

GREAT AND HOLY PASCHA
THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR



Icon of the Descent into Hades



**Day of
Resurrection.
Let us beam with
festive joy.
Pasch, O Pasch
of the Lord
For from Death
to Life,
From Earth to
Heaven,
Christ our God
Has lead us who
Sing the Hymn
of Victory.
Christ is Risen
from the Dead!**

Ode 1
Easter Matins

Christ IS Risen! Indeed He IS Risen!

My Dearest Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Хрїсто́въ воскрѣсе! Воистину воскресе! (Old Slavonic)

Christos voskrese! Voistinu voskrese (Transliteration)

Христос воскрес! Воистину воскрес! (Ukrainian)

Chrystos voskres! Voistynu voskres! (Transliteration)

Χριστός ἀνέστη! Ἀληθῶς ἀνέστη! (Greek)

Khristós Anést! Alithós Anést! (Transliteration)

Christus resurrexit! Resurrexit vere! (Latin)

!المسيح حي! حق! المسيح حي! حق! (Arabic)

al-Masīh qām! Belhāqiqātl qām! (Transliteration)

By the grace of God I have had the privilege to celebrate the Great Day with you again. Its already been over four decades that I have had this honor. I cannot thank all of you enough for your support and encouragement. It is my sincerest hope that my service helps you in some small way come to a deeper and truer understanding of the love that God has for you. As I have shared with you before, I stand in awe and wonder at all that God has done in order to help us understand what “life” is all about. To think that He went to such extremes to help us understand how to live this life, is awe-inspiring. There is no limit, I truly believe, to His love for us. I hope that sharing this belief with you helps you, in some small way, grow in your belief in how loving our God is.

Perhaps one of the main messages that God has shared with us through Jesus is that THERE IS LIFE AFTER EARTHLY DEATH. He knew and knows that we humans have a true fear of DEATH because we really know so little about it. So God, in His infinite wisdom, decided from all eternity that He would try to alleviate our fear of Death by going through death in the Person of His Son and then raising Him from the dead so that we might not fear death. WOW!

It is my priestly prayer as your brother and pastor, that your Easter will be filled with great joy and peace knowing that you are loved by God and me and that I know that we will share eternity with one another.

Father Wayne



St. Michael's Parish News

A Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church in Dearborn Michigan



An Easter Tradition

All are reminded again that from PASCHA until PENTECOST our tradition is

TO STAND IN PRAYER

during the Divine Liturgy and also private prayer. Sitting is allowed when we feel tired or are elderly. *It is not more pious to kneel!* This tradition reminds us that we are the children of God and thus privileged, because we are His children, to stand in His presence.

DURING COVID 19

Please know that during this time of COVID19 my parishes have seriously taken your safety into consideration. We have devised a process for communion which we believe is respectful and safe. I hope that all who attend will understand and be mindful of our desire to keep people safe.



MAKING RELIGION REAL

Ukrainians have, since 988 CE, made their celebration of Easter a “real human experience” through their customs and traditions. I would truly encourage people to develop a set of “family traditions.” On Easter, therefore, Ukrainians truly celebrate by “blessing and eating” those foods which they abstained from all during the Great Fast. Therefore even the “act of eating” becomes a means by and through which Ukrainians can celebrate the fact that **CHRIST IS RISEN.**



Easter baskets are filled with “meats, cheese, butter, eggs, horseradish and, most importantly, with bread.” A special bread is baked on East and it is called Paska. It is a sweet, yeast bread rich in eggs, butter, and sugar. It is symbolic of Christ Himself Who is our true **BREAD FROM HEAVEN.** It is usually a round loaf baked with a golden crust decorated with a symbol indicative of Christ. Sometimes an abbreviation for the name of Christ is used: IXC, XP, IC or XC which stand for the name Jesus Christ in Greek. The letters XB indicate the “Slavonic words for Christ is Risen (Christos Boskres) Why not develop your own traditions!



ANOTHER WORD OF THANKS

is extended to the John and Janet Dicky for making Willow branches available last weekend. They worked tirelessly to harvest the willow branches on our property.

Χριστός ἀνέστη!



SINGING WITH JOY

I always find that it is important to remind all that the *PASCHA Tropar* is to be sung with “joyful enthusiasm.” *It is not a funeral dirge! It is a hymn of victory!* The pace should be “quick” and upbeat. It is meant to reflect a certain “eagerness” to share the Good News of the Lord’s Resurrection. Resist the temptation to drag the tempo. It is truly our declaration of joy! Would strangers know we’re happy and excited when they hear us sing? So, sing out with joy for truly Christ IS Risen!

Christus resurrexit!

A BIG THANK YOU ... is truly extended to each and every person who took the time to remember me at PASCHA. Please know your thoughtfulness is appreciated and cherished. Thank you for making me a part of your life. I pray that each of you may be blessed with health and happiness.



A WORD OF THANKS ... is extended to all who generously donated for PASCHA flowers, allowing our worship space to be so beautifully decorated. Please know that your generosity has brought great joy to me and to many others.

A WORD OF GRATITUDE ... is extended in a special way to Deacon Leonard and Steve Pipta for their help. To John, Janet, Leo and Mary for all they did to help me make the Holy Week Services available; and all who joined with me in singing during this sacred time. Your efforts are truly appreciated. Singing is a way to become truly involved in our worship and to praise God. They say that singing prayer is like praying twice and like the angels before His throne.

A SPECIAL THANKS ... is offered to all who joined with us in prayer during the services of Holy and Great Week and today. Know that you have made a difference in the worship of many. *Thank You!*

A WORD OF GREETINGS.... is extended to those who may have joined with us on the Internet during these holy days. Knowing that you have joined us in prayer is truly gratifying.

A WORD OF GREETINGS ... to all those who may be reading this Bulletin but who are shut in and do not have access the Internet, Christ IS Risen. May He fill your hearts and lives with great joy.

A WORD OF WELCOME



is extended to those who joined me and the two spiritual communities I serve, St. Michaels or Holy Ascension Parishes, to truly celebrate PASCHA. I would, on behalf of these communities, greet you in the name of the **Risen Lord** and hope that your visit was spiritually rewarding. Whether you came as a *first-time* visitor or as a *friend from the past*, know that we are happy you joined us and hope you will join us again. Please know you are always welcome. It is our prayer that you will be filled with the joy that comes from truly believing that **Christ IS Risen!**

REMEMBERING OTHERS

We remember in our prayers today those for whom we have been asked to pray from those who gave a **FLORAL MEMORIAL**. We ask Almighty God to grant them repose in eternal life. We believe they are alive in a different dimension, a dimension which we will go to when we make our transition from this life to the next. We makes their memories eternal.



GREETINGS

I would extend PASCHA Greetings to those who receive my Bulletin in the mail or by email. If you do, it probably means that you were not here with us to celebrate PASCHA. Please know that you were in our thoughts and prayers.

**God bless each of you and
grant you health and happiness!
Christ is Risen!**

The **ARTOS** . . . is the special loaf of bread we bless on PASCHA and then distribute on St. Thomas Day. This loaf reminds us that Christ, Who IS truly THE bread of life, is with us. **Χριστος Βοσκει!**



REMEMBER . . . Monday and Tuesday are “Splash” Days. Guys splash gals on Monday and on Tuesday the gals have their revenge. Silly? Perhaps, but a wonderful way to make our joy real. **Christ IS Risen!**

PLEASE NOTE.... we continue our three-day celebration of Easter on Monday and Tuesday. Monday is in the morning at 8:00 AM and Tuesday is in the evening at 7:00 PM. **CHRIST IS RISEN.**



Χριστό ενέστη! ληθς ανέστη!

Khristós Anésti! Aleithós Anésti!

Schedule of Services

St. Michael the Archangel
Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church
6340 Chase Road
Dearborn, MI 48126

Rev. Wayne J. Ruchgy, Ph.D.
Pastor

Rectory: (313) 582-1424
Cell: (313) 580-4412
WRuchgy@gmail.com

LITURGY SCHEDULE

Sundays @ 10:00 AM
Ukrainian & English

Weekdays @ 8:00 AM
English

SACRAMENTS

Penance
By Appointment

Baptism & Matrimony
*In most instances membership
required for six months*

Funerals
*Membership of an immediate
family member required*

Parish Life Council

Bob & Corinne Boyko
734.451.1893

John & Janet Dicky
313.563.5509

Daria Drobny
313.791-0292

Robert Krokosky
248.431.9554

Leo & Mary LaDouceur
313.278.7378

Gordon Malaniak
734.564.9817

Rev. Deacon Leonard Mier
313.584-6795

Greg & Esther Petrovich
734.453-4354

Rafic Vawter
313.624.9867

Sunday April 4 - The Great Day - PASCHA - Vellkden
8:00 AM - Matins & Divine Liturgy— Live-Streamed

BRIGHT WEEK

Bright Monday April 5 - SS Theodulus & Agathopodus
8:00 AM - Divine Liturgy - Live Streamed

Bright Tuesday April 6 - Death of Methodius
7:00 PM - Divine Liturgy—Live Streamed

Bright Wednesday April 7 - Venerable Father George
No Service Scheduled

Bright Thursday April 8 - SS Herodion and Others
No Service Schedule

Bright Friday April 9 - Eupschius, Martyr0
No Service Scheduled

Saturday April 10 - SS Terence & Others
No Service Scheduled

Sunday April 11 - The Anti-Pasch - St. Thomas Day
10:00 AM - Divine Liturgy - Live-Streamed

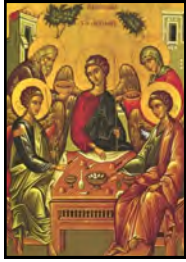
OUR FORTY DAY CELEBRATION

We now begin our 40 day celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. This 40 day extends to the feast of the Ascension of our Lord into Heaven. Nine days intervenes between our Easter celebration and the feast of Pentecost which is celebrated on the 50th day. The number 40 has great significance throughout the Torah and the Talmud. The number 40 represents transition or change; the concept of renewal; a new beginning. The number 40 has the power to lift a spiritual state.



We know that our Church embraced the Jewish Kabballah meaning of numbers. So, during the next 40 days we will be talking about personal change and transformation. Make this the goal of your life during these next 40 days.

<http://www.stmichaelarchangel.org>
[Facebook.com/stmichaelugccdbn](https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelugccdbn)



THE EASTERN HERALD

СХІДНЬЙ ВІСНИК

The Weekly Newsletter of Very Reverend Canon Wayne J. Ruchgy, Ph.D.
Vol. 65 No 14 The GREAT DAY - PASCHA - EASTER - VELIKDEN April 3-4, 2021

UNDERSTANDING THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

The Easter Church, our Church, doesn't celebrate Jesus coming out of grave. Rather, it celebrates the "IMPACT" of His Resurrection on us, His children, and the entire universe,

Our Easter icon depicts Christ "smashing" the gate of Hades and destroying Death. The crossed doors upon which Christ stands in the icon are the doors of Hades, the place where souls were held after death and before the Resurrection of Christ. We see that Christ's glorious resurrection "tore" the "hinges" right off the doors of Hades, therefore making it powerless to contain the dead.

The "pulling out of the grave" of Adam and Eve, shown in the Icon, depicts that the Lord's resurrection "conquered" Death and gave life to those in the tombs. We see also the saints of the Old Testament in the icon. We can clearly identify King

David, John the Baptizer, Abraham and other prophets of the Old Testament.

Christ's act of resurrection from the dead has changed our universe. Through this action, the power of Death and Hades have been totally destroyed for all eternity. We also see "Satan" bound up in chains in the abyss.

This icon illustrates the very essence of our faith: that God has, through the Person of Christ, truly conquered Death and freed us from the threat of oblivion. He has re-created" the universe through His selfless act of going through death in order to help us deal with

what we humans have to face.

Our belief in God becoming a human in the Person of Jesus and going through something that we must face, namely death, is one of God's great gifts. Let us be thankful and offer our God praise and honor.



Great and Holy Pascha

It is the Pasch; the Pasch of the Lord.
O You, who are truly all in all!
The joy, the honor, the food and the
delight of every creature;
through You the shadows of death
have fled away,
and life is given to all,
the gates of heaven are flung open.

God becomes man
and man is raised up to the likeness of God.
O divine Pasch!
O Pasch, light of new splendor.

The lamps of our souls will no more burn out.
The flame of grace,
divine and spiritual,

burns in the body and soul,
nourished by the resurrection of Christ.

We beg you, O Christ, Lord God,
eternal king of the spiritual world,
stretch out your protecting hands
over your holy Church
and over your holy people;
defend them, keep them, preserve them.

Raise up your standard over us
and grant that we may sing with Moses
the song of victory,
for yours is the glory and the power
for all eternity! Amen

St. Hippolytus of Rome