

St. Mary's Orthodox Church
217 First Street – Coaldale Pa 18218-1602
Phone.....570-645-2772

OUR WEBSITE...www.stmarysnativity.org

Rector: V. Rev. James Weremedic

Sunday, May 2, 2021

Retired Attached: V. Rev Paul Ropitsky

Holy Pascha

Choir Director: Wash King

The Resurrection of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!

Khristos Voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese!

Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!

El Messieh Kahm! Hakken Kahm!

Cristos a Inviat! Adevarat a Inviat!

Cristo ha resucitado! Verda-deramente, ha resucitado!

Christ est Ressuscite! En Verite, Il est Ressuscite!

Christus ist auferstanden! Wahrlich Er ist auferstanden!

Sunday, May 2

8:30 AM – Nocturns, Matins, Divine Liturgy followed by Blessing of Baskets

Sunday, May 9

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy

Sunday, May 16

9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy

John 1:1-17 (*Gospel*)

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.

Acts 1:1-8 (*Epistle*)

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."

Candles (May 2):

7-Day Vigils/Altar... For the Health of Melissa Schmitt offered by John & Jeanne Cannon

Altar Candles... In memory of Michael Harb offered by John & Jeanne Cannon

Eternal Lamp... In memory of Pauline Maholick offered by Julia Forte

Vigil Crosses ... For the Health of Ted Bogosh III & Betty Renninger offered by Ted Bogosh

7-Day Vigils/Tetrapod... For the Health of Sal Herbert offered by Millie O'Shura

Decorated Candles/Tetrapod... In memory of Anastasia Scarloss offered by Natalie & Michael
Bolinski

Financials 4/19-25/21: *Operating Acct*: Total \$2,889.00; Flowers 168, Coffee Hour 200

Please continue to keep filling your church envelopes. Thank you!

Physician of our souls and bodies, Who has sent your only begotten Son to heal every sickness and infirmity, visit us and heal us, Your servants, from all physical and spiritual ailments through the grace of Your Son Jesus Christ; grant to us patience in this sickness, strength of body and spirit, and recovery of health. Lord, You have taught us through Your word to pray for each other that we may be healed. You are the source of healing and to You, we give glory; to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Matushka Lovey Ropitsky, Matushka Lisa Weremedic,

Andrew Balliet, Michael Birosik, Clark Bogosh, Theodore Bogosh, Cecil Buchanan, Emmalyn Naomi Buchanan, Evanna Jane Buchanan, Stephanie Chmel, Irene Davis, Ilene Devine, Julia Forte, Olga Hebda, Peter Holoviak, John King, Claire Kononchuk, Michael Kulick, John Kushnir, Nancy Lorchak, MaryAnn Macenka, Mary Maholick, Mildred O'Shura, Anna Pisko, Melissa Schmitt, Althea Shellock, Olga Sidoriak, Martha Stafiniak, Joseph Tosca, Martha Teno, Michael Teno, Nancy Vanno, Elizabeth Warcholak, Russell Wishousky, Russell Yallas, & Richard York.

May Birthdays: 2- Lynn Sharpe, 17- Russell King, 17- Julia Forte, 21- Lindsey Ruch, 31- Marie Skripnek

If anyone is in need of a priest, please call Father James Weremedic at 570-645-2772. Visitation of the Sick and Infirm: If you are going into the hospital for any reason, please inform Fr. James at the Rectory. Emergency Calls: Please call the Rectory (570-645-2772) anytime (day or night) in an emergency.



CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!



CHRI**ST IS RISEN FROM THE DEAD, TRAMPLING DOWN DEATH BY DEATH, AND UPON THOSE IN THE TOMBS BESTOWING LIFE.**
What a powerful message is expressed in the Paschal Troparion! Not only has Christ conquered death, but He has destroyed its seemingly invincible hold over mankind as well.

Unlike Western art, which often depicts the Risen Lord bursting forth from the tomb, Orthodox iconography does not attempt to capture the moment of our Lord's Resurrection. Instead, we are presented with the image of Christ actually bestowing life to those in the tombs in the icon commonly referred to as "The Descent into Hades."

In the stirring scene on this morning's Church Bulletin cover, Christ's victory over our greatest adversary is clearly portrayed. He extends His arms to Adam and Eve, our first parents. He is surrounded by the righteous men and women of the Old Testament, who patiently awaited to be freed from bondage by Him. The dark abyss of hell lies under His feet, crushed and defeated. Indeed, the icon visually brings to life the words of the 6th ode of the Resurrection Canon: "You descended into the depths of the earth, and shattered the eternal bars, which held fast those who were captive, O Christ. And on the third day, as Jonah in the whale, You arose from the dead."

Yes, this is the "Feast of Feasts" and the "Triumph of Triumphs!" In the words of the Apostle Paul: "Thanks be to God, Who has given us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Cor. 15:57)

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin Vestal, Cliffwood, New Jersey Litho in U.S.A.

"... And the third day He rose again,
according to the Scriptures"



PASCHAL MESSAGE OF HIS BEATITUDE
METROPOLITAN TIKHON
THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST 2021

To the Venerable Hierarchs, Esteemed Clergy, Reverend Monastics, and Beloved Faithful of the Orthodox Church in America,

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

Today the Myrrhbearing Women arrive at the tomb and, seeing the angel, hear from him the joyous message that the Lord has risen. When they leave the tomb, running to tell the Apostles the news, Christ Himself suddenly appears to them and greets them with a single word: *"Re-joyce!"* (Mt 28:9).

On this bright day, as we celebrate this glorious feast of feasts, this supreme festival of festivals, the Resurrection of Christ, I in turn extend our Lord's greeting and say to you all: *"Rejoyce!"*

Our Lord Jesus Christ has revealed Himself to us through His Death and Resurrection. He has won the victory for us over seemingly meaningless death by His all-meaningful Death, and we in turn celebrate with exceeding joy. Death no longer stings and hell has no victory, for its gates are smashed and its prisoners are freed. The Resurrection of Christ has brought eternal life to all.

Through the Resurrection, we rejoice—in spite of our sins, hardheartedness, and lack of forgiveness. For we know that God promised through Jeremiah: *"I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more"* (Jer 31:34).

Through the Resurrection, we rejoice—in spite of our doubts, worries, and anxieties. For as was guaranteed to us through Zephaniah: *"No one shall make them afraid... The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall see disaster no more!"* (Zeph 3:13, 15).

Through the Resurrection, we rejoice—in spite of the difficulties, trials, and struggles that we have faced, and always will face, in the brief span of our earthly lives. For Christ Himself has promised: *"Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen!"* (Mt 28:20).

My brothers and sisters in the Lord: *"Rejoyce!"* Our sins are forgiven, our anxieties cease, and our temporary sufferings are given meaning through the Resurrection of the One who grants us eternal life. And while this eternal life is only fully manifest in the age to come, it is ours to experience joyfully even now.

May we celebrate the Feast of the Resurrection in joy and love. From this day forward, may we never cease exulting in the Lord.

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

+ Tikhon

Archbishop of Washington Metropolitan of All
America and Canada



The Orthodox Church in America
DIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA AND EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA
The Most Rev. Mark, Archbishop of Philadelphia

Blessed Feast of Feasts!

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

*We celebrate the abolition of death,
the destruction of Hades and the first fruit of everlasting life.
And as we leap with joy, we praise the Cause of these good gifts,
the God of our fathers who is alone blessed and most gloried.*

Beloved clergy, Matushki and faithful,

*Christ is Risen! Truly, He is Risen! El Messieh Kahm! Hakken Kahm!
Khristos Voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese! Let us embrace one another and forgive all
things for the sake of Christ's Holy Resurrection. May Christ's Holy Resurrection
strengthen us for a life of purity and holiness. Let us say with St. Paul "I have been
crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the
life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, Who loved me and gave
Himself for me." (Gal. 2: 20) Let us guard this gift of eternal life so freely bestowed!
Forgiving as Christ forgives. Let us love as Christ loves. May this Sacred and Holy
Gift of Eternal Life always be our point of reference for all we do and say. Christos
Anesti! Alithos Anesti! Cristos Vaskres! Vaistinu Vaskres! Cristos a Inviat!
Adevarat a Inviat!*

Your unworthy father in Christ,

+ Mark

+ Mark, Archbishop of Philadelphia and the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania



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"Thou hast made us for Thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in Thee." Augustine