

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

for April 2017.

- 02.04. - (Sunday) - Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am
- 07.04. THE ANNUNCIATION (Friday) - Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am
- 08.04. - **LAZARUS SATURDAY** - Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am
..... - Vespers @ 3:00 pm
- 09.04. - **PALM SUNDAY** - Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am
- 13.04 - **HOLY THURSDAY** - Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am
..... - Vigil @ 7:00 pm
- 14.04 - **GOOD/GREAT FRIDAY** - Vespers & Adorning of the Shroud/Plastanica @ 7:00 pm
- 15.04. - **HOLY SATURDAY** - Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am
- 16.04 - **EASTER SUNDAY** - Paschal Matins @ 00:01 am
..... - Paschal Liturgy @ 10:00 am
- 17.04. - **EASTER MONDAY** - Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am
- 23.04. - Thomas' Sunday - Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am
- 30.04. - (Sunday) - Divine Liturgy @ 10:00 am

CHRIST IS RISEN!

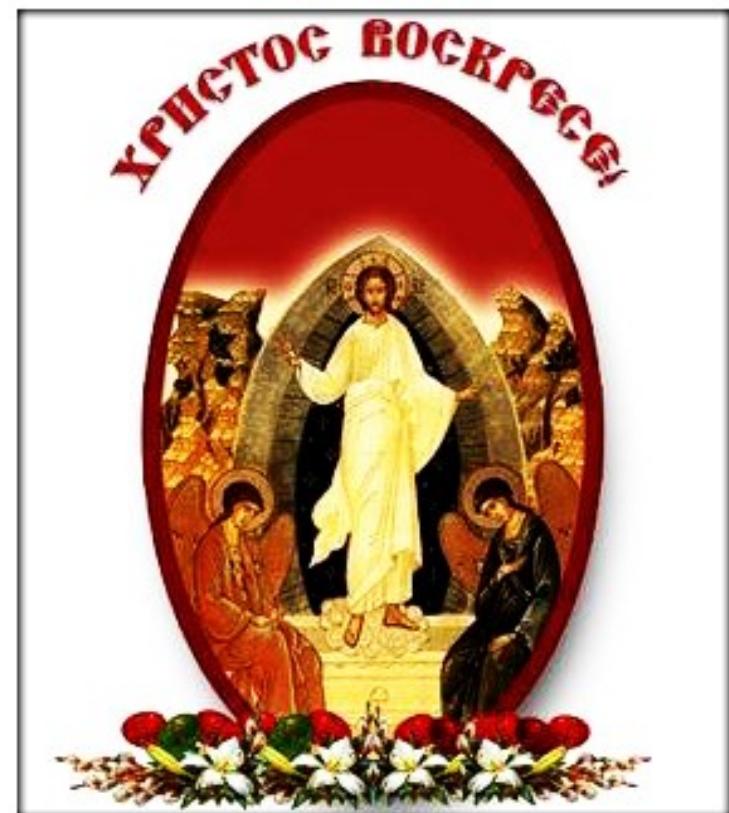
HE IS RISEN INDEED!



SERBIAN EASTERN ORTHODOX CHURCH OF ST. ARCHANGEL MICHAEL CORPORATION

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The Great and Holy Feast of Pascha



Holy Week comes to an end at sunset of Great and Holy Saturday, as the Church prepares to celebrate her most ancient and preeminent festival, Pascha, the feast of feasts. The time of preparation will give way to a time of fulfillment. The glorious and resplendent light emanating from the empty Tomb will dispel the darkness. Christ, risen from the dead, cracks the fortress of death and takes "captivity captive" (Psalm 67:19). All the limitations of our createdness are torn asunder. Death is swallowed up in victory and life is liberated.

ed. "For as by a man came death, by a man came also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive" (I Corinthians 15:21-22). Pascha is the dawn of the new and unending day. The Resurrection constitutes the most radical and decisive deliverance of humankind.

The Resurrection of Jesus Christ is the fundamental truth and absolute fact of the Christian faith. It is the central experience and essential kerygma of the Church. It confirms the authenticity of Christ's remarkable earthly life and vindicates the truth of His teaching. It seals all His redemptive work: His life, the model of a holy life; His compelling and unique teaching; His extraordinary works; and His awesome, life-creating death. Christ's Resurrection is the guarantee of our salvation. Together with His Ascension it brings to perfection God's union with us for all eternity.

The Resurrection made possible the miracle of the Church, which in every age and generation proclaims and affirms "God's plan for the universe, the ultimate divinization of man and the created order." The profound experience of and the unshakable belief in the risen Lord enabled the Apostles to evangelize the world and empowered the Church to overcome paganism. The Resurrection discloses the indestructible power and inscrutable wisdom of God. It disposes of the illusory myths and belief systems by which people, bereft of divine knowledge, strain to affirm the meaning and purpose of their existence. Christ, risen and glorified, releases humanity from the delusions of idolatry. In Him grave-bound humanity discovers and is filled with incomparable hope. The Resurrection bestows illumination, energizes souls, brings forgiveness, transfigures lives, creates saints, and gives joy.

The Resurrection has not yet abolished the reality of death. But it has revealed its powerlessness (Hebrews 2:14-15). We continue to die as a result of the Fall. Our bodies decay and fall away. "God allows death to exist but turns it against corruption and its cause, sin, and sets a boundary both to corruption and sin." Thus, physical death does not destroy our life of communion with God. Rather, we move from death to life - from this fallen world to God's reign.

Having beheld the Resurrection of Christ, let us worship, the holy Lord Jesus, the only Sinless One! We venerate Thy Cross, O Christ, and Thy Holy Resurrection we praise and glorify; for Thou art our God, and we know no other than Thee; we call on Thy name. Come, all you faithful, let us venerate Christ's Holy Resurrection! For, behold, through the Cross joy has come into all the world. Let us ever bless the Lord, praising His Resurrection. By enduring the Cross for us, He destroyed death by death!

