Bishop Vladimir came to Minneapolis and on March 25, 1891, received Father Toth and 361 parishioners into the Orthodox Church of their ancestors. The parishioners regarded this event as a new Triumph of Orthodoxy, crying out with joy: "Glory to God for His great mercy!" That is St. Mary's OCA. The Saint went on to form or lead back to Orthodoxy 16 additional communities. He traveled to southern New Jersey to try to regain his health in late 1908. Then he returned to Wilkes-Barre where he was confined to bed for his last months. He reposed on Friday, May 7, 1909. His relics were laid to rest at St. Tikhon's Monastery in South Canaan, Pennsylvania. His tablet reads: "This is your Faith. Hold to it."

IOCC REACHES OUT IN AFTERMATH OF SEVERE WEATHER, FIRES

BALTIMORE, MD [IOCC] -- Following a historic series of storms in the southern United States that claimed the lives of more than 300 people, International Orthodox Christian Charities [IOCC] has been in contact with Orthodox Christian communities and partner organizations in several states to assess the needs of survivors.

"While some areas of the United States have been unseasonably dry and experiencing widespread fires, there have been reports of more than 750 tornadoes already this year," says IOCC Executive Director Constantine Triantafilou. "We have been contacting Orthodox hierarchs and parishes, ecumenical partners, and local authorities in communities across the South and Midwest to assess the needs and offer our support."

Help the victims of disasters around the world, like the natural disasters in the United States, by making a financial gift to the United States Emergency Response Fund, which will provide immediate relief as well as long-term support through the provision of emergency aid, recovery assistance and other support to help those in need. To make a gift, please visit www.iocc.org, call toll free at 1-877-803-IOCC (4622), or mail a check or money order payable to IOCC, P.O. Box 630225, Baltimore, Md. 21263-0225.

IOCC, founded in 1992 as the official humanitarian aid agency of the Standing Conference of Canonical Orthodox Bishops in the Americas, has implemented relief and development programs in 33 countries around the world.

MAY CONGRATULATIONS!

Anniversaries:

5/12 Donna Anderson

Birthdays:

5/26 Elisabeth Parsells

5/29 Irene Clenney

5/30 J. Michael McFarland

Namesdays:

5/5 *St. Irene the Great Martyr*
Irene Clenney

5/8 *St. Emilia*
Mat. Emily Parsells
Jodi McElwee

5/15 *Fourth Sunday of Pascha*
Fr. Christian (Lesinsky)

5/21 *Ss. Constantine & Helen*
Lena Maskalyova
Ellen Gunderson
Constantine Cook
Constantine Mitsopolous

5/23 *St. Alexander Nevsky*
Alexander Royal

Mistakes? Omissions? Please see Fr. John.