

# ***SUNDAY BULLETIN***

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## ***SUNDAY OF MYRRHBEARERS***

***St. Nicholai of Zicha***

***(May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020)***



***HRISTOS VOSKRESE – VAISTINU VOSKRESE!***

***CHRIST IS RISEN – INDEED, HE IS RISEN!***

### **Liturgical Readings:**

**Epistle (Acts 6, 1-7); Gospel (Mk. 15, 43-47 & 16, 1-8)**

God's Holy Church continues in joyful celebration of the Lord Jesus Christ's Resurrection. The celebration continues daily until the Feast of the Ascension. The Church wants believers to be fully focused on the Resurrection.

Each year believers are expected to prepare during Great Lent for the arrival of Holy Week and the celebration of Jesus' Resurrection. Great Lent is a time to focus on repentance and renewal of life in Jesus Christ.

The Resurrection brings the greatest of joy. The women going to the tomb as described in St. Mark's Gospel heard the words: "He is Risen!". Believers greet each other with same words during this period following Pascha.

**Hristos Voskrese! Christ is Risen! Vaistinu Voskrese! Indeed He is Risen!**

The heart is filled with joy in these greetings. Believers unite in celebrating the Lord's Resurrection.

Believers' world has changed. Death is no longer a threat. Death no longer has a foreboding grip on life. Jesus Christ conquered death. Jesus Christ triumphed over death.

The myhrrbearing women were witnesses to the Empty Tomb. The women heard the message directly when they came to the Tomb. The proclamation of Jesus' Resurrection has continued for more than twenty centuries.

Wars, epidemics and tyrannical governments have not been able to silence the message that "Christ is Risen!". This year when a pandemic virus threatened to quarantine large portions of the world, Pascha continued to be celebrated.

In countries where Communism once reigned and efforts to stamp out the Church were extensive, believers found ways to celebrate Christ's Resurrection.

Death can bring sadness. Christ's Resurrection brings joy!

Believers are to deeply savor the meaning of Jesus Christ rising from the dead. The enduring hope established by the Risen Christ cannot be extinguished.

Resurrection joy cannot be stifled.

When the heart hurts, when depression threatens, Christ's Resurrection triumphs and lifts the faithful believer to new heights. The women going to Christ's Tomb had their lives changed forever.

Believers having seriously invested in Great Lent experience proportionate joy in celebrating Christ's Resurrection. This year was unusual due to restrictions on worship.

The ability to pray at home or wherever a believer is located is always possible. God is everywhere and is always accessible to persons of faith. Serious Christians find ways to be united with the Lord God.

Serious believers do not yield to foreboding predictions. Strength is drawn from the martyrs and the saints through the centuries. The Church has a long list of examples of faithful believers remaining steadfast in periods of hardship.

The current pandemic will pass. The present restrictions will eventually be lifted. Every person has the opportunity at every moment of time to reach out in faith to God.

Every believer has the freedom to say "Christ is Risen!" from the depths of the believing and joyful heart. The proclamation that "Christ is Risen" heals the broken hearted and dispels feeling of gloom and depression.

God's churches are bright with the joy of the Resurrection. The Gospel messages communicate hope and joy. Clergy wear bright vestments. Cantors and choirs sing joyful verses to instruct the world.

Each Christian has the ability and responsibility to draw strength from the Resurrection of Christ and incorporate it into daily life. Daily Christian life is to mirror the joy of Christ's Resurrection.

The Resurrected Christ lives in the hearts, minds and souls of serious believers. Bodily demeanor and actions reflect the presence of the Risen Christ in the heart, mind and soul.

Believers are new in the Resurrected Christ. Daily life is transformed by this newness. Give abundant and endless thanks to the Risen Lord for the love, joy and healing known through His Resurrection!

*Fr Rodney Torbic*

## **DONATIONS**

Due to this pandemic, not only have we modified the schedule for services but we have suspended all fund raising activities including fish fries until further notice. The fish fries have provided great financial support to our church treasury over the years and this loss of income plus not having a weekly collection puts a strain on the finances. Even though we may not be attending services, we continue to incur operating expenses that need to be paid. ***WE ARE ASKING YOU TO PLEASE CONTINUE WITH YOUR WEEKLY OFFERINGS BY MAILING THEM TO THE CHURCH. YOUR COOPERATION WILL BE GREATLY APPRECIATED!***

3/22/2020 Offering \$739.00; Candles \$94.00  
3/29/2020 Offering \$2721.00; Candles \$25.00  
4/5/2020 Offering \$1540.00  
4/12/2020 Offering \$2510.00; Dues \$350.00  
4/19/2020 Offering \$1910.00 Candles \$15.00 Dues \$95.00  
4/26/2020 Offering \$1253.00

**BELL TOWER FUND - Total to date \$44,864.14/\$ 32,500.00**

\$200 from Dianna Dunnington in memory of Milos & Milka Tumbas; \$200 from Kathy & Gerry Szmydin in memory of Steve & Stella Baich; \$100 from the Seitz family in memory of Beloved parents and Grandparents- Robert & Elaine Zakula; \$100 from Amelia Denovich Coyle & Family; \$250 from Kathy Sankar in memory of parents Milan & Milka Spanovich; \$52 from Milk Container donation  
Donation to the Building Fund for \$100 in memory Mitch Saula from Lucky & Linda Villa

**WE ARE ACCEPTING DONATIONS FOR THE LARGE CANDLES (\$25)**

**THANK YOU!**

**BOOK OF THE MONTH APRIL**

*"THIRTY STEPS TO HEAVEN: THE LADDER OF DIVINE ASCENT FOR ALL WALKS OF LIFE"* (Archimandrite Vassilios Papavassiliou)

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

***EVERY DAY at 7:45 PM – Evening prayer through the Conference call (339) 207-6529***

***WEDNESDAY (May 6<sup>th</sup>) – Holy Glorious Great-martyr George***

10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

***SATURDAY (May 9<sup>th</sup>)***

6:00 PM – Great Vespers (Live streamed)

***SUNDAY (May 10<sup>th</sup>) – Sunday of the Paralytic***

10.00 AM – Divine Liturgy (Live streamed)

**Liturgical Readings:** Epistle (Acts 9, 32-42); Gospel (Jn. 5, 1-15)

**Dear ones,**

Please, keep in your hearted prayers our beloved brothers and sisters in Christ

- who suffer of cancer: Jenifer, Linda, Sandy (Simko)
- who pray the God for the restoration of health: Irine (Martinovich), Grace (Vuckovich), Ranka (Banda), Edward (Gartell), George (Momcilovic)

**RESURRECTIONAL TROPARION - TONE TWO:**

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life Immortal, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead! And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out: O Giver of Life! Christ our God! Glory to Thee!

**TROPARION TO JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA - TONE TWO:**

The noble Joseph, when he had taken down Thy most pure Body from the tree, wrapped it in fine linen and anointed it with spices, and placed it in a new tomb. But Thou arose on the third day, O Lord, granting the world great mercy.

**TROPARION TO THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN - TONE TWO:**

The Angel came to the Myrrh-bearing Women at the tomb and said: 'Myrrh is fitting for the dead; but Christ has shown Himself a stranger to corruption! So proclaim: "The Lord is risen, granting the world great mercy."