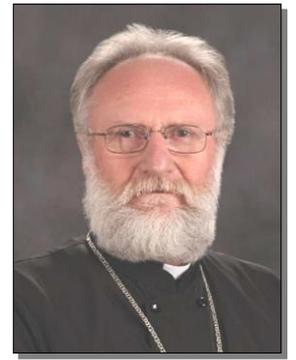




THE GREAT FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST



CHRIST IS RISEN!

HRISTOS A INVIAT!

CHRISTOLU NGHIA!



ADEVARAT A INVIAT!

DEALIHIREA NHGIA!

INDEED HE IS RISEN!

The Miracle of the Resurrection of Jesus

The miracle of the resurrection, described in the Bible, is the most important miracle of the Christian faith. When Jesus Christ rose from the dead on the first Pascha morning, he showed people that the hope he proclaimed in his Gospel message was real, and so was God's power at work in the world.

Mary Magdalene, and the other women who were present at the burial of our Savior on Friday evening, returned from Golgotha to the city and prepared fragrant spices and myrrh, so that they might anoint the body of Jesus. At early dawn on the Sunday that followed, almost thirty-six hours since the death of the Life-giving Redeemer, they came to the sepulcher with the spices to anoint His body. While they were considering the difficulty of rolling away the stone from the door of the sepulcher, there was a fearful earthquake; and an Angel, whose countenance shone like lightning and whose garment was white as snow, rolled away the stone and sat upon it. The guards that were there were terrified and took to flight.

The women, however, went into the sepulcher, but did not find the Lord's body. Instead, they saw two other Angels in the form of youths clothed in white, who told them that the Savior was risen, and they sent forth the women, who ran to proclaim to the disciples these gladsome tidings.

Then Peter and John arrived, having learned from Mary Magdalene what had happened, and when they entered the tomb, they found only the winding sheets. Therefore, they returned again to the city with joy, as heralds now of the supernatural Resurrection of Christ, Who in truth was seen alive by the disciples on this day on five occasions.

Our Lord, was crucified, died, and was buried on Friday, before the setting of the sun, which was the first of His "three days" in the grave; observing the mystical Sabbath, that "seventh day" in which it is said that the Lord "rested from all His works" (Gen. 2:2-3), He passed all of Saturday in the grave; and He arose

"while it was yet dark, very early in the morning" on Sunday, the third day, which, according to the Hebrew reckoning, began after sunset on Saturday.

As we celebrate His joyous Resurrection, we greet and embrace one another in Christ, thereby demonstrating our Savior's victory over death and corruption, and the destruction of our ancient enmity with God, and His reconciliation toward us, and our inheritance of life everlasting.

The feast itself is called Pascha, which is derived from the Hebrew word which means "Passover"; because Christ, Who suffered and arose, has made us to pass over from the curse of Adam and slavery to the devil and death unto our primal freedom and blessedness. In addition, this day of this particular week, which is the first of all the rest, is dedicated to the honor of the Lord; in honor and remembrance of the Resurrection, the Apostles transferred to this day the rest from labor that was formerly assigned to the

Sabbath of the ancient Law. **Christ is Risen!**

Father Onisie

Miracolul Invierii

Invierea lui Hristos, al carei imn - Troparul Pastilor - este cel mai triumfal pe care l-a cantat si l-a auzit vreodata neamul omenesc, creeaza in noi, crestinii, o stare sufleteasca ce nu se poate compara cu nici una din cele prin care trec oamenii. Ea este efectul unei usurari, unei bucurii, unei increderi si unei nadejdi, pe care n-o poate produce in om, nici un alt fapt, nici un alt sentiment, nici o schimbare, nici o emotie din cele ce pot incerca sufletul nostru. Imnul Invierii este un strigat de triumf si de bucurie care ne ridica pana la cer, este o stare sufleteasca unica si incomparabila, este privilegiul si fericirea noastra de crestini! Prin suferinta si moartea Mantuitorului ne bucuram de inviere; prin Inviere ne bucuram si triumfam in triumful lui Hristos, ca un triumf al nostru. El a murit pentru noi si a triumfat pentru noi. In Moartea Lui sta mantuirea noastra, in Invierea Lui sta biruinta noastra.

Bucuria pascala, pe care Biserica o evoca intens si solemn patruzeci de zile, este bucuria si nadejdea noastra cea mai mare, nu doar patruzeci de zile, ci de fiecare zi si ceas al vietii noastre de crestin, de fiecare zi si ceas. Cu fiecare cantare pascala si cu fiecare salut pascal "Hristos a Inviat!", adevetim, marturisim si traим marele Lui Cuvant Dumnezeiesc: "In lume necazuri veti avea, dar indrazniti, Eu am biruit lumea" (Ioan 16,33).

In aceasta biruinta credem si izbandim, cantand imnul triumfului crestin: **HRISTOS A INVIAT!**

Este, asadar, nevoie sa vestim cu bucurie ca acum aproape doua milenii, dintr-un mormant – adica din adancul singuratatii, al intunericului, al durerii lipsirii pe veci de orice partasie – a stralucit in chip nebiruit si o data pentru totdeauna in istoria acestei lumi, Lumina Inverii Domnului, care este si Lumina a invierii fiecarui suflet omenesc care paraseste, prin pocainta, pacatul, pentru a se bucura cu Dumnezeu intru imparatia Sa.

In noaptea Pastilor acestui an, luati lumina Sfintei Invieri din Sfintul altar, si mergand pe drumul vostru, spuneti celor ce va vor iesi in cale coplesitoarea veste a Invierii lui Hristos. Duceti lumina in casele voastre, pentru ca atunci cand lumanarea se va sfarsi, in sufletul vostru sa pastrati caldura jertfei continue ce duce spre Inviere. Fie ca Dumnezeu sa va lumineze pe fiecare din voi astfel ca nici o ratacire sa nu va opreasca din calea pe care Mantuitorul nostru Iisus Hristos a deschis-o cu Jertfa si Invierea Sa, ce duce in Imparatia Cerurilor unde este pace, dreptate si bucurie in Duhul Sfant in vesnicie. Sa mergem, dar, dragii mei, impreuna catre lumina, bucurie si viata. **Hristos a Inviat!**

Parintele Onisie

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

On behalf of Father Onisie, his family, the Parish Council and Ladies Auxiliary we wish you and your loved ones a very blessed Pascha.

May the Holy Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten your lives with health, peace, and happiness, and love for the Kingdom of Heaven and for the salvation of your souls.

Yours in the Risen Christ Our Lord!

Iubiți Credincioși și Prieteni,

Părintele Onisie și familia împreună cu Consiliul Parohial și Reuniunea Femeilor vă doresc vouă și celor dragi un Paște Binecuvântat.

Fie ca Învierea Domnului nostru Iisus Hristos să vă lumineze viața cu sănătate, pace, fericire și iubire pentru Împărăția Cerurilor și mântuirea sufletului!

Cu Dragoste în Domnul Iisus Hristos cel Înviat!

Note from Father Onisie and the Parish Council:

We are looking forward to seeing our Parishioners during this Lenten Season and especially during Holy Week. All the Holy Week services will be live streamed on the Church's Facebook and website (www.stjohnroc.org). However we encourage you to attend in person.

Palm Sunday is April 17th; the Palms will be blessed and distributed after the Holy Liturgy.

For the Holy Unction service Father Onisie will bless everyone individually at the end of the service with a vial of oil; once you are blessed you take the vial home.

Holy Thursday and Good Friday will take part as they have in the past however, on Good Friday we won't leave the Church doors unlocked all day. If you want to come in during the day to go under the Epitaph, we ask you to contact Father Onisie and he will gladly open the Church for you.

On the night of The Resurrection of Our Lord, Father Onisie is going to conduct the first part of the service outside as he will bring the light to everyone. All participants will purchase the candles outside and will wait outside to get the Holy Light. As Father Onisie goes back in the Church to continue the service, the participants will receive the Holy Pascha. If you are interested to bring the traditional Easter Basket, Father will bless it so you are able to take it home and share it with your family.

We hope to see you during this Lenten Season and especially during Holy Week. The website has been working great, so for those that can't be with us and want to be present you can purchase a candle virtually at: www.stjohnroc.org/donations and we will light it up for you.

God Bless You!



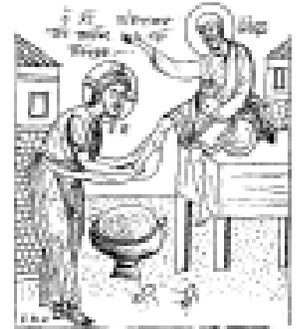
HOLY WEEK & PASCHA SERVICES

SUNDAY, APRIL 17 – **PALM SUNDAY** (The Entrance of our Lord in Jerusalem) Divine Liturgy - 10:00 AM

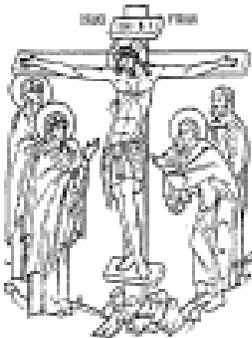
HOLY WEDNESDAY, April 20 – Holy Unction Service, at 7:00 PM

HOLY THURSDAY, April 21 – Divine Liturgy at 10:00 AM

Reading of the Twelve Passion Gospels with Procession and Vigil at the Cross, 7:00 PM



GREAT AND HOLY FRIDAY, April 22



Royal Hours continuing with Vespers and Placing of the Holy Epitaph at 9:30 AM

Lamentations Service and Procession 7:00 PM

GREAT AND HOLY SATURDAY, April 23

CONFESSIONS are available after the weekday Services, on Holy Saturday between 8 Am to 12PM, or by calling Father Onisie for a time convenient for you.

THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST

The Resurrection Service begins on Saturday night at 10:00 PM, following with the Paschal Divine Liturgy.



SUNDAY, April 24 Agape Vespers - 1:00 PM **Christ is Risen!**

Truly He is Risen! Hristos a Inviat! Adevarat a Inviat! Christolu Nghia! Dealihirea Nghia!

Easter Eggs: The Ladies Auxiliary / Reuniunea Femeilor are seeking donations of cooked and dyed red eggs. Red Eggs will be distributed at the conclusion of the Resurrection Service – a long-standing cultural tradition!! The eggs should be at the Church by Saturday afternoon if possible (tradition has it that the eggs are cooked on Holy Thursday). Each egg should be placed in a small plastic bag.

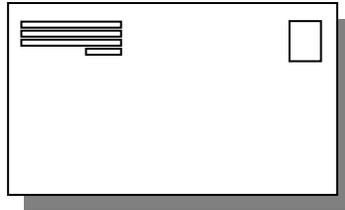
Please contact Psa. Anca to drop off the eggs in person.

ANNUAL EASTER DONATIONS

- The Wreath for the Cross – (Sunday of the Cross March 27th) – Available for Donation.
- PALMS for PALM SUNDAY – Available for Donation.
- 12 CANDLES FOR HOLY THURSDAY – Available for Donation.
- THE CROWN OF THORNS – Donated by Mrs. Constance Leasca and family.
- VIGIL (14 Altar) CANDLES – Available for Donation.
- EASTER LILIES & FLOWERS TO DECORATE THE EPITAPHIOS – Fatse Family Endowment. Available for Donation.
- Floral Arrangement for the Priest's Easter Candle – Available for Donation.
- EASTER WINE FOR HOLY PASCHA – Donated by Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas Gassey.

Please contact Secretary Georgeta Gassey for any of the above donations.

Easter Donation Envelope Enclosed – Thank You in Advance!



Parish Council Notes

The Parish Council slate was approved at the 2022 General Assembly and by the Episcopate. The Parish Council Officers are as follows:

- Nicholas Gassey – President
- Flavian Iovanel – Vice President
- George Trutza – Treasurer
- Georgeta Gassey – Secretary
- Mihaela Iovanel – Financial Auditor
- Ileana Place – Epitrop
- Michael Cheamitru – Epitrop

In addition, Ms. Mary Jane Lupu will be assisting the Parish Council as the financial Bookkeeper.

Membership Dues: 2022 Membership Dues are \$275. Please consider to pay your dues promptly (by the end of June 2022).

Spring Cleanup Committee

We hope to have a Spring cleanup before Holy Pascha to pretty up the grounds. If you will like to help out please contact the Parish Council. A tentative date of April 9th is planned so that we can keep the grounds pristine through these beautiful Spring and Summer months. Please join us, WE NEED YOU!

Summer Liturgical Service Time Change

Summer Liturgical Services will start at **9:30 AM** (instead of the normal 10:00 AM start time) from **June 5, 2022 – September 4, 2022.**

RI Orthodox Fellowship Lenten Vespers

The Lenten Vesper service will take part at our Church on Sunday March 20th at 5:00 PM.

Parish Council Calendar of Events

All these Events are fundraisers that make up the Annual Budget for the Church. Please make every effort to attend or donate towards these Events; **we need your support to make them successful.**

- **Palm Sunday**
 - 50/50 Raffle – Drawing on April 17, 2022 at 12:00 PM. Please send in your tickets!
 - Take-out Fish Luncheon – If anyone would like to donate towards the fish, please contact Georgeta Gassey at: secretary@stjohnroc.org
- **Annual Festival** – We will continue to conduct a raffle and donation fundraiser as we did the last 2 years. Remember this is a very important fundraiser for the Church and we really count on you.
- **Annual Banquet** – Celebrating the 110th Anniversary of our Church. The Banquet will be held on October 30, 2022 at 1:00 PM immediately after the Holy Liturgy.
- **St. Nicholas Fish Dinner**
 - 50/50 Raffle – Drawing on December 11, 2022 at 12:00 PM.
 - Fish Luncheon – Details to follow.

Annual Banquet – October 30, 2022

This year is a milestone anniversary for our Church; 110 years ago our Church was founded. We are marking this anniversary with a Liturgical service that **His Eminence Archbishop Nathaniel and / or Bishop Andrei** will be attending. We encourage everyone to plan to attend the Holy Liturgy at 10:00 AM and the Banquet. The Banquet will take place at the Coachmen's Lodge 273 Wrentham Road in Bellingham, MA at 1:00 PM. Please mark this date to celebrate this momentous occasion for our Church.

The Holy Bread

Thank You and God Bless the Ladies of our Community that continue to help Father Onisie and bake the Holy Bread: Mrs. Angela Floru and Mrs. Anastasia Adams.

Overview of the 2022 Church Dues and Fees for Services:

2022 CHURCH MEMBERSHIP FEES:

- Annual Membership – \$275
 - \$85 (of the \$275) is a direct payment to the Episcopate as part of their dues
- One Time Initiation Fee for New Members – \$10

<u>RELIGIOUS SERVICES & BURIAL FEES</u>	<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>NON-MEMBER</u>
• BAPTISM	GRATIS	\$250
• MARRIAGE	GRATIS	\$350
• FUNERAL	GRATIS	\$350
• MEMORIAL*	\$50	\$100
• PRIVATE LOT (2 Graves in Cemetery)**	\$300	NOT AVAILABLE
• IN-LINE GRAVE**	\$150	\$750

<u>OTHER RELIGIOUS SERVICES</u>	<u>MEMBER</u>	<u>NON-MEMBER</u>
• BIRTH CERTIFICATE COPY	\$2	\$5
• MARRIAGE CERTIFICATE	\$2	\$5
• PARISH HALL RENTAL	\$75	\$250
• CHURCH RENTAL (For Religious Service)	N/A	\$250

* For a 40-Day Memorial and 1-Year Memorial for a deceased Member, the fee is \$50 regardless of the membership status of the person organizing the memorial.

** Grave Digger fee paid by and the responsibility of the family.

Note: The Religious Service fees are applicable for the Priest's services whether performed in or outside of the Church.

All of the Membership dues and aforementioned services can be paid on online on the Church's website at: stjohnroc.org

May God bless all of you and your families!!!



Happy Easter!!!