

WEEKLY BULLETIN

May 2, 2021

Vol. 38 No. 18

HOLY PASCHA



St. ELIA
ORTHODOX CHURCH

A Parish of the Orthodox Church in America

64 W. Wilbeth Rd., Akron, Ohio 44301

Church Hall: 330-724-7129

Office: 330-724-7009

www.saintelia.com

www.facebook.com/sainteliaakron

His Eminence Alexander, Archbishop of Toledo, Bulgarian Diocese, OCA
Very Rev. Mitred Archpriest Father Don Anthony Freude, Parish Rector
Rev. Protodeacon James M. Gresh, Attached

The Holy Pascha

The Glorious Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ



Saturday, May 1

11:30 pm Nocturn - *Placing of the Shroud on the Altar*

Sunday, May 2

12:00 Midnight

Resurrection Matins

Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

Epistle Reader: Anastasia Bohush

Blessing of the Artos and Red Eggs

Paschal Basket Blessing

Following the Midnight Service of Pascha and the Agape

Vespers on Sunday morning

11:00 am Sunday Morning

Agape Vespers of Holy Pascha

Bright Week

BRIGHT MONDAY

Monday, May 3

9:00 am Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom

Archpastoral Message of His Beatitude, Metropolitan Tikhon Pascha 2021

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



My brothers and sisters in Christ,

Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen

***Come and receive the light from the Unwaning Light,
and glorify Christ, Who is risen from the dead!***

Sunday morning dawned like any other Sunday morning in Jerusalem. The Sabbath was over and it was back to life.

For Jesus' disciples, however, this morning was the continuation of a horrible nightmare. Jesus' body lay buried in a rock-hewn tomb outside the city. It had been placed there, hastily, Friday night. Because of the proximity of the Sabbath, Jewish burial customs had to be postponed.

Very early on that Sunday morning the women came to the tomb, carrying the spices they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the entrance of

the tomb, so they went in; but they did not find the Body of the Lord Jesus. They stood there puzzled about this, when suddenly two men in bright shining clothes stood by them. Full of fear, the women bowed to the ground, as the men said to them, ***‘Why are you looking among the dead for One Who is alive? He has risen; He is not here.’***

No more thrilling words can be imagined than those of the angel to the women at the tomb: ***“He is risen – He is not here.”***

These words signal the dawn of a new glorious day.

Announcing the Resurrection of Christ, the angel proclaims the victory of Christ, the new Adam, over the death to which mankind had been sold by the old Adam

Together with our first parents we feel the hand of the Lord grasping us and lifting us out of the dark sleep and with joyous voices we can now sing:

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.

May this Holy Pascha be filled with the Light and the Peace and the Joy of our Risen Lord and Savior Jesus Christ for you and your family.

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

Love in the Risen Christ, a Joyous Pascha!

Father Don Anthony Freude

BLESSING OF THE ARTOS

Following the Midnight Service of Pascha, the **ARTOS** will be blessed. The Artos is a Paschal Bread and bears on it the Icon of the Resurrection. In the Old Covenant the Jews commemorated the Passover from bondage in Egypt by sacrificing a Passover Lamb.

Christ is our Passover Lamb Who has freed us from the bondage of sin and death. The Artos is offered and blessed on Holy Pascha and symbolizes the Angelic Bread, the Bread of Eternal Life; namely our Lord Jesus Christ. We will break the Bread and partake of it on the eighth of Pascha, St. Thomas Sunday.

BLESSING OF THE RED EGGS

Father Don will bless The red eggs and then and distribute them to everyone in Church.

RED EGGS symbolize the New Life in the Risen Christ granted to us thorough His Precious Blood shed on the Cross, As Father presents each one of us with a red egg, he will greet us with *“Christ is Risen”* and we respond *“Indeed, He is Risen”*

PASCHAL BASKET BLESSINGS

Following the Midnight Services the Paschal Baskets will be blessed in the Church Hall. For those who are

unable to attend the Midnight Services, Father Don will also bless baskets following the Agape Vespers on Sunday morning.

REMEMBER THOSE IN THE ARMED FORCES

Subdeacon Anthony Freude, son of Fr .Don and Popadia Donna
Egor Cravcenko. Son of Serghei and Ludmila Cravcenko

REMEMBER OUR SICK AND SHUT-INS

Metropolitan Herman
Joseph Boyle (brother of Kathy Gray)
Kathy Gray
Sandra Dodovich (mother of Tony Dodovich)
Phyllis George (sister of Rose Marie Vronick)
Angelo Lambo
Florence Lambo
Larissa Freude Newman
Reader William Paluch
Subdeacon Martin Paluch
Martin and Rose Marie Vronick
Niki Bober (President of the Orthodox Christian Women)
Matushka Myra Kovaiak and
Mitred Archpriest Daniel Kovalak
Matushka Chrisitne Zebren;
Matushka Laryssa Huntyan

PASCHAL FLOWER DONATIONS

Please make your donations for Palms and Paschal Flowers that adorn the Tomb of our Lord and the Altar area. Thank you.

<u>Palm Sunday,</u>	<u>April 25, 2021</u>
Candles:	\$ 48.00
Paschal Flowers:	20.00
Improvement Fund:	480.00

Bookstore:	11.00
<u>Sunday Offering:</u>	<u>1,165.00</u>
TOTAL	\$1,724.00

Help those in need: Bring in toiletries and other needed items during Lent!

During Great Lent we are called upon to fast not only for reasons of self-control and prayer, but also for reasons of love: to deny ourselves something that we may share with someone else who is in need. This Lent, our parish family will be collecting items for the Peter Maurin Center (<http://www.petermaurincenter.org>). Located just 5 minutes north of St. Elia at 1096 S. Main St., the Center serves unsheltered and marginalized individuals and families in the Greater Akron area by offering prepared meals, warm clothing and friendship at their facilities and in the community.

Look for the bin located near the entrance of church, and drop off your items as you come in each week. If you are not currently attending services, contact Aaron Gray (330-413-8324, grayaaron@outlook.com) to pick up your donations. Below is a list of ideas of items that are currently in need at the Center:

- Toilet paper
- Toiletries and personal hygiene items
- Bottled water
- Aluminum foil and plastic wrap
- Plastic zip bags: sandwich, quart, or gallon
- Cleaning supplies

- One-day Metro bus passes (these cost \$2.50 each and can be purchased at the Metro Station and frequently at Giant Eagle stores)

Thank you for doing your part to help those in need!

Important Guidelines on Attending the Divine Services

**All services will continue to be *live streamed* by
visiting our website www.saintelia.com.**

**In accordance with the State of Ohio, CDC, and
Diocesan guidelines we all must follow these simple
steps:**

**1) If you or your family member is sick please stay
home.**

**2) All must wear masks in church (disposable
masks are provided in the vestibule).**

**3) Sanitize your hands before entering the church
(sanitizer is located in the vestibule).**

**4) All are required to keep 6 feet social distancing.
Pews are marked for available and not available
seating.**

**5) Please...NO GATHERING IN THE
VESTIBULE, OFFICE OR PARISH HALL**