



Wisdom of the Holy Fathers on the Resurrection of Christ...

“The reign of life has begun, the tyranny of death is ended... This is the day the Lord has made – a day far different from those made when the world was first created, and which are measured by the passage of time. This is the beginning of a new creation. On this day, as the prophet says God makes a new heaven and a new earth.” +Saint Gregory of Nyssa

“We needed an incarnate God, a God put to death, that we might live. We were put to death together with Him that we might be cleansed. We rose again with Him because we were put to death with Him. We were glorified with Him because we rose again with Him. A few drops of Blood recreate the whole of creation!” +Saint Gregory Nazianzus

“O Death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory?
Christ is risen, and you are overthrown!
Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen!
Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice!
Christ is risen, and life reigns!
Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the grave!” +Saint John Chrysostom

“...Now since you are celebrating the holy Pascha, you should know, brethren, what the Pascha is. Pascha means the crossing-over, and so the Festival is called by this name. For it was on this day that the Children of Israel crossed over out of Egypt, and the Son of God crossed over from this world to His Father. What gain is it to celebrate unless you imitate Him Whom you worship; that is, unless you cross over from Egypt, that is, from the darkness of evildoing to the light of virtue, from the love of this world to the love of your heavenly home?”

+Saint Ambrose of Milan

“Now there is no more chaos, no more death, no more slaying, no more Hell. Now everything is joy, thanks to the resurrection of our Christ... Now we too can rise again that we might live with Him eternally.” +Saint Porphyrios

Pascha Greetings

It is tradition in the Orthodox Church to exchange the Paschal Greeting for 40 days, from Pascha until the eve of the Feast of the Ascension of our Lord.

English

**Christ is Risen!
Indeed He is Risen!**

Arabic

**El Messieh kahn!
Hakken kahn!**

Greek

**Christos anesti!
Alithos anesti!**

Spanish

**Cristo ha resucitado!
En verdad ha resucitado!**

French

**Le Christ est ressuscite!
En verite il est ressuscite!**

Romanian

**Cristos a inviat!
Adevarat a inviat!**

Russian

**Khristos voskrese!
Voistinu voskrese!**

Serbian

**Cristos vaskres!
Vaistinu vaskres!**



Metropolitan SABA,
Primate, Antiochian
Orthodox Archdiocese

Bishop NICHOLAS,
Auxiliary Bishop for the
Diocese of Miami and
Southeast

Parish Priest
The Very Reverend
Father Peter Shportun
561.632-7066 (Cellular)

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Office Hours:
Tuesday—Friday
10:30 AM—2:30 PM
(by Appointment)

Website:
stmaryschurchwpb.org

Banquet Hall Rentals:
Maribel Perez
561.721-5696

Weekly Liturgical Service Schedule:

Sunday Services: Matins 8:50 AM; Divine Liturgy 10:00 AM

Wednesday and Saturday Vespers Service 6:30 PM

Feast Day Services as announced in The Weekly Bulletin

Sacrament of Confession:

Saturday 6:00 - 6:30 PM; Sunday 8:30 - 8:50 AM;

Wednesday 6:00 - 6:30 PM; By appointment with Fr. Peter.

Sunday School Classes:

For all children between the ages of 3 and 12 years, each Sunday immediately following Communion.

Catechism Classes and Bible

Study as announced in The Weekly Bulletin.

Saint Mary Orthodox Church of West Palm Beach, FL

A Parish of the

Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America

Diocese of Miami and the Southeast

“The disciples were called Christians first at Antioch.” Acts 11:26

The Weekly Bulletin

April 20, 2025

Great and All-Holy Pascha

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

(Arabic)

المسيح قام ! حقا قام!

(al-Messieh qām! Haqqan qām!)

(Greek)

Χριστός ανέστη! Ἀληθῶς ανέστη!

(Khristós Anésti! Alithós Anésti!)

We are glad you have chosen to pray with us at Saint Mary Orthodox Church. Today, the Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom is celebrated. The service text begins on page 91 in the Red Service Book in the pews.

Please know that Holy Communion is offered to Orthodox Christians after preparing themselves through prayer, fasting and recent confession. All visitors are welcome to receive the blessed bread at the end of the Divine Liturgy, and join us for fellowship during Coffee Hour.

DIVINE LITURGY VARIABLES FOR PASCHA

The Divine Liturgy of Saint John Chrysostom is celebrated today.

- *The Priest begins Divine Liturgy with “Blessed is the Kingdom” and the choir responds “Amen.” Bearing the Paschal Candle, the Priest then leads the singing of the **Paschal Apolytikion** and **Verses** and censes the Altar and people.*

PASCHAL APOLYTIKON

- Priest: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs bestowing life! **(once)**
- Choir: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs bestowing life! **(twice)**
- Priest: Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered, and let those that hate Him flee from before His face.
- Choir: Christ is risen from the dead... **(Refrain)**
- Priest: As smoke vanishes, so let them vanish; as wax melts before the fire. **(Refrain)**
- Priest: So let sinners perish at the presence of God, and let the righteous be glad. **(Refrain)**
- Priest: This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad therein. **(Refrain)**
- Priest: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. **(Refrain)**
- Priest: Both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen. **(Refrain)**
- Priest: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs...
- Choir: ...bestowing life!

THE FIRST ANTIPHON

Shout with joy to God, all the earth; sing to His Name, give glory to His praises.

Refrain: *Through the intercessions of the Theotokos, O Savior, save us.*

Say to God: How awesome are Thy works; let all the earth worship Thee, and sing to Thee. Let it sing a song to Thy Name, O Most High. **(Refrain)**

Glory... Both now... **(Refrain)**

THE SECOND ANTIPHON

May God have mercy upon us, and bless us, and may He cause His face to shine upon us, and have mercy upon us.

Refrain: *Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead; who sing to Thee. Alleluia.*

That Thy way may be known upon earth, Thy salvation among all nations; let the peoples give thanks to Thee, O God, let all the peoples give thanks to Thee. **(Refrain)**

HOLY WEEK AND PASCHA DONATIONS

Again this year, we thank our parishioners and benefactors for their generous donations for Great Lent, Holy Week and Pascha.

Flowers for the Friday Akathist Services

- Safwat, Niveen, Andrew & Maria Fahmy
- Bianca Reina and family

Flowers for the Sunday of the Veneration of the Cross

- Joan Shwayri

Palms and Pussy Willows for distribution on Palm Sunday

- David & Irene Zavednak

Olive Oil for Holy Wednesday Unction Service

- Sub Deacon Joseph Peck

Rose Water for Holy Friday Vespers and Lamentation Service

- Janet Khouri

Flowers for the Tomb of Christ

- Leon & Judy Chalhub
- Demetri & Amale Salloum

Bay Leaves for Holy Saturday

- Dr. Alan & Carol Sara and family
- Valerica & Daniela Barcan and family

Flowers for Pascha

- Suheil & Michelle Zeibaq

Holy Week & Pascha Needs

- Kristha Brumley

- Fr. Chris & Khouryia Kathy Davis, for the health of Christopher G, Conlan, Cambree, Carsten & Elijah; Fr. Peter & Khouria Myriam.

- Gary & Melinda Johnson and family

- Anonymous

Holy Bread

- (Lazarus Saturday, Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Holy Saturday & Pascha)
- For the health and well-being of Valerica, Daniela, Andrei, Rachel, Fr. Gherman, Petru, Sarah, Basil, Lucia, Maria, Ioana, Joachim.

(Lazarus Saturday, Holy Thursday, & Pascha)

- For the health well-being of Safwat, Niveen, Andrew Maria Fahmy. In memory of Ayed and Ayman.



Children's Easter Egg Hunt Pascha Sunday — April 20th

Immediately following the Agape Vespers.
All parents and children are welcome to participate!
(Please bring baskets for your children)

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR THE LIVING

***“Is any sick among you? Let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord.”
James 5: 14***

For the Good Health of the Servants of God: Archpriest Michael & Matushka Annette Zaparyniuk, Michael, Leon & Judy Chalhub, Johnny & Joyce Chalhub, Raouf & Virginie Saballeil, Sabah Shalhoub, Natalia Powell, Cheryl Lewis, Suheil AbuHadid.

For peace in the Middle East, the Ukraine and throughout the world.

For all Christians, and people suffering from violence, war, persecution, captivity, hunger, and homelessness here and throughout this world.

For those serving in our armed forces here and abroad: Christopher Smith, Jonathan Shportun, Alexios Gavrilos.

FOR THE DEPARTED

“With the spirits of the righteous made perfect, give rest O Lord to the souls of Thy servants...”

Sub-Deacon William Hall (*newly departed 4/12/25*), Ethan Densley (*2/3/25*), Zakia Salloum (*1/16/25*), Roula Janin (*1/13/25*), Gloria Yedlinsky (*1/1/25*), Jodet Rae (*8/4/24*), George Souaid (*7/7/24*), Alice (Esper) Kelly (*6/13/24*), Elia Jabbour (*6/6/24*).

MEMORY ETERNAL!

Our prayers and sympathies to Rusty Hall and extended family on the falling asleep in the Lord of Sub Deacon William (Billy) Hall on Saturday, April 12th. **Visitation and Funeral Services are as follows. Saturday, April 26th: Visitation from 9:00—10:00 AM, Funeral at 10:00 AM, at Quattlebaum Funeral Home at Hillcrest Memorial Park (Parker Avenue)**, followed by burial. Sub Deacon William served in the Altar at Saint Mary's for over 50 years until he was unable due to health reasons. May his memory be eternal—Christ is Risen!

Our prayers and sympathies to Pamela Weidman and family on the falling asleep in the Lord of her grandmother Jamilie Haddad Faddoul in Orlando, on Tuesday, April 16th. May her memory be eternal—Christ is Risen!

May God bless us, and may all the ends of the earth fear Him. (**Refrain**)

Glory... Both now... O, only begotten Son and Word of God...

THE THIRD ANTIPHON

Let God arise, and let His enemies be scattered, and let those that hate Him flee from before His face.

Refrain: Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death; and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!

As smoke vanisheth, so let them vanish; as wax melteth before the fire. (**Refrain**)

So let sinners perish at the presence of God, and let the righteous be glad. (**Refrain**)

This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad therein. (**Refrain**)

THE ENTRANCE HYMN OF PASCHA

In the gathering places bless ye God the Lord, from the springs of Israel. Save us, O Son of God, Who art risen from the dead, who sing to Thee: Alleluia.

- ***After the Little Entrance these hymns are sung in the following order.***

PASCHAL APOLYTIKION IN TONE FIVE

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs bestowing life! (**once**)

THE HYPAKOE OF PASCHA IN TONE FOUR

When they who were with Mary came, anticipating the dawn, and found the stone rolled away from the sepulcher, they heard from the Angel: Why seek ye among the dead, as though He were mortal man, Him Who abideth in everlasting light? Behold the grave-clothes. Go quickly and proclaim to the world that the Lord is risen, and hath put death to death. For He is the Son of God, Who saveth the race of man.

- ***The Apolytikion of the church is not sung.***

THE KONTAKION OF PASCHA IN TONE EIGHT

Though Thou didst descend into the grave, O Immortal One, yet didst Thou destroy the power of Hades, and didst arise as victor, O Christ God, calling to the myrrh-bearing women, Rejoice, and giving peace unto Thine Apostles, O Thou Who dost grant resurrection to the fallen.

THE ANTI-TRISAGION HYMN

(Due to this being a Hierarchal Divine Liturgy, this hymn will differ slightly)

As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia. (*thrice*)

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; both now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.

Have put on Christ. Alleluia.

As many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Alleluia.

THE EPISTLE

*This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad therein!
O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good; His mercy endureth forever.*

The Reading from the Acts of the Apostles. (1:1-8)

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when He was taken up, after He had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the Apostles whom He had chosen. To them He presented Himself alive after His passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them He charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, He said, "You heard from Me; for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit." So when they had come together, they asked Him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth."

THE GOSPEL

The Reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. John. (1:1-17)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made. In Him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light. The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, yet the world knew Him not. He came to His own home, and His own people received Him not. But to all who received Him, who believed in His Name, He gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (John bore witness to Him, and cried, "This was He of Whom I said, 'He Who comes after me ranks before me, for He was before me.'") And from His fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

MEGALYNARION FOR PASCHA IN TONE ONE

The Angel cried unto her that is full of grace: O pure Virgin, rejoice, and again I say, rejoice; for thy Son hath arisen from the grave on the third day.

Shine, shine, O new Jerusalem, for the glory of the Lord hath arisen upon thee; dance now and be glad, O Zion, and do thou exult, O pure Theotokos, in the arising of Him Whom thou didst bear.

KOINONIKON (COMMUNION HYMN) OF PASCHA IN TONE EIGHT

Receive ye the body of Christ; taste ye the Fountain of immortality.

- Instead of "We have seen the true light," "**Christ is Risen**" is sung **ONCE**.
- Instead of "**Blessed be the Name of the Lord**," "**Christ is Risen**" is sung. **THRICE**.

Blessing of Eggs, Pascha Baskets and the Agape Meal

As a reminder, the Eggs and Pascha Baskets will be blessed immediately following the Paschal Divine Liturgy. Please place the eggs in the basket in the empty Tomb of Christ, and baskets in front of the tomb.

(The Pascha Baskets are comprised of, but not limited to, the foods we have fasted from during Great Lent.)

Following the Pascha Service, you are invited to bring your blessed basket and share in the Agape Meal in the Banquet Hall.

There will be **no fasting** on Wednesdays and Fridays, not only during Bright Week but until the Feast of the Ascension, for the whole forty days. (This was the decision of the Holy Synod of the Church of Antioch in 1997.)

**There will be no Vespers Services this Wednesday, April 23rd,
or Saturday, April 26th.**

PASCHA DIVINE LITURGY OFFERINGS

HOLY BREAD

- For the health and well-being of Valerica, Daniela, Andrei, Rachel, Fr. Gherman, Petru, Sarah, Basil, Lucia, Maria, Ioana, Joachim.
- For the health well-being of Safwat, Niveen, Andrew Maria Fahmy. In memory of Ayed and Ayman.

WELCOME BISHOP NICHOLAS

His Grace, Bishop Nicholas, Auxiliary Bishop to the Metropolitan, and the Diocese of Miami and the Southeast is presiding over the Services of Pascha and Agape Vespers.

AGAPE VESPERS

On Pascha (Easter) morning, Agape Vespers will be celebrated at 11:00 AM. During the service, the Gospel lesson is read in various languages, followed by a procession for all the children.

Are you able to read one of the following languages?

-Greek	-Italian	-Spanish	-Serbian	-Irish (Gaelic)
-Latin	-Estonian	-Norwegian	-Swedish	-Danish
-Arabic	-Finnish	-Polish	-Ukrainian	-Dutch
-Slavonic	-French	-Portuguese	-Welsh	-Czech
-Albanian	-German	-Romanian	-Hungarian	-Russian

We would love for you to read the Gospel Lesson for Agape Vespers on Pascha Sunday morning (April 20th). Please speak to Fr. Peter to volunteer. The text will be provided.