

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH Parish Newsletter

New Parish Center: 20937 Ashburn Rd., #110, Ashburn, VA 15 May 2021

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE PASCH [OF THE CROSS]
 READING OF THE GOSPEL CONCERNING JOSEPH OF ARIMATHEA AND THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN

READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES.

IN THOSE DAYS: ⁶when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily ministry. ²So the Twelve summoned the community of the disciples and said, “It is not right for us to neglect the Word of God to serve tables. ³Brethren, select from among yourselves seven reputable men, filled with the [Holy] Spirit and wisdom, whom we shall appoint to this responsibility. ⁴We will devote ourselves to Prayer and to the service of the Word.” ⁵This talk was acceptable to all the people. So they chose Stephen, a man filled with faith and the Holy Spirit, also Philip, Próchoros, Níkanor, Timon, Parménas, and Nikólaos, a proselyte of Antioch. ⁶They presented these men to the apostles who prayed and laid hands on them.

⁷The Word of God continued to spread, and the number of the disciples in Jerusalem increased greatly; even a large group of priests became obedient to the faith.

PROKIMENON, Tone VI

O Lord, save your people* and bless your inheritance. [v.9 OCA]

PSALM 27

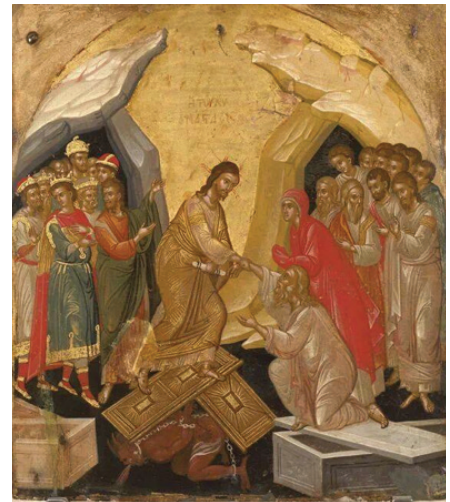
NOTE: The psalmist prays that we not be punished with those who refuse to take God (Creator and Saviour) into account. And confident his prayer is heard, he adds a thanksgiving, concluding with a prayer for king—anointed prefigurement of Christ—and nation.

To you I cry out, O Lord! O my rock, be not deaf to me! In the face of your silence, I would be like those who go into the pit. ²Hear the sound of my pleading as I call for help, as I lift my hands in prayer to your holy of holies. ³Do not count me among the wicked, with evildoers who talk of peace to their neighbors, while their hearts are full of treachery....

⁶Blessèd be the Lord for hearing my prayer. ⁷The Lord is my strength and my shield; in him my heart trusts. He has restored me to vigor, and my flesh has come back to life; with all my heart I give thanks to him.

⁸The Lord is the strength of his people, a fortress of saving help for his anointed. ⁹**[O Lord,] save your people and bless your inheritance; lead them and carry them forever!**

Reader: O Lord, save your people. People: And bless your inheritance. .



Saturday, May 15

Paschal Vespers at 6:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 16

Divine Liturgy at 10:00 a.m.

Archbishop Tikhon has given us permission to serve some coffee, etc., after the Sunday Liturgy.

READING FROM THE FIRST EPISTLE OF PETER TO ALL THE CHURCHES.

BELOVED: You wives should readily respond to your husbands so that some, even if they do not respond to the Word [*i.e., not yet Christian believers—Ed.*], may be won over without a word by their wives' conduct, ²when they see the respectful purity of your conduct. ³Your adornment should not be an external one: braiding the hair, wearing gold jewelry, or dressing in fine clothes, ⁴but rather the hidden character of the heart, expressed in the imperishable beauty of a gentle and calm disposition, which is precious in the sight of God. ⁵For this is also how the holy women who hoped in God once used to adorn themselves, respecting their husbands; ⁶thus Sarah deferred to Abraham, calling him "sir." You are her children when you do what is good and fear no intimidation.

⁷Likewise, you husbands should live with your wives in understanding; treat women with respect as the weaker partner, since we are joint heirs of the gift of life, so that nothing may hinder your prayers [*cf. Matthew 5.23+*].

⁸Finally, all of you, be of one mind, sympathetic, loving toward one another, compassionate, humble. ⁹Do not return evil for evil, or abuse for abuse, but on the contrary, a blessing, because to this you were called, that you might inherit a blessing.

Whoever would love life and see good days must keep his tongue from evil and his lips from speaking deceit, ¹¹ must turn from evil and do good, seek peace and pursue it. ¹² For the eyes of the Lord are on the righteous and his ears are open to their prayer, but the face of the Lord is against those who do evil. Ps. 33.12–16

ALLELUIA

PSALM 84

NOTE: A prophet in the postexilic period (fifth century B.C.) speaks of the salvation and happiness to come through the Messiah/Christ.

With your favor, Lord, you have graced your land, turned the tide of Jacob's fortune. ²You have forgiven your people their guilt, done away with all trace of their sins....

⁶Will you not restore us to life, that your people may rejoice in you? ⁷Let us see your loving kindness, Lord; grant us your salvation.

⁸Let me reveal what the Lord himself has to say: His voice is one that speaks peace: peace for his people, for

his friends, for those who turn to him in their hearts.

⁹His help is close at hand for those who revere him, and his glory shall dwell in our land.

¹⁰Mercy and truth will meet; justice and peace will kiss. ¹¹Faithfulness shall spring forth from the earth, and justice shall look down from the heavens.

¹²The Lord will give us prosperity, and the earth will yield its fruit. ¹³Justice shall go forth before him, and peace shall follow in his footsteps.



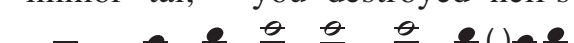





READING FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK.




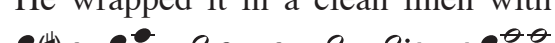


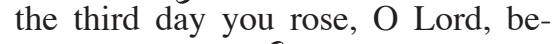

AT THAT TIME: ^{15.43} Joseph of Arimathea, a distinguished member of the council, who was himself awaiting the kingdom of God, came and courageously went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁴⁴ Pilate was amazed that he was already dead. He summoned the centurion and asked him if Jesus had already died. ⁴⁵ And when he learned of it from the centurion, he gave the body to Joseph. ⁴⁶ Having bought a linen cloth, he took him down, wrapped him in the linen cloth and laid him in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock. Then he rolled a stone against the entrance to the tomb. ⁴⁷ Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus watched where he was laid.



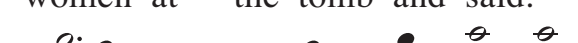

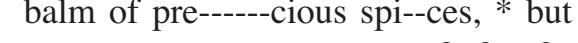
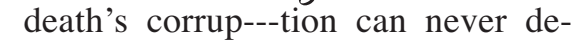


^{16.1} When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary, the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go and anoint him. ² Very early when the sun had risen, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb. ³ They were saying to one another, "Who will roll back the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴ When they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled back; it was very large. ⁵ On entering the tomb they saw a young man sitting on the right side, clothed in a white robe, and they were utterly amazed. ⁶ He said to them, "Do not be amazed! You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Behold the place where they laid him. ⁷ But go and tell his disciples and Peter, He is going before you to Galilee; there you will see him, as he told you." ⁸ Then they went out and fled from the tomb, seized with trembling and bewilderment. They said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

TROPARIA, Tone II


Shortened Bulgarian Chant

RE 
By descend-ing into death, O Life

immor--tal, * you destroyed hell's

pow'r with the brilliance of your

divinity, * and raised the dead from

their deep sleep. * For this the

pow'rs of heaven shout trium-

phantly: * O Giver of Life, Christ

our God, glo-----ry to you!

RE 
The noble Joseph took your most

pure body down from the tree. *

He wrapped it in a clean linen with

a-romatic spi-ces * and sad-----ly

laid it in a new tomb. * But on

the third day you rose, O Lord, be-

stowing on the world the Great

Mer--cy.

RE 
The angel came to the myrrh-bearing

women at the tomb and said: *

Mortal death deserves the soothing

balm of pre-----cious spi--ces, * but

death's corrup---tion can never de-

file Christ. * So proclaim: The

Lord is risen granting the world the

Great Mer--cy.

DO 
You went down into a tomb, O

Immor--tal, * but de-destroyed the

pow'r of hell. * and rose as vic--tor,

O Christ God, * proclaiming «Re-

joice!» to myrrh-bearing wo-

men,* and giving «Peace!» to your

apo-----stles, * you who bring

resurrection to the fal---len.

THE ÉKTENY or FERVENT PRAYER
(Ancient Penitential Litany and Prayer)

Let us all say with our whole soul,
and with our whole mind let us say:
Lord, have mercy.

O Lord almighty! O God of our fathers!
We pray you. Hear us and have mercy.

Have mercy on us, O God,
according to your great mercy!

We pray you. Hear us and have mercy.

Again we pray:

- For devout and Orthodox Christians.
- For our Archbishop Tikhon.
- For Ed and Janet and Andrea and Mildred and Ritz Bernadette, and for all who have asked for our prayers *NN...*: we pray for mercy, life, peace, health, salvation, visitation, pardon, and remission of their sins.
- For Orthodox Christians who are made to suffer on account of Christ, and we pray for those who persecute them.

- For Orthodox Christians and indeed all men who are victims of war and civil strife [and terror], of hunger and want, of intolerance and injustice.
- For physicians, nurses, care-givers, and all serving those infected with the virus; and for the thousands who have succumbed to the disease—and for all who will die today.

PRAYER OF THE ÉKTENY

Lord our God, accept this fervent prayer from your servants, and have mercy on us according to the greatness of your mercy. Send down your compassionate help upon us and upon all your people awaiting the rich mercy that comes from you.

For you are God, merciful and loving to man, and we render glory to you—to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit: now and ever, and unto ages of ages. Amen.