

THIS ISSUE

PASCHA

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Prosfora - Holy Bread
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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, our 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,

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

LET US BE RADIANT

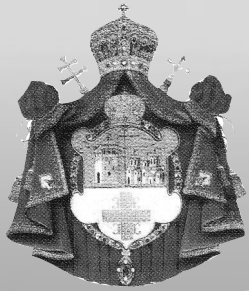
In the coming period from Resurrection to Pentecost, the Sunday Epistle readings tell us of a community of believers who were so totally devoted to God that their life together was charged by the Holy Spirit. They loved each other and shared their lives with one another, praying and serving together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

Sainthood is not some unattainable state, and



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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!



Pascha Schedule 2016

APRIL 24 PALM SUNDAY

Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m. with blessing of Palms

APRIL 27 GREAT & HOLY WEDNESDAY

Holy Unction Service at 7:00 p.m.

APRIL 28 GREAT & HOLY THURSDAY

Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m. The reading of the twelve Passion Gospels at 7:00 p.m.

APRIL 29 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 30 GREAT & HOLY SATURDAY

Procession around the church & Matins of Christ's Resurrection at 11:45 p.m.

MAY 1 PASCHA — RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD & SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST — FEAST OF FEASTS

Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

MAY 8 SUNDAY OF ST THOMAS

Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

MAY 15 SUNDAY OF THE MYRRBEARERS

Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

MAY 22 SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC

Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

MAY 29 SUNDAY OF THE SAMARITAN WOMAN

Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

JUNE 5 SUNDAY OF THE BLIND MAN STS. CONSTANTINE & HELEN — EQUAL TO THE APOSTLES

PATRONAL FEAST DAY OF THE CHURCH
 Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.

