

Weekly Bulletin

Orthodox Church of the Annunciation



The Paschal Troparion

Troparion of PASCHA

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

Kontakion of Pascha, Tone 4

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal. Thou didst destroy the power of death. In victory Thou didst arise, O Christ God, proclaiming “rejoice” to the myrrhbearing women. Granting peace to thine apostles and bestowing resurrection on the fallen

Sentenced to Immortality by St. Justin Popovich

Man sentenced God to death; by His Resurrection, He sentenced Man to immortality. In return for a beating, He gives an embrace; for abuse, a blessing; for death, immortality. Man never showed so much hate for God as when he crucified Him; and God never showed more love for man than when he arose. Man even wanted to reduce God to a mortal, but God by His Resurrection made man immortal. The crucified God is Risen and has killed death. Death is no more. Immortality has surrounded man and all the worlds.

— Blessed Justin (Popovich)



PASCHA
CHRIST IS RISEN

Deus rescucitore
 El Cristo está recusitado
 حضرت عیسیٰ اظہار ہوئے
 Christus lat auferstanden
 Jozus Chrystus Zmatwychwstal
 Christus prisišele
 Hristos a Inviat
 Cristo Resorto
 Христос възхуыты
 CHRISTUS RESURREXIT
 КРИСТОС ВЪЗХОУТЫ
 CHRYSYTI RAIGAS
 Kristus Föltámadt
 Christ est resuscitatus
 Chrišti Ungia
 Kristur er upstiginn
 المسيح قام
 Χριστός 'Ανέστη
 CHRYSTI RAIGAS
 Христос а возсрел
 Cristo Resorto
 Христос възхуыты
 CHRISTUS RESURREXIT
 КРИСТОС ВЪЗХОУТЫ
 CHRYSYTI RAIGAS
 Christ is risen
 リヌトが更生した

Announcements and Activities

Great Vespers— Saturday, at 5:30PM.

Divine Liturgy— Sunday, at 10AM.

Coffee Hour— This week's Coffee Hour is being sponsored by Rhoda and Sunday. Next week's Coffee Hour will be coffee and cookies, as it's Mothers Day

Fundraiser on May 20th— We are doing a joint fundraiser to both help the church with our budget and Syrian families related to the many Syrian Orthodox families living on the central coast. We are distributing tickets for you to sell to family and friends. The food will be a Middle Eastern food: Shwarma— beef and chicken cooked on a rotisserie, dolma, rice, tabouli and baklava, a \$20 combo. This is a great cause and a way to lift our own budget up. Please make an effort to buy and sell tickets.

Pray for... Sarah, the daughter of Fr. Lawrence's godfather, health issues. **Youseff and Jimmy— who are ill.** **Matushka Ann Hopko,** reposed. **Jonathan— ill.** **Reposed Barbara Ranjo.** **Fr. And Matushka's Granddaughter Annabella is past her illness, but still needs prayer for the return all body parts to normal.** **Laure— battling Cancer.** **Paul— ill** **Ralph—ill** **Archpriest Lawrence,** from Canada, progressive eye disease. **Tsige Roman—** our beloved Tsige reposed on December 3rd. Please keep praying for her homeland of Ethiopia. **Brian— ill.** **Jonathan— ill.** **Katia—** sister of Shkbarra's **Grace,** Heather's goddaughter. **Reposed Priest, James.** **Reposed Hierarch Tikhon . Diane— surgery.** **Rufin—** soldier in Ukraine. **Elise, ill.** **Sally, surgery,** **Reposed Patrick, Reposed Jim, Reposed Alex; Christian,** prayers. **Chris,** reposed. **Galina,** reposed. **John D.,** anniversary of repose. **Patrick,** reposed. **Alex—** reposed.

The Sunday of the Paralytic: Jn. 5:1-15

This event is placed here, because Christ worked this miracle at the time of the Hebrew Pentecost. For, having gone up to Jerusalem for the Feast, He went to the pool with five porches, which Solomon had built and which was called the Sheep's Pool, because it was there that they used to wash the entrails of the sheep that had been slaughtered in the Temple for sacrifice; the first person to enter it, when the water was troubled by an Angel once a year, was made healthy.

Christ found in that place a man who had been ill for thirty-eight years and who lay there, despairing of finding anyone to place him in the water; from this we learn how beneficial endurance and patience are; and that since He was going to grant us Baptism, which cleanses every sin, God provided that miracles should be wrought in the Old Testament through water, so that, when Baptism was bestowed, it might be accepted.

Jesus came to this paralytic, who was called Jarus, and questioned him; he related his despair over finding someone to help him. Christ, knowing that he had been wasting away with this illness for so long a time, said: "Rise, take up thy bed, and walk." At once, he became healthy, and, taking his bed upon his shoulders, lest the event should seem illusory, he walked to his house. Since it was the Sabbath, he was forbidden by the Jews to walk. He explained that the One Who had healed him had told him to walk on the Sabbath, though he did not know Who He was; for when a crowd had gathered in that place, the Gospel says, Jesus secretly departed.

After this, Jesus found him in the Temple and said to him: "Behold, thou art made whole; sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee." Some say—though incorrectly—that Jesus spoke these words, because this man would later smite Him when He stood before Caiaphas, the High Priest and would, as a result, be granted a worse trial than paralysis, that of being tormented in the eternal fire, not just for thirty-eight years, but for ever; rather, the Lord showed that the illness of paralysis befell him because of his sins. However, not all illness comes from sins, but in some cases it comes about from physical causes, from gluttony, indifference, and many other factors. The paralytic, knowing that it was Jesus Who had healed him, made this known to the Jews; they, goaded into defending themselves, sought to kill Christ, because He had supposedly broken the Sabbath. Christ said much to them about this, maintaining that it is right to do good on the Sabbath; and that it was He Who, being equal to the Father, had said that one should keep the Sabbath; and just as His Father had worked hitherto, so did He work.

It should be known that this paralytic is different from the paralytic in St. Matthew's Gospel; for the healing of the latter took place in a house, with men assisting him, and he was told: "Thy sins are forgiven thee." This man was healed at the Porches, and he had no man to help him, as the Holy Gospel says; but, like the other paralytic, he did take up his bed. It is celebrated now, because it occurred during the season of Pentecost, as did the wonders involving the Samaritan woman and the blind man. We celebrate St. Thomas and the Myrrh-Bearers in assurance of Christ's Resurrection from the dead; but we celebrate the other wonders leading up to the Ascension, because they were done at different times in the season of the Hebrew Pentecost, and because St. John, whose Gospel is read during this period, is the only Evangelist to mention them.

By Thy boundless mercy, O Christ our God, have mercy on us. Amen.

*Translated from **Bulgakov's Handbook**, by Archpriest Eugene Tarris)*

"There do not exist many or few, nor small or great problems. The only problem is the absence of Christ from our lives" (From the life and teachings of Elder Epiphanius Theodoropoulos)