



The Sunday Messenger

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH - WILKES BARRE, PA

HOLY PASCHA + Sun, April 20th, 2025 + Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!



Christ is risen from the dead,
Trampling down death by death, And
upon those in the tombs Bestowing
life!

Please Sing Along!

Singing the hymns and responses to the litanies along with the choir throughout the Divine Liturgy is encouraged!

Epistle Reading - Acts 1:1-8

The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, until the day in which He was

taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Gospel Reading - John 1:1-17

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 nothing was made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. And the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not comprehend it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. This man came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light which gives light to every man coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name: 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, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said,

DEAR GUESTS AND FRIENDS: A most sincere and heartfelt welcome to you from our community. According to the ancient traditions of the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is to be administered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared to receive the Holy Sacrament through prayer and fasting. If you have questions please let us know!

'He who comes after me is preferred before me, for He was before me.'" And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace. For the law was given through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.



This Week's Schedule

DOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

HOLY PASCHA SERVICES

SUN MORNING, April 20

Agape Vespers w/ Procession @ 11 AM
followed by Blessing of the Baskets

MON MORNING, April 21

Paschal Hours & Divine Liturgy @ 9 AM

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NO AKATHIST or BIBLE STUDY THIS WEEK

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SAT MORNING, April 26

Paschal Divine Liturgy @ 9 AM
Wilkes-Barre Paschal Picnic @ 11 AM
Great Vespers @ 2 PM

NEXT SUNDAY - THOMAS SUNDAY

Resurrectional Matins @ 8 AM
Divine Liturgy @ 9 AM
followed by

Childrens Easter Egg Hunt @ 11 AM,
Blessing of the Graves (weather permitting)
Holy Resurrection @ 12:30, Fern Knoll @ 2:30

AGAPE MEAL FOLLOWING DIVINE LITURGY ON

PASCHA: Following the blessing of the baskets on Pascha it is traditional for the faithful to break the fast by eating with one another from the baskets which have just been blessed. All are encouraged and welcome to break the fast together downstairs in the Parish Hall in the joy of the Paschal celebration!

THOMAS SUNDAY: Easter Egg Hunt & Grave Blessing. Our annual Children's Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Thomas Sunday at 11 AM following Divine Liturgy and a quick coffee break (for parents and the priest). Our annual Grave Blessings at Holy Resurrection & Fern Knoll Cemeteries will take place at 12:30 PM and 2:30 PM respectively. Both of these events are weather permitting.

The Blessing of Homes continues AFTER PASCHA for those who have rescheduled or by appointment. Check in with Fr. Innocent as to when there is availability for your visit.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

April Birthdays: Miriam Clark (4/6), Marie Dutko (4/6), Pearl Tutko (4/8), Andy Dutko (4/9), Alec Breisch (4/9), Alex Holoviak (4/9), Nicholas Reznak (4/9), Leigh Storey (4/17), Vladimir Holoviak (4/19), Eli King (4/21), Jordan Dutko (4/23), Debbie Greenward **Anniversaries:** Fr. Innocent & Mat. Melanie Neal (4/22), Eva & Stephen Nealon (4/29)

This Week's Birthdays: Eli King (4/21), Jordan Dutko (4/23), Debbie Greenward **Anniversaries:** Fr. Innocent & Mat. Melanie Neal (4/22)



Words of Wisdom

From the Saints & Teachers

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THE PASCHAL SERMON

*The Catechetical Sermon of St. John Chrysostom
is read during Matins of Pascha.*

If any man be devout and love God, let him enjoy this fair and radiant triumphal feast. If any man be a wise servant, let him rejoicing enter into the joy of his Lord. If any have labored long in fasting, let him now receive his recompense. If any have wrought from the first hour, let him today receive his just reward. If any have come at the third hour, let him with thankfulness keep the feast. If any have arrived at the sixth hour, let him have no misgivings; because he shall in nowise be deprived thereof. If any have delayed until the ninth hour, let him draw near, fearing nothing. If any have tarried even until the eleventh hour, let him, also, be not alarmed at his tardiness; for the Lord, who is jealous of his honor, will accept the last even as the first; He gives rest unto him who comes at the eleventh hour, even as unto him who has wrought from the first hour.

And He shows mercy upon the last, and cares for the first; and to the one He gives, and upon the other He bestows gifts. And He both accepts the deeds, and welcomes the

intention, and honors the acts and praises the offering. Wherefore, enter you all into the joy of your Lord; and receive your reward, both the first, and likewise the second. You rich and poor together, hold high festival. You sober and you heedless, honor the day. Rejoice today, both you who have fasted and you who have disregarded the fast. The table is full-laden; feast ye all sumptuously. The calf is fatted; let no one go hungry away.

Enjoy ye all the feast of faith: Receive ye all the riches of loving-kindness. let no one bewail his poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed. Let no one weep for his iniquities, for pardon has shown forth from the grave. Let no one fear death, for the Savior's death has set us free. He that was held prisoner of it has annihilated it. By descending into Hell, He made Hell captive. He embittered it when it tasted of His flesh. And Isaiah, foretelling this, did cry: Hell, said he, was embittered, when it encountered Thee in the lower regions. It was embittered, for it was abolished. It was embittered, for it was mocked. It was embittered, for it was slain. It was embittered, for it was overthrown. It was embittered, for it was fettered in chains. It took a body, and met God face to face. It took earth, and encountered Heaven. It took that which was seen, and fell upon the unseen.

O Death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory? Christ is risen, and you are overthrown. Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen. Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice. Christ is risen, and life reigns. Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the grave. For Christ, being risen from the dead, is become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be glory and dominion unto ages of ages. Amen.



Wilkes-Barre Bright Saturday Paschal Picnic

When: Saturday, April 26th

following Paschal Divine Liturgy at 9 AM

Picnic will begin at approx 11 AM

Bring prepared food & drinks to share!

Vespers @ 2 PM

Where: Holy Trinity Orthodox Church
Who: All are welcome to attend and bring a friend.
All Local Orthodox Parishes have been invited!

Pascha Flower Donations In Memory of:

Apanovich, Huntzinger Families

Sherry

Haugh-Krill Families

Mary B. Krill

Bankos, Bawn, Benczkowski, Cardoni Families

Mary B. Krill

Joanne Brkich

Sofrenovic Family

Cardoni-Benczkowski Families

Mary B. Krill

Conon & Tumavitch Families

Martha & Paul Tumavitch

Jesse & Bessie Cottle

Ptdn.Sergei & Matushka Vicki

Dutko & Kowal Family

Lydia Dutko

Gianuzzi Family/Lorna

Louie

Glowatsky, Shedlock, & Layton Families

Olga Layton

Goobic Family

John & Denise Meck & Family

Melanie & Robert Hoats

Eva Nealon

Philip Homick Family

Family

Raymond & Justine Gulczynski

Kristen Reznak

Gurka Family

William & Mary Gurka

Stephen Hutz, Jr.

Brian Hutz

Jerzy & Krystyna

Tomasz S. Michalski

Archpriest Michael & Matushka Olga Kapral

Ptdn.Sergei & Matushka Vicki

Kaskiel, Stella & Solovey Families

John & Irene Zimich

Krill & Zimich Families

John & Irene Zimich

PARISH PRAYER LIST Living: Homebound - Evelyn, Vladimir, Jeri, Marsha, David, Paul, Archpriest Theodore, Mat. Elizabeth, Mary, Patricia, Barbara, Jeri, Joan, Irene, Alice **Sick & Suffering** - Cynthia Dulsky, Nadine Breisch, Elizabeth Hutz, Mary Hutz, David Lezinsky, Bob Lutzick, Leann, Gregory Krevko, Tom Vaskalis, Tom O'Brian, David, Delores Tressa, Sylvia Dreater, Patricia Sohoski, Natalie Gripp, Bill Talpash
Departed: Jerzy

Peter & Anna Sokola, & Olga Pieck

Mike & Nancy Pieck

Shiposki & Wanchisen Families

Susan Shiposki

Sokola & Kulick Families

Joan

Anna & Peter Sokola, Olga Pieck

Mike & Nancy Pieck

Mirko Soljaga

SofrenovicFamily

Michael & Anna Preteska

Mike & Nancy Piek

Renee Spinghel

Janice and Eric Kamback

Welgus Family

David & Diane Welgus

Larry Willis & Joseph Tarantini

June Willis

Wanchisen Family

Susan Shiposki

Pascha Flower Donations For the Health of:

Apanovich, Huntzinger Families

Sherry

Austin Family

Joan

Nancy Bartle

Kyra Zoranski

Haugh, Krill Families

Mary B. Krill

Bankos, Benczkowski, & Cardoni Families

Mary B. Krill

Kim Matrona Fritzges

Matushka Vicki

**Fr. Innocent, Mat. Melanie, Ephraim, Andrew, &
Sebastian**

Martha & Paul Tumavitch

Glowatsky, Shedlock, & Layton Families

Olga Layton

Gianuzzi Family

Louie

Gurka Family

William & Mary Gurka

Jeannie & Scott Harvey

Kyra Zoranski

Beth Ann Hutz

Brian Hutz

The Neal Family

The Kapral Family

Kapelan Family

Sandy Kapelan

Meck, Goobic, Willis Families

John & Denise Meck

Meck & Willis Families

Meck Family

Rosencrans Family

Grammy

Soljaga Family

Sofrenovic Family

Sofrenovic Family

Sofrenovic Family

Ivan Tetiana

Anonymous

Tumavitch Family

Martha & Paul Tumavitch

June Willis

Myra Tarantini

Krill & Zimich Families

John & Irene Zimich

Memorial Flower Donations for Cross & Icons:

Sunday of the Cross

In Memory of the Bankos, Bawn, Benczkowski, Cardoni, Haugh Families - Offered by Mary B. Krill

Palm Sunday and Holy Week Bridegroom Icon

In Memory of Archpriest Adam Krell & Matushka Eleanor Krell, David A. Krell, & the Krell, Kosko, Mirowsky, Zevan Families Offered by Deborah Krell Mills & David C. Mills

Great and Holy Pascha Icon

In Memory of John & Doris Zoranski & the Zoranski Family Offered by Kyra Zoranski
