

ANNOUNCEMENTS - APRIL 4, 2010

PASCHA 2010

Protocol 10-4

**You rose from the Tomb, as
coming forth from a bridal hall**
Paschal Ainoi

Beloved in the Lord,
The Divine Bridegroom of the Church, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, embittered Hades when He descended there. After destroying it, releasing all the souls who were imprisoned there, He assured us that we can never be separated from Him, who is our God and our Life.

In unceasing celebration, therefore, we sing out with all of our being:

Christ is risen from the dead,
Trampling down death by death;
And to those in the tombs
He has granted life.

May this unending life in His Kingdom be your eternal inheritance and the inheritance of your loved ones.

With Paternal Blessings in our Risen Savior,

✠ Metropolitan Isaiah of Denver

Please join us in Mt. Tabor Hall following the Anastasi Service to 'break the fast'!

Pascha Agape Service and Picnic

Please join us for Agape Vespers on Sunday, April 4 at 12:00pm.

Immediately following the Vespers service, we will have our annual Agape Picnic.

Come and join us for roasted lamb with all the trimmings!

There will be games, an egg hunt and music.

Tickets for the lamb plate: Adults \$15.00; Children (under 12) \$5.00

Free hot dogs will be available for children.

Thank you!

We wish to thank all of the hard-working people who donated their time and/or money to sponsor the Pascha lamb dinner for us. We really appreciate all that you do for our wonderful church!

Philoptochos thanks Wanda Ousaklidis for baking all of the delicious Easter Breads for us!

Don't forget to pick yours up if you haven't done so already.

Judy Eagle, the *Philoptochos* president, wishes everyone a most blessed Pascha. ***Christos Anesti!***

HOLY PASCHA

APRIL 4, 2010

Χριστός Ανέστη!
CHRIST IS RISEN!



RESURRECTION SERVICE
DIVINE LITURGY OF ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM
II:00 P.M.

TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD
GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

414 ST. STEPHEN'S SCHOOL ROAD
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78746 (512) 329-6363

FR. MICHAEL LAMBAKIS, PROISTAMENOS

April 4, 2010

Holy Pascha - The Feast of Feasts

For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. (2 Corinthians 4:6)

Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Christ is Risen! Χριστός Ἀνέστη!

In the joy and light of the glorious Resurrection of our Lord we gather on this Holy and Great Feast of Pascha to celebrate the life-giving presence and power of Christ. On this day, we give the highest praise to God for His love. On this feast, our thankfulness is unceasing, as we contemplate our restoration from death to life. Today, we offer the brightest witness throughout the world as we proclaim our faith in our Savior. On this day, our hearts are enlivened with the victory of the ages. Christ is risen. Death has been defeated, and we will live forever in blessed communion with God.

On this Feast of Feasts we recognize that the Resurrection of Christ and our salvation is absolutely the work of God. In His great love for us, He fulfilled His divine promise of redemption. This love brought us into existence. His love endured even through our disobedience. In this great love, He established a means by which we would be reconciled to Him, the bondage of sin and death would be broken, and we could have and experience life as He intended it to be. This we could not accomplish on our own. It is God, and God alone who commands the light to shine out of the darkness, who in the midst of death, brings life.

The beautiful and unwaning light of Pascha shines in our hearts, illuminating our souls with the power of the Resurrection and giving us a glimpse of our eternal salvation. God in His great wisdom directs this light into our hearts, our souls, our very being, permeating our entire person with truth and grace. This light resonates with who we are and what we were created to be. In the light of Pascha we know that we were not made for sin and death. We have been created for a blessed and unending life. We have been formed in His image for genuine and loving relationships with God and one another. This is not knowledge that comes from great intellectual quests or that can be acquired with wealth or status. It is a divine knowledge offered to all, and on this day we are all called to come and receive this light so that we might forever be illumined in truth and transformed in love.

This transformation and the joy that comes through the light of the knowledge of the glory of God (2 Corinthians 4:6) is very real and powerful to us because Christ is in our midst. All of this has and continues to be accomplished through Him. Through His Incarnation He shared in our humanity, and through His power as the Son of God He overcame sin and death. It is His glory that shines in our hearts revealing the purpose and potential of our lives. In His face we see what we are called to be. We see the deep and enduring love of God. We see the willing sacrifice for our redemption. We see a tender invitation to return to communion with God. In our painful experience of the wounded world in which we live, of conditions of blinding darkness and utter confusion that surrounds our contemporary humanity, we see our Risen Lord in triumphant honor and glory, calling all to come to Him and receive the light of life. On this day we celebrate that wonderful knowledge of His glory: Christ is in our midst, and He always shall be.

May this light of divine truth that shines in our hearts be ever brighter on this great and glorious Feast of Pascha. May our joy be so immense and the love that we share so complete that each and every person and all of creation will hear our hymn and know that Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

With paternal love in Christ,

†DEMETRIOS

Archbishop of America

RESURRECTION HYMN

*Χριστός ανέστη ἐκ νεκρῶν,
θανάτῳ θάνατον πατήσας,
καὶ τοῖς ἐν τοῖς μνήμασι,
ζωὴν χαρισάμενος.*

*Christós anésti ek nekron,
thanáto thánaton patísas,
ke tis en tis mnímasi
zoin harisámenos.*

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

MEGALYNARION HYMN

*Ὁ ἀγγελὸς εἶποα τῇ Κεχαριτωμένῃ,
Ἀγνῇ Παρθενῆ, χαίρει καὶ παλιν ἐρῶ χαίρει,
ὁ Σὸς Υἱὸς ἀνέστη, τριημέροσ ἐκ ταφῶν.*

*O angelos evoa tee Keharitomeni,
Agni Parthene, haire ke palin ero haire,
o Sos Yios anesti, trimeros ek taphou.*

*Φωτίζου, φωτίζου, ἡ νεὰ Ἰερουσαλὴμ,
ἡ γὰρ δοξὰ Κυρίου ἐπὶ σε ἀνετείλει.
Χορεύε νυν καὶ ἀγαλλοῦ Σιών
σὺ δε, ἀγνῇ, τερποῦ Θεοτοκε,
ἐν τῇ ἐγερσεὶ τοῦ Τοκοῦ Σου.*

*Fotizou, fotizou, ee nea Ierusalem,
ee gar doxa Kiriou epi se anetelee.
Horeve nin kai agallou Zion;
see de agni terpou, Theotoke,
en tee egersee tou Tokou Sou.*

*The angel cried to her who is full of grace
O Pure Virgin rejoice and again I say rejoice
for your Son has risen from the grave on the third day.*

*Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem!
For the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
Dance now and be glad, O Zion;
and do you exalt O pure Theotokos
in the arising of Him Whom you did bear.*

Pascha Greetings

During the forty-day period from Pascha to Ascension, Orthodox Christians throughout the world greet one another with the Paschal Greeting:

English - Christ is Risen / Truly He is Risen or Indeed He is Risen

Greek - Christos Anesti / Alithos Anesti

Spanish - Christo ha resucitado / En verdad ha resucitado

Ukrainian - Khristos Voskres / Voistynu Voskres

Romanian - Hristos a Inviat / Adevarat a Inviat

Arabic - Al masi h qam / Hakan qam

Slavonic - Khrystos Voskrese / Voistyne Voskrese

Swahili - Kristo Amefufukka / Kweli amefufukka