



The Sunday Messenger

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH - WILKES BARRE, PA

HOLY PASCHA + Sun, May 5, 2024 + 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

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!

Father, full of grace and truth. John bore witness of Him and cried out, saying, "This was He of whom I said, '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

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HOLY PASCHA SERVICES

Beginning SAT NIGHT, May 4th

Nocturns @ 9:30 PM

Paschal Matins @ 10:00 PM

Paschal Divine Liturgy @ 11:00 PM

Blessing of the Baskets & ***Agape Meal** @ 12:30 AM

SUN MORNING, May 5th

Agape Vespers w/ Procession @ 11 AM

followed by Blessing of the Baskets

BRIGHT MONDAY, May 6th

Paschal Hours @ 8:40 AM

Paschal Divine Liturgy @ 9 AM

BRIGHT TUESDAY, May 7th

Feast of St. Alexis Toth

Paschal Hours @ 8:40 AM

Paschal Divine Liturgy @ 9 AM

BRIGHT SATURDAY, May 11th

Paschal Hours @ 8:40 AM

Paschal Divine Liturgy @ 9 AM

Parish PotLuck / Picnic @ 11:00 AM

Great Vespers @ 2 PM (*Note Time Change*)

THOMAS SUNDAY, May 12th

Hours @ 8:40 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

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

& Upcoming Parish Events

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Receiving Communion on Holy Pascha: A friendly reminder that Holy Communion is for Orthodox Christians in good standing who have prepared themselves through fasting, prayer and recent confession. Only those Orthodox Christians who have confessed during the Lenten Fast should receive on Holy Pascha. Questions? Please speak with Fr. Innocent.

Fasting for the Paschal Liturgy: The Paschal Divine Liturgy begins at 11:00 PM on Holy Saturday. Please remember to fast, preferably six hours before receiving communion (think around 5 or 6 PM to begin fasting if possible, unless food is needed for medications, etc).

***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. There will also be a beautiful feast prepared for anyone who will not have a basket. All are welcome to break the fast together downstairs in the Parish Hall in the joy of Pascha!

Thomas Sunday Easter Egg Hunt & Grave Blessings: 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.

May 26th, Retirement dinner following the Sunday Divine Liturgy for Archpriest Gregory White: All are welcome! Tentative location Cork Restaurant, Madison St, Wilkes-Barre, PA. Approx. cost for the buffet if we reach the required number of attendees \$31. Attendees will be responsible to pay for their own meals. The menu will consist of Chicken Marsala, Beef Tips, Vegetable, Desert, and coffee. Other drinks are available from the bar at an additional cost.



Wilkes-Barre Bright Saturday Cookout & Picnic

When: Saturday, May 11th

following Paschal Divine Liturgy at 9 AM. Picnic will begin at approx 11 AM.

Hot grill will be provided. Bring Food/Drinks!

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!

*“The table is full-laden; feast ye all sumptuously.
The calf is fatted; let no one go away hungry.”*

+ St. John Chrysostom



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.

Pascha Flower Donations In Memory of

Conklin, Boule, Korba, Kennedy, Geiger, Seasock

Alexanne Conklin

Anthony Stempien

Marlene Stempien

Andrew Dutko Sr.

Lydia Dutko

Apanovich, Huntzinger Families

Sherry

PARISH PRAYER LIST Living: Cynthia Dulsky, Nadine Breisch, Evelyn Kosmiski, Mat. Elizabeth, Jeri Basarab, Fr. Theodore Orzolek, Vladimir & Marie Dutko, Tom & Joan Austin, Joan Lello, Barbara Pascoe, Elizabeth Hutz, Delores Voda, David Goobic, David Lezinsky, Fr. Gregory White, Mary Gurka, Mary Ann Kudey, Tom Youngblood, Catherine Gates, John Boyle, Rose Marie, Patricia Yeosock, Lucille Dragan, Mark **Departed:** Ben Dragan, Edward Hojnicky, Truett Bridges

Elenor & Michael Gianuzzi

Louie

David Voda

Delores Voda

Betty & Theodore Polk

Sbdn. Greg Polk

Krill & Zimich Families

Krill & Zimich Families

Conon, Tumavitch, & Chesniak Families

Martha & Paul Tumavitch

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Mike & Nancy Pieck

Michael & Anna Preteska

Mike & Nancy Pieck

Joseph Tarantini

Myra Tarantini

Stephen Hutz III

Steve & Jean Hutz

Gurka & Shilo Families

Bill & Mary Gurka

William & Eva Sokola

Tom & Joan Austin

Barbara & Basil Kulick

Tom & Joan Austin

Jesse & Bess Cottle

Ptdn. Sergei & Matushka Vicki

Julia & John Dennis

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John and Denise Meck

John and Doris Zoranski

Kyra Zoranski

Thomas Czekalski

Marguerite Czekalski

Stenach and Yamelski Families

Marguerite and Vera

Archpriest Michael & Matushka Olga Kapral

Ptdn. Sergei & Matushka Vicki

Mirko Soljaga

Sofrenovic Family

Ray Gajic

Sofrenovic Family

Bato Zunjic

Sofrenovic Family

Glowatsky, Shedlock, & Layton Families

Olga Layton

Welgus Family

David & Diane Welgus

Casimer, Margaret, & Candice Mesh

Valerie Nidoh

Serafin & Orischak Families

Sandy Serafin

Zingaretti Family

Judy Slesinski

Anna P. Homick, Helen & Peter Welgo, Steven Homick

Anonymous

Andrew Dutko Sr. & George Krout

Andy Dutko

Teodor & Anna

Irene Dutko

Krill & Zimich Family Members

John & Irene Zimich

Pascha Flower Donations For the Health of

Conklin, Boule, Korba, Kennedy, Geiger, Seasock

Valerie Seasock

Holy Trinity Church School & Teachers

King Family

Deborah & David Mills

King Family

Apanovich, Huntzinger Families

Sherry

Gianuzzi Family

Louie

Fr. Innocent, Matushka Melanie, & Sons

Martha & Paul Tumavitch

The Tumavitchs

Martha & Paul Tumavitch

June Willis

Myra Tarantini

Tom & Joan Austin & Family

Tom & Joan Austin

Fr. Gregory & Matushka Kathryn

Ptdn. Sergei & Matushka Vicki

Fr. Innocent, Matushka Melanie, & Boys

Ptdn. Sergei & Matushka Vicki

Kim Matrona Fritzges

Ptdn. Sergei & Matushka Vicki

Soljaga Family

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Sofrenovic Family

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Williams, Czahor, Nidoh Family

Valerie Nidoh

Kathryn Kupstas

Bill Kupstas

Joan Kupstas

Bill Kupstas

Glowasky, Shedlock, & Layton Families

Olga Layton

Mary Gustinucci

Natalie Gripp

Kapelan Family

Sandy Kapelan

Nancy Bartle

Kyra Zoranski

Meck and Willis Families

John and Denise Meck

Krill & Zimich Family Members

John & Irene Zimich
