

*Great and Holy
Pascha*

Feast of Feasts

5:00am

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*Acts 1:1-8*

*John 1:1-17*

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*Homily of St. John
Chrysostom*

*Epistle Reader:
Ben Dunaway*

No Coffee Hour

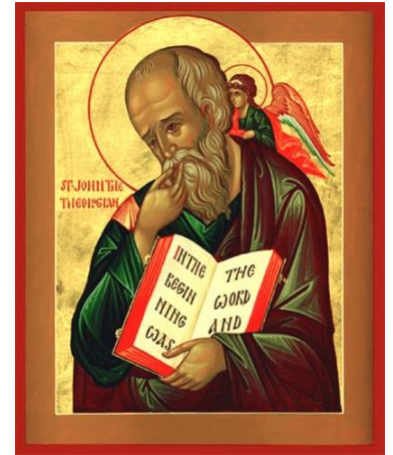
St. John Orthodox Cathedral

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*Weekly Bulletin*  
*Sunday, April 12, 2026*



*And the Days Following*



*O Apostle John, speaker of Deity, the beloved of Christ our God, hasten to deliver your people powerless in speech, for He on Whose bosom you lean accepts you as an intercessor. Beseech Him, therefore, to disperse the darkness of ignorance and pray for peace and great mercies to be shown upon us.*

## *Great and Holy Pascha - Feast of Feasts*



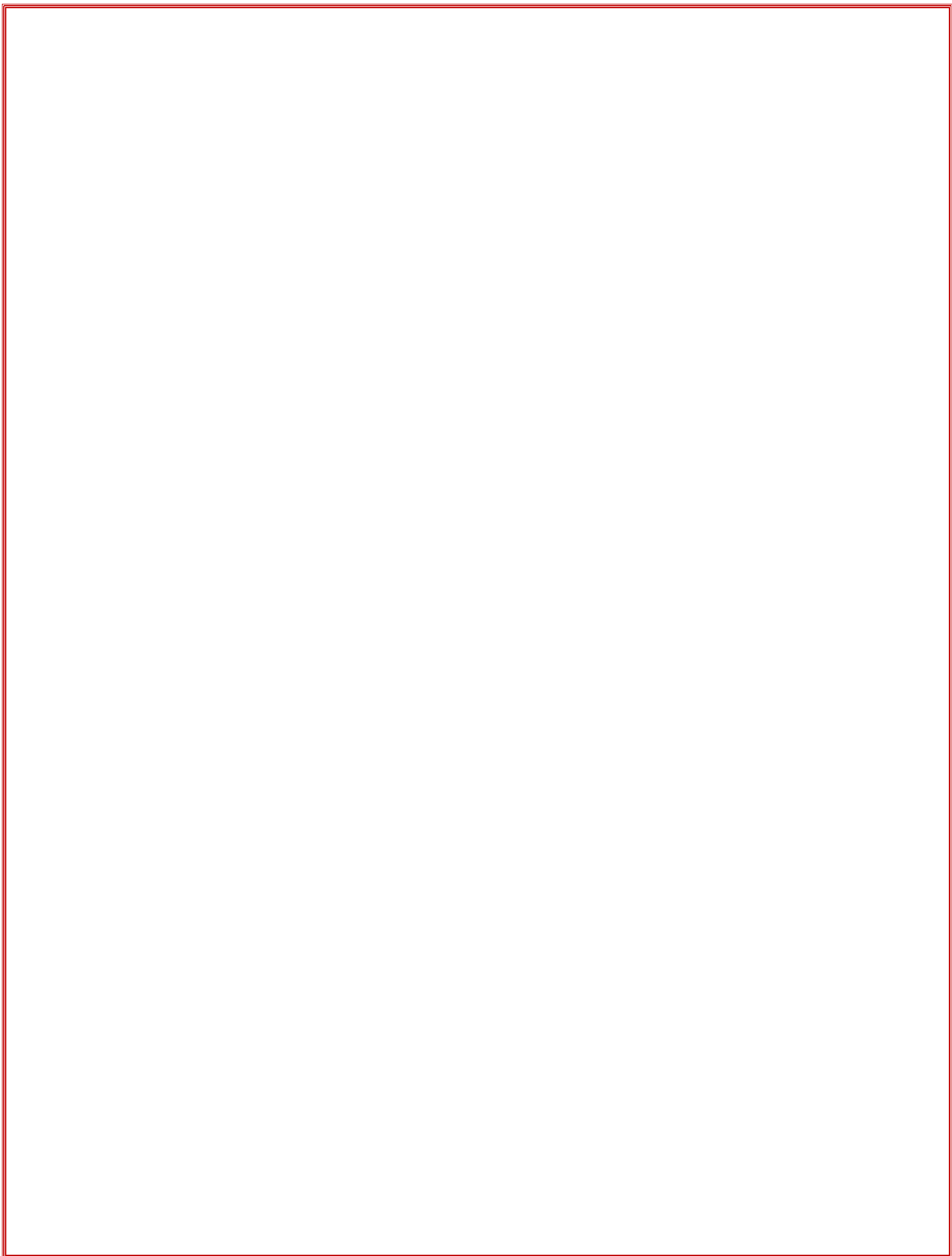
### *Remaining Services for Holy Week – [Link to Calendar](#)*

- ❖ Holy Friday, April 10, Royal Hours: 12:15pm, 3:15pm
- ❖ Holy Friday, April 10, Great Vespers at 6:15pm with Veneration of the Shroud (70 minutes)
- ❖ All Night Vigil, April 10, The Faithful keep Vigil in the Church reading Psalms.
- ❖ Holy Saturday, April 11, Matins at 7:15am, Lamentations & Procession with the Shroud (130 min)
- ❖ Holy Saturday, April 11, Vespertal Liturgy of Saint Basil at 4:15pm (130 minutes) with Chrismation of Andrew Marcus

### *Pascha and Bright Week*

- ❖ Pascha, April 12, Paschal Matins & Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom 5:00am (Procession around the Church) (150 minutes) (Easter Baskets are blessed following Liturgy)
- ❖ Pascha, April 12, Agape Vespers at 3:15pm, The Gospels are read in different languages to celebrate the universality of the Joy of Christ's Resurrection – (Procession to the Cemetery, Easter Feast following.) (40 minutes)
- ❖ Bright Week – No Fasting until after Ascension
- ❖ Bright Monday, April 13, Bright Week Hours at 12:15pm / Clean up





## Holy Friday and Saturday All Night Vigil April 11 and 12

Sign-up sheet will be put out on the table in the Narthex. Please note younger people need to have a monitor sign-up to supervise the Friday Night and Saturday morning Vigil.



## Holy Saturday Service - Children's Activities Beginning at 4:15pm

There will be childcare available Holy Saturday evening beginning at 4:15pm. Children kindergarten through fourth grade will be participating in a Holy Saturday scavenger hunt. Children toddler age through preschool will be in the Saint James House preschool room. The childcare lasts just through the Old Testament Readings, and then children will be walked back to the Nave to join their families. All children can meet at 4:15 on the church steps.

Please email Cara Fletes with any questions. [Caramia1984@gmail.com](mailto:Caramia1984@gmail.com)

## Still Looking for Kitchen Helpers for Pascha

We are still looking for kitchen helpers for short shifts during the Pascha feast. If you are able to help out, please sign up on the sign-up sheet in the church basement. You may also text me directly and I can plug you in where we have a need. Also, please remember to bring a side dish or two to the feast, even if you weren't able to sign up. Thank you! Mary Ruth Alexander at 907-854-4828

## All Things Pascha

### Easter Feast – April 12, 2026

We look forward to celebrating with everyone on Pascha! Here is the order of events to be aware of for the feast. Children's egg hunt (immediately following Agape vespers/procession) & appetizers (*Around 4pm*).

- ❖ Blessing of the food & time to eat!
- ❖ Dessert & begin moving tables for dancing
- ❖ Folk dancing
- ❖ Feast ends & clean up begins (*Around 8pm*)



## Easter Feast Potluck Sign-Up Sheets



**Sign Up**

Please look for the Easter feast potluck sign-up sheets at coffee hour this week and sign up to bring a dish, or two if possible (salad, side dish, or dessert, enough to serve 12 people). You can bring your dishes to the church

kitchen before the Agape Vespers on Pascha and pick them up from the tables outside the kitchen as you leave the feast. There is also a sign up for volunteers to help in the kitchen on the day of the feast. Thank you so much! Contact Mary Ruth Alexander (907-854-4828) with any questions.

## Food For Hungry People

*~Remember to Turn In Your 'Food For Hungry Boxes' This Week~  
You can leave them in the Narthex, and the office will pick them up daily.*



## The Basic Plan

- ❖ Have meats, drinks, appetizers, and ice cream provided for everyone by the Cathedral through an organized volunteer effort.
- ❖ Other foods – side dishes, salads, and other desserts – will be provided through a Potluck.
- ❖ **\*Each household, regardless of size,** is asked to make a suggested contribution of **\$20 or more.** This can be paid on the church website “[Donate](#)” page by choosing the category “Pascha Feast” or by writing a check and putting it in the tithe box with memo “Easter Feast”.
- ❖ Every family in the Church is asked to participate in bringing a dish to the potluck (there will be sign-up sheets for different dishes closer to Pascha downstairs). We also ask those that can help with dish duty in the kitchen to please do so (there will also be a sign-up sheet near Pascha for this). Dish duty is a big job, and the work should be spread out between many people.
- ❖ Please also keep an eye out for the sign-up sheets for Bright Monday clean up.
- ❖ Contact Sydney if you are interested in helping (even for a small role) and she will direct you to a task.

## The Teams

- ❖ Decorations: Sydney Ihde and friends
- ❖ Table/Chair set-up: David Sorensen & Bradley Forbes
- ❖ Purchase paper products: Laurie Snider
- ❖ Emcee: Elisa Betson
- ❖ Children’s activities: Kristine Lindblom & Jennifer Saur
- ❖ Bouncy house: Katy Arvidson & Brandon Weaver
- ❖ Folk dancing/sound system: Jessica Kies & Kathleen Cooley
- ❖ Outdoor set-up: Fr. Marc
- ❖ Potluck coordinator: Mary Ruth Alexander
- ❖ Meat grilling: John Marc & crew
- ❖ Beer & wine: Tanna Terrell, Arianna & Brandon Weaver, & Sam Lowry
- ❖ Appetizers: Liz Klatt, Michelle Mellor, & Ashley Ihde
- ❖ Coffee, tea, water, & lemonade: Natasha Haines and family
- ❖ Ice cream dessert: Ben Labreque & his children
- ❖ Sunday evening clean up: Tim Mellor, Derick Hanna, Eric Johnson (Brothers of Lazarus)
- ❖ Bright Monday clean-up: Kim Medders
- ❖ Grill clean up: Chris Kies & Zach Doss

## Pascha Egg Hunt

We will have the Pascha Egg Hunt immediately following Agape Vespers (and the Procession to the Cemetery) on Pascha afternoon. All children through 6th Grade are welcome! Meet outside the upstairs main church entrance where kids will be divided into groups according to age/grade. Hopefully, weather and outside conditions will allow for outdoor egg hunting, so dress accordingly! Also, bring baskets or bags for collecting eggs. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Kristine Lindblom (907-887-3398) or Jennifer Saur (907-726-7389).



## Bright Monday Cleanup Starts at 9am

- ❖ Bright Monday clean-up: Kim Medders (with parishioners)
- ❖ Grill clean up: Chris Kies & Zach Doss

Please consider helping out on Bright Monday, cleaning will begin at 9am and Pascha leftovers will be provided.

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## *News From Our Antiochian Archdiocese*



### Paschal Greeting from Met. Saba

#### **Great and Holy Pascha, 2026**

My beloved brother bishops,  
My spiritual sons, the beloved priests and deacons,  
My beloved in Christ, sons and daughters of the God protected Archdiocese,

I greet you on this great feast, crying out with you: Christ is risen! Truly, He is risen!

Each year, Pascha returns as a season of light, renewing within us the strength of true life and the possibility of our transfiguration and that of the world. This is what I pray for you every day. May you remain always immersed in the joy of the Resurrection.

#### **"The Resurrection and Me"**

My meditation this year on Your Resurrection, O my Christ, carried me to its very end, so I asked myself why Pascha remains an annual commemoration and does not become a daily reality in my life. I found the answer in my forgetfulness of eternal life. I realized that when I live on the level of earthly things, I see the Resurrection as no more than a joyful event. But when eternal life becomes my destination and my desire, I live it already, here and now, by the power of the life Your Resurrection has brought me, O my Lord and God.

You told us once: "And this is eternal life: that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent" (John 17:3). Knowing You is either on the personal level — at the level of one's very being, not merely of the mind — or it is not a knowledge that leads to eternal life. This knowledge calls for a longing for Your heavenly Kingdom, which, the more it is kindled within me, the more I taste it here on earth.

Abide with me, O Lord, that I may be strengthened by the power of Your Resurrection and fear death no longer; for life with You is life indeed, and Your absence is true death. Everything around me and within me seeks life, yet its joy quickly fades. And although I believe that the true life whose joy never fades is by You and in You, I still fear paying its price.

I want the joy of Your Resurrection without passing through the Cross; therefore, I still stumble and limp between the two. Teach me how to direct my gaze toward Your Resurrection so that, in its light, I may see the Cross as the passage to the defeat of death and all that is bound to it.

Strengthen me to overcome whatever prevents me from setting out toward You and whatever binds me to the glitter and sweetness of this world, so that I may taste Your grace when You touch me and my spiritual senses may no longer remain dull.

Today I am like the two disciples of Emmaus — troubled, anxious, and afraid of what is happening in this world. I long to be with You, for that is far better, but I cannot do it alone. I need You, and like the two disciples I call upon You: "Abide with us, Lord" (Luke 24:29), for the evening of this world has grown dark and its day is fading.

Abide with me, O Lord, that my old self may be renewed and I may become a new person, trampling underfoot all that prevents You from remaining with me.

Abide with me, O Lord, that I may know the power of Your Resurrection, carry Your Cross with joy, and bear witness to the world that it is the passageway to the Resurrection.

Abide with me, O Jesus, that I may see the world in the light of Your eyes and be a witness of joy, peace, and consolation within it.

Abide with me, that by Your Resurrection I may overcome my sins, trample my deadness, and crush my shortcomings and vices.

Abide with me, break Your bread, and give it to me, that my eyes may be opened and my heart may burn with love for You, and that I may proclaim what Your presence works within me.

So, when I cry out that You are risen, risen forever, those who hear me will believe me and know that I am not merely repeating a song I love.

Restore me and Your people, O my Christ, to an everlasting feast, so that our daily greeting may become: O my joy, Christ is risen!

Your father in the risen Christ,

+SABA

Archbishop of New York and Metropolitan of All North America

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## *Notes and Pictures from Parishioners*

### **Pictures of Baptisms and Chrismations on Lazarus Saturday**

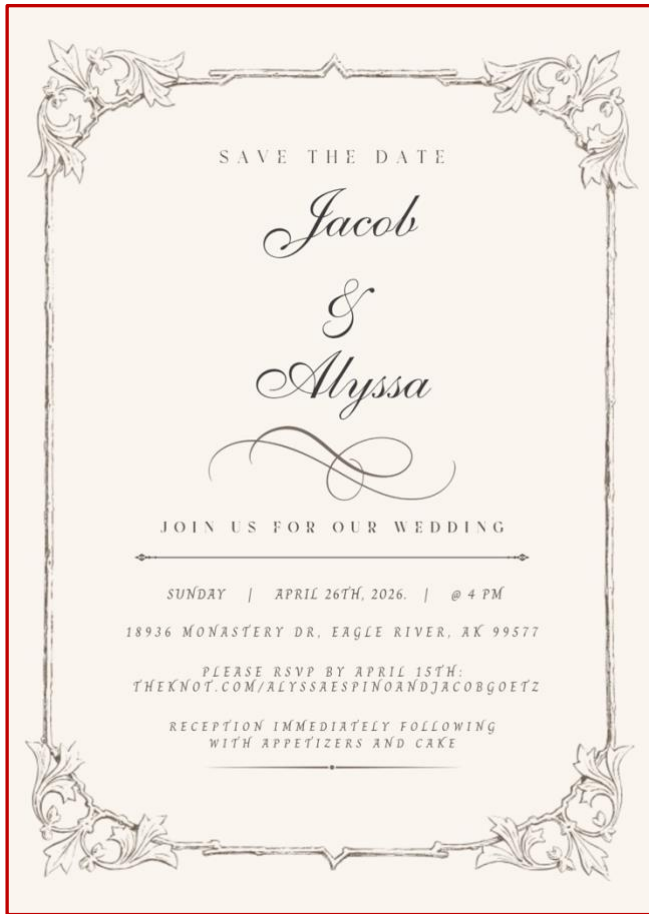
Margaret Grasse took many pictures of the Baptisms and Chrismations on Lazarus Saturday. Here is a link to some of the pictures she took. [Baptisms 2026 by M Grsse.](#)



### *April 12, 2026 - No Coffee Hour - Pascha Feast*

**Next Sunday – Group Mark (3) – April 19, 2026 - Hosts: Snider / Oliveria / Goetz / Espino**

**Snacks: Alexander, Artz, Burkowske, Cook, Doss, B & D Dunaway, Dyal, Espino, Fletes, P. Gillquist, Griffith, Hattenburg, Hunter, E & H Johnson, Justus, Kendall, Labrecque, Lowry, Marcus, O Medders, T & L Mellor, Northey, Palmer, Polson, Scherer, Sorensen, J & A Stiehr, A & J Temple, V. Temple, Unser, Wasile, Wolkoff**



Here is the link to their registry:  
<https://www.amazon.com/wedding/guest-view/2NKWST92SHM4S>

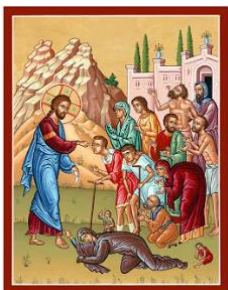
## *Dates to Remember*

### *Birthdays This Week*

April 13 - Alison Linear                      April 15 - Fr. Robert Polson  
April 14 - John Marc Dunaway              April 17 - Zachary Doss  
*M A N Y      Y E A R S !*



### *Remembering in Prayer...*



*Matt Komar                                              Jennifer Stogsdill*  
*Zoie (Oksana's Mom)                              Joyce Arvidson*  
*Dirk Moffatt                                              Sally Eckert*  
*We continue to pray for all those suffering in Ukraine*  
*and for all those suffering in Israel and Gaza, for a quick end to*  
*war and for peace*

## Remembering Those Who Have Fallen Asleep This Month



\* Kent Allen Ihde - April 13, 2000

\* Herb Enns - April 21, 2003

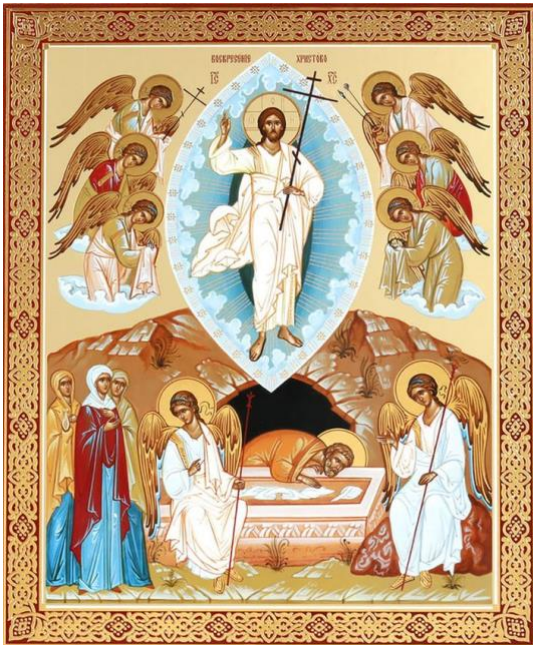
*M E M O R Y   E T E R N A L !*

## Clare House Meal - 4th Saturday of Each Month

For the Month of **April** – our scheduled meal that we provide Clare House is:  
**Saturday, April 25.** Contact Cara Fletes to see how you can help.



## THE SYNAXARION



On the Holy and Great Sunday of Pascha we celebrate the life-giving Resurrection of our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ; for Christ alone did descend with condescension to fight Hades; and He ascended, bringing abundant spoils of victory which He had snatched.

Mary Magdalene and the rest of the women who were present at the Savior's burial on Friday evening returned that very day from Golgotha to the city to prepare ointment and spices, that they might come later and anoint the body of Jesus. They rested on the next day, Saturday, in fulfillment of the commandment. And on the following day, which was Sunday and which the Evangelists call the first day of the week, the women came to the sepulcher with their prepared ointments. And as they were pondering the difficulty of rolling the stone from the gate of the sepulcher, a great earthquake took place, an angel of the Lord came down, whose appearance was like lightning and his clothes like snow, and he rolled away the stone and sat upon it. The guards trembled with fear, became like dead, and fled. But the women entered the sepulcher and did not find Jesus. But they found two other angels in the form of men dressed in white raiment who proclaimed to them the Resurrection of the Savior, commanding them to hasten and give the good news to the disciples. In the meantime, Peter and John, who had received the report from Mary Magdalene, ran and entered the tomb and found only the linen clothes lying there. They returned with great joy to the city, and began to preach the Resurrection of Christ, having seen Him alive in truth five times that very day.

We celebrate this joyful Resurrection, and by kissing one another with the holy kiss, we illustrate the dissolution of the wall of enmity that was between us and God, and our reconciliation through Christ.

To our risen Lord Jesus Christ be all glory, majesty and power for ever and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.

**Bulletin Announcement Guidelines**

Send announcements to church email address: [cathedral@stjohnalaska.org](mailto:cathedral@stjohnalaska.org) Have announcements submitted by Thursday or at very latest Friday 9am. If you have any questions regarding announcements – contact Maris Kelly at the church office. 907-696-2002.

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**Saint John Orthodox Cathedral**

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Pastor: Fr. Marc Dunaway ◦ Assistant Priest: Fr. Robert Polson