



Rejoice, for He is Risen!

THE FEAST OF FEASTS

In the eighth ode of the Resurrection Canon, written by St. John of Damascus, we find this descriptive reference to Pascha: "THIS IS THE HOLY AND CHOSEN DAY; THE FIRST OF SABBATHS; LORD AND KING; THE FEAST OF FEASTS; AND THE TRIUMPH OF TRIUMPHS. LET US BLESS CHRIST ON THIS DAY FOREVER." Certainly we all can agree on the monumental importance of today. Everything pales in comparison to Christ's rising from the dead. No triumph is greater. No Sabbath is sweeter. No day is as sacred and blessed. No celebration carries the same impact or magnitude.

Words cannot properly describe the feeling in our hearts and souls on this "FEAST OF FEASTS." How does one verbalize the surge of emotion released when the Paschal Troparion is sung for the first time? What can be said for the inner joy that exists for us when we view our church brilliantly illumined at



Resurrection Matins – a sharp contrast to the solemn darkness so prevalent in our Lenten liturgical life?

For the next 40 days, we will greet each other repeatedly with the most meaningful of Christian phrases: CHRIST IS RISEN. The message of Pascha, however, is not merely seasonal. We are constantly overshadowed by the light of the Resurrection. All of our daily actions are tempered by the victory of our Saviour over death and the grave. We, who profess to be His devoted followers, are heartened by His blessed promise to us: I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE. HE, WHO BELIEVES IN ME, WILL NEVER DIE."

Let us boldly proclaim the words of St. John Chrysostom as we celebrate Pascha: "CHRIST IS RISEN, AND DEATH IS ABOLISHED. CHRIST IS RISEN, AND THE DEMONS ARE CAST DOWN. CHRIST IS RISEN, AND THE ANGELS REJOICE. CHRIST IS RISEN, AND LIFE IS FREED!"

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

SAINT NEKTARIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

5108 Kuykendall Road, Charlotte, NC 28270

(704) 708-4669 · (704) 846-6094 fax · office@stnektarios.org

Please contact our office for general inquiries or to schedule an appointment.

Clergy information is provided for emergencies and confidential communication, when required.

Fr. Andreas G. Houpos, Proistamenos — fr.andreas@stnektarios.org · (980) 333-9563

Fr. Nektarios Karantonis — frkarantonis@stnektarios.org · (980) 829-5215

Fr. Steve Dalber (retired) — frdalber@stnektarios.org · (704) 451-6524

Fr. Paul Tsahakis — frtsahakis@stnektarios.org · (704) 608-1112

SAINT NEKTARIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

SUNDAY MISSAL FOR APRIL 24, 2022

View all services online: <https://dcs.goarch.org/goa/dcs/dcs.html> OR SCAN THE QR CODE

DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM



Χριστός ανέστη ἐκ νεκρῶν, θανάτῳ θάνατον πατήσας, καὶ τοῖς ἐν τοῖς μνήμασι, ζωὴν χαρισάμενος.

The First Antiphon 4

The Second Antiphon 5

Save us, O Son of God, risen from the dead. We sing to You, Alleluia.

The Third Antiphon

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

The Small Entrance 7

Bless God in the churches, the Lord from the fountains of Israel. Save us, O Son of God, risen from the dead. We sing to You, Alleluia.

Hymns After the Small Entrance.

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

Hypakoe.

When the women with Mary had come before dawn, and they found that the stone had been rolled away from the sepulcher, they heard from the Angel, "Why do you seek among the dead, as a mortal man, the One who exists in everlasting light? See the grave clothes in the sepulcher. Run and proclaim to the world that the Lord has risen and put death to death; for He is the Son of God who saves the human race."

Kontakion of Pascha

Though You went down into the tomb, O Immortal One, yet You brought down the dominion of Hades; and You rose as the victor, O Christ our God; and You called out "Rejoice" to the Myrrh-bearing women, and gave peace to Your Apostles, O Lord who to the fallen grant resurrection.

Trisagion Hymn 8

The Readings

Epistle: Acts. 1:1-8. 45

In the first book, O Theophilos, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. To them he presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me, for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit." So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom of Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth."

Gospel: Jn. 1:1-17. 45

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 was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light. The true light that enlightens every man was

coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not. He came to his own home, and his own people received him not. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; 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, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (John bore witness to him, and cried, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.'") And from his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

The Great Entrance

The Creed

Hymn to the Theotokos

The Angel cried aloud to the Lady full of grace: Rejoice, O pure Virgin; and again I say Rejoice. Your Son has truly risen from the grave on the third day.

Arise, shine! Arise, shine, O new Jerusalem! Shine! * For the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. * Zion, exult and be glad now. * O pure Mother of God, rejoice, celebrating * the resurrection of Christ your Son!

The Lord's Prayer

Communion Prayers

(Read aloud by the Congregation)

I believe and confess, Lord, that You are truly the Christ, the Son of the living God, Who came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the first. I also believe that this is truly Your pure Body and that this is truly Your precious Blood. Therefore, I pray to You, have mercy upon me, and forgive my transgressions, voluntary and involuntary, in word and deed, known and unknown and make me worthy, without condemnation, to partake of Your pure Mysteries for the forgiveness of sins and for life eternal. Amen. How shall I, who am unworthy, enter into the splendor of Your saints? If I dare to enter into the bridal chamber, my clothing will accuse me, since it is

not a wedding garment; and being bound up, I shall be cast out by the angels. In Your love, Lord, cleanse my soul and save me. Loving Master, Lord Jesus Christ, my God, let not these Holy Gifts be to my condemnation because of my unworthiness, but for the cleansing and sanctification of soul and body and the pledge of future life and Kingdom. It is good for me to cling to God and to place in Him the hope of my salvation. Receive me today, Son of God, as a partaker of Your mystical supper. I will not reveal your mystery to Your adversaries. Nor will I give You a kiss as did Judas. But as the thief, I confess to You: Lord, Remember me in Your Kingdom.

Communion Hymn

Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise Him in the highest. Alleluia.

Holy Communion: *Orthodox Christians prepared to receive Holy Communion come forward quietly and reverently at the direction of the ushers.*

Prayers of Thanksgiving after Holy Communion can be found on pages 40--42.

Hymn after Holy Communion

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

Homily

The Dismissal

Christ is risen from the dead, by death trampling down upon death, and to those in the tombs He has granted life.

**BLESSED
PASCHA**

12

18

26

29