



# Weekly Bulletin

## Orthodox Church of the Annunciation

### The Resurrection of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ

#### 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 8

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, God 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.



## PASCHA CHRIST IS RISEN

Deus rescucitore  
Et Cristo está recusitado  
Krisztus Föltámadt  
Christ est resuscitatus  
Christi Ungia  
Krisztus er upatiginn  
المسيح قام  
Χριστός 'Ανέστη  
CHRYSYTI RAIGAS  
Hristos a Inviat  
Cristo Resorto  
Christus priskiele  
Христос възвста  
CHRISTUS RESURREXIT  
حضرت عیسیٰ انظار ہوئے  
عصره عیسیٰ تکرار تولد شد  
ईसू शुभकार जन्मदि  
Christ is risen  
ԲՐԻՍՏՈՍ ՅԱՐԵԱԽ Ի ՄԵՌԵԼՈՑ

## **Announcements and Activities**

### ***Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!***

**Bright Wednesday Liturgy**— we will serve a Divine Liturgy on Wednesday, at 9AM.

**Great Vespers Saturday**— 5:30 PM.

**Divine Liturgy**— Sunday, at 10AM.

**Coffee Hour**— This week's Coffee Hour is our PASCHAL Potluck. I want to thank Tony F. for providing our main course of chicken and lamb. Permit me to also thank those who organized the feast and the easter egg hunt.

**Congratulations** to Catherine W and Don S. on their reception into Orthodoxy through baptism.

**Church School/Adult Ed**— next Sunday, May 12th, at 9AM. We are approaching our summer hiatus for Church School. Thank you to the teachers who dedicated their time to instructing our students in the Law of God. Good job! To all the students who came and learned and the parents who brought them faithfully.

**Pray for...** Sarah, the daughter of Fr. Lawrence's godfather, health issues. **Youseff and Jimmy**— who are ill. **Archpriest Lawrence**, from Canada, progressive eye disease. **Priscilla and Departed, George**. **Luci F. bad knee**. **Newly- Departed Marylyn; ill, Diane, ill, Colin. John Truman**— lightheadedness and a recent fall. , Tom and Amy, who lost their son. **Nicholas, the father of a friend. Rose Marie**— Rachel's mother, cancer. **Barbara H.**—recovering from a fall. **Claude (Moses)**- in need of housing. **Eleni**— aftermath of a stroke. **Sharon. Baby Archie. Phil**— covid. **Reposed Makhoul. Marius and Lucia. (aka Darrell and Laura Beth) health issues. Todd**, cancer, Anna, his wife. **Micha. Lilly**, mother of Jason, **Ron, reposed**—request from Nina and Don;

## ***A Reflection on the Saving Feast of PASCHA***

The word Pascha," says St. Ambrose of Milan, "means passage. This feast of feasts is so named because it celebrates, in the Old Testament Church. the memory of the exodus of the sons of Israel from Egypt and at the same time their deliverance from slavery; and in the New Testament Church that sign that the Son of God Himself, through the resurrection from the dead, passed over from this world to the Father, from earth to Heaven, freeing even us from eternal death and the work of the enemy, and granting us the "power to become children of God" (John 1:12)".

"By the Resurrection of Christ the infernal region is opened, the earth is renewed by the baptism of catechumens, Heaven reveals the Holy Spirit. The open infernal region returns the dead, the renewed earth grows those who are arising, the open Heaven receives those who are ascending. The infernal regions return those below to the high place, the earth sends the buried to Heaven, Heaven represents those received to the Lord".

According to the teaching of St. John Chrysostom, "by the resurrection of Christ the fire of Gehenna is quenched, the vigilant worm dies, Hades is overthrown, the devil groans, sin is destroyed, the evil spirits convert in flight, those passing from earth to Heaven rise, those who were in Hades were freed from the bonds of the devil". "Such is the light of our Pascha for those who worthily worship! Such is the mystery for the Christians! That is, we celebrate the feast of the resurrection of the dead and life eternal.

In the church hymns, Jesus Christ, "all who were subjected to death, through the power of His resurrection as the mighty God, raised us together and deified us", "from death to life and from earth to heaven He led us", and we, celebrating Pascha, "celebrate the annihilation of death, the destruction of Hades, the beginning of eternal life".

In the ranking of the feasts of the Lord the feast of Pascha occupies the central place, and in the ranking of all Christian feasts it is the feast for the most part, that "surpasses all celebrations, even those of Christ and those fulfilled in honor of Christ, as much as the sun surpasses the stars. What is the basis of all sacred celebrations? "In the one", as His Eminence Innocent, Archbishop of Cherson teaches, "it is expressed mainly by the firmness and purity of faith; in the other it especially opens the grace of love and virtue; in still others by a perceptible image it radiates the height and holiness of Christian hope. But the resurrection of Jesus Christ combines in itself that quality in the highest degree. It is the highest celebration of faith, for it establishes us, it raises up, it deifies our faith; it is the highest celebration of virtue, for in it the purest virtue has triumphed over the greatest temptation; it is the highest celebration of hope, for it serves for the faithful as a pledge of the most majestic promise". That is why the day of the Resurrection of Christ really is "the feast of feasts and holy day of holy days", and consequently it was celebrated and is celebrated with an especially bright and solemn paradigm. On "this chosen and holy day", sings the Holy Church, "is enlightened by divine rays and the life-bearing resurrection of the Son of God and joy is fulfilled in this pious assembly".

Taken from Reader's Handbook, by Bulgakov

*"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)*