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BULLETIN



THIS ISSUE

PASCHA

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SAINTS CONSTANTINE & HELEN PARISH HERALD

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

To that joy, to that friendliness, to that forgiveness we are all called by Christ and His Holy Church to salvation. We, your Priest, President and the Church-Parish Council invite all of today both who are practicing your faith both in the Church and outside it, in your daily life; and also you whom we miss at the wonderful and Holy Services of the Church, to let us all be one in our Holy Orthodox Faith and in the One Savior, Jesus Christ, who by His willing sufferings and death did manifest His great love and compassion for all of us. And by His Resurrection He revealed His all mighty divine power by which He reigns over the universe.

Your Church sends this greeting to all in love and hope that you will respond, since through your Church it is our Savior who is calling us. That is why He instituted the Holy Church to do preaching to sound calls and warnings and to dispense His gifts to all of us - from Him. It is not enough for us to come to church twice a year to fulfill some ancient or modern obligation that we ourselves have made up and seem to be content with. It is time for all of us to truly lead a Christian life by practicing it most visibly either with time, talent or treasure.

Yours in the Risen Christ,
Very Reverend Father Serge Veselinovich,

& the entire Church-Parish Council of Sts.
Constantine & Helen Orthodox Church

LET US BE RADIANT!

In the coming period from Resurrection to Pentecost, the Sunday Epistle readings tell us of a community of believers who were so totally devoted to God that their life together was charged by the Holy Spirit. They loved each other and shared their lives with one another, praying and serving together in authentic Christian fellowship.

Those who had shared with those who had less, and people related in ways that blurred the lines of gender, race and culture. Unbelievers coming into contact with this community of believers saw a vision of life that was so dynamic that they couldn't resist it.

This is the Church that we as Orthodox Christians claim to be. These Christians shone brightly with the light of Christ. Acts 2:47 tells us that "the lord added to their number daily those who were being saved."

In Christ's Resurrection everything is made new. Everything is restored. In Christ's Resurrection we become radiant because He is the light of the world. And He told us, "Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life (John 8:12). Following Christ means that we will have His light of joy and gladness shining in our hearts. We will have an abundant life full

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SAINTS CONSTANTINE & HELEN PARISH HERALD

CONTINUED

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY UNCTION

The Sacrament of Holy Unction shall be performed once again on Holy Wednesday, May 16 at 7:00 p.m. Through anointing of body, the grace of God is invoked upon the sick person: because that grace heals all ills, both those of the soul and of the body.

Those who receive this sacrament must be of the Orthodox faith and must prepare themselves by repentance and confession and receive the sacrament of Holy Communion either before or after receiving Holy Unction. If we are to be forgiven by God, He requires of us that we also forgive one another. For many of us, this is the most difficult aspect of repentance and confession. Yet we say it each time we pray the Lord's Prayer, "forgive us our trespasses/ (debts) as we forgive those who trespass against us."

Just as God's love for us is personal, so must ours be for Him. As the Christian grows from child to adult, his/her personal response to God becomes crucial. The personal response is the act of confession.

of meaning and purpose.

Sainthood is not some unattainable state, and it is not just for a select few. It is the natural outcome of our baptism - if we see baptism as a beginning and not an ending. Our calling as Orthodox Christians is to strive toward the example of Christ. As orthodox Christians we were not created to stay as we are. We were created to become. Our challenge as Orthodox faithful is to hear the Gospel of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, as if we were hearing it for the first time, allowing Him to transform our lives - to be renewed in His Resurrection. Being saved is not an event but a process. It is the same process that led all those whom we commemorate today to attain Sainthood.

The moon has no light of its own, yet it is able to light up the night by reflecting the light of the sun. And so it is with us - we have no light of our own, yet we may be radiant by reflecting the light of Christ - by the way we live our lives.

A saint is a sinner who keeps on trying. A saint is one who makes it easier for others. Consider the possibility that you may be the only Orthodox Christian that someone ever meets. Are you radiant with Christ? Do you reflect His light?

If we believe that in orthodoxy we have the fullness of the Truth, then we have the great responsibility to let our light shine before all people. It is our duty and obligation not to hide our light under the bushel. Let us take the light of Christ that we received at our baptism and the light we receive at His Resurrection, and let it be born in our hearts - Let us be Radiant!

CALENDAR OF CHURCH SERVICES AND EVENTS AT SAINTS CONSTANTINE & HELEN

APRIL 2nd
Presanctified Liturgy
Wednesday at 6:00 pm

APRIL 4th
Akathist to the Most Holy Theotokos
Friday at 6:00 pm

APRIL 6th
Fifth Sunday of Great & Holy Lent (St Mary of Egypt) Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m

APRIL 7th
ANNUNCIATION OF OUR MOST HOLY THEOTOKOS AND EVER VIRGIN MARY
Divine Liturgy 10:00 am

APRIL 12
LAZARUS SATURDAY
Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m

APRIL 13
PALM SUNDAY
Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m. with blessing of Palms

APRIL 16
GREAT & HOLY WEDNESDAY
Holy Unction Service at 7:00 p.m.

APRIL 17
GREAT & HOLY THURSDAY
Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.
The reading of the twelve Passion Gospels at 7:00 p.m.

APRIL 18
GREAT & HOLY FRIDAY
(STRICT FAST DAY)
Vespers at 7:00 p.m.
(Taking Down from the Cross)
Matins (Lamentations of the shroud and the procession) at 8:00 p.m.

APRIL 19
GREAT & HOLY SATURDAY
Procession around the church & Matins of Christ's Resurrection at 11:45 p.m.

APRIL 20
PASCHA - RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD & SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST
FEAST OF FEASTS
Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

APRIL 27
SUNDAY OF ST THOMAS
Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.