

ASSUMPTION OF THE HOLY VIRGIN ORTHODOX CHURCH
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Sunday, April 16, 2017 | HOLY PASCHA
THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD & SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST
(BEGINNING OF THE PENTECOSTARION)
CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

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Weekly Schedule (Bright Week!)
(NO FASTING THIS WEEK!!!!)

Today: Pascha Vespers will begin approximately 15 minutes after the Blessing of the Easter Baskets (which will occur after Divine Liturgy)

No Services to be held at the parish during Bright Week!

Saturday: April 22 - Great Vespers at 5:00PM!

Sunday: April 23 – AntiPascha. 2nd Sunday of Pascha
St. Thomas Sunday.

Reading of Hours – 9:30am

Divine Liturgy – 10:00am

Fellowship & coffee hour to follow the Divine Liturgy

Sunday: April 23 – Blessing of Graves at Mount Moriah Cemetery
(For those that stay at the cemetery after the grave blessing,
a Paschal picnic will be held near the Spack family gravesite)

(Weather Permitting!!!)

Texts for the Liturgical Service

Troparion

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

Hypakoe (Tone 8)

Before the dawn Mary and the women / came and found the stone rolled away from the tomb. / They heard the angelic voice: “Why do ye seek among the dead as a Man / the One Who is everlasting Light? / Behold the clothes in the grave; go and proclaim to the world: / “The Lord is risen; He has slain death, // as He is the Son of God, saving the race of man.”

Kontakion (Tone 8)

Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal, / Thou didst destroy the power of death. / In victory didst Thou arise, O Christ God, / proclaiming, “Rejoice!” to the Myrrhbearing Women, // granting peace to Thine Apostles, and bestowing Resurrection on the fallen.

(In Place of the Trisagion, we sing:)

As many as have been baptized into Christ, / have put on Christ. Alleluia. (3x's)

Prokeimenon (Tone 8)

This is the day which the Lord has made! / Let us rejoice and be glad in it!
v. O give thanks to the Lord for He is good; for His mercy endures forever!

Epistle Reading: Acts 1:1-8

The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which,” He said, “you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now. Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.
Alleluia (3x's) (Tone 4)

v. Thou didst arise and have mercy on Zion. Alleluia (3x's)

v. The Lord looked down from heaven and saw all the sons of men. Alleluia (3x's)

Gospel Reading: John 1:1-17

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, 'He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.'" "And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Instead of "It is truly meet...", we sing the following

The Angel cried to the Lady, full of grace: / "Rejoice, O pure Virgin! Again, I say: Rejoice, / Your Son is risen from His three days in the tomb! / With Himself He has raised all the dead." / Rejoice, O ye people!

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem! / The glory of the Lord has shone on you. / Exult now, / and be glad, O Zion! / Be radiant, / O pure Theotokos, / in the Resurrection of your Son!

Communion Hymn:

Receive the Body of Christ; taste the fountain of immortality! Alleluia (3x's)

Announcements

A Warm Welcome to all of our visitors & guests who worshiped with us today and who have joined us in celebrating the Divine Liturgy. Please join us in the church basement for our Fellowship and Coffee Hour.

Announcements (cont.)

Paschal Greetings from Around the World

Aleut:	Khristus anahgrecum!	Alhecum anahgrecum!
Arabic:	El Messieh kahm!	Hakken kahm!
Chinese:	Helisituosi fuhuole!	Queshi fuhuole!
Coptic:	Pchristos aftooun!	Alethos aftooun!
Czech:	Kristus vstal a mrtvych!	Opravdi vstoupil!
English:	Christ is risen!	Indeed He is risen!
Georgian:	Kriste ahzdkhah!	Chezmaridet ahzdkhah!
German:	Christus ist erstanden!	Wahrlich ist er erstanden!
Greek:	Christos anesti!	Alithos anesti!
Hawaiian:	Ua ala hou'o Kristo!	Ua ala 'I 'o no 'oia!
Italian:	Cristo e risorto!	Veramente e risorto!
Japanese:	Harisutos Fukkatsu!	Jitsu ni Fukkatsu!
Korean:	Kristo gesso!	Buhar ha sho nay!
Latin:	Christus resurrexit!	Vere resurrexit!
Polish:	Khristus zmartyckwstal!	Zaprawde zmartyckwstal!
Romanian:	Hristos a inviat!	Adeverat a inviat!
Russian:	Christos voskrese!	Voistinu voskrese!
Serbian:	Cristos vaskres!	Vaistinu vaskres!
Slovak:	Kristus vstal zmr'tvych!	Skutoc ne vstal!
Spanish:	Cristo ha resucitado!	En verdad ha resucitado!
Ukrainian:	Khristos voskres!	Voistinu voskres!

Attendance: Holy Week

Sunday (4/9) Bridegroom Matins Service = 10 attended from our parish.
Monday (4/10) Bridegroom Matins Service = 30 (Another beautiful turnout!)
Tuesday (4/11) Bridegroom Matins Service = 12
Wednesday Bridegroom Matins with Holy Unction = 6 attended from our parish.
Thursday (4/13) - Vespers Divine Liturgy = 5
Thursday (4/13) – Friday Matins with 12 Passion Gospels = 25
Friday (4/14) – Holy Friday Vespers = 25
Friday (4/14) – Matins with Lamentations (Procession) = 48
Saturday (4/8) – Vespers with Divine Liturgy with all 15 OT Readings = 20

Please remember in your prayers those who perished and the injured in the senseless and brutal terrorist attacks that occurred last week at St George Coptic Orthodox Church in Tanta, Egypt and St Mark Coptic Orthodox Cathedral in Alexandria, Egypt.

Announcements (cont.)

Candles and Prayers for the Faithful and Departed

Health for the Living:

Dan Tyson, Family members offered by Nina Patterson
Family and Friends offered by Nancy Brasko Rabik
Mary Ann & Paul offered by Mary Brodie
Family and Friends offered by Daria LeRoy
Marc, Anastasia Renzetti, Anastasia, Ronald, Sharon, Paul, Edward, Taylor, Mary, Simon,
Catherine, Albert, Deborha, James, Barbara, Jenifer, Susan, Patricia offered by Mr. & Mrs. Ken
Kavalkovich

May God Grant Them Many Blessed Years!

Memory for the Departed:

Kathleen Joyce offered by Mr. & Mrs. Herbert
Family and Friends offered by Nancy Brasko Rabik
William & Anna Zuzulock offered by the Pellack Family
Michael & Anna Pellack offered by the Pellack Family
Pete & Helen Zuzulock offered by the Pellack Family
Paul & Mary Koran offered by the Pellack Family
Family and Friends offered by Nancy Brasko Rabik
Michael Popelak offered by Mary Brodie
Julia Makara offered by the Pellack Family
Sabato & Renzetti Families offered by Kathy Renzetti
Zuzulock Family and Mary McKinney offered by Kathy Renzetti
Mary Kapusnik Causton, Anna Kapusnik, Andrew & Helen Gerasimoff, Albert & Marion
Kavalkovich offered by M/M Al Kavalkovich
Vito, Carmen, Anne, Helen, Andrew, Mary, Al, William, John, Bridget offered by Mr. & Mrs. Ken
Kavalkovich

May Their Memories Be Eternal

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Please remember in your prayers: Julia Makara (***newly departed***); Dave Albrecht Sr (on his recovery & rehabilitation); Emelie Albrecht (on her recovery & rehabilitation); Cantrell Family; Grace Corba; Robert Corba; Ronald Kavalkovich (on his continuous recovery); Margaret Pellack; Helen Riley; Helen Wanenchak; Father Vincent Saverino; Father John Bohush and the parishioners of Saint Nicholas Eastern Orthodox Church in Philadelphia; and all those who are serving in our Armed Forces!

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Please ensure that your Mobile Phone is set to Silent (or at least set on vibrate) during the Divine Liturgy! Thank You!!!

Announcements (cont.)

Sign up sheets for Coffee Hour, Cleaning and Epistle & Hours Reading. Sign up sheets for the above items are posted on the bulletin board in the church basement. Please be considerate and volunteer to assist with some of the parish responsibilities. Your time is very much appreciated!

Special weekly collections taken after Gospel or Sermon. In addition to our general collection, the parish takes a special collection each week to fund certain parish projects. Please be generous with your offering. Every little bit counts. The special collections are as follows:

- First Sunday of every month – Kitchen Fund Project
- Second Sunday of every month – Icon Fund (2016-17)
- **Third Sunday of every month - Restoration/Maintenance Fund**
- Fourth Sunday of every month – Charity Giving

Note: if there is a Fifth Sunday during a month, the special collection is earmarked for the Kitchen Fund Project, unless otherwise noted and stated by the Parish Council.

Cash Flow Activity (April)

	<u>Week of Apr 3 to Apr 9</u>	<u>April Month-to-Date</u>
Attendance:	48	47 (average)
<i>Sat Vespers (4/2)</i>	24	
Funds In:	\$ 3,038.00	\$ 5,463.00
Funds Out:	\$ 250.00	\$ 3,632.75
Net Surplus/ (Deficit) :	\$ 2,788.00	\$ 1,830.25

Thank you all for your continuous offerings to maintain the parish!

Shop Rite Gift Cards: If you need to purchase Shop Rite Gift Cards, please see David Pellack to secure them. Your purchase of a Shop Rite Gift Card is an additional fundraising project that helps support the church at no additional expense to the purchaser.

Calendar of Events

1st Sunday of each month – Monthly Panikhida immediately after Liturgy.
2nd Tuesday of each month – Bible Study at 6:30pm in church basement.
2nd Sunday of each month – Property Committee Meeting after Liturgy.
3rd Sunday of each month – Currently no permanent event is scheduled.
4th Sunday of each month – Church Life Discussion Class after Liturgy.

Bible Study – Tuesday, April 18 at 6:30pm in the church basement. The Bible Study Group will gather together at this time and is reading the next book in the bible. They will continue reading and discussing the Book of Leviticus. **Note Change in Date – 3rd Tuesday of month!**

Sunday, April 23 - St Thomas Sunday

After Divine Liturgy and if the weather cooperates with us, we will have our annual Blessing of the Graves at Mount Moriah Cemetery. For those that stay at the cemetery after the grave blessing, a Paschal picnic will be held near the Spack (Onufer & Julia) family gravesite. Please bring your favorite Pascha foods, beverages, and lawn chairs. Please dress appropriately for that day's weather (jackets, windbreakers, hats, sunscreen, etc...).

Parish Hall Clean Up, Painting, and Minor Work Construction Day starting on Saturday Morning, April 29 from 9:00a to 4:30p.

The Property Committee is asking parishioners to come out and volunteer to assist in painting, cleaning up and performing some light minor construction work in the parish Hall on Saturday morning, April 29 beginning at 9:00am!!! Please come out on this Saturday along with any family members or friends, especially if they have some type of construction work experience or painting experience.

Vespers will be served at its normal time at 5:00pm. Please plan on staying for vespers especially since this is a Saturday during the Pascha season!

Sunday, May 7 - Holy Ghost Byzantine Church's Spring Fling Hawaiian Themed Fundraiser! [2310 South 24th St – Phila, PA]

Father Ed and the parishioners at Holy Ghost have invited our parish to their Spring Fling Fundraiser on May 7. Doors open at 11am and Lunch will be served at 12pm. Tickets are \$15 for adults 13 and older and \$7 for children 12 and under.

See the Flyers posted on our bulletin boards in the church and downstairs!

Spring General Parish Meeting to be held tentatively Sunday May 21 after Divine Liturgy in church basement.

Discussions will include events since the Annual Parish Meeting, activities over the summer months, and the status on Property Committee and other committee reports.



The Resurrection of Our Lord (HOLY PASCHA (Easter)) [April 16th]

Enjoy ye all the feast of faith; receive ye all the riches of loving-kindness.

(Sermon of St John Chrysostom, read at Paschal Matins)

The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is the center of the Christian faith. St Paul says that if Christ is not raised from the dead, then our preaching and faith are in vain (I Cor. 15:14).

Indeed, without the resurrection there would be no

Christian preaching or faith. The disciples of Christ would have remained the broken and hopeless band which the Gospel of John describes as being in hiding behind locked doors for fear of the Jews. They went nowhere and preached nothing until they met the risen Christ, the doors being shut (John 20: 19). Then they touched the wounds of the nails and the spear; they ate and drank with Him. The resurrection became the basis of everything they said and did (Acts 2-4): “. . . for a spirit has not flesh and bones as you see that I have” (Luke 24:39).

The resurrection reveals Jesus of Nazareth as not only the expected Messiah of Israel, but as the King and Lord of a new Jerusalem: a new heaven and a new earth.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. . . the holy city, new Jerusalem. And I heard a great voice from the throne saying “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with men. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people. . . He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain any more, for the former things have passed away (Rev. 21:1-4).

In His death and resurrection, Christ defeats the last enemy, death, and thereby fulfills the mandate of His Father to subject all things under His feet (I Cor. 15:24-26).

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing (Rev. 5: 12).

THE FEAST OF FEASTS

The Christian faith is celebrated in the liturgy of the Church. True celebration is always a living participation. It is not a mere attendance at services. It is communion in the power of the event being celebrated. It is God’s free gift of joy given to spiritual men as a reward for their self-denial. It is the fulfillment of spiritual and physical effort and preparation. The resurrection of Christ, being the center of the Christian faith, is the basis of the Church’s liturgical life and the true model for all celebration. This is the chosen and holy day, first of sabbaths, king and lord of days, the feast of feasts, holy day of holy days. On this day we bless Christ forevermore (Irmos 8, Paschal Canon). **CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!**