

CHRIST IS RISEN!



My Beloved, Christos Anesti!

“It is the Day of Resurrection! All Nations, let us be jubilant! For this Pascha is the Passover of the Lord Christ our God has passed us over from death to life and from earth to heaven.” (Resurrectional Ode 1)

I would like to sincerely thank our Parish Council, our Philoptochos ladies, our Youth Ministries, our children, our psalti, our choir, our volunteers and all of you who joined us in living the Passion, Death and Burial of our Lord, and celebrating His Holy Resurrection! All those who participated experienced an awesome journey filled with faith, joy, love and sadness. But the sadness was short-lived. After the Cross, came the Resurrection. Our God and Savior Jesus Christ defeated death by death, granting to all of us eternal life!

The promise of eternal life after our time in this world is the best news we have received ever since leaving the Garden of Eden. In Eden, Adam and Eve were guaranteed living forever with God. However, after departing from there, eternal death was their only prospect. Yet, our Creator did not wish for us to perish. So, He sent His only begotten Son to save us. Jesus Christ is our Savior, because with His Holy Resurrection He blew open the doors of Hades, He freed up all men from death and reopened Heaven’s Door to all of us. He restored our relationship with God the Father and thus granted us again eternal life.

Accepting Jesus as our Savior is an absolute must for our salvation, but it is not the only requirement as many of our Protestant brothers believe. Knowing and believing in Jesus is a good start, but following His commandments is also necessary. “My brothers and sisters are those who hear the word of God and keep it” (Luke 8:21) and “If you love me, obey my commandments” (John 14:15), says the Lord.

Easter is a time of renewal. Let us all then renew our faith and commitment in the Lord and His Holy Church. Let us make our own personal Passover from the ways of the world to the ways of the Lord. Finally, happy name-day to all baptized Jeremiah, Zoe, Constantine, Helen and Emmelia! Christ is Risen – Χριστός Ανέστη!

With Love in the Risen Christ,
Your Parish Priest,
Fr. Gregory