



## Holy Ghost Orthodox Church

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# CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

**ON THE MEND:** Please keep the following parishioners and others in your prayers for recovery from their illnesses and injuries: Archbishop Jovan, Bishop Robert, Father John Harvey, Father Jakiw Norton, Father Dragan Filipović, Father Stevo Rocknage, Father Paul Stoll, Father Igor Soroka, Father Joseph Kopchak, Father Cuthbert Jack, Father Elias Warnke, Father Nestor Kowal, Father George Yatsko, Father Paul Bigelow, Father Emilian Balan, Father John Nakonachny, Father Steve Repa, Protopresbyter William Diakiw, Protodeacon Joseph Hotrovich, Father Adam Yonitch, Pani-Dobrodijka Sonia Diakiw, Father George Livanos, Joshua Agosto and his family, Eva Malesnick, Stella Peanoske, Joe Nezolyk, Nick Behun, Grace Holupka, Virginia Bryan, Joseph Sliwinsky, Linda Mechtly, Mary Mochnick, Evelyn Misko, Jeanne Boehing, Alex Drobot, Rachelle, Jane Golofski, Doug Diller, Harry Krewsun, Mary Alice Babcock, Dorie Kunkle, Andrea, & Melissa [Betty O'Masta's relatives], Mary Evelyn King, Sam Wadrose, Isabella Olivia Lindgren, Ethel Thomas, Donna, Erin, Michael Miller, Grace & Owen Ostrasky, Patti Sinecki, David Genshi, Sue Segeleon, Mike Gallagher, Liz Stumpf, Theodore Nixon, Michelle Corba Kapeluck, Linda Hippert & family, Margaret Vladimir, Luke Emmerling, John Sheliga, George Rocknage, Robert McKivitz, Liz Obradovich, Halyna Zelinska [Bishop Daniel's mother], Charlotte, Andrew Mark Olynyk, Deborah Finley, Claire Senita, Eleanor Kelly, Bryan, Nancy Barylak, Patrick Keenan, Khrystyna Chorniy, Anthony Cormier, Nathan Forbeck, Sarah Doyle, Samuel Peters, Jean Stutchell, Esther Holupka, Wanda Mefford, David Vallor, Henry Faraly, Betty O'Masta, Julie Eiler, Vince Ferro, Dorothy Lednovich, Bob C., Allie—young girl with leukemia, Heather Kramer, Jane Wartinbee, Matthew—21-year-old with cancer, Nicholas Orlando, Mary Ann Kuznik, Michael Woloschak, Michael Pryhodzenko, Sonia Luciw, Theresa Ditto, Mary Ann Musial, Mary Pelino, Yvonne Christy, Myron & Barbara Spak, Pete Niederberger, Julia Duda, Lisa Pandle, Kris & Julie Hanczar, John Kennedy, Diane McDaniel, Loretta, Nancy, Carol, & Michael Sheliga, Gaelle Kelly, Irma McDivitt, Robin Young, Mckayla, Rachel, Carl & Margaret Reed, Jillian Bowman, Lydia Wilson,

Robert Pointon, Walter Cecelia, John Persico, Jeff Miller, Mary Kernick, Glenn Miller, Jean Marie, Donna & Walter McCrackin, Bonnie & Eugene Blair [Pani Gina's parents], Mel & Charlotte Malik, David Hoenshell, Barbara Macino, Shelley Hill, Mikaela Kapeluck, Linda Cawley, Gerald Cogley, Helen Bozo, Corey Guich, Robert Vangrin, Susan "Billie" Mason, Pauline Witkowsky, Sera White, Donald Griffey, Deborah Smith, Nancy & Eric Dunik, Julian Stroz [child with cerebral palsy], Dr. Kirsten Ream, Patricia Corey, Michelle, Katie Swarm, Richard Dunst, Michelle, Patrick, Linda Morris, Howard Simpson, Chris, Pastor Ed Bowen, David Hiles, Karen Johnson, Jennifer, Jerry Quinn, Cher Mount, Frank & Janet Horrell, Jim Wandling, Gail, Sirena Sharp, Ron Paulovich, Fred DeNorscia, Sandi Anderson, Donald Uebing, Sabrina, Shirley, Denny Mader, Ella Campbell, Tom Hyatt, Bill Janiro, Jean Symanko-Andy's sister, William Lemonakis, Barbara McDougall, Alma Wyke, Lindsay Romanczak & family, Virginia Catherine Pynch, Susan Lucas, Manny Lopez, Neil Carter & family, James Paluh, Mickie Weikel, Evelyn Krempasky, Tammy Strunk, Loida Esbry, Darlene Chicka Deskins, Drew, Alice & Keith Philipa, Kateryna Kocelko, Nancy Heinbaugh, Judi Danser, Mira Filipovic, Lynn, Jacqueline, Irma Opacic, Sharon, Zan Cheng, Debby Novak, Jeff Jones, Kristy, Elaine Ellenberger, Donna Cacioppo [Evelyn's niece], Brandon, Anna Tranchine, Demetra, Blase Urban, Catherine Hogel & children, Jennifer & Dylan, Ron Schwartz, Lydia Wilson, Flora Tomlin, Stella Rossi, Howell Swarm, Jane Bielewicz Allred, Carol Mensing's Family, Manny "Lazarus" Lopez, Lucas Burlack, Katie Elizabeth, Mileva, & Michael, Deirdre Straughan, Terri Paluh, Lori & Steve Lucier, and Billy Sinclair. ARNOLD: Stefania Lucci, Steve Sakal, and Homer Paul Kline. We pray that God will grant them all a speedy recovery.

**REMINDER: WE WILL HAVE OUR ANNUAL MEETING ON SUNDAY, APRIL 26, AFTER DIVINE LITURGY! PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND!**

**Please remember in your prayers—our dear 'Little Father' Emilian**, who returned to Romania to undergo surgery for back pain. This particular procedure is not offered here in the United States. He asked for our prayers and expressed his thanks for the love and fellowship he has shared with the Holy Ghost Parish Family. He said he looks forward to returning to us pain-free in the springtime...may God watch over him and heal him...Fr. Bob

**PLEASE REMEMBER IN YOUR PRAYERS: All Christians and the others in the Middle East who are suffering during this time of great tragedy and unrest. May God watch over and keep them safe! Lord have mercy!**

Please remember ALL American service men and women in your prayers. May God watch over them and all American service men and women—and bring them all home safely!

PLEASE REMEMBER TO BRING YOUR "BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION" AND CAMPBELL'S SOUP LABELS TO CHURCH. There is a shoebox in the basement for Debbie Paouncic's class. THANK YOU ALL FOR YOUR HELP!

**REMEMBER—PRAYERS ARE ALWAYS FREE!**

Communion Fasting: nothing to eat or drink after midnight, EXCEPT in cases where your doctor tells you to eat or drink something for medical reasons: medication, diabetes, etc. If you have a question, please ask Father Bob.

**AT ANY TIME—if there is an emergency, if you have questions, or if you just need to talk, please CALL FATHER BOB at [412] 279-5640.**

#### SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

**SUNDAY, APRIL 12 DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10:30 AM  
PASCHA—THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST  
\*\*\*\*\*PAGE 179 IN THE BLACK LITURGY BOOKS\*\*\*\*\***

*Paschal Tones*

Acts 1:1-8

John 1:1-17

**MONDAY, APRIL 13—SATURDAY, APRIL 18—FAST FREE WEEK!!!**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 19 DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10:30 AM  
2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY OF PASCHA; ANTIPASCHA; SAINT THOMAS SUNDAY; SAINT  
EUTYCHIUS-PATRIARCH OF CONSTANTINOPLE; SAINT PLATONIDA OF NISIBIS;  
120 MARTYRS OF PERSIA; MARTYRS JEREMIAH & ARCHILIAS THE PRESBYTER;  
SAINT METHODIUS-EQUAL TO THE APOSTLES, ENLIGHTNER OF THE SLAVS**

*Tone 1*

Acts 5:12-20

John 20:19-31

***Parastas in Blessed Memory of Martha Batch—Harry Batch***

**SUNDAY, APRIL 26 DIVINE LITURGY OF SAINT JOHN CHRYSOSTOM 10:30 AM  
3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF PASCHA; SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN;  
RIGHTEOUS JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA & NICODEMUS; SAINTS MARY & MARTHA-  
BROTHERS OF SAINT LAZARUS; HIEROMARTYR ARTEMON-PRESBYTER OF**

LAODICEA IN SYRIA; MARTYR CRESCENS OF MYRA IN LYCIA; MARTHR  
THOMAS OF ALEXANDRIA

*Tone 2*

Acts 6:1-7

Mark 15:43-16:8

*Parastas in Blessed Memory of Nicholas & Catherine Behun—Behun Family*

## **BULLETIN INSERT FOR 12 APRIL 2015**

### **PASCHA**

**THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST**

**\*\*\*\*\*PAGE 179 IN THE BLACK LITURGY BOOKS\*\*\*\*\***

**ORTHODOX CHRISTIANS TO CELEBRATE *PASCHA* (EASTER) APRIL 12  
NEW YORK** – More than 250 million Orthodox Christians worldwide will celebrate *Pascha* (Easter) **next** Sunday, April 12, 2015. **This year Orthodox Pascha is celebrated one week after the celebration of the Western Easter. The Orthodox date for Easter is based on a decree of the Council of Nicaea, Asia Minor, held in 325 A.D. According to this decree, Easter must be celebrated on the Sunday following the first full moon of the vernal equinox but always after the Hebrew Passover to maintain the Biblical sequence of events of the Crucifixion and the Resurrection. The Orthodox Christian churches have adhered strictly to this formula.**

***"In the radiance and glory of this Holy Pascha we find the meaning of life as it was created to be. We see our goal, our purpose, our completion and our eternity. Our hope for the journey of life is strengthened. Our understanding of life, of others, of the world, and of all creation is changed in the truth and certainty of the Resurrection. Fear is vanquished, the threat of death is annihilated, and the weakness of sin is exposed in the enduring light of our Lord's holiness and glory,"*** writes Archbishop Demetrios, spiritual leader of 1.5 million Greek Orthodox Christians in America in his Paschal Encyclical.

Archbishop Demetrios will officiate at Holy Week services in Greek Orthodox parishes in the New York metropolitan area including Good Friday Lamentations services at the Archdiocesan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity (319 East 74<sup>th</sup> St. New York City) which will begin at 7:00 p.m. and

Resurrection Services starting Saturday evening at 11:00 p.m. The Resurrection will be proclaimed at 12 midnight.

Centuries-old religious services which recall the passion, crucifixion and Resurrection of Christ are conducted each morning and evening throughout this Holy Week in Orthodox Christian Churches including: Greek, Russian, Romanian, Antiochian, Bulgarian, Carpatho-Russian, Albanian, Serbian and Ukrainian, which serve some 6 million faithful in the Americas.

**Palm Sunday** – during the Divine Liturgy, palms are blessed and distributed to the faithful commemorating Christ's entrance into Jerusalem.

**Holy Tuesday**, the Service of the Bridegroom is conducted and the beautiful Hymn of repentance composed by St. Kassianne is sung.

**Holy Wednesday**, the faithful are anointed with the Sacrament of Holy Unction, blessed oil, which cleanses, renews and strengthens both spiritually and physically.

**Holy Thursday** evening, the Service of **Holy Passion** takes place, during which the Twelve Lessons of the Gospel are read. After the Fifth Gospel a solemn litany begins. A large crucifix is carried in a procession led by the clergy as the mournful hymn of Crucifixion is sung.

**Good Friday afternoon**, the Vespers of the Descent from the Cross, are offered. The Body of Christ is taken down from the Cross, wrapped in white linen and is prepared for burial.

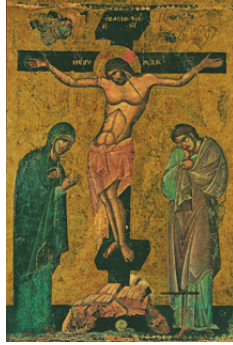
**Good Friday evening**, the Lamentations are sung during the *Epitaphios* Service, which symbolizes the burial of Christ.

**Holy Saturday evening**, the Easter Resurrection Service begins with Matins at 11 p.m. At midnight, the Church is completely darkened and the faithful wait in joyous expectation for the bishop or priest to come forth carrying a white candle, chanting, *Come; Receive the Light, the Light of the Resurrection*. The *light* is passed to the congregation until the Church is ablaze with the glow of candlelight. A procession of altar boys, choir, chanters and clergy joined by all the faithful move outdoors where the Gospel proclaiming the Resurrection of Christ is read. The triumphant hymn, *Christos Anesti*, **Christ is Risen** is joyously sung by the faithful. At the conclusion of the Resurrection Liturgy, red Easter eggs, which symbolize the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, are distributed to the congregation.

**Easter Sunday**, the Vespers of *AGAPE* (Love) are celebrated with the Holy

Gospel of the Resurrection read in several languages emphasizing the universality of Christ's teaching of love and peace.

**"The Resurrection of Jesus means the very foundations of the cosmos have been shaken."**—Fr. Robert Barron



### **Wounded by Love: Living Near Golgotha**

There are moments in our lives that are so deep, so meaningful, and so lasting in consequences that their echo continues to sound from that moment onward, and so foundationally shape us. The Divine Providence that was shown forth so clearly from Christ's Betrayal through His Suffering, Wounding, Torture, Crucifixion, Death, Time in the Grave, and His Glorious Resurrection is just such a moment for all people, for all events, and for all time. This continuous moment is the moment of truth for all of us, for we too have to look at Christ's suffering Love for us and our response back by either conscious or unconscious choice. In the end we are always standing near Golgotha, for this moment is the very fulcrum of all time, and the most important moment for all mankind. The question for us is simply whom do we identify with while Christ is dying in love for us? The choice is ours.

There are those in the crowd who have just come in curiosity to see a spectacle, there are the religious leaders who in jealousy and rage are glad to see such an innocent man be killed and out of their comfortable and controlling way, there are those who make fun of Him and challenge Him to do what they want even now, yet there are the women standing afar off that look on with horror and a broken heart at Him Whom they love and cherish being cruelly killed, and there is St. John and the Virgin who stand very near Him underneath the shadow of the Cross and stay in close communion with Him with intense love and pain. Lastly, there are the two thieves dying right next to Christ, one blaming others for his pain and trying

to get out of the consequences of his own actions, and the other one accepting his own responsibility for his pain and suffering and moving above and beyond this to see and profess faith in Christ and His coming Kingdom.

Christ is wounded in love for us. That is His foundational choice for all Eternity. Are we wounded back in love for Him? If He shows us His wounds, will we show Him our wounds made willingly to cut off our selfishness, deny our desire for self-will, worldliness, and pleasure, and then thankfully endure the results of both the past and present bad choices of ourselves and others? Will we with ardent Faith while living at Golgotha tell Him with the Good Thief, "Lord, remember me when Thou comest into Thy Kingdom!"? May it be so. Amen, amen, amen.

The Monks of St. Isaac of Syria Skete  
and the Nuns of the Convent of St. Silouan  
and the Faithful of St. Nicholas Church  
and the Staff of Orthodox Byzantine Icons and St. Isaac's Bookstore.

## **EASTER SUNDAY - THE MEANING OF THE RESURRECTION**

Fr. Robert Barron

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Friends, on this Easter we should remember that Jesus is not just a soul that's gone to heaven. The resurrected Christ, as Paul said, is the first fruits of a new life. A whole new human nature has appeared and emerged.

Resurrection can't simply mean, as many contemporary authors want us to believe, that the cause of Jesus goes on. (As though you listen to the Ninth Symphony of Beethoven and the society of Beethoven lovers says, "Well, the spirit of Beethoven goes on.") People don't give their whole lives, don't go to the end of the world preaching, don't go to their death in support of a vague metaphor. What galvanized the first Christians was that Jesus - the crucified one who had died-is now alive again.

On this Easter, we Christians must avoid another problem: seeing the Resurrection simply as a return to this life. Lazarus was raised from the dead, only to die again. He still belonged to the realm of death. When Lazarus came forth, he was still wearing his grave clothes. He still belonged, in some way, to the tomb.

That's not what happens in the Resurrection. When Jesus rises from the dead, He leaves his grave clothes behind. Jesus now lives a new life exalted through the power of the Father. His relationship to space and time

is now completely changed. He passes through locked doors. He comes and goes as he pleases.

Jesus is the first fruit of a new way of being, a new life. It's still a human life, but it is now lived at a higher pitch of intensity. This is such good news for us because this is what God intends for all of us: that we now will share in the risen life of Jesus.

It's our human life - yes, still bodily - but now lived at a higher level, spiritualized and glorified.

## **Paschal Epistle of the Permanent Conference of Ukrainian Orthodox Bishops beyond the Borders of Ukraine**



*To the God-beloved Presbyters, Honourable Monastics, and All Faithful Children of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the Diaspora and in Ukraine,*

“Angels in heaven, O Christ Saviour,  
praise your Resurrection with hymns,  
make us worthy here on earth to glorify You  
with a pure heart.” (*Paschal Stykhyra*)

*Rt. Reverend, Very Reverend and Reverend Fathers!*

*Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ!*

### **CHRIST IS RISEN!**

On this joyful and holy day of the Most-glorious and Divine Resurrection of our Lord, God, and Saviour Jesus Christ, we extend most heartfelt greetings to all you Orthodox Christians with the feast of the Lord's Pascha! The magnificent feast of the Resurrection of Christ calls all of us to consider again the eternal treasures of Christian teaching and



offers a golden opportunity to fill our hearts with goodness and love for God and neighbour. The Resurrection of Christ unites us all through faith in the victory of light over darkness, goodness over evil and life over death. The Holy Apostle James reminds us that “as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.” (Jam 2:26) And so, on these joyful days of Pascha, we should endeavour with especial diligence to prayerfully alleviate the suffering of those oppressed by sorrow, encourage the downcast, perform acts of mercy, love and compassion, and help those in need, who are waiting for us to offer our aid.

Every person, and perhaps even whole nations, experience in their lives various hardships, derision, suffering and at such times often talk about the victory of evil over good. How many times in our own lives have we ourselves fallen into despair? And so, in order to avoid disenchantment and discouragement, we must remember that evil and untruth are overcome and conquered through the Resurrection of Christ. With faith in the Risen Christ many generations of Christians have finished their earthly journey, accomplished their ascetic struggle of fasting and prayer, patiently endured suffering and sorrow and accepted death, firmly believing in the coming resurrection and eternal life with Christ. St. John Chrysostom stated, “Today people have joined together with the angels, and, clothed in flesh, together with the bodiless powers now offer hymns. Today the dominion of the devil is destroyed, today the bonds of death are broken, the victory of evil and hell is overcome. By His Resurrection Christ has opened to us the path to salvation”.

The Pascha of Christ has especially great meaning for every Ukrainian this year. We all believe and pray that the Resurrected Christ will assist our Ukrainian people and our homeland of Ukraine to be victorious over her enemy and overcome all difficulties and obstacles which our people are facing. We know that Christ the Saviour also experienced a Golgotha, after which came the Resurrection. These words give hope to our Ukrainian nation that we will be vouchsafed exceptional joy, peace, and unity following the cruel war and enmity. Our faith would not exist without the Resurrection of Christ. There would be no eternal life and without faith. Consequently, our purpose and essence of our spirituality is our belief in the Risen Christ. The Resurrection of Christ has become the heart and foundation of Christianity. The Holy Church prayerfully calls upon heaven and earth in celebration of this divine joy: “Let the heavens worthily rejoice, and let the earth be glad.

Let the whole world, both visible and invisible, keep the feast; for Christ, our Eternal Joy, is Risen” (*Tropar of the 1<sup>st</sup> Ode of the Paschal Canon*). May this bright Paschal joy encourage us once again to offer our thanks to the Lord for His great and limitless love for us!

How should Christians respond to this Divine Love and sacrifice for us sinners? We should orient our whole life towards gratitude to God, to the fulfilling of His Commandments and to learning how to love one another as God has loved us. The path to realizing this goal has been revealed to us by the power of the Resurrection of Christ.

Following the Resurrection, the Lord appeared to the Apostles and greeted them with the words “*Peace be unto you.*” After hearing Christ’s words, the Apostles felt this peace in their hearts and they felt joy and the Peace of God instead of fear. Today, the words “*Peace be unto you*” are very important and relevant for the Ukrainian people. The Peace which is brought by Christ is also the Peace between nations and people.

In celebrating the Pascha of Christ, we should remember that the world today has many conflicts and injustices which give rise to resistance and opposition. We are not lacking in this respect. And so, may the greeting of Christ the Saviour – “*Peace be unto you*” – resound throughout the world, especially in our Ukraine. For our part, let us also hear the voice of the Resurrected Christ for only sincere and patient love brings us the gift of this long-awaited Peace.

During these joyful spring days, the hopes and expectations of the people for a better future awaken along with the blossoming earth. Therefore, let us strive to increase our good deeds and positive thoughts, which will contribute to the renewal and unity of our Ukrainian nation.

On the occasion of these festal Paschal days, we again extend our most heartfelt greetings to the clergy, deaconate, and monastics of our Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the Diaspora, to our youth and children, to all the pious Ukrainian Orthodox people in Ukraine and in the Diaspora, and especially to our brothers and sisters in Ukraine who are experiencing various kinds of difficulties and tribulations defending their homeland.

We believe and pray that a unified Orthodox Church will be established in Ukraine with the Lord’s help. Only under the conditions of spiritual unity will the Ukrainian people achieve a united nation. A strong Ukrainian society cannot exist without spiritual unity.

Thus, may peace, love, and unity always be among us! On this joyous day of the Glorious Resurrection of Christ, let us forgive one another all insults and offenses, embrace each other and joyfully sing: “Christ is Risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and on those in the tombs bestowing life!”

## Truly, Christ is Risen!

*With Archpastoral Blessings,*

† **YURIJ**, Metropolitan

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

† **ANTONY**, Metropolitan

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA

*Locum Tenens* of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Diaspora

† **IOAN**, Archbishop

Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Diaspora

† **JEREMIAH**, Archbishop

Ukrainian Orthodox Eparchy of Brazil and South America

† **ILARION**, Bishop

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

† **ANDRIY**, Bishop

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

† **DANIEL**, Bishop

Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the USA

**To all of our visitors and parish family—we greet you today with the joyful and hopeful news—Christ IS Risen! Indeed He is Risen! Christos Voskres! Voistinu Voskres! Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti! May His eternal light fill your heart, mind, and soul with His Great Love all the days of your life! Share this Love with everyone you meet—it is truly the Gift that keeps on giving! May Our Newly-Risen Savior Bless and Keep you always! In His Love—the Holy Ghost Parish Council, our parish family, Fr. Bob, Pani Gina, Alexander, and Matthew!**

