

## ORTHODOX CHURCH IN AMERICA

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## ARCHBISHOP OF WASHINGTON

V. Rev.    Constantine White, Dean  
V. Rev.    Dmitri Grigorieff, Dean Emeritus  
Rev. Dn.    Blagoje Siljegovic  
Rev. Dn.    Michael Korolev

Every **Saturday** in our Cathedral there is a *Vigil* at 5:00 PM (English and Slavonic). *Divine Liturgy* in English is at 9:00 AM and in Church Slavonic – at 10:45 AM on **Sunday**. We also have Akathist in Georgian at 1:00 PM.

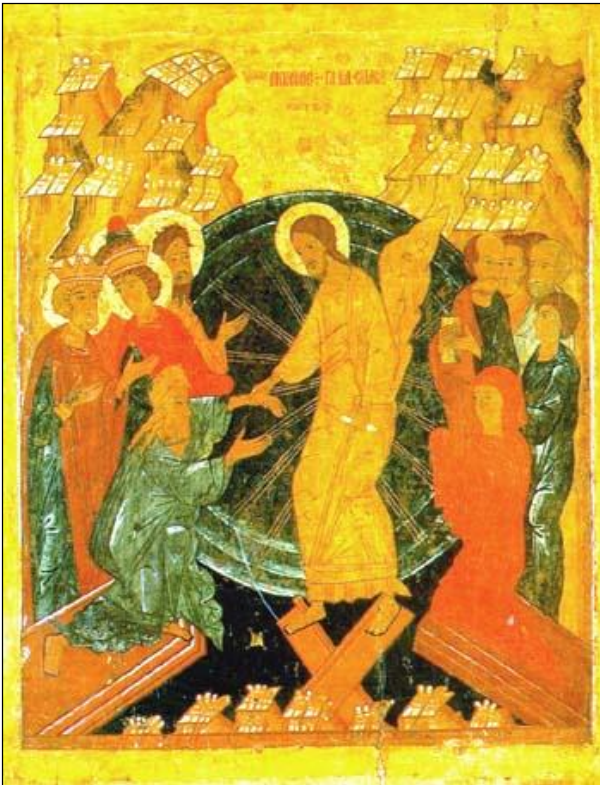
A warm **welcome** to St. Nicholas Cathedral! We are glad to have you worship with us today.

To place a notice in the church bulletin: Call Lisa Morris in the church office between 9:00-2:00 Tuesday-Friday (202)-333-5060, or to leave a message press 10 at menu, e-mail the church at [office@stnicholasdc.org](mailto:office@stnicholasdc.org) or pick up a form in the basement of the church on the bulletin board. Notices must be submitted no later than Thursday for the following Sunday.

# CHRIST IS RISEN

## HOLY PASCHA

May 5, 2001 r. SUNDAY.



## Readings

Liturgy:    Epistle: **Acts: 1:1–8;**

Gospel: **John: 1:1–17.**

## Schedule of Services

Next Week \*

5 Sunday	12:00	Paschal Vespers (E. S. G.)
6 Monday	9:30	Divine Liturgy (E. S. G.)
11 Saturday	10:00	Divine Liturgy (E. S. G.)
11 Saturday	17:00	Vigil (E. S. G.)
12 Sunday	9:00	Divine Liturgy (E)
12 Sunday	10:45	Divine Liturgy (S)
12 Sunday	1:00	Akathist (G)

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**Attention Parents:** A Russian Pascha party (in Russian) for our young parishioners will take place on Saturday, May 11, at 2:30 P.M. in the church hall. The young talents of St. Nicholas Sunday School will present a play, a priest will address the children and parents, and there will be fun games and music. All are welcome to participate and praise the Lord with their talents. Children will receive presents and we will all have a light meal after we are tired from all the fun. The Sunday school is organizing this event and would appreciate a \$7 donation per child (if it will not hurt your family's budget). We look forward to seeing you there.

\* E=English, S=Church Slavonic, G=Georgian,



**Acts: 1:1-8**

In the first book, O The-oph'ilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. To them he presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me, for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit." So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Sama'ria and to the end of the earth."

**John: 1:1-17**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light. The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not. He came to his own home, and his own people received him not. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (John bore witness to him, and cried, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.'") And from his fulness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

## **Easter Homily of St. John Chrysostom**

IF ANY BE PIOUS and a lover of God, let him delight in this fair and radiant festival. If any be an honest servant, let him come in and rejoice in the joy of his Lord. If any have wearied himself with fasting, let him now enjoy the recompense. If any have worked from the first hour, let him receive today his just reward.

If any have come after the third, let him feast with thankfulness. If any have arrived after the sixth, in no wise let him be in doubt; in no way shall he suffer loss. If any be later than the ninth, let him draw nigh, let him not waver. If any arrive only at the eleventh, let him not be fearful for his slowness, for the Master is munificent and receiveth the last even as the first; He giveth rest to him of the eleventh even as to him who hath wrought from the first hour. He is merciful to the last and provideth for the first; and to this one He giveth, and to that one He showeth kindness. He receiveth their labours and acknowledgeth the purpose, and He honoureth the deed and praiseth the intention.

Wherefore, enter ye all into the joy of our Lord, and let the first and the second take part in the reward. Ye rich and ye poor, join hands together. Ye sober and ye heedless, do honour to this day. Ye who fast and ye who fast not, be glad today. The table is full: do ye all fare sumptuously. The calf is ample: let no one go forth hungry. Let all enjoy the banquet of Faith. Let all enjoy the wealth of righteousness. Let no one lament his poverty, for the Kingdom is made manifest to all. Let no one bewail transgressions, for forgiveness hath dawned forth from the tomb. Let no one be fearful of Death, for the death of the Saviour hath set us free. He hath quenched Death by being subdued by Death. He Who came down into Hades, despoiled Hades; and Hades was embittered when he tasted of Christ's Flesh.

Esaias, anticipating this, cried out and said: Hades was embittered when below he met Thee face to face. He was embittered, for he was set at nought. He was embittered, for he was mocked. He was embittered, for he was slain. He was embittered, for he was cast down. He was embittered, for he was fettered. He received a body, and encountered God. He received earth, and met Heaven face to face. He received what he saw, and fell whither he saw not. O Death, where is thy sting? O Hades, where is thy victory? Risen is Christ, and thou art overthrown.

Risen is Christ, and the demons are fallen. Risen is Christ, and the Angels rejoice. Risen is Christ, and life doth reign. Risen is Christ, and there is none dead in the tomb. For Christ is raised from the dead, and is become the first-fruits of them that slept. To Him be glory and dominion unto the ages of ages. Amen.

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

*But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid; for I know that you seek Jesus Who was crucified. He is not here; for He has risen as He said. Come see the place where He lay". (Matthew 28:5-6)*

We can only imagine the joy that overcame the Holy Myrrhbearing Women as they heard these amazing words - words which continue to fill us with awe and joy as we encounter the empty tomb and ponder the Mystery of our salvation in the Resurrection of Our Lord, Jesus Christ!

"Do not be afraid!" How easily we sometimes forget these words, living as we do in a world filled with violence and death, with fear and uncertainty. Christ destroys the wall of enmity, by which we were separated from our Creator. Yet walls of hatred, anger and fear continue to be built, walls that seek to extinguish the Light which darkness can never overcome and the One Whose Peace passes all understanding.

"Do not be afraid!" The Myrrhbearing Women, stunned by their Master's death, had much to fear. Yet their faith was not shattered; their resolve was not shaken. Their fear vanished as they saw death vanquished. Their hearts were filled with unspeakable joy as they gazed into the empty tomb. Their emptiness was replaced with the fullness of God's presence in a world which, today as then, clings to any sign of hope.

"Do not be afraid!" As we rejoice today in the Lord's victory, what can we fear? Who can take away our joy? Indeed, life has triumphed over sin and death! Emboldened by this faith, let us shine in times of uncertainty with the Light which can never be overcome by darkness. Bolstered by the same assurance through which the fear of the Myrrhbearing Women was overcome, let us run, as messengers of hope, to proclaim the empty tomb to a world "groaning in travail" (Romans 8:22).

Assuring you of my prayers on this radiant and joyous Feast of Feasts, and asking that you join me in making a new and deeper commitment to the Risen Lord, I remain

With love in the Risen Lord,



**+THEODOSIUS**  
Archbishop of Washington  
Metropolitan of All America and  
Canada