



# 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  
Krisztur er upatiginn  
المسيح قام  
Χριστός 'Ανέστη  
CHRYSYTI RAIGAS  
Hristos a Inviat  
Cristo Resorto  
Christus priskiele  
Христосъ възвѣстъ  
CHRISTUS RESURREXIT  
Christ is risen  
ХРИСТОСЪ ВЪЗВѢСТЪ  
CHRISTUS RESURREXIT

حضرت عیسیٰ انظار ہوئے  
عصره عیسیٰ تکرار تولد شد  
ईसू शुभकारण जति  
クリストが更生した

## Announcements and Activities

*Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!*

**Great Vespers for Ascension**— Wednesday, at 6PM

**Divine Liturgy for Ascension**— Thursday, at 9AM.

**Great Vespers Saturday**— 5:30 PM.

**Divine Liturgy**— Sunday, at 10AM.

**Coffee Hour**— This week's Coffee Hour is our Bagels and Coffee week. Next week's Coffee Hour will be cookies and coffee, as it is Fathers Day.

**Parish Council**— will meet today, after Divine Liturgy and Coffee Hour.

**Church School/Adult Ed.**—is now on summer hiatus. We mentioned Church School director Elise Russell's appeal to our parish for needed teachers. More later about a preliminary meeting that she has scheduled in July to gear up and prepare for the coming year's classes.

**July 27 BBQ Fundraiser**— the fundraising committee has been working hard to prepare for this event. As you know, this is a very special year for our parish— the year of the consecration of our temple. We have had numerous very wise expenditures needed to prepare for the event: cleaning up the grounds, getting needed items for the Consecration itself, getting the final segment of the iconography we planned to finish by the date, and a host of other things. Your council is preparing a plan of stewardship for these current events and for the future financial planning of the parish. You ARE a part of that planning. More about that as council finishes it's preparations to present the future to you. But for now, support at the fundraising events is important. We are not selling tickets, but we all need to eat and we all have friends who need to eat. Please plan on coming out and buying a plate and distributing flyers to your friends. Let's make this a success.

**Graduates!** Congratulations to all who graduated for elementary to Junior High, and from High School this year. We are proud of you and ready to be with you and support you in the next stage of your life.

**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 Sunday of the Blindman

Last Sunday, the Sunday of the Samaritan woman, the Holy Church told us how Christ raises a person from an earthly, carnal state of mind to the state in which a human being thirsts to worship God and pray to Him. You see, the Samaritan woman came to the well for physical water which satisfies only earthly thirst. But when Christ revealed her sins to her, and she ran to Him in repentance, then in her awakened a spiritual thirst, the thirst for Living Water springing up into everlasting life, the thirst for communion with God, her first question was about prayer: where one should worship God, how to pray. Now today's Gospel gives us a model for prayer.

“As Jesus passed by, He saw a man which was blind from birth” (Jn. 9:1). Being blind from birth he had never seen anyone. He could not imagine to himself the form of a man. He had never even seen Christ. He only knew that Christ was passing close by, that He was a miracle-worker and could give him sight. And he began to cry out, to call to Christ: “Jesus, Thou Son of David, have mercy on me!” (Mk. 10:47; Lu. 18:38). The people tried to quiet him; he was interfering with their listening to Christ's preaching, he was disturbing the peace. Christ was walking, surrounded by His disciples, and they asked: “Master, who did sin, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him...” When He had thus spoken, He spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. And said unto him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (Jn. 9:2-3;6-8)

Let us imagine to ourselves the mental state of this man blind from birth. He cried out, called. They pushed him, maybe even forced him to be silent but he still cried out, begged. Speaking in our terms, he was praying...This is the model of prayer for you and me. After all, we too are spiritually blind and cannot see the Lord. But we know that he exists. Let us call to Him, cry out to Him, begging for help. And let us not despond if this help is not immediately given to us. Maybe we still have to go a long way, not an easy way, like the way for the blind man to the pool of Siloam. On this path we might meet unpleasant things, humiliations, like the clay for the blind man. Let us endure everything. Let us be obedient. Let us do what He orders us to do; let us go the way He showed us, like the blind man's way to the pool of Siloam. And here, when we have fulfilled all this, then the Lord will answer our prayer, and if it pleases Him, will fulfill it. And the same will happen to us that happened to the blind man. When through the circumstances of our life, the Lord asks us, “Dost Thou believe on the Son of God?” (Jn. 9:35), we will answer: We believe Lord! And we will worship Him.

Only Let us avoid all images during the time of prayer. We must not imagine anything to ourselves; but like the blind man, let us just *know* that the Lord is near and that He can do anything. And if things seem to turn out opposite to our prayers, let us not despond. But let us hope, hope against hope. And He will do what is beneficial for us. Let us keep the state of mind of the blind man — this is the best form of prayer.

(Taken from *The Year of Grace of the Lord*, by a Monk of the Eastern Church)

*“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)*