THE LIGHT
Sts. Constantine and Helen
Greek Orthodox Church
Webster, Massachusetts
www.schwebster.org
Vol. 9, No. 5
MAY 2013

THE THE DEFEAT OF ALL EVIL

This is the Day of Resurrection!
Let us shine forth in splendor for
this Feasts of Feasts, and
embrace one another. Let us call
brothers and sisters even those
who hate us, and let us forgive all
things in the Resurrection. Thus,
let us cry aloud,
“Christ is Risen from the dead,
by death trampling upon death,
and bestowing life to those
in the tombs
(Hymn from the Paschal Service)

This central hymn of Pascha
(Easter) summarizes the spirit
with which we are called to cele-
brate this Feast of Feasts and with
which we are to live our entire
lives. The Resurrection of Christ
from the dead is the center of our
Christian faith because Jesus con-
quers the greatest evil, death it-
self! Our Lord does not remain a
victim to uncontrollable circum-
stances, but comes out of His bat-
tle with Satan as the Victorious
One, revealing that the darkness of
the world, with all its forms of
evil, can never defeat Christ Him-
self!

Christ is Risen, defeating death
itself, but also defeating all forms
of darkness. It is noteworthy in
this hymn to highlight how in the
joy of the Resurrection, we are
called to embrace one another, to
forgive one another, and to recon-
cile even with those who hate us!

The story of Pascha proclaims
how Jesus rose from the dead. The
hymnographers and theologians of
the Church, interestingly enough,
connected death to hatred and
separation from one another.
Whenever we allow hatred to en-
ter into our hearts, whenever we
accept the deception that some
“other” is my enemy, whenever
we allow our stubbornness and
pride to keep us from reconciling
The mission of Sts. Constantine and Helen Church is to proclaim the Good News of Salvation through the Orthodox Christian Faith for the glory of our Triune God - Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We are a community of believers who journey towards our Lord Jesus Christ and one another through our WORSHIP, FELLOWSHIP, SPIRITUAL GROWTH, WITNESS, and SERVICE. We invite all people to join us on this journey in the Kingdom of Heaven.

We are under the jurisdiction of
His Holiness, Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew
His Eminence, Archbishop Demetrios of America
His Eminence, Metropolitan Methodios of Boston

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THE DEFEAT OF DEATH AND ALL EVIL

Continued from Front Cover

with those who have hurt us, then we are living in darkness and death. We have allowed evil to win. Hatred equals death. Life, from the perspective of God, equals Love. Authentic life means having a loving and intimate relationship with our Creator Himself, and out of this divine love offering love to the world around us, even to our enemies.

Whenever we allow relationships to remain broken and hatred to comfortably dwell in our hearts, we then are choosing the path of death instead of life. Yet Christ’s Resurrection has defeated all forms of death, including our inability to forgive one another. For some, it may seem impossible to forgive a hurt that another has caused, but the Resurrection overcomes the impossible!

Thus, as a part of our Paschal celebration, maybe we can look at all our relationships, especially relationships that are broken or those that have been long lost, and with the light and power that comes from our Lord’s Resurrection, we can make a new attempt at reconciliation and healing. Never allow the death of hatred, bitterness, or arrogant pride to keep us in bondage. Just as the tomb couldn’t contain Jesus, no evil should ever confine us! If we are in Christ, hatred, bitterness and arrogant pride no longer need to have dominion over us!

The truth is that if we hold on to the vices of our fallen nature, then we in fact are rejecting Christ’s victory over evil. We are denying His resurrection and choosing to live under the shadow of death.

So let us all joyously proclaim:

Christ is Risen and death is defeated.  
Christ is Risen and hatred is eliminated.  
Christ is Risen and our bitterness is healed.  
Christ is Risen and our pride is laid low.  
Christ is Risen and a new way of life is given

*Christ is Risen! Christos Anesti! Krishti u Ngjall!*

With love in our Risen Lord Jesus,

+Luke

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Invite Your Friends to Resurrection Services!  
(And to a Holy Week Service as well!)

Many of your friends may be surprised to hear that we celebrate Easter on May 5, five weeks after Roman Catholic and Protestant Christians. You can explain to them that our Easter celebrations always must occur after the Spring Equinox and after Jewish Passover according to the Julian Calendar, which this year falls on May 5.

Think about inviting one of your friends, co-workers, or neighbors to attend our Resurrection Service Saturday evening (10:00pm), or one of our other beautiful Holy Week services! Many “unchurched people” are open to attending a Church Service with someone they trust. So go ahead, invite them to “Come and See!”
THE DEATH OF DEATH

“We celebrate the death of death, the destruction of Hell and the beginning of the new eternal life. And we leap with joy, singing your victory with praise.”

This hymn from Holy Saturday summarizes the essence of what Easter is all about - the victorious destruction of death and the beginning of a new life in hope through our Lord Jesus Christ’s glorious Resurrection.

I love reading these hymns of Good Friday and Holy Saturday which so poetically describe how Christ came to conquer the greatest dilemma of history. Every generation of humanity, since Adam and Eve, has faced the reality that life on earth is but a short journey. Whether we live a few years, or even 100, our lives are still so very brief. And worst yet, the tomb has always seemed the only possible conclusion to life itself.

All of that changed when the tomb of Jesus Christ was found empty. “Why are you seeking the living among the dead?” the angel asked Mary Magdalene. Yes, Jesus was crucified, killed and buried, yet He proved to be mightier than the evil that assailed Him. In fact, He proved mightier than death itself as He became the first and only person in the history of the world to confront death on its own terms, and then to annihilate it!

No other world religious leader claimed or achieved such a victory - neither Muhammed, Buddha, or any other famous historical figure. Jesus Christ stands alone in this earth-shattering event of defeating death, because He alone is God incarnate!

**THE DEATH OF DEATH**

No other world religious leader claimed or achieved such a victory - neither Muhammed, Buddha, or any other famous historical figure. Jesus Christ stands alone in this earth-shattering event of defeating death, because He alone is God incarnate!

You descended into the depths of the earth and

shattered the everlasting bars which kept the dead captive. And like Jonah from the whale you arose O Christ from the tomb on the third day.

*O Christ our God, though you descended into the grave, yet you overthrew the power of Hell, and rose as an immortal conqueror. You greeted the myrrh-bearing women, offered peace to your apostles, and granted resurrection to all those who have fallen.*

Now all things are filled with light, heaven and earth and the deepest parts of the earth. Let all creation celebrate the rising of Christ in which it is established.

The significance of our Lord’s Resurrection was not that He alone arose from the dead, but that from this moment onward in history, all people who believe in Him and follow Him would rise as well. Death, and the tomb, are no longer what awaits humanity. We no longer have to fear death, because we know it no longer has the final say! As these hymn clearly states:
Yesterday I was buried with you O Christ, today I arise in your resurrection. Yesterday I was crucified with you O Savior, glorify me with Yourself in Your kingdom.

O my Savior, through Your resurrection from the dead, You have resurrected the entire race of Adam.

When we choose to live in the light of the Resurrection, we choose to live in the light of hope, joy, peace and life. Nothing can frighten us because we know that the ultimate and final victory is ours through our Lord Jesus! This is why Mother Teresa use to remind the world, “Never let anything so fill you with sorrow that you forget the joy of our Risen Lord!”

The Resurrection gives us an entirely new lens through which we look at life. Our perspective is one where God has the final say. Yes, there will be many crosses in our lives, and these may entail much struggle and suffering and even death, yet never forget that the Cross is not the end of the story. The Passion of Christ concludes with the Resurrection; death is but a doorway to new life, to an eternity in the Kingdom of Heaven.

May we all strive to live each and every day of our lives in the joy of this glorious new reality. We should not greet one another with the words “Christ is Risen! for only 40 days after Easter, but we should carry that spirit of joy and hope and victory with us throughout the entire year and throughout our entire lives!

I pray that all of you, my beloved parishioners, may begin to experience this joy and radiant life in a new way this year. May each of the moving services throughout Holy Week and into Bright Week touch you like never before, so that you can be transformed and transfigured like the first disciples.

Finding new life through suffering and death: that is the core of the good news. Jesus has lived out that liberating way before us and has made it the great sign. Human beings are forever wanting to see signs: marvellous, extraordinary, sensational events that can distract them a little from hard reality. . .We would like to see something marvellous, something exceptional, something that interrupts the ordinary life of every day. That way, if only for a moment, we can play at hide-and-seek. But to those who say to Jesus: “Master. . .we should like to see a sign from You,” He replies: “It is an evil and unfaithful generation that asks for a sign! The only sign it will be given is the sign of the prophet Jonah. For as Jonah remained in the belly of the sea monster for three days and three nights, so will the Son of Man be in the heart of the earth for three days and three nights.”

From this one can see what the authentic sign is: not some sensational miracle but the suffering, death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus. The great sign, which can be understood only by those who are willing to follow Jesus is the sign of Jonah, who also wanted to run away from reality but was summoned back by God to fulfil his arduous task to the end. To look suffering and death straight in the face and to go through them oneself in the hope of a new God-given life: that is the sign of Jesus and of every human being who wishes to lead a spiritual life in imitation of Him. It is the sign of the cross: the sign of suffering and death, but also of the hope for total renewal.

LIFE THROUGH THE CROSS

Henri Nouwen
EASTER OR PASCHA?

by Fr. Michael Harper

We Orthodox call the feast of feasts “Pascha.” Others in the English-speaking world call it Easter. If the word in English is Easter, then one is bound to ask "what word?" Was there some word which, when translated into English, became "Easter"? The plain answer is "no". Jesus spoke Aramaic, and his sayings were recorded in Greek, as were the words of the other NT writers like Paul and Peter. An example of the desire to replace the word "Pascha" with "Easter" is the King James version translation of Acts 12:4 which describes the arrest of Peter by Herod and his intention "after Easter to bring him forth to the people". The Greek word here is Pascha, and all modern translations rightly now translate the word "passover".

We need to realize also that there is no equivalent word for "Easter" in the Greek language, for one simple but important reason, the word is an Anglo-Saxon word for a pagan festival. The word in its original use is entirely pagan. According to the English Church historian Bede, it derives from a pagan spring festival in honor of Eastra or Ostara a Teutonic goddess. It has no associations whatsoever with Christ, His death and Resurrection, or indeed anything Christian. Is it not, therefore, unsuitable to be used to describe the greatest day in the life of the Church? The French, Italians and Spanish do not make the same mistake. Their words come from the proper source — Passover, which in Greek is the word "Pascha".

Pascha is derived from the Jewish word Pesah which means "Passover". And here there is a direct link with the New Testament. In 1 Corinthians 5:7 we read, "for our paschal lamb, Christ, has been sacrificed". According to St John, Christ was crucified at the very time that the paschal lambs were being killed. There is another link with the Old Testament because of the importance to the Jews of the Feast of the Passover. The verbal form means to protect and to have compassion as well as "passover". The experience of the Israelites was literally a "passover", but it was also an experience of both God’s compassion for his people, and a great act of protection, as for example, the passage through the Red Sea. The crucifixion and later Resurrection of Christ took place during the Passover Feast. So for Christians, Christ was clearly the Paschal Lamb, the fulfillment of all that the Passover had foreshadowed since the first Passover which celebrated the liberation of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt. Let us remember that because the word "Pascha" is in its origin a Hebrew word, by using it we are a witness to the Jewish community, for whom the Passover is still one of the most important words in their religious faith.

Orthodox believers living in the West have always been under pressure to conform to western ways, ideas and practices. One example of this is our constant temptation to drop the word "Pascha" and for clarity (and sometimes charity) use the western word "Easter". But perhaps the time has come for us to make a stand against this. In our increasingly secular and pagan society the use of a pagan word, of which no one knows the meaning, is hardly suitable to describe the greatest day in the Christian year. When most people knew the Christian meaning of the word "Easter" one could perhaps make out a case for using the word. But not today!

There are still some for whom the word "Easter" has all the right resonances. Let us not want for a moment to deprive them of that blessing. Easter for them does not mean Easter bunnies, chocolate eggs, or Easter Egg Hunts; it means the Cross of Christ and his glorious Resurrection.
But let the Orthodox stick to the right word, which is "Pascha". Let us use it in our own circles, and discard the pagan word "Easter". We should do this — not to be different, but to be truthful.

However, when we are in mixed company, for the sake of clarity (and charity) let us use both words, if possible with a simple and humbly presented explanation. For example — "We shall soon be celebrating Pascha — or as you call it ‘Easter’". Or, "we shall soon be celebrating Easter, or as we call it ‘Pascha’".

We should encourage the West to unite with us in using the right word, which is Pascha.

And finally, let us not get dragged down with a dispute about mere words. St Paul warned believers in his day "to avoid wrangling about words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening" (2 Timothy 2:14). The important matter here is not what the Festival is called, but the reality of the Death and Resurrection of Christ. Yes, Christ is Risen! If we can agree there, then what we call it, important though that is, can be seen in its proper perspective.

**THE HOPE OF EASTER**

Henri Nouwen

*The tradition I handed on to you in the first place, a tradition which I had myself received, was that Christ died for our sins, in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried; and that on the third day, he was raised to life, in accordance with the scriptures; and that he appeared to Cephas; and later to the Twelve; and next he appeared to more than five hundred of the brother at the same time. . . . This is what we preach and what you believed.
I Corinthians 15:3-6, 11*

"Easter Service. The Lord is risen indeed. . . . Christ’s body did not remain in the tomb, but raised to new life, and . . . our own bodies will join him in glory. . . . It is a great and powerful mystery. . . . The body is not a prison to escape from, but a temple in which God’s glory already dwells, and in which God’s glory will be fully manifested on the day of the resurrection. . . . Easter season is a time of hope. There is still fear, there is still a painful awareness of sinfulness, but there also is light breaking through. . . . We can be joyful or sad, optimistic or pessimistic, tranquil or angry, but the solid stream of God’s presence moves deeper than the small waves of our minds and our hearts. Easter brings the awareness that that God is present even when his presence is not directly noticed. Easter brings the good news that, although things seem to get worse in the world, the Evil One has already been overcome. Easter allows us to affirm that although God seems very distant and although we remain preoccupied with many little things, our Lord walks with us on the road and keeps explaining the Scriptures to us. Thus there are many rays of hope casting their rays on our life through life."

Jesus' resurrection marked the decisive start of what St. Paul called the "new creation," a new and transforming wave of grace rushing forward and destined in God’s good time to set free the whole creation “from the bondage of decay.”

*Fr. Theodore Stylianopoulos*

**Today Hades lets out a groan:**

“*My sovereignty is destroyed. I received Jesus as a mortal one among the dead, but this One I am powerless to contain. Instead, through Him I lose all I had governed. I had held the dead for ages, but behold, He resurrects them all!*”

*Holy Saturday Hymn*
A VICTORY OF LIFE & LOVE

Fr. Constantine Newman

The Services of Holy Week and Pascha in the Orthodox Church form the core of our liturgical year. Most Orthodox, even those who only attend church sporadically are familiar with the moving services of the Lamentations and the Anastasi/Resurrection. But the Mystery of Holy Week is so much more than that; the Church invites us to journey with our Lord from the triumph of the raising of Lazaros, through His confrontations with the religious authorities, to the cross and, finally, to the victory of the Resurrection. The services of Holy Week tell one complete story; only by following each one can we truly understand the depths of love which God has for us.

The story which the services of Holy Week tells is the cosmic battle which began in the Garden of Eden in the beginning. In order to defeat death, and its agent sin, God Himself not only entered our world, but confronted death face-to-face. By journeying into the very heart of evil, He triumphed over it and destroyed it from within. The power of death which held us captive from the beginning was broken. We feel the power of this truth at midnight of Pascha as we wait in the dark, waiting for the one flame to come forth, Life coming forth from the tomb, and for this Light of Life to come to each of us, until the whole Church is aglow with the Light of the Resurrection. Then, in this celestial brightness, we can say with St. Paul, “O death, where is your sting? O grave, where is your victory?” (1Corinthians 15:55)

But this light will be an empty experience if we have not walked the long and difficult path of the Cross. If the Resurrection is the victory of life, the Cross is the victory of love. The two form one eternal whole, inviting into the very life of the Trinity. The life of the Trinity expresses itself entirely in self-sacrificial love. Which brings us back again to the services of Holy Week. By living each service, by contemplating the meaning of each day, we are drawn ever closer to the love of God who chose to empty Himself in every way in order to love us. What better way can there be of spending our time, making the smallest effort of love on our part in response to God’s infinite love for us.

ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM’S SERMON ON PASCHA

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 angered it when it tasted of his flesh.

And Isaiah, foretelling this, did cry: Hell was angered, when it encountered you in the lower regions. It was angered, for it was abolished. It was angered, for it was mocked. It was angered, for it was slain. It was angered, for it was overthrown. It was angered, 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 have fallen. Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice. Christ is risen, and life is liberated. Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the grave.

For Christ, having risen from the dead, becomes the first-fruits of those who have fallen asleep. To him be glory and dominion unto ages of ages. Amen.
Saint Constantine was the renowned emperor of the Roman Empire, who signed the **EDICT OF MILAN** in the year 313, which declared that the Empire would be neutral with regard to religious worship, and stop all persecution of Christianity. This was a decisive step that not only protected Christians, but prepared the way for the legal recognition of Christianity as the eventual religion of the Empire.

When St Constantine’s father died, he was proclaimed successor to Roman throne. Yet in 312, he faced the threat of an attack by Maxentius and Maximum. As Constantine marched into Italy with his troops, he saw beneath the sun a radiant Cross with the words: "**By this shall you conquer.**" The following night, Jesus Christ appeared to him in a dream and declared to him the power of the Cross. In the morning, he immediately ordered that a banner be made in the form of a cross, and he inscribed on it the Name of Jesus Christ.

The following day, Constantine defeated Maxentius and entered Rome in triumph as the Emperor of the West, while Licinius, his brother-in-law, ruled in the East. Licinius, however, began persecuting the Christians. Constantine fought and defeated him in 324, and thus became monarch over the West and the East.

Under the rule of Constantine, all persecutions against the Church ceased. After three centuries of suffering, Christianity triumphed through its witness of martyrdom and love, and proclamation of the Good News of Christ.

In 325, Saint Constantine gathered all the bishops of the Church for the First Ecumenical Council in Nicaea. This council helped defend the Faith against false teachings, holding firm the Church’s teaching on Christ’s Divinity.

In 324, Constantine laid the foundations of a new capital on the ruins of Byzantium, and named it after himself, Constantinople. Since the throne of the imperial rule was transferred from Rome, it was named New Rome, the inhabitants of its domain were called Romans, and it was considered the continuation of the Roman Empire. Right before his death in 337, Constantine was baptized and received the Holy Mysteries. He was 65, and had ruled for 31 years.

As for his holy mother Helen, during her son’s reign she traveled to Jerusalem and found the Holy Cross on which our Lord was crucified. In her zeal to glorify Christ, she erected churches at the sites of the Crucifixion and Resurrection, in Bethlehem at the cave where our Savior was born, on the Mount of Olives whence Jesus ascended into Heaven, and many others sights throughout the Holy Land.
HOLY WEEK SERVICES

HOLY MONDAY - APRIL 29
Bridegroom Service 6:30 pm

HOLY TUESDAY - APRIL 30
Bridegroom Service 6:30 pm

HOLY WEDNESDAY - MAY 1
Pre-Sanctified Liturgy 9:30 am
Holy Unction Service 6:30 pm

HOLY THURSDAY - MAY 2
Divine Liturgy 9:30 am
SERVICE OF THE 12 GOSPELS 6:30 pm

HOLY AND GOOD FRIDAY - MAY 3
Philoptochos Decorating the Epitaphio 9:00 am
Service of the Royal Hours 9:00 am
Children’s and Youth Retreat 12:00-1:45
Vespers - Taking Christ Down from Cross 2:00 pm *New Time
LAMENTATIONS SERVICE 6:30 pm

HOLY SATURDAY - MAY 4
1st Resurrection Divine Liturgy 9:30 am
RESURRECTION SERVICE 10:00 pm (*Note NEW TIME)

PASCHA SUNDAY - MAY 5
Children’s Easter Egg Hunt 11:00 am
“Service of Love” Easter Vespers 12:00
Paschal Lamb Luncheon 1:00

BRIGHT MONDAY - MAY 6 (ST. GEORGE)
Resurrectional Matins 9:00  Divine Liturgy 9:30

Christ is Risen!
Christos Anesti!
Krishti u Ngjall!
THANK YOU to ALL who offered donations during the Lenten & Easter Season.

Sunday Altar Flowers During Lent
Anna and John Thomas
Grace and Vasili Milios
Sophie Apostal
Flowers for Cross Sunday
Anna and John Thomas
Incense & Charcoal for Entire Year
Aristotelis and Gloria Panagiotou
Flowers for the Five Salutation Services
Lorna McWilliams and her girls
Charolotte Neslusan and Olivia
Nicoleta Cojocaru and her girls
Nike Beaudry and Maia
Jaime Ross and Gabriella
Palm Sunday Altar Flowers
Despina and Vasil Condos
Palms for Palm Sunday
Donna & Athena Cooney and Bill Anthopoulos
Bridegroom Icon Flowers
Helen Lepine
Holy Unction Supplies
Leah Didonato
Holy Thursday Crown of Flowers
Vasiliki Zahariadis
Holy Thursday Candles
Constandina Ziakas
Holy Friday Epitaphio Flowers
Charlie and Helen Pappas

Resurrectional Candle
Helen Lepine
Resurrectional Icon Flowers
In memory of Arthur and Tess Pappas from Betty Tonna
Flowers for Circular Resurrectional Icon
Remembering those affected by the Boston Marathon Bombing from Celia Milios
Pascha Altar Arrangement
Elisabeth Vriga
Rose Pedals for Holy Saturday
In memory of Maralyn Quillia from Marie and Del Monroe
Easter Flower Clusters for Pews
For the glory of God from Anonymous
In memory of my loved ones from Irene Mountzouris
Easter Lilies
In memory of her husband Vasil from Pauline Angelo
In memory of my daughter and husband from Irene Mountzouris
In memory of our parents from Aristotelis & Gloria Panagiotou
In memory of our sister Madeleine from Aristotelis and Gloria Panagiotou
In memory of our son Michael from Barbara and Norm Desrosiers
Kosta Panagiotou
In memory of my wife Evangelia from Stavros Pappas
In memory of our mother Loucia Christos from Evelyn Pappas and Dhimitra Adamopoulos
In memory of Argyrie and Maria Patras from Pauline Mueller

We Are Still Looking for 6 More donors for Easter Lilies/Flowers at $40 each.
OUR LENTEN RETREAT WITH KLAUS KENNETH

SPRING CLEAN UP
3RD ANNUAL BIBLE BOWL

CHAMPION
Nicholas Veronis

GOLD
Maia Beaudry
Elisabeta Cojocaru
Maria Mironidis
Olivia Neslusan
Panayiota Veronis
Theodora Veronis

SILVER
John Neslusan
Lily Mueller

PARENTS VS. TEENS BIBLE CHALLENGE

Parents Won 10-9!!!
A BIG THANKS
to our Philoptochos for
a Delightful Bake Sale
and Craft Fair!!!
Celebrate our Lord’s Resurrection on EASTER DAY (May 5) with our Church Family

“PASCHAL LAMB” & a POT-LUCK MEAL!

11:00 am - Easter Egg Hunt for Children
12:00 Agape Vespers Service
1:00 Potluck Easter Lunch

If you are interested in coming, please contact Jaime Ross or our Church Office so we know how many are coming and can arrange the pot-luck meals.

All Children Welcome
JOY EASTER EGG HUNT!!!
EASTER DAY
May 5, 11:00 am
followed by the AGAPE VESPERS of Easter 12:00 noon

MYRRH-BEARING GIRLS
(for Holy Friday Procession)
Contact Nike Beaudry to participate
((508) 864-4955

GOOD FRIDAY RETREAT
All Youth Come for a Service Project
12:00-1:45
Good Friday, May 3rd

Come and help
Decorate Christ’s Tomb (The Epitaphio) & Wrap Easter Eggs
Good Friday 9:00 am in the Church Hall
COFFEE FELLOWSHIP:

May 12 - Marie McNally, Christa Benoit, Sandi Kunkel, Betty Vriga, Barbara Choquet

May 19 – Donna Cooney, Athena Cooney, Leah DiDonato, Sandra Roy, Bill Anthopoulos

May 26 - Kathy Bilis, Charlotte Neslusan, Marie Monroe, Carolyn Niemeck, Deb Raymond

June 2 - Thomai Gatsogiannis, Jaime Ross, Betty Tonna, Eleni Xanthopoulos, Kiku Andersen, Niki Raymond

YOUTH EPISTLE READERS

May 5 (Pascha) - Maia Beaudry
(Hebrews 1:10-2:3 page 138)

May 12– Maria Mironidis
(Acts 5:12-20 - Page )

May 19 - Smaranda Cojocaru
(Acts 6:1-7 - page )

May 26 – Hanna Kunkel

June 2– Olivia Neslusan
(Acts 11:19-30 - page )

June 9 - Panayiota Veronis
(Acts 16:16-34 - page )

June 16 – Theodora Veronis
(Acts 20:16-18, 28-36 - page )

USHERS & GREETERS SCHEDULE

May 1 Holy Wednesday (6:30pm)
Arthur Bilis & Del Monroe, Chris Geotis, Thomai Gatzogianis, Trish Laurea, Leah DiDonato

May 2 Holy Thursday (6:30pm)
Marie McNally, Eric Beland, Matt Benoit, Zach Gianaris, Lisa Healy Betty Vriga

May 3 Good Friday (6:30pm)
Neil Neslusan, Arthur Vogel, Anton Cojocaru, Gus Koulax, Bill Condos, Chris Constantine, Barbara Giannaris, Dan Healy, Dan Rivelli

May 4 Holy Saturday Night (10pm)

May 5 Pascha Day (12:00pm)
Arthur Bilis & Del Monroe, Chris Geotis, Thomai Gatzogianis, Trish Laurea, Leah DiDonato

May 12
Marie McNally, Eric Beland, Matt Benoit, Zach Gianaris, Lisa Healy Betty Vriga

May 19
Neal Neslusan, Arthur Vogel, Anton Cojocaru, Gus Koulax, Bill Condos, Chris Constantine, Barbara Giannaris, Dan Healy, Dan Rivelli

May 20, Monday Night (Nameday Vespers)

May 26
Arthur Bilis & Del Monroe, Chris Geotis, Thomai Gatzogianis, Trish Laurea, Leah DiDonato
PHILOPTOCHOS NEWS
THANK YOU to Eleni Xanthopoulos and her Crew who made over 150 sweet breads for Easter!

GIRLS NIGHT OUT
“Jewelry Making Class”
Monday, May 6th
Meeting 6:00pm
Jewelry Making 7:00-8:30pm
Come and make your very personalized own bracelet.
YOU NEED TO SIGN UP to participate.
$10 per person
Contact Evelyn Pappas (508-259-5453) with any questions.

LITURGICAL SERVICES
WEEKDAY LITURGIES
(all Liturgies begin at 9:30am)
May 6, Bright Monday - St. George
May 21 - Sts. Constantine and Helen
GREAT VESPERS:
Saturday 5:30 pm
May 18, 25

1st Metropolis of Boston Couples Retreat
GROW STRONG. GROW CLOSER. GROW IN LOVE
“On the Journey of Marriage”
Dr. Philip Mamalakis
May 24-26, 2013
St. Methodios Retreat Center
Contoocook, NH
Register: www.mbcamp.org

WOMEN’S BOOK STUDY GROUP
Studying the book “Fr. Arseny: Priest, Prisoner, Spiritual Father”
At the home of Presbytera Faith Veronis

EARLY RISERS BIBLE STUDY
Saturday, May 18, 25
6:30 am - 7:30 am

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY
10:30-11:45
Wednesday, May 8, 15
Remembering Our Church Family

**Important Dates in MAY:**

*Try to make a visit or give a call, to those celebrate special days this month.*

**BIRTHDAYS:**
- May 5: Ted Tonna
- May 5: Kara George
- May 6: Tabitha Bethune
- May 8: Maria Econome
- May 9: Joey Gliniecki
- May 12: Angelo Adamopoulos
- May 12: Yanni Mironidis
- May 13: Elliot Benoit
- May 14: Charles Chito
- May 14: Cristina Enache
- May 15: Matthew Neslusan
- May 16: Barbara Gianaris
- May 20: Soter Sam Angelo
- May 21: Constantina Ziakas
- May 22: Joan Geotis
- May 25: Dimitri Mironidis
- May 25: Scott Kunkel
- May 27: Michael Belanger
- May 28: Hanna Kunkel
- May 29: Stephen Pappas
- May 30: Sophia Koulaw
- May 31: Gus Koulaw
- May 31: Matt Benoit

**WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:**
- May 7: Michael & Titi Chito
- May 9: Michael & Muriel Angelo
- May 12: Garry & Jaime Ross
- May 19: Yanni & Katie Mironidis
- May 21: Dimitrios & Efkarpa Sidopoulos
- May 22: John and Eleni Sgouritsas
- May 23: Scott and Kathy Kunkel
- May 24: Ron and Sandy Sanderson
- May 26: Arthur & Edna Vogel
- May 27: Pauline & Carl Mueller

**NAMEDAYS:**
- May 5: St Irene
  - Irene Mountzouris
- May 12: 1st Sunday After Easter
  - St. Thomas
  - Thomas Baxter
  - Thomai Gatsogianis
  - Thomas Klebarg
  - Tom Lareau
  - Tom Naumovski
  - Garry Thomas Ross
  - Gideon Thomas Ross
- May 13: St. Glykeria
  - Glykeria Partsalis
- May 21: Sts Constantine & Helen
  - Constatine Anifantis
  - Eleni Baraklis
  - Konstantine Charles Chito
  - Charles Christos
  - Helen Constantine
  - Louisa Eleni Foisy
  - Helen Kerbici
  - Constantine (Gus) Koulax
  - Helen Lepine
  - Helen Metropoulos
  - Charles Constantine Pappas
  - Helen Pappas
  - Chuck Spiro Pappas
  - Kostas Panagiotou
  - Eleni Sgouritsas
  - Helen Theodores
  - Helen Thomas
  - Helen Tsigaridas
  - Eleni Xanthopoulos
  - Helen Zenon
  - Constanina Ziakas
GETTING TO KNOW OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Victor and Triada Apostolou and their two children, Loukas age 2 ½ and Eva age 16 months, have been members of our church since 2011. They were both originally from Worcester, MA and now live in Auburn, MA.

Victor is a Social Studies teacher at Forest Grove Middle School in Worcester and Triada is a Mental Health Counselor and also a Psychology teacher at Quinsigamond Community College in Worcester.

They joined Saints Constantine and Helen because they enjoy the smaller church community and its’ intimate setting and love the pastoral leadership of our Church!

SAVE THESE DATES FOR THE SUMMER

MBC Camp July 22-29

Vacation Church Camp Aug 11-15

Church Family Camping at Cape Cod Aug 15-18

 Interested in Helping to Build a Home in Worcester with HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Saturday, July 20th

Contact Fr. Luke to put your name on our Team.

SPRING GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING

11:30 am
Sunday, May 19

AGENDA:

+ Update on Church Activities
+ Church Renovations
+ Church Audit

May Her Memory Be Eternal!!!

“For I am the Resurrection and the Life. Whoever Believes in me will not die but will see eternal life.”

BLAGA NAUM
(40 day memorial on May 26)
ACTING AS GOOD STEWARD

St. Gregory the Theologian

Blessed is the person who is considerate to the needy and the poor. Not even night should interrupt you in your duty of mercy. There should be no delay between your intention and your good deed. Generosity is the one thing that cannot admit of delay.

The person who does acts of mercy should do so with cheerfulness. The grace of the deed is doubled when it is done with promptness and speed. What is given with a bad grace or against one's will is distasteful and far from praiseworthy. When we perform an act of kindness we should rejoice and not be sad about it.

Let us visit Christ whenever we may, let us care for him, feed him, clothe him, welcome him, honor him, not only at a meal or by anointing him as Mary did, or by giving him gold, frankincense and myrrh, like the Magi. The Lord of all asks for mercy, not sacrifice and mercy is greater than myriads of fattened lambs.

Let us then show him mercy in the persons of the poor and those who today are lying on the ground, so that when we come to leave this world they may receive us into everlasting dwelling places.

We have some special maintenance projects that need to be addressed:
rewiring the chandeliers,
lighting outside the church,
fixing the flat part of the roof,
and our sewage.

Please keep up to date in your stewardship to help us take care of these needs.

Memorial Day Trisagion Prayers

At Mt. Zion Cemetery
9:00pm - 12:00pm
SATURDAY, May 25
(arrange time with Fr Luke)
(NOT on Memorial Day!)
Learning the Word of God

HOLY SCRIPTURE RELATED TO PASCHA

“Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen! Remember how He spoke to you when He was still in Galilee, saying, “The Son of Man must be delivered into the hands of sinful men, and be crucified, and the third day rise again.”

Luke 24: 5-7

“Thus it is written and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, and “that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations.”

Luke 24:46-47

“Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

John 20:29

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

MAY

May 1 John 12:17-50 Matthew 26:6-16
May 2 1 Corinthians 11:23-32 Matthew 26:1-75
May 3 1 Corinthians 5:6-8 Matthew 27:62-66
May 4 Romans 6:3-11 Matthew 28:1-20

*May 5 Acts 1:1-8 John 1:1-17
May 6 Acts 1:12-26 John 1:18-28
May 8 1 John 1:1-7 John 19:25-28; 21:24-25
May 10 Acts 3:1-8 John 2:12-22
May 11 Acts 3:11-16 John 3:22-33

May 12 Acts 5:12-20 John 20:19-31
May 14 Acts 4:1-10 John 3:16-21
May 17 Acts 5:1-11 John 5:30-6:2

May 19 Acts 6:1-7 Mark 15:43-16:8
May 20 Acts 6:8-7:60 John 4:46-54
May 23 Acts 8:26-39 John 6:40-44
May 24 Acts 8:40-9:19 John 6:48-54
May 25 2 Corinthians 4:6-15 Matthew 11:2-15

May 27 Acts 10:1-6 John 6:56-69
May 29 Acts 14:6-18 John 7:14-30
May 30 Acts 10:34-43 John 8:12-20
May 31 Acts 10:44-11:10 John 8:21-30
Thank You to those who sponsor our monthly bulletin!

If you would like to place an ad and support our monthly bulletin, please contact Fr. Luke or the Church Office.

$200/year or $20/month.
# MAY 2013

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<td>9:30 Pre-Sanctified Liturgy</td>
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<td>9:30 First Resurrectional Liturgy</td>
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<td>6:30 Holy Unction Service</td>
<td>6:30pm Service of 12 Gospels</td>
<td>12:00 Youth Retreat</td>
<td>10:00 pm Resurrectional Service</td>
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<td>5 PASCHA CHRIST IS RISEN!!!</td>
<td>6 BRIGHT MONDAY</td>
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Christos Anesti!  
Alithos Anesti!  

Christ is Risen!  
Truly He is Risen!