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.

What a powerful message is expressed in the Paschal troparion! Not only has Christ conquered death, but He has destroyed its seemingly invincible hold over mankind as well.

Unlike Western art, which often depicts the Risen Lord bursting forth from the tomb, Orthodox iconography does not attempt to capture the moment of our Lord's Resurrection. Instead, we are presented with the image of Christ actually bestowing life to those in the tombs in the icon commonly referred to as “The Descent into Hades.”

In the stirring scene on this morning's Church Bulletin cover, Christ's victory over our greatest adversary is clearly portrayed. He extends His arm to Adam and Eve, our first parents. He is surrounded by the righteous men and women of the Old Testament, who patiently awaited to be freed from bondage by Him. The dark abyss of hell lies under His feet, crushed and defeated. Indeed, the icon visually brings to life the words of the 6th ode of the Resurrection Canon: “Your descended into the depths of the earth, and shattered the eternal bars, which held fast those who were captive, O Christ. And on the third day, as Jonah in the whale, You arose from the dead?”

Yes, this is the “Feast of Feasts” and the “Triumph of Triumphs!” In the words of the Apostle Paul: “Thanks be to God, Who has given us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ” (1 Cor. 15:57)

The Orthodox Weekly Bulletin... Vestal, Chenango, New Jersey... Litho in U.S.A.
May 2, 2021
Great and Holy Pascha
Orthros 8:30am / Divine Liturgy 9:30am

BOOKSTORE: Christos Anesti/Christ is Risen! We offer some Mother’s Day Gift Ideas: Icons, The Ascetic Lives of MOTHERS: A Prayer Book for Orthodox Moms $13.00, standing glass cross, cross candle holders, inspirational notepads and so much more. Back in-stock brass hand censers. Contact Maria at bookstore@stnicholastroy.org or 248-362-9575 for book or icon inquiries. The bookstore opens immediately after and not during Divine Liturgy until 12:30 p.m. and also, weekdays during regular office hours.

Y.A.L: Y.A.L will be holding our next meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 8 at the St. Nicholas Community Center patio! Join us for dinner, games, and fellowship! Please sign up at https://bit.ly/3nblHgL. In addition, on Mother’s Day (5/9), Y.A.L will be handing out flowers to all women of our parish after Divine Liturgy! If you or someone you know may be interested in joining the group, please reach out to YAL@stnicholastroy.org for more details.

KEEPING IN TOUCH WITH YOUR CHURCH: Interested in receiving the Weekly Church Bulletin and other communications from the church via email? Please email the church office at Office@StNicholasTroy.org so we can add you to our email distribution list. Once set up, you will receive the Church Sunday Bulletin the Friday before as well as any other electronic communications. It’s that simple! HOWEVER: If you unsubscribe for any reason, your email address will be removed and you will need to RESUBSCRIBE through the Church office.

CAREFUL IN THE NARTHEX! Though we might be all tired of COVID-19 safety measures, it is still important ESPECIALLY IN THE NARTHEX that we maintain social distancing, wear our masks correctly, and keep our conversation to a minimum. Please arrange to socialize outside the church whether in the parking lot or your homes, but in church please respect safety measures that are in place. For more information related to our COVID-19 protocols and procedures please visit our website: www.stnicholastroy.org~Thank you for your support and cooperation.

KOLIVA and COVID-19: Koliva that will be distributed after Divine Liturgy must have already been placed in individual sealed plastic bags and placed in a basket for distribution. Koliva will not be served from a tray in church until further notice. If you should bring Koliva on a tray, you may not serve it yourself, you must take it home.

PARISH PROCEDURES AND DIRECTIVES UPDATED BY OUR METROPOLIS: Please visit the church’s website for the updated parish procedures and directives as provided by the Metropolis of Detroit.

PRAYER OF PROTECTION FROM THE CORONAVIRUS

Blessed is our God always, now and ever and to the ages of ages. Amen

Heavenly King, Comforter, the Spirit of Truth: You are everywhere filling all things; Treasury of blessings and Giver of life: come and abide in us, cleanse us of every impurity, and save our souls, O Good One!

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal, have mercy on us (3).

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

All holy Trinity, have mercy on us. Lord, forgive our sins. Master, pardon our transgressions.

Holy One, visit and heal our infirmities for Your name’s sake.

Lord, have mercy. (3)

Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Our Father, who are in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from the evil one. For yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

Prayer for Protection from the Coronavirus
(Offered by His Grace Bishop Alexis of Bethesda–OCA)

O Almighty God, Lord of heaven and earth, and of all creation visible and invisible, in Your inef-fable mercy and compassion look down upon Your people who are gathered in Your holy name. Be our helper and defender in this day of our affliction. You know our weakness, and our timidi-ty. You hear our cry for help which we offer from a contrite and humbled heart. Spare us, O Lord, our Philanthropic God, from the scourge of the coronavirus which has ravaged our world. Send Your Archangel Michael to watch over and protect us. Grant health and recovery to those suffering from this virus. Guide the hands of the physicians and all those who minister to us in our infirmity. Preserve, as well, those who are healthy that we may encourage and serve each other, that all together we might glorify and praise Your most honorable and majestic Name, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.
TO PERIBOLI TIS PANAGIAS (PANAGIA’S GARDEN): Our first meeting of our new garden club “Panagia’s Garden” will take place after Divine Liturgy on Wednesday, May 5 which is Bright Wednesday. At this meeting we will “tour” our facility to pick one project we can work on together. Thank you for those who have expressed interest. Please contact Fr. Paul to confirm your attendance FrPaul@stnicholastroy.org To Περιβόλι Της Παναγίας.

GOLF LEAGUE: Calling all golfers! The St. Nicholas Golf League will be starting soon. We play on Monday afternoons at 3:00 p.m. at Sylvan Glen Golf Course in Troy. If you are interested in joining our league please call: Joann Kefalas 248-766-9492

YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING: Our Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America has mandated that all individuals who interact with our youth must participate in online abuse prevention training and a screening program through Presidium. Online training is done using the Armatus® Learn to Protect System. The training sessions need to be completed annually and the background check every two years. You will be receiving (or have received) reminder emails from them indicating that you are due to renew your training certification. Log in at http://praesidiuminc.com/login to see your updated record. If you cannot remember your username or password, please click the link on the login screen to reset your password. The Praesidium Support Team is also available to help you log in at: support@praesidiuminc.com. Thank you for your continued dedication and commitment to maintaining a safe environment for our children!

METROPOLIS OF DETROIT SUMMER CAMP (MDSC): Camper registration opened on March 15! We are moving forward with hope and a mission to gather safely in Rose City for the 2021 camp season, but also working on a backup plan should our circumstances change. We welcome registration for campers entering grades 3-11 for Weeks 1-5 and entering grade 12 or first year of college for Week Zero. Note, our capacity will be adjusted this season, so don’t wait to register! Staff positions are also available for ages 17 and older. Please visit www.gomdsc.org to register and learn more about our camp programs or call us at 248-909-6372 for more information.

ECHO DEADLINE THE 10TH OF EVERY MONTH: All Echo items must be submitted NO LATER than the 10th of every month. Please e-mail your flyers or announcements to Maggie at echo@stnicholastroy.org Make certain all submissions have been spell-checked, grammar-checked and reviewed before submitting them.

Πάσχα, Κυρίου Πάσχα!

Ενώθηκαν όλοι οι ανθρώποι μαζί για να γιορτάσουν την Ανάσταση του Χριστού.
Πάσχα, Κυρίου Πάσχα!

Καμπάνες ανησυχούν δυνατά, ανθρώποι ανάβουν λαμπάδες και τσουγκρίζουν αυγά.
Χριστός Ανέστη!

Μικροί και μεγάλοι αγκαλιάζονται αληθινά και φωνάζουν δυνατά με αγάπη και χαρά:
«Αλήθως Ανέστη!»
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.

John 1:1-17
Epistle Reading
Great and Holy Pascha

This is the day which the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.
Verse: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his mercies endure for ever.

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."

Apostles 1:1-8

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.

APOLYTIKA

Χριστός ἀνέστη ἐκ νεκρῶν, θανάτῳ θάνατον πατήσας, καὶ τοῖς ἐν τοῖς μνήμαις, ζωῆν χαρισάμενος.

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

Προλαβοῦ σαί το ν ο ρθρον αι  περι  Μαρια μ, και  ευ ρου σαι το ν λι θο ν α ποκυλισθε ντα του

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

Εἰ καὶ ἐν τῶ ἀκάθαρτο ἄδοχα, ἀλλὰ τὸ ἄδοχον καθεῖλεν τὴν δύναμιν: καὶ ἀνέκτησας τῆς καθεῖλέν: Χριστὲ ὁ Θεός: γυναῖκα Μυροφόροις φθεγγέσαμεν, Χαίρετε, καὶ τοῖς σοῖς Ἀπόστολοις εἰρήνης δωρούμενος, ὅ τοις πεσοῦσα παρέχων ἀνάστασιν.

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# May 2021

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<td>3 <em>St. George the Great Martyr</em></td>
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<td>5 <em>St. Irene</em></td>
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<td>7 <em>Panagia of the Life-Giving Fountain</em></td>
<td>8 <em>St. John the Theologian</em></td>
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<td>12:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>@ St. George in Bloomfield Hills</td>
<td>Divine Liturgy 10:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Parish Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>3 <em>Thomas Sunday (Mother’s Day)</em></td>
<td>10 <em>Zoom Book Club</em></td>
<td>11 <em>Zoom Bible Study</em></td>
<td>12 <em>Zoom Philoptochos Meeting</em></td>
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<td>14 <em>St. Isidore of Chios</em></td>
<td>15 Saturday Vespers 5:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>16 <strong>Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women</strong></td>
<td>17 <em>Zoom Book Club</em></td>
<td>18 <em>Zoom Bible Study</em></td>
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<td>20 <em>Zoom Book Club</em></td>
<td>21 <strong>Sts. Constantine and Helen</strong></td>
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<td>24 <em>Zoom Book Club</em></td>
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<td>26 <strong>Mid-Pentecost</strong></td>
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**Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church**  
760 West Wattles Road  
Troy, MI 48098  
248—362—9575  
Office Hours Monday—Friday 9 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

**COFFEE HOUR CANCELLED. ALL SERVICES ARE LIVESTREAMED. PLEASE GO TO WWW.STNICHOLASTROY.ORG**