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ST. ANDREW ORTHODOX CHURCH

APRIL 2009

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THE PASCHAL EPISTLE OF HIS GRACE IOV, BISHOP OF KASHIRA, ADMINISTRATOR OF THE PATRIARCHAL PARISHES IN CANADA AND TEMPORARILY IN THE USA

Beloved in the Lord, honourable brothers and sisters!

Христос Воскресе!
Χριστός Ανέστη!
Christ is Risen!
Кристe Ахсдга(Georgian)!

Once again, we greet each other with this Good News. We greet the world with this joyful greeting, which we always long to hear. Our hearts are filled anew with the joy of the Holy Day of Pascha, though we have not sufficient language to express this joy.

Imagine our feelings if our departed loved ones were to return to us. But, our joy today is not about such a resurrection, or that which occurred with Lazar or the Widow of Naine's son who were returned to their former life which continued for several years.

Christ arose from the dead and is in our life. After the resurrection of Christ all human history, all our life and death is perceived totally in a new way.

No grief, despite how great it may be in our sinful world, can darken the joy which proceeds from the resurrection of Christ. Pascha, which "opens the doors of paradise", is deliverance from grief!

The resurrected lord conquers our spiritual death when we bring him repentance in our sins. when we endeavor to live according to god's truth, fortifying ourselves through the Mystery of Christ's body and blood, we discover that

of which Apostle Paul speaks: "now i do not live, but Christ lives in me."

The living Christ is the victor of our death at the moment of our repose and on the day of the universal resurrection. that will be the resurrection with our "spiritual body" (1 Corinthians 15, 42-49), that same body which every person has, but which will be transfigured by the holy spirit.

In the resurrected Christ, every human personality unfolds in full beauty. a Christian becomes alive to god but dead to sin. he walks in renewed life (Romans 6, 4-11) and in this, gives witness of the victory of god over the devil and death!

In the epistle of the local council of the Russian Orthodox Church, which recently elected a new patriarch, each of us is called to the paschal message of good news: "we are called to witness for the truth of the gospel of Christ for that in Christ is life and life in full (john 10, 10). we are called to be active in the spiritual enlightenment of those near and distant to us. pray, the apostle said, so that the word of god be spread and glorified (2 Thesalonians 3, 1)".

If this is to done we must, in the name of Christ, strengthen unity under the blessing of his holiness Kirill, patriarch of Moscow and all Rus', and sincerely pray that the Patriarchal efforts of our Holy Master and Father are fruit-

ful and blessed by God.

May the gracious and loving God bless your efforts for the good of the Church and grant you one spirit in faith and life so that "with great power" (Acts 4, 33) the Risen Lord Jesus Christ is witnessed!

With the feeling of Christian joy, I greet you on the Great Feast Day of the New Covenant Pascha, with the Lord's triumph over death and our union with divine eternity!

In truth Christ is Risen!

I prayerfully wish that you dwell in the Paschal joy of the Resurrected Christ and be in good health.

With my blessings and continued prayers for you I also ask for your prayers

+lov,

Bishop of Kashira, Vicar of the Moscow Diocese, Administrator of the Patriarchal Parishes in Canada and temporarily in the USA

Edmonton, Pascha, 2009



Dates to Remember

- Council Meeting May 20 6:30pm
- Sisterhood meeting May 25, 6:30 pm
- Ascension Liturgy, May 28 9:30am

BEATITUDES FOR FRIENDS OF THE AGED

Blessed are they who understand my faltering step and poised hand.

Blessed are they who know that my ears today must strain to catch the things they say.

Blessed are they who seem to know that my eyes are dim and my wits are slow.

Blessed are they who looked away when coffee spilled at the table to-

day.

Blessed are they with a cheery smile who stop to chat for a little while.

Blessed are they who never say, "You've told that story twice today".

Blessed are they who know the ways to bring back memories of yester-days.

Blessed are they who make it known that I'm loved, respected and not

alone.

Blessed are they who know I'm at a loss to find the strength to carry the cross.

Blessed are they who ease the days on my journey home in loving ways.

Esther Mary Walker

St. Demetrius Orthodox Church

MAY 2009

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
31 9:00 AM Confession 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy					1	2 6:00 PM Great Vespers/ Confessions
3 9:00 AM Confession 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy	4	5	6	7	8	9 6:00 PM Great Vespers/ Confessions
10 9:00 AM Confession 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy	11	12	13	14	15	16 6:00 PM Great Vespers/ Confessions
17 9:00 AM Confession 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy	18	19	20 6:30 pm Sisterhood meeting	21	22	23 6:00 PM Great Vespers/ Confessions
24 9:00 AM Confession 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy	25 6:30 pm Council meeting	26	27	28 Ascension 9:30 AM Divine Liturgy	29	30 6:00 PM Great Vespers/ Confessions

WHAT'S HAPPENING

PASCHAL GREETINGS

During the Paschal season, Orthodox Christians greet each other with -

Christ is Risen! - Truly He is Risen!

Christos Voskreses! - Voistinu Voskrese!
(Slavonic)

Christo Tenestall! - Bewnet Tenestall!
(Amharic)

Al Maseeh Qam! - Haqan Qam! (Arabic)

Christos Anesti! - Alithos Anesti! (Greek)

Christos Inviat! - Adevarat a Inviat!
(Romanian)

Christus ist auferstanden! Er ist
wahrhaftig auferstanden! (German)

Kristus vstal z mrtvých! Vpravdě vstal z
mrtvých! (Czech)

Le Christ est ressuscité! Vraiment Il est
ressuscité! (French)

The Paschal season lasts for 40 days
until The Feast of Pentecost.

SISTERHOOD OF ST. HELEN

The sisterhood of Saint Helen will be celebrating their feast day on Thursday May 21, The Feast of Constatine and Helen. The Perpetual Candle has been offered by the sisterhood on Sunday May 17 for the health of all it's members. May God grant them many more years as they labor in so many ways since founding on September 2, 1952.

USHERS, COFFEE HOUR SPONSERS AND PROSFORA DONORS

	USHERS	COFFEE HOUR	PROSFORA
5/03/09	Doug & Catherine Hattrem	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	Tatyana for the health of all her family and relatives.
5/10/09	Nevenka Dines & John Johnson	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	VOLUNTEER NEEDED
5/17/09	Denise & Steve Covell	Paripovic Family	VOLUNTEER NEEDED
5/24/09	Sandy Oade & Penju Miteff	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	VOLUNTEER NEEDED
5/31/09	Leann & Samir Matta	VOLUNTEER NEEDED	VOLUNTEER NEEDED

THANK YOU

Our thanks to Chris and Sophia Valkanoff of Florida for their \$50 donation toward the Hanging Lamp Replating Fund in memory of mothers. Turpa and Angeline on Mother's Day.

MOTHER'S DAY

Father Christopher will be commemorating our beloved mother's on Mother's Day, May 10, during Liturgy. To have your mom included in the commemoration, please give Father a list of their names by May 8. Please do not assume we have the correct names on file!! Only the names turned in

will be read.

CHURCH ETIQUETTE

Standing Vs. Sitting

The traditional posture for prayer and worship in the Orthodox Church has been to stand. In the Orthodox "old countries", there usually are no pews in the churches. Chairs or benches on the side walls are usually reserved for the elderly and infirm. In North America, we have tended to build our churches with pews, and since we have them, we need to figure out when we may sit and when we should stand. First

of all, it is fully acceptable to stand during the entire service. When should you definitely stand? Always stand during the Gospel reading, the Little and Great Entrances, the Anaphora, the distribution of Holy Communion, whenever the priest gives a blessing and the Dismissal. In many parishes, the Divine Liturgy book in the pew has suggested times when sitting is acceptable. Follow those instructions. (It's probably safer than following what the people do in the first couple of rows). When in doubt, stand. It is never wrong to stand in church.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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