

RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD / PASCHA 4/5/26

Saturday: 4:00 PM (G) Matins & Basket Blessing
 8:00 PM (E) Matins, Divine Liturgy & Basket Blessing
 Sunday: 8:30 AM (G) Divine Liturgy & Basket Blessing
 11:00 AM (E) Divine Liturgy & Basket Blessing

BRIGHT TUESDAY 04/07/26

Tuesday: 6:30 PM (E) ✕ John Ehrman (req. by Don & Pauline Kowalski)

THOMAS SUNDAY 04/12/26

Saturday: 5:30 PM (E) For the Parish Family
 Sunday: 8:30 AM (G) ✕ Andy Simkovitch (req. by Andrew Simkovitch & Christine Skidmore)
 11:00 AM (E) ✕ Ron Riel (req. by Mary Jane Carson)

OUR RETURN TO THE LORD FOR ALL HE HAS GIVEN US:

03/29/26 \$505.00

CHRISTIAN CUPBOARD APRIL COLLECTION – Canned Tuna

Proverbs 14:31 – “Anyone who oppresses the poor is insulting God who made them. To help the poor is to honor God.”

EASTERN CATHOLIC FORMATION

God with Us Eastern Catholic Formation is the official catechetical apostolate of the Eastern Catholic Bishops of the United States. The website address is: www.godwithusonline.org This website now makes available radio podcasts, online lectures, a monthly newsletter, books and other education materials which serve to promote a better understanding of Eastern Catholics and their expression of the Catholic faith in the United States. The resource material on this website is constantly updated or changed to better meet the needs of its users.

THINK ABOUT IT.....

Jesus, risen from the dead, spoke to his amazed disciples. He showed them his wounds. And then, in everyday simplicity, he asked them for something to eat. His presence, plus food, equals love.

AN EASTER PRAYER

Lord Jesus, the great feast of Easter reminds us that you came to bring new life to all of creation and share with us your own eternal life. Open our hearts to embrace all your gifts so we may be transformed in your image to become all that you want us to be. May these days of the Easter Season strengthen our trust in your promise of eternal life and our resolve to seek your will in all things. Amen

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN! CHRISTOS VOSKRESE! VOISTINNU VOSKRESE!

PASCHAL TROPARION: Christ is risen from the dead! By death he trampled death; and to those in the tombs he granted life.

NEW LIFE

Jesus Christ is risen from the dead! And the power of the Resurrection imparts to us New Life – life that is new in every way. The coming of Easter does not signal a return to business as usual, resuming the life to which we had become accustomed before the penitence of Lent. No, the Resurrection animates us with an utterly new way of living. Resurrection is not resuscitation. The New Life we receive in the Risen Christ is not a repeat of old thought patterns, bad habits, sinful behaviors, or worldly desires.

Mary Magdalene approached the tomb “On the first day of the week...early in the morning, while it was still dark.” The triumph of Resurrection is the vanquishment of darkness, of every impulse of sin and evil in the world. The Resurrection dispatches the tyranny of Satan, whose earthly reign enslaves human beings through the absolute exaltation of self. Mary Magdalene goes to the tomb alone but, at the sight of the rolled-away stone, she runs off to find Peter and John. That is, she rushes off to unite herself to the community of the Church. For the New Life that the vision of the empty tomb quickens within her – and within us – is the Christian Community.

Eternal Salvation

Throughout life we speak of “earning” many things. When we finish our education, it is said that we “earned” a diploma or degree. A soldier who was injured on the battlefield is said to have “earned” a Purple Heart. The sports team who won the “big game” is said to have “earned” the championship. When a person works hard and is advanced, we say that the individual “earned” the promotion. Even when we just report to work and do our job, we say that we have “earned” our living.

The thing that is common in all of these examples is that it is assumed it is by the individual’s own efforts that the outcome is earned. But this is not true of our eternal salvation. Indeed, there is absolutely nothing that all of us – collectively – could ever do to earn what Christ accomplished for us by His life, death, and glorious Resurrection.

THE PATH TO JOY

What an amazing gift – Jesus shares his joy with us! We cannot fathom what his joy must be like in its fullness because what we experience here is a tiny glimpse of the heavenly joy that awaits us. But the fact that Jesus wants to complete our joy is awesome and wonderful! When he spoke valuable words about joy in John’s gospel, Jesus had just finished talking about his relationship with his Father, offering his followers the parable of the vine and the branches and telling them to keep his commandments.

This is important. Obedience matters. When we follow God’s rules and God’s ways, we can’t help but be on the perfect path to pure and complete joy. One step at a time, we’ll get there.