



April 4, 2010

# **HOLY PASCHA—THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST**

**[Beginning of the Pentecostarion]**

Ven. Joseph the Hymnographer; Ven. George of Mt. Maleon in the Peloponnesus; Ven. Joseph the Much-ailing of the Kiev Caves;  
Ven. Zosimas the Abbot of Vorbozomsk; Ven. Zosimas of Palestine; Virgin-martyr Phernutha of Persia and her sister and servants;  
Martyr Nikita of Pojani; St. Isidore, Bishop of Seville; Ven. Theonas, Archbishop of Thessalonica

Reading: Acts 1:1-8

Gospel: John 1:1-17

## **✠ THE WEEK IN WORSHIP & STUDY ✠** **(BRIGHT WEEK)**

<b>TODAY</b>	After Service 12 noon	Blessing of Paschal (Easter) Food followed by Paschal “ <i>Agape</i> ” Meal in the church hall Paschal Vespers with Procession
<b>Mon, Apr 5</b> 9:00 a.m. Paschal Liturgy	<b>BRIGHT MONDAY</b> Martyrs Agathopodes the Deacon, Theodulus the Reader and those with them Reading: Acts 1:12-17, 21-26      Gospel: John 1:18-28 <i>(A procession around the church will take place at the end of the Liturgy; everyone, especially the youth, is encouraged to participate. An Easter Egg Hunt and Paschal Potluck Luncheon will follow.)</i>	
<b>Tues, Apr 6</b> 7:00 a.m. 9:00 a.m.	<b>BRIGHT TUESDAY—The Repose of St. Innocent the Enlightener of the Aleuts &amp; Apostle to the Americas</b> Paschal Matins Paschal Liturgy	
<b>Wed, Apr 7</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>BRIGHT WEDNESDAY—The Repose of St. Tikhon the Enlightener of North America</b> <i>Deanery Paschal Vespers</i> at Christ the Saviour Church in Paramus <i>(A Paschal Potluck Dinner will follow, to which everyone is invited. If you plan to attend, please bring something that will serve 8-10 people.)</i>	
<b>Sat, Apr 10</b> 9:00 a.m. Paschal Liturgy  6:30 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	<b>BRIGHT SATURDAY</b> Martyrs Terence, Pompeius, Africanus, Maximus, Zeno, Alexander, Theodore, Macarius and those with them Reading: Acts 3:11-16      Gospel: John 3:22-33 <i>(The Breaking &amp; Distribution of the Artos will take place following Liturgy.)</i>  Panihida for <b>Vera Rosenthal</b> (40 <sup>th</sup> day) offered by <b>Merilyn Rosenthal</b> Vespers	
<b>Sun, Apr 11</b> 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy  1:00 p.m.	<b>ANTIPASCHA—Tone 1—ST. THOMAS SUNDAY</b> Hieromartyr Antipas, Bishop of Pergamum Reading: Acts 5:12-20      Gospel: John 20:19-31  <i>Provodnoye</i> (Annual Blessing of Graves) at the parish cemetery	



*Fr. David will be out of town from Tuesday afternoon through Friday evening. If there be an emergency need for a priest during this time, please call him on his cell phone (732-740-6230). If you can't reach him, contact Starosta (732-462-3388).*

## ✂ HELLO & WELCOME! ✂

We want to take this opportunity to welcome all of you, especially our *Pastor Emeritus*, **Fr. Sergius Kuharsky**, and his dear wife, **Matushka Faith**. We are so very delighted to have them worship with us on this bright and glorious Feast of Holy Pascha. May the Resurrection of Christ bring joy to their days, peace to their hearts and hope to their spirits throughout this blessed season.

To all our other visitors: Whether you are an Orthodox Christian, an out-of-towner or just a passer-by, there is a place here for you. Our church is strengthened and our worship enhanced by both your presence and participation. For 105 years, we have been a vibrant and growing community that works very hard to provide the spiritual, educational and social activities and programs that will enable all people to experience the love of Christ, grow in their relationship with God and find the purposes and ministries to which He is calling them.

After the Veneration of the Cross, you are invited to our Paschal “*Agape*” Meal in the hall behind the church. If you are looking for a new parish home, we encourage you to contact Fr. David (address, phone, fax and E-mail provided in bulletin masthead) or our Starosta, James Kornafel, at (732) 462-3388; either one would be glad to speak with you.

Thanks for being with us today. We pray that the Risen Lord continues to bless your spiritual journey; may He lead you to the right place to worship and serve Him!

## ✂ IN TOUCH WITH THE PARISH ✂

There will be **NO Church School Classes** today or next Sunday. Sessions will resume on **Sunday, April 18**. Happy Easter!

Plan to stay and share in the **Annual Paschal “Agape” Meal** in the church hall **TODAY** after the Resurrection Liturgy. **EVERYONE** is welcome and **NO** donation is required, as there will be plenty to eat and drink. Let’s break the fast **TOGETHER** as a parish family!

Hop on over to the church lawn after Liturgy on **Bright Monday, April 5**, for the **Annual Children’s Easter Egg Hunt**. Participants are asked to bring an empty basket to collect eggs. Afterwards, the **St. Anne’s Guild** will host a **Paschal Potluck Luncheon** to which **EVERYONE**—the young and not-so-young alike—is invited. Hope to see you there!

The **Annual Blessing of Graves (Provodnoye)** will be held in our parish cemetery, weather permitting, **next Sunday, April 11**, beginning at 1 p.m. This is a beautiful custom of our Orthodox faithful as we share the joy of the Resurrection with those fallen asleep. Please make a point to join us with your family!

The **Altar Society** will meet in the church hall on **Monday, April 12**, at 6 p.m.

The **Parish Council** will meet on **Monday, April 19**, at 7 p.m., in the church hall.

Questions of faith often arise. Sometimes they stimulate us, while at other times they can perplex or even confound us. To address your inquisitiveness, Fr. David will be offering a **Faith Feedback Session** in the church hall on **Sunday, April 25**, during Coffee Hour. If you have a query you would like answered during this forum, write it down on a card provided in the church vestibule and drop it in the *Faith Feedback Question Box*. Then, on the 25<sup>th</sup>, come and be as part of an enlightening experience. Remember: questions of faith are often a sign of growth.

A **Mother’s Day Raffle** is now in progress to support the ministries of our **Holy Myrrhbearing Women Altar Society**. *Serenity Day Spa* has again donated the grand prize: a \$100 gift certificate and basket. Second prize is a \$50 gift certificate and basket from *Hair Event* in Milltown. Buy one ticket for \$5 or increase your chances and purchase five for \$20. The drawing will be held on **Sunday, May 2**, during Coffee Hour. (*Attendance is not necessary to win.*) See any Society member for tickets. Thank you and good luck!

## ✂ CHURCH CHATTER ✂

**WHERE TWO OR THREE ARE GATHERED TOGETHER...**Attendance at Liturgy last Sunday was **224**.

**MINISTRY DUTIES** The Epistle will be read next week by **Paul Machyowsky**. Coffee Hour will be hosted by the **Senior R Club**.

**CONFESSION & COMMUNION DURING THE PASCHAL SEASON** As is our parish practice, there will be **NO General Confession** during these most glorious days of the Resurrection. Those of you who confessed and communed during Great Lent may continue to approach the Holy Chalice on Sundays and holidays, provided that you prepare accordingly (prayer and meditation) and fast from food and drink after midnight. Please remember that if you miss a Sunday, you must go to private Confession or speak with Father David before communing the next time. (**NOTE:** *General Confession will resume on Saturday, May 15, following Vespers. For those who desire a private Confession before then, Father will be available, as usual, on Saturday afternoons starting at 5 p.m.*)

**HISTORIC MILESTONE MARKED** This past Wednesday, March 31, marked the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the signing of the agreement on autocephaly (self-governing) between the *Russian Orthodox Church* in Moscow and what, at the time, was known as the *Russian*

*Orthodox Greek Catholic Church of America*—since October of 1970 known as the *Orthodox Church in America (OCA)*. To commemorate this anniversary, special features will be forthcoming on the OCA website at [www.oca.org](http://www.oca.org). Check it out!

**SINCERE CONDOLENCES** to **Barbara Kaminsky, Kristi Domboski** and **Kerry Ellingham** on the sudden falling asleep of their one-year old great nephew and cousin, **Jakob Vail**, on Holy Thursday, April 1. May they take comfort in the many prayers offered in faith for them.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES** go out this week to **Paul Rogozenski**. Belated greetings are also extended to **John Witkowski** and **Philip Rogozenski**, both of whom celebrated this past Friday. May God continue to surround them with His care and blessings for many years—Mnogaya Lyeta!

**OUR DEEPEST APPRECIATION** to the **Men's Club** for its fuel donation; we are most grateful.

**WE ARE PRAYING FOR** the following parishioners, family members and friends this week, as well as the departed, sick and suffering people of Chile and those who lost their lives in the wake of the twin terrorist bombings in the Moscow subway:

<u>Departed</u>	<u>Sick</u>	<u>Servicemen</u>
Vera Rosenthal	Elaine Ashton	Ivan Shidlovsky
Valentina Nerush	Irene Boulle	Lisa Beard
Reginald Thomas	Joseph Casall	Gregory Nosol
Dorothy Dabkowski	Edward Romanofsky	June Buyofsky-Rittman
Olga Zawadsky	Walentyna Posluszny	David T. Floyd
Joan Tita	Alan Zenkert	Patrick Lohr
Rose Mankos	Michael Dargento	Keith Sudder
Peter Keimer	Daryl Deissinger	Priest Paul Rivers
Nadejda Sicko	Cynthia Denlinger	Andrew Kubik
Rita Lyons	Linda Martinovich	Jason Vaughn
Helen Visocky	Josephine Tillison	Patrick Baldwin
Joseph Strugala	Mary Lou Goldy	Timothy Stepan
William Fedak	Julia Glazer	Michael Gregus
August Hofling	Joseph Casale	Peter Shaw
Jakob Vail	Donna Casale	Jacqueline Martinez
	Dr. Joseph Pastore	Robert Mahrer
	Randall Cline	Karen Bonet
	Joseph Lynch	David Gambert
	Lasha Giorgi Pozidis	Gregg Poole
	Aiden Gowarty	Fred Bush
	Dorothy Swenticky	Travis Hartman
	Sara Cseh	Walter Zettlemoyer Jr.
	Olga Smith	Elizabeth Brent
	Anthony Garito	Kyle Abbott
	Ermelinda Faziola	Matthew Scudder
	Kirsten Hyland	
	John Cameron	
	Janet Firestone	
	Adam Krosnowski	
	Ellie Shipman	
	Savanna Dore	

If you have a name you would like included in the bulletin, contact Father David or Starosta.

**HEARTFELT GRATITUDE** is extended to those who made kind offerings last week to the *Cemetery Perpetual Care Fund*: **Nicholas & Pearl Berezniak** (in memory of **Peter Keimer** and **Nadejda Sicko**), **Vera Dorn** (in memory of **Dorothy Dabkowski** and **Vera Rosenthal**), **Harry Durovich** (in memory of **Dorothy Dabkowski**), **Mary Fritz** (in memory of **Dorothy Dabkowski**), **Kathy M.** and **Paul & Leslie Zelanko** (in memory of **Dorothy Dabkowski** and **Vera Rosenthal**). May the Risen Lord bless them during this glorious and joyful Paschal season and always.

**THANK YOU** to **Janet Hartman** (in memory of **Dorothy Dabkowski**), the **Men's Club** (Paschal gift) and **Jay Pelleriti** (in memory of **Peter Keimer**) for their recent church donations. Their loving support truly overwhelms us—God bless!

**WARM THE CHILDREN (WTC) UPDATE** Another month has quickly flown by, during which time this charitable organization received loads of wonderful items and cash donations from parishioners and parish organizations across the US. A total of 12 boxes were shipped in late February/early March to lots of needy children in orphanages, homes and missions in Russia and Belarus. Everyone is doing a wonderful job with their handiwork and shopping. Would you like to get involved in this fulfilling community program? If so, contact WTC Coordinator, Barbara Nafranowicz, by phone (908-232-2632), E-mail ([bnafanowicz@verizon.net](mailto:bnafanowicz@verizon.net)) or

post (167 North Cottage Place, Westfield, NJ 07090) to find out where best you can contribute, for as the Shepherd of Hermes said: *“Do good and, with a simple heart, share the fruits of your labor which God gives to you with all those who are in need, not wondering to whom you should give and to whom you should not give. Give to all, for God wishes that you give to all from His many gifts to you.”*

**FOCA PALM SUNDAY MISSION** A small but prayerful group of parishioners and guests gathered together last Sunday for a wonderful afternoon of worship and fellowship. Our thanks to **Michael Burak**, **Walter Deerson** and **Starosta James Kornafel** for seeing that proper church order was kept; to our *Pastor Emeritus*, **Fr. Sergius Kuharsky**, and our intern priest, **Fr. Sean Levine**, for serving with **Fr. David**; to the **Church Choir**, under the able leadership of **Basil Kozak**, for its prayerful singing and reading; and to the **Senior R Club** for the delicious Lenten meal/reception afterwards. We were also fortunate to have had an insightful homily given by **Fr. Sean**. All in all, it was a beautiful way to usher in Holy Week.

**SCHEMICK-TOLLS SCHOLARSHIP** Through the generosity of donors John Tolls, his deceased wife Leatrice, their daughters Lea and Lynley, and honorees Anna, John and John Jr. Schemick of blessed memory, two worthy high school seniors and/or college students will be awarded a \$500 scholarship to help them in their studies. The deadline for applying is **Saturday, May 1**. To request an application, all interested individuals should contact Carol Deerson (732-254-4979).

**THE SOUTH RIVER FOOD BANK** is participating in the *13th Annual Alan Shawn Feinstein \$1 Million Giveaway to Fight Hunger*. Throughout April, all donations of food and money will be matched dollar for dollar. See the flyers in the church hall for more information. Everyone is asked to be especially generous with his/her contributions this month.

**BULLETIN DEADLINE** Announcements for next week's edition must be submitted to Fr. David or our Starosta/Bulletin Editor, James Kornafel, by **Thursday evening**. You can reach Father at the rectory or contact Jim by phone (732-462-3388), fax (732-845-3515) or E-mail ([jimmyk@optonline.net](mailto:jimmyk@optonline.net)).



*May you and your family experience anew the hope that only comes from the Risen Christ Who, by His passion, death and resurrection, has conquered the darkness of sin and despair today. Let this joyous Pascha remind us that hope does not leave us disappointed; rather, it gives us strength to carry on in the face of the realities that exist in the world, in our nation, in our parish and within our families. Christ's resurrection says to us and those around us that God has not abandoned His creation, but works in and through it to bring new life and new beginnings.*

*We wish you and your loved ones a bountiful Paschal feast. May the joy of our Risen Savior fill you with peace and hope, not only in this season, but throughout the year.*

## ✂ SIGNS OF THE SEASON ✂

Throughout the next seven weeks, we are called by the Church to manifest our faith in the Resurrection of Christ in many symbolic ways:

- The Royal and Deacon Doors of the iconostasis remain open until the Eve of Ascension symbolizing the open door of Christ's empty tomb, as well as the rent veil of the Jewish temple, which was torn apart at the moment Christ died.
- During the entire forty days of Pascha, we greet each other by saying, **Christ is Risen!** and answering, **Indeed He is Risen!**
- Until the Vespers of Holy Pentecost ("Kneeling Prayers"), there is **no kneeling** in church or at home for private or corporate prayer. Standing is the position of gladness and rejoicing.
- Everything in the church is adorned with white, the color of the Resurrection. Believers should also wear white or bright colors to services during the Paschal season.
- The fasting rule for Bright Week is easy to remember—**do not fast!** Any kind of food may be eaten on any day.
- The prayer to the Holy Spirit ("**O Heavenly King...**") is **not** recited in church or at home until the Vespers service on Holy Pentecost. Until the Feast of the Ascension, it is substituted with the Paschal Troparion ("**Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death and, upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!**") We are like the Apostles during this period, "waiting" for the Holy Spirit to come, and the absence of this prayer makes a strong statement of our profound need for the Holy Spirit.

Enjoy this special time of the year and don't forget that the most important sign of the season is to lift up all we are and do to our Risen Savior's glory.

**CHRIST IS RISEN!**

**INDEED HE IS RISEN!**