

Saints Cyril and Methodius Orthodox Christian Church

A Parish of the Diocese of New England of the Orthodox Church in America



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Sunday, April 8, 2018

The Great and Holy Feast of Feasts,
Holy Pascha: The Resurrection of Our
Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ

Dearly Beloved Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

With great joy we greet you on the occasion of Holy Pascha. We pray that the Lord God will bless you and yours in this holy season and throughout the year to come. Thank you for all your love and support.

Asking forgiveness and prayers, and with love in the risen Christ,

Fr. John, Macrina, and Family

REGARDING THE RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION AT HOLY PASCHA

All Orthodox Christians who have prepared themselves through prayer, fasting, love of neighbor and self-discipline (including personal participation during Pre-Lent, Great Lent or Holy Week in the Sacrament of private and personal Confession) are invited to receive the Holy Eucharist during the Paschal Divine Liturgy. All others are asked to refrain from participation. If you have any questions about this Eucharistic discipline and practice, please see Fr. John, before services begin. Thank you for your cooperation with this guideline, which is in accord with the usual, traditional and normative practice of the Church.

Schedule of Services

- 4/8 The Feast of Feasts, Holy Pascha**
12:00 NOON – The Vespers of Pascha
- 4/9 Bright Monday**
9:15 AM – Paschal Divine Liturgy
- 4/14 Bright Saturday**
6:00 PM – Vigil
- 4/15 Thomas Sunday**
9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy
12:15 PM – Annual Blessing of Graves in the Parish Cemetery
- 4/16 Monday**
7:00 PM – Parish Council Meeting
- 4/18 Wednesday**
8:00 AM – Matins (Morning Prayers)
- 4/21 Saturday**
6:00 PM – Vigil
- 4/22 Sunday**
Holy Myrrhbearers
9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy
- 4/25 Wednesday**
8:00 AM – Matins (Morning Prayers)
- 4/28 Saturday**
6:00 PM – Vigil
- 4/29 Sunday**
The Paralytic
9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy
- 5/1 Tuesday**
Eve of the Feast of Mid-Pentecost
7:00 PM Vespers for the Middle of the Feast
- 5/2 Wednesday**
Feast of Mid-Pentecost
8:00 AM – Matins (Morning Prayers)
- 5/5 Saturday**
6:00 PM – Vigil
- 5/6 Sunday**
The Samaritan Woman
9:15 AM – Divine Liturgy



News and Notes

Thank You! Thanks and appreciation are offered today, as we celebrate Holy Pascha, to Michael Nimchek, Choir Director, and Richard Koski, Assisting Choir Director, and to all the members of our Parish Choir for their loving service today and throughout the year. Gratitude is also given to all those who in any way helped prepare our parish for Pascha—cleaning, ironing, vacuuming, polishing, flower arranging, raking, sweeping, baking etc., etc. Thanks to all those who in any and every way support the holy, life-giving and saving work of Christ's Holy Church!

Fr. John away this coming week attending a family funeral: Fr. John will be away from Connecticut on Bright Monday afternoon and all day on Bright Tuesday. His father's eldest sister, Mary Ann Macko, a good and pious Orthodox Christian woman, entered into blessed repose on Great and Holy Wednesday. Fr. John will be leaving Terryville right after the Divine Liturgy on Bright Monday to attend and participate in her funeral at Saint Mary's Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Church, Endicott, New York. He will be back late at night on Tuesday evening.

April Meeting of the Parish Council: The April Meeting of the Parish Council will take place on Monday evening, April 16, beginning at 7:00 PM.

LOOKING AHEAD: Youth Rally, August 13-18, 2018: The Year 2018 Annual Diocesan Youth Rally will take place August 13-18, 2018. Youth Rally is open to all Diocesan Youth who have finished 5th grade and who have not yet celebrated their 18th birthday. Volunteer Adult Staff Members are required to make this event possible. Staff Members will arrive a day early, on Sunday evening, August 12, and stay the entire week. For further information, please contact Fr. John, who will once again this summer serve as Youth Rally Director and Rector.

Needs of the Food Pantry—May we all remember the needs of others at Holy Pascha! On an almost constant basis, for the purpose of distribution to its clients, the Plymouth Community Food Pantry needs personal care items such as shampoo, soap, toothpaste, deodorant, toothbrushes, hair brushes, etc. Also, the Food Pantry just about always requires donations of condiments and spices, such as ketchup, mustard, vinegar, cooking oil, BBQ sauce, pickle relish, table salt, black pepper, onion and garlic powder, dried herbs, etc. You can drop off your donations in the basket in the Narthex of our Church, or in the big green bin located by the exit staircase in the Church Basement Social Hall. Every time any of us goes grocery shopping, it would be appropriate and worthy of a blessing for us to purchase some items for donation to the Food Pantry.

LOOKING AHEAD: Graduates: If you or a member of your family is graduating this spring, please let us know, so that we might share the news with our Parish Family, and offer our congratulations and prayerful best wishes.

Pertaining to Pascha

- **Paschal Appeals:** Please give generously to our Parish's General Paschal Appeal and to the Easter (Paschal) Flower Offering. We always have lovely flowers in the Church for Pascha and our contributions help cover the cost of these beautiful additions to our Paschal worship. Your support of these two appeals is deeply appreciated.
- **Blessing of Paschal Baskets:** The Blessing of Paschal Baskets will take place at the conclusion of the Paschal Midnight Services in the Church Basement Social Hall, after which time the Parish Paschal "Agape" Meal will take place in the same location.
- **Paschal Agape Meal:** The Parish Paschal "Agape" Meal, which will happen after the Paschal Midnight Divine Liturgy, will take place in the Church Basement Social Hall, immediately following the Blessing of the Paschal Baskets. We will not have a general food table, but will be eating from and sharing the contents of our family Paschal Baskets, while enjoying each other's company.
- **Thomas Sunday Blessing of Graves:** On Sunday, April 15, we will celebrate the Sunday after Pascha, Thomas Sunday. As is the parish's custom for Thomas Sunday, weather and ground conditions permitting, we will bless the graves in the parish cemetery that day beginning at 12:15 PM.