

SAINT JOHN'S ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Rev. Father David Mastroberte

Very Rev. Protopresbyter Michael Polanichka

Rev. Deacon John Anderson

A Parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese – Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople

Bulletin for April 30-May 13, 2017

The First Fruits of the Resurrection

by St. Irenaeus of Lyons

The Word of God became man, the Son of God became the Son of Man, in order to unite man with himself and make him, by adoption, a son of God. Only by being united to one who is himself immune could we be preserved from corruption and death, and how else could this union have been achieved if he had not first become what we are? How else could what is corruptible and mortal in us have been swallowed up in his incorruptibility and immortality, to enable us to receive adoptive sonship? Therefore, the Son of God, our Lord, the Word of the Father, is also the son of man; he became the son of man by a human birth from Mary, a member of the human race.

The Lord himself has given us a sign here below and in the heights of heaven, a sign that man did not ask for because he never dreamt that such a thing would be possible. A virgin was with a child and she bore a son who is called Emmanuel, which means "God with us." He came down to the earth here below in search of the sheep that was lost, the sheep that was in fact his own creature, and then ascended into the heights of heaven to offer to the Father and entrust to his care the human race that he had found again. The Lord himself became the first-fruits of the resurrection of mankind, and when its time of punishment for disobedience is over the rest of the body, to which the whole human race belongs, will rise from the grave as the head has done. By God's aid it will grow and be strengthened in all its joints and ligaments, each member having its own proper place in the body. There are many rooms in the Father's house because the body has many members.

God bore with man patiently when he fell because he foresaw the victory that would be his through the Word. Weakness allowed strength its full play, and so revealed God's kindness and great power.

St. Irenaeus was bishop of Lyons in what is now France in the last quarter of the 2nd century. This is an excerpt from his monumental work written about 185AD "Against Heresies" which was in large part responsible for exposing the absurdities of Gnosticism and laying out the first somewhat systematic exposition of the apostolic faith. (From <https://www.crossroadsinitiative.com/media/articles/first-fruits-of-the-resurrection-irenaeus/>)

**CHRIST IS RISEN!
INDEED, HE IS RISEN!**

CALENDAR OF SERVICES & EVENTS

| | | |
|--------------|------------------|--|
| *SUN | 4/30/2017 | THIRD SUNDAY OF PASCHA – MYRRHBEARING WOMEN |
| | 9:00 AM | Divine Liturgy <i>Panachida: +Andrew Penick; +Helen & +John Jr. Andras ++Popadics Family (Per.)</i> |
| TUES | 5/2/2017 | |
| | 8:30 AM | Service (Chapel) ++ <i>Misinay Family & ++Turchan Family (Per.)</i> |
| *SUN | 5/7/2017 | FOURTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA – PARALYTIC |
| | 9:00 AM | Divine Liturgy <i>Panachida: Eli & Margaret Ergeg, by Daughter Angie Orras & Family +John Penick (Perpetual)</i> |
| THURS | 5/11/2017 | SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS, EQUALS TO THE APOSTLES ENLIGHTENERS OF THE SLAVS |
| | 9:00 AM | Divine Liturgy |
| *SUN | 5/14/2017 | FIFTH SUNDAY OF PASCHA – SAMARITAN WOMAN |
| | 9:00 AM | Divine Liturgy with Prayers for Health of Mothers Panachida for Departed Mothers <i>Panachida: ++Karas Family & ++Kraynak Family (Perpetual)</i> |

Visit our Diocesan Online Resources!

Diocesan Website: <http://www.acrod.org> Camp Nazareth: <http://www.campnazareth.org>
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/acroddiocese> You Tube: <https://youtube.com/acroddiocese>

Announcements

¶ **There are *many* upcoming Diocesan events for families and/or youth.** Information on these events has been distributed over the past few weeks so we won't repeat everything in this bulletin, but here's a quick recap:

- Camp Alumni Day: May 20
- Family Camp/ Family Day: June 11
- Altar Boy Retreat: June 25-28
(*Info Coming Soon*)
- Young Women's Retreat: June 25-28
- Summer Camping Sessions

If you're reading this and you fit the categories involved, you are invited and wholeheartedly encouraged to

participate! Parents, encourage your kids to go! Full information is available with Fr. David and on the diocesan website, acrod.org.

¶ **Camp Nazareth Family Day Raffle Tickets** are available in the church office for a donation of \$20. Remember, Family Day is June 11!

¶ **Rummage Sale and Bake Sale** at First Presbyterian Church, 600 E State Street, Sharon. May 5th from 9 to 2. May 6th from 9 to 1.

Thoughts on Stewardship

by Dan Hromyak

"Did not our hearts burn within us while He talked to us on the road, while He opened to us the scriptures?" - Luke 24:32

How often do we take the time to discern what Jesus wants from us? Are our prayers always petitions, asking Jesus to do things for us? If so, that's a one-sided relationship. Living our faith means developing a personal relationship with Jesus. Just like any friendship, there is give and take, each side listening to each other and helping each other out. Take time in silence to listen to what Jesus is asking of you.

"And Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ...'" - Acts 2:38

The word "repent" means to turn from sin, to change our actions. When it comes to change, do we take responsibility for change or do we think that others have to change instead? Change that is permanent comes from within, we must take control and be disciplined. Remember though that we are not alone, Jesus is there to help lighten the load."

Bulletin Sponsor ~ Sunday, April 30th

Dorothy Pacinda and Bob and Michael Andras, In Loving Memory of Mother/
Grandmother, Helen Andras

Bulletin Sponsor ~ Sunday, May 7th

Diane and Kyle Kupensky, In Honor of Our 39th Wedding Anniversary

Eternal Lamp ~ Sunday, May 7th

In Loving Memory of Sister, Ann Blasko, by Helen Blasko

BIRTHDAYS

**MEN TO
HOLD CANDLES**

ANNIVERSARIES

May 1 Dina Fabian

May 4 David Dias

May 9 Corey Kupensky
Jordan Polanichka

May 10 Pani Eleanor Polanichka
Robert Sorokach

May 12 Helen Cook

May 13 Diane Kupensky
Elias Mastroberte
Taylor Polanichka
Mary Jane Roman

Sunday, May 7th

Dr. Emil Maurer
Fred Meiss
Robert Miller
John Moon
Nick Orras

Sunday, May 14th

Alex Parimuha
John Parimuha
Tom Patrick
Dan Ristvey
Joel Ristvey

May 4th

Karen & Frank Bair

May 6th

Diane & Kyle Kupensky

May 8th

Jack & Bonnie Scott

***Did you know you can read our Church Bulletin
or check the monthly calendar On-Line?***

Visit St. John's Website!

<http://www.stjohnacroc.org>