

## ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST ORTHODOX CHURCH

Orthodox Church of America  
A Parish of the Diocese of New York and New Jersey

170 Lexington Avenue, Passaic, New Jersey, 07055

www.stjohnspassaic.org

V. Rev. Maryan Chaykivsky, Rector 973-473-1928 (Phone/Fax)

Email: fr.maryanch@gmail.com 908-930-2274 (cell)



*May 2, 2021*

*Easter Sunday*

### *Great and Holy Pascha*

- 8:00 am – Nocturne
- 8:30 am – Procession and Resurrection Matins.
- 9:30 am - Divine Liturgy, followed by blessing of Paschal baskets.

Acts 1:1-8 John 1:1-17

### *Schedule of Services*

*Bright Monday, May 3*

- 9:30 am - Divine Liturgy and Procession

*Bright Saturday, May 8*

- 5:00 pm – Great Vespers

*Sunday, May 9*

### *St. Tomas Sunday - Antypascha*

- 9:30 am - Divine Liturgy
- 1:30 pm – Blessing of Graves at East Ridgelawn Cemetery



### WEEKLY BIBLE MESSAGE Pascha (Easter)

*Enjoy ye all the feast of faith; receive ye all the riches of loving-kindness.* (Sermon of Saint John Chrysostom)

The resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead is the center of the Christian faith. Saint Paul says that if Christ is not raised from the dead, then our preaching and faith are in vain (I Cor. 15:14). Indeed, without the resurrection there would be no Christian preaching or faith. The disciples of Christ would have remained the broken and hopeless band which the Gospel of John describes as being in hiding behind locked doors for fear of the Jews. They went nowhere and preached nothing until they met the risen Christ, the doors being shut (John 20: 19). Then they touched the wounds of the nails and the spear; they ate and drank with Him. The resurrection became the basis of everything they said and did (Acts 2-4): "... for a spirit has not flesh and bones as you see that I have" (Luke 24:39).

The resurrection reveals Jesus of Nazareth as not only the expected Messiah of Israel, but as the King and Lord of a new Jerusalem: a new heaven and a new earth.

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth. . . the holy city, new Jerusalem. And I heard a great voice from the throne saying "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with men. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people. . . He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain any more, for the former things have passed away (Rev. 21:1-4).

In His death and resurrection, Christ defeats the last enemy, death, and thereby fulfills the mandate of His Father to subject all things under His feet (I Cor. 15:24-26).

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing (Rev. 5: 12)

*Christ is Risen! – Indeed He is Risen!*



### *Intercessory Prayers*

We pray for all our fellow parishioners, and we pray especially for those who are incapable of being with us in church. Please keep in your prayers our Brothers and Sisters in Christ: Genevieve Bobenko, Barbara Bogart, Michael Bzik, Mary Ann Dolak, Dorothy Fabian, Barbara Kary, Margaret Kovalytsik, Kathleen Lazorewylk, Dennis Maixner, Marian Nagel, Helen Rahnefeld, Anna Rozanovich, Maryann Syngas, Priscilla Galley.

### *Birthday Greeting*

Happy Birthday go out this week to **Merion Nagel** – May 3. May God continue to enrich her life with the fullness of joy and happiness for many years – Mnogaya Lyeta!

### *Announcement*

♦ **Bright Wednesday Vespers** with His Eminence Archbishop Michael will be on May 5 at Christ the Savior Church in Paramus, NJ. The service will be held outdoors and is scheduled to begin at 6pm. As always, refreshments will be served afterward; this will also take place outdoors.

### **Dearly beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ Christ is Risen!**

We greet you with the Paschal greeting, praying that our Risen Lord will bless you and your families as we celebrate His glorious Resurrection from the dead. As we live in the midst of a world plagued by war, famine, crime and moral decay, we have no other hope than to look to our Lord who destroyed death and gave new life to all. This new life and hope should strengthen us to overcome all of these destructive forces and, in fact, enable us to speak out against them. Indeed, as Christ ended the "wailing of Eve by His Resurrection," we must also "proclaim that the Savior is risen from the dead."

May the eternal light of the Empty Tomb shine in your hearts and in the hearts of people everywhere.

Wishing you a glorious Paschal season,  
I remain Yours in the Risen Lord,

Fr. Maryan Chaykivsky with family.

