
St. Michael the Archangel Orthodox Church

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Sunday April 26, 2020 ANTIPASCHA. 2nd SUNDAY OF PASCHA – Tone 1. St. Thomas Sunday. Hieromartyr Basil, Bishop of Amasea (ca. 322). St. Stephen, Bishop of Perm (1396). Righteous Virgin Glaphyra (322). St. Joannicius of Devich, Serbia (13th c.).

This Week's Online Schedule

Today 4/26 Church School 11:30 a.m. & (ages 7 to 10) 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday 4/29 Little Angels 5:30 p.m.

Parish Council Meeting 8:30 p.m.

Thursday 4/30 Study Group 10:00 a.m.

Friday 5/1 Little Angels 10:00 a.m.

Saturday 5/2 Vespers 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 5/3 Typika 7& Moliennen 9:00 a.m.

Please Note all Services and Groups will meet Online

Hymns and Prayers

Priest: "Blessed is the Kingdom... "

Choir: "Amen."

Priest: "Christ is risen from the dead..." (2 ½ times)

Choir: "and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!"

(The Divine Liturgy is begun in this manner until the Leavetaking of Pascha.)

Tone 7 Troparion *(from the Pentecostarion)*

From the sealed tomb, You shone forth, O Life!

Through closed doors You came to Your Disciples, O Christ God.

Renew in us, through them, an upright spirit,//

by the greatness of Your mercy, O Resurrection of all!

Tone 8 Kontakion *(from the Pentecostarion)*

Thomas touched Your life-giving side with an eager hand, O Christ God,
when You came to Your Apostles through closed doors.

He cried out with all: "You are my Lord and my God!"

(The Trisagion is sung)

Tone 3 Prokeimenon

Great is our Lord, and abundant in power! / His understanding is beyond measure! (Ps 146/147:5)

v: Praise the Lord! For it is good to sing praises to our God! (Ps 146/147:1)

Epistle Acts 5:12-20

And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon's Porch.

Yet none of the rest dared join them, but the people esteemed them highly.

And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women, so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them.

Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all healed.

Then the high priest rose up, and all those who were with him (which is the sect of the Sadducees), and they were filled with indignation, and laid their hands on the apostles and put them in the common prison. But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out, and said,

“Go, stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this life.”

Tone 8

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

v: Come, let us rejoice in the Lord! Let us make a joyful noise to God our Savior! (Ps 94/95:1)

v: For the Lord is a great God, and a great King over all the earth. (Ps 94/95:3).

Gospel John 20:19-31

Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, “Peace be with you.”

When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.”

And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.

If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.

The other disciples therefore said to him, “We have seen the Lord.” So he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe.”

And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!"

Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing."

And Thomas answered and said to Him, "My Lord and my God!"

Jesus said to him, "Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book;

but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

(Instead of "It is truly meet ...," we sing:)

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!

This Week's Announcements

Update on St. Michael's Liturgical Life The Holy Synod of Bishops has decided to extend the suspension of liturgical services until April 30th, 2020. The Holy Synod of Bishops of the OCA will meet this week to discuss the possibilities of re-opening our churches. There is no impending date when the Churches will be open. Churches will likely be opened on a regional basis. For the time being we will continue with online services as much as possible. All services will be streamed online. Please look to your email or our parish web site for ongoing updates.

Parish Council Meeting The parish council will meet again this Wednesday evening April 29th at 8:30 p.m. via video conference. Please check your emails for any changes.

Phone Confessions Phone confession will be offered for those who feel they need it. Confessions will be by appointment. Regular confession will be available as soon as the liturgical suspension is lifted. During the pandemic, the faithful are not bound to confess but may wait until a time when in-person Confessions will be possible again.

Study Group Our Study Group will meet this Thursday at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom. We will continue our study of the Genesis account of creation. Handouts will be emailed for any to follow.

Little Angels & Church School Our Little Angels & Church School Groups will also meet online during this time. Please check your emails for Meeting times.

The All OCA Church School will begin its sixth week of classes next week. With the initial class being held on March 25, the school has brought together hundreds of Orthodox kids from throughout North America, and abroad, to share in their faith, to prepare for our Lord's Pascha, and now to celebrate with each other in the joy of the Resurrection.

As we continue with our program we are hoping to develop more classes, with smaller class sizes. To assist us in creating for our youth the best program possible, we ask you to complete this brief registration form. Registration is not required to participate in the Church School.

All OCA Church School Schedule April 28 - May 1

Tuesday, April 28

9-12 Grade - 3:30 EDT (2:30 CDT; 1:30 MT; 12:30 PT; 11:30 AM AT)

Wednesday, April 29

3-5 Grade - 3:30 EDT (2:30 CDT; 1:30 MT; 12:30 PT; 11:30 AM AT)

Thursday, April 30

6-8 Grade - 3:30 EDT (2:30 CDT; 1:30 MT; 12:30 PT; 11:30 AM AT)

Friday, May 1

3-5 Grade - 2:00 EDT (1:00 CDT; 12:00MT; 11:00 PT; 10:00 AM AT)

To register* for the All OCA Church School please go to http://bit.ly/oca_churchschool *registration is not required to participate*



April 25, 2020

*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 mostly gloried.*



Beloved of God,

***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. **Christos Anesti! Alithos anesti!
Cristos Vaskres! Vaistinu Vaskres! Cristos a inviat! Adevarat A
Inviat!***

Yours in Christ,

+ Mark

*+ MARK, Archbishop of Philadelphia and the Diocese of Eastern
Pennsylvania*

***The Archpastoral Message of
His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon on
Great and Holy Pascha 2020***

*To the Venerable Clergy, Monastics, and Faithful of the Orthodox
Church in America,*

Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!

Today we celebrate the feast of feasts, the radiant joyful feast of the Lord's Resurrection. He became a man like us, and was crucified, suffered, and was buried for us. And today, after three days in the tomb, He rises from the dead, offering us all the promise of Resurrection unto eternal life.

Our life in the Resurrection begins even now. Although we still live in the flesh, we should not live according to the flesh, only thinking of our own bodily needs and desires. Jesus Christ's Resurrection calls us, regardless of our situation in life, to live spiritually mature lives even now. The essence of such a spiritual life is to lay down one's life for others, in imitation of Christ who died for the benefit of all. This is the calling of the new life that Christ's Resurrection gives us: "so that as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life (Romans 6:4)."

This year, our Paschal celebration comes in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic, and not one of us is experiencing the full celebration of the services. A few are present at the limited services, while the majority are praying along at home. Yet all of us, wherever we find ourselves, can live according to the Resurrection by putting others' needs before our own. In the Old Covenant, in the same breath in which God urged His people to "keep His Sabbaths," He also urged them to remember the poor and the sojourner, and leave portions of their grain and grapes to them (Leviticus 19:3-10). May we too, in keeping the Lord's Pascha, the First of Sabbaths, remember the poor and needy, the sick and suffering before ourselves, particularly at this time of the economic turmoil caused by the Coronavirus. As many of us are unable to commune of the heavenly Bread of Christ's Body at this time as is customary, let us at least focus on ensuring that our brothers and sisters around us have enough common bread: food and other basic needs. In so doing, we will follow Christ's example, who made sure that the thousands had enough food to eat, and who worked to heal the diseased and the sick.

My beloved children in Christ, the manner in which we celebrate Pascha this year, whether in our homes or in limited services, should suggest to no one that our Lord's Pascha has been canceled or in any way diminished. Giving thanks to Christ for the mystery of his salvation, let us all boldly cry out in full knowledge and assurance, "Christ is Risen!" Let us respond, indeed, by courageously walking in the "newness of life" that Christ gives us today.

Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!

Metropolitan Tikhon

Prayers for the Departed: *Fr. Jozef Petranin, Barbara Hicks, Peter Melnik, Michael Sinovich, David Rex*

Prayers for the Sick and Those in Need: *Fr. John Zabinko, Fr. Joseph Chupeck, Fr. Daniel Kovalak, Fr. John Nightingale, Mat. Ellen Chupeck, Lemlem Resat, Olga Riley, James Hicks, Anna Herko, Luke & Anna Wales, Nona Carey, Maria & Doug Dozier, Mona Elia, Mary Anne Farrell, John Griffith, Cynthia Griffith, , Stephanie Hojnicky, Laura Cristina Najemy, Harry Kutch, Dimitrios Jim Petrides, Albert Shock, Elizabeth Melnik, Alexandra Grishin, Sam Sylvest, Jamie Clause, Paula Flynn, Michael Telep*

Prayers for Catechmens *Kristin Mackenzie, Edward Jones. Cole McElmurry, Sean & Jennifer Vojaicek*

Upcoming Dates to Keep in Mind

Ascension Thursday May 28th

Pentecost Sunday June 7th

Ss. Peter & Paul Monday June 29th