



**PASCHAL MESSAGE OF HIS BEATITUDE  
METROPOLITAN TIKHON  
THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST 2021**

To the Venerable Hierarchs, Esteemed Clergy, Reverend Monastics, and Beloved Faithful of the Orthodox Church in America,

**CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!**

Today the Myrrhbearing Women arrive at the tomb and, seeing the angel, hear from him the joyous message that the Lord has risen. When they leave the tomb, running to tell the Apostles the news, Christ Himself suddenly appears to them and greets them with a single word: "Rejoice!" (Mt 28:9).

On this bright day, as we celebrate this glorious feast of feasts, this supreme festival of festivals, the Resurrection of Christ, I in turn extend our Lord's greeting and say to you all: "Rejoice!"

Our Lord Jesus Christ has revealed Himself to us through His Death and Resurrection. He has won the victory for us over seemingly meaningless death by His all-meaningful Death, and we in turn celebrate with exceeding joy. Death no longer stings and hell has no victory, for its gates are smashed and its prisoners are freed. The Resurrection of Christ has brought eternal life to all.

Through the Resurrection, we rejoice—in spite of our sins, hardheartedness, and lack of forgiveness. For we know that God promised through Jeremiah: "I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more" (Jer 31:34).

Through the Resurrection, we rejoice—in spite of our doubts, worries, and anxieties. For as was guaranteed to us through Zephaniah: "No one shall make them afraid... The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall see disaster no more!" (Zeph 3:13, 15).

Through the Resurrection, we rejoice—in spite of the difficulties, trials, and struggles that we have faced, and always will face, in the brief span of our earthly lives. For Christ Himself has promised: "Lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age. Amen!" (Mt 28:20).

My brothers and sisters in the Lord: "Rejoice!" Our sins are forgiven, our anxieties cease, and our temporary sufferings are given meaning through the Resurrection of the One who grants us eternal life. And while this eternal life is only fully manifest in the age to come, it is ours to experience joyfully even now.

May we celebrate the Feast of the Resurrection in joy and love. From this day forward, may we never cease exulting in the Lord.

**CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!**

+ Tikhon  
Archbishop of Washington  
Metropolitan of All America and Canada



The Parish Family of St. Matthew wishes to send its congratulations to the newly ordained servant of God, Father John Thetford! **Axios! Axios! Axios! ἄξιος!** We shout "Axios", which is Greek for "He is worthy!" of the ministry to which he has been called. May God grant Father John and his family many blessed years in His service!



### Received into the Church by Baptism

Juan Valverde was received into the Church by Baptism on Saturday, March 27. His parents are Jessica and Aaron Valverde and his sponsor is Paul Novak.

May God grant you many years!



### Received into the Church by Chrismation

Tara Enck was received into the Church by Chrismation as Xenia on Saturday, March 27. Tara's Godmother is Bonnie Zdrale.

May God grant you many years!



## *Parish Council President's Perspective.....Paul Novak*

During the Nativity, I wrote about the foods that are prepared for the Holy Supper meal. As we are setting our eyes towards Pascha, I wanted to write about the Pascha - Easter Basket tradition. The bringing of an Easter Basket to Church on Saturday Midnight Service, is an age old tradition. It stems from the desire of the Christian community to ask God's blessing on the foods that will break the Great Fast and from which they have abstained from during this period. The religious significance attached to the foods eaten are symbolic of Christ himself, our true Passover. Foods traditionally blessed for Easter, the feast of the Lord's Passover from death to life, are the foods which God prescribed for the ancient Passover meal, lamb, bread, wine and bitter herbs. An explanation of the foods for the Easter Basket are listed below. I hope that you can bring a basket this year so that it can be blessed and help you break the Great Fast.



The items mentioned below are placed in a wicker basket. A decorated candle is placed inside and is lit at the time of the blessing. A linen cover, usually embroidered with a picture of the Risen Christ or symbol with the words "Christ is Risen," is placed over the basket when brought to the Church. In some places, a larger Easter Bread (Pascha) is made and brought separately in a large linen cloth.

**Pascha** - The Easter Bread. A sweet yeast bread rich in eggs, butter, etc. Symbolic of Christ Himself who is our True Bread. Usually a round loaf baked with a golden crust decorated with a symbol indicative of Christ. Sometimes a cross of dough is placed on top encircled by a plait given it a crowned effect or Greek.

**Butter** - This favorite dairy product is often shaped into a figure of a Lamb or small cross and decorated as the cheese. This reminds us of the goodness of Christ that we should have toward all things.

**Cheese** - A custard type cheese shaped into a ball having a rather bland, but sweet taste indicative of the moderation that Christians should have in all things. Also, creamed cheese is placed in a small dish and both are decorated with symbols out of cloves or pepper balls.

**Eggs** - Hardboiled eggs brightly decorated with symbols and markings made with beeswax, indicative of new life and resurrection. Red eggs are also traditional and date back to a story with St. Mary Magdalene. Having been dyed with onion skins saved over the past year, red shows the color of life and victory that came through Christ's blood.

**Ham** - The Flesh meat popular with the Slavs as the main dish because of its richness and symbolic of the great joy and abundance of Easter. Some may prefer Lamb or Veal. This is usually well roasted or cooked as well as other meats, so the festivity of the day will not be burdened with preparation and all may enjoy the Feast.

**Horseradish** - Horseradish mixed with grated red beets (optional) symbolizes the Passion of Christ still in our minds, but sweetened with some sugar because of the Resurrection. A bitter-sweet red colored mixture reminds us of the sufferings of Christ.

**Salt** - A condiment necessary for flavor reminding the Christian of his duty to others.

**Sausage** - A spicy, garlic sausage of pork products indicative of God's flavor and generosity.

**Bacon** - A piece of uncooked bacon cured with spices. Symbolic of the overabundance of God's mercy to us.



Going forward, no invitations to services are required.  
Everyone is welcome to any and all services.

### **Holy Week Service Schedule**

29	Apr	Thur	<b>10:00am</b>	Vesperal Liturgy
29	Apr	Thur	6:00pm	12 Passion Gospels
30	Apr	Fri	3:30pm	Vespers
30	Apr	Fri	6:00pm	Lamentations
1	May	Sat	<b>10:00am</b>	Vesperal Liturgy
1	May	Sat	11:30pm	Nocturn, Matins, PASCHAL Liturgy

### **Bright Week and May Service Schedule**

2	May	Sun	3:00pm	Paschal Vespers
4	May	Tues	9:30am	Divine Liturgy - Bright Tuesday
7	May	Fri	9:30am	Divine Liturgy - Bright Friday
8	May	Sat	5:00pm	Great Vespers
9	May	Sun	9:30am	Divine Liturgy
12	May	Wed	6:00pm	Vespers
15	May	Sat	5:00pm	Great Vespers
16	May	Sun	9:30am	Divine Liturgy
19	May	Wed	6:00pm	Vespers
22	May	Sat	5:00pm	Great Vespers
23	May	Sun	9:30am	Divine Liturgy
26	May	Wed	6:00pm	Vespers
29	May	Sat	5:00pm	Great Vespers
30	May	Sun	9:30am	Divine Liturgy

**Greetings from Your Ministry Team!**

**Ministry Team Focus for April:**

House of Hope is our focus this month. HoH is a homeless shelter that cares for and supports young homeless moms by providing a safe, structured place to live, counseling and help to live independently in a community. Please help in supporting these young moms as they learn to make wise decisions and become independent members of our community. Check the supplies needed list and drop off an item or two. They have greatly appreciated our help over the years. Many thanks!

**Ministry Team Focus for May:**

In the month of May, we are asking you to participate in an act of benevolence. Please consider an act of kindness and give a generous gift to our Benevolence Fund. So many people are struggling this time of year, especially during this pandemic. Your benevolent act of kindness will stay right here in our church family and/or our community. Cash or a check made out to St. Matthew with "Benevolence Fund" noted will be greatly appreciated. These may go to Tom Julian, Treasurer. Many thanks!

**Parish Council Meetings**

Parish Council meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:00pm. Please see the church bulletin or the church website for more information. If you would like to attend as a guest, please contact President, Paul Novak know at paulnovak11@gmail.com.

**Many Years!**

**Happy April and May Birthday**

- April 13 Linda Bisbee
- April 13 Nicholas Greenlaw
- April 14 Bernie Olson
- April 17 Whitney Massopust
- April 17 Vivian Parry
- April 18 Sophia Tomac
- April 26 Sarah Eiden
- April 30 Mitchell Phillips
  
- May 2 Alexandra Nassios
- May 12 Kaydee Elsinger
- May 14 Oksana Schweiner
- May 17 Mark White
- May 19 Frank Hurst
- May 23 Matthew Tomac
- May 24 Noah Becker
- May 30 Annalucia Jeffers

**Many Years!**

**Happy April and May Anniversaries**

- April 18 Jonathon and Ariadne Jeffers
- April 23 Frank and Andrea Hurst
- April 25 Dr. Paul Holzman and Barbara Crass
  
- May 19 Todd and Sarah Eiden

**Sojourn of Israel with Pedro Sarsama**

Sunday evening class, online at 6 PM: <https://cutt.ly/ZxMutr3>  
 Optional discussion follows 6:55-7:30: <https://cutt.ly/BxMu2PX>

## Church Cleaners



*Thank you!*

**MYKHAYLYUK** (week of) 4/11 for 4/18

**ODMAN** (week of) 4/18 for 4/25

**BISBEE** (week of) 4/25 for 5/2

**SCHWEINER** (week of) 5/2 for 5/9

**ENCK** (week of) 5/9 for 5/16

**PITKEVICH** (week of) 5/16 for 5/23

**ZDRALE** (week of) 5/23 for 5/30

**NOVAK** (week of) 5/30 for 6/6

**SCHAHCZAENSKI** (week of) 6/6 for 6/13

**JULIAN** (week of) 6/13 for 6/20

**TOMAC** (week of) 6/20 for 6/27

**WEILAND** (week of) 6/27 for 7/4

*Thank you!*

*April      May      June*

### From Our Treasurer, Tom Julian

Giving Update For 1st quarter 2021		Iconography Project Progress	
January Offerings	= \$18,079	Total Project Cost	= \$49,000
February Offerings	= \$12,120	Paid To Date	= \$ 4,000
March Offerings	= \$10,780	Funds On Hand	= \$17,000
		Funds Pledged	= \$24,000
Average weekly	\$3,152, weekly needed \$2,970	Pledges Needed	= \$4,000*

\* As of April 28th there are still 9 saints that are available to be sponsored. Your contribution of any size will help to defer all costs for this exciting project.

**Many, many thanks for your faithful and generous giving!  
We continue to need your support as we are all now able to return to services.**

## Red Lentil and Barley Soup

makes about 6 servings



2 tsp oil or 1/4 c water during fast  
 1 c chopped yellow or white onion(not sweet)  
 1 c chopped carrots  
 1/2 c finely sliced celery  
 4 cloves fresh crushed garlic  
 8 1/2 c water or 2 boxes veg broth  
 1 c red or brown Lentils, rinsed  
 1/2 c barley  
 1/2 or 1 tbsp dried basil (to taste)  
 1/2 or 1 tbsp dried dill weed(to taste)  
 1/2 tsp salt  
 1/4 tsp pepper  
 1/4 tsp dried thyme  
 2 bay leaves

Heat oil in large saucepan or dutch oven (if during the fast, use water). Saute onion, carrot, celery & garlic stirring frequently over med high heat. Add remaining ingredients to pan. Bring to boil, then reduce heat to med-low. Cover & cook one hour, watching to make sure the liquid doesn't disappear and the soup sticks. When cooked, remove bay leaves and serve. In non-fast, may top with a dollop of sour cream in bowl. May be kept warm in a crockpot.

***Thank you Melissa McNeil for the wonderful soup recipes!!!***

## Sweet Potato and Butternut Squash Soup

(makes a 6 qt crock pot of soup)

3 tsp olive oil (1/4c water during fast)  
 2c finely chopped onion  
 8c chopped peeled Butternut Squash  
 2-8oz sweet potatoes peeled and chopped  
 2c frozen corn kernels (or fresh or canned/drained)  
 4c (1 box) veg(during fast) or chicken broth  
 4 Tblsp fresh chopped ginger or 4 tsp powdered ginger  
 2 tsp ground coriander



In dutch oven or large pot, warm oil over med-hi heat (if during the fast, use water instead of oil) and saute onion, stirring until edges begin to brown. Add broth and the remaining ingredients. Bring to boil. Cover and turn heat down to low and cook 15-20 minutes, until squash is tender. Remove from heat. With a slotted spoon, place solids in food processor retaining liquids in pot. Puree solids in food processor and return puree to pan. Whisk so all is blended and reheat in pot. If desired, squash may be placed in a crock pot and kept warm until serving. Note: 1 med butternut squash makes about 5 cups of diced cubes.