

PASCHA

(Carpatho-Rusyn Easter Bread)

- 1 cup butter or margarine
- ¾ cup sugar
- 4 eggs
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 8 cups flour
- 1 oz. compressed yeast
- 1 pint lukewarm milk
- Rind of ½ lemon, grated
- 1 cup seedless raisins, if desired

Crumble yeast into bowl; add milk and 1 cup flour. Set aside to rise in warm place. Cream the butter; add the sugar, then the eggs. Blend well. Add the remaining flour and yeast mixture, alternately. Mix well, adding only enough flour to knead. Knead until dough is smooth and elastic. Set aside in warm place until doubled in bulk. Form into desired shapes. Allow dough to rise again in pans. Bake at 350 or 375 degrees for 45 minutes to 1 hour, or until done.



ST. ANN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Harrisburg, PA 17109

Served by Fr. Michael Shear
717-652-1415

stann@stannsbyzhbg.org
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Divine Liturgies at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.,
Holy Day Vigil 7:00 p.m.

THE ENLIGHTENER

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Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!

Even though the following story happened over 80 years ago, the meaning is just as important today. Just as the Communists did not want people to believe in Jesus Christ, many people today try to keep Christians from practicing their faith. After you read the story, decide if you can be that courageous Christian who can make a difference today.

It was not an unusually cold day as Russian winters go, that day in 1924. The Soviet government was increasing its campaign against religion, and was sponsoring many rallies and meetings to make fun of religion and the Church. Today was one of those days.

Commissar Vasili had organized this demonstration. The soldiers had their orders: they were to find two thousand people and bring them to the appointed spot so that there would be an audience. The program itself was all arranged: Dr. Burdikoff, the famous anti-religious speaker, was going to talk. His subject: Jesus' resurrection is a lie.

The people gathered and Burdikoff began to speak. For over an hour he attacked the Gospels, made fun of the Christian faith, and laughed at the Church before his captive audience. Finally he threw out a challenge. "If anyone here thinks he can prove that what I have been saying is false, I dare him to come up here now. The microphone is his."

The people stood silently, unmoving. No one would dare challenge the speaker. The poor workers could not match Burdikoff's keen mind and quick tongue, no matter how strongly they held to their faith. Besides, even if someone could out-talk the doctor, the soldiers would probably kill him on the spot.

Suddenly a murmur rose in the crowd because it seemed that someone was actually going to accept the doctor's challenge. An old man, a peasant, was making

his way slowly to the speaker's platform. Even Burdikoff was stunned; he never expected that anyone would try to debate with him.

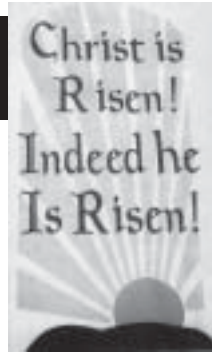
After the first momentary shock, however, he began to laugh within himself. "What can this old fool have to say. I will make him the laughing stock of the city," he thought.

By that time the man had reached the speaker's stand and looked out over the silent sea of faces: thousands of believing Christians afraid of what was to come. For several moments the old man looked out over the crowd as if he were trying to look into the eyes of each person there. At last his lips formed two words, the Pascha greeting, "*Christos Voskrese!*" ("Christ is risen!").

There was silence for a moment until the people realized what had happened. Then, suddenly, two thousand voices shouted back the reply, "Indeed He is risen!" Again and again the old man screamed out the greeting: "Christ is risen—Indeed He is risen!" until soldiers dragged the old man off the platform.

When the crowd saw that, they began to sing the Pascha Troparion—Christ Is Risen—over and over. The Commissar was furious: a simple old man had turned his rally into a prayer service with the Eastern Christians' Pascha cheer, "Christ is risen!"—"*Christos Voskrese!*"

(This story was taken from the Grade 5 student book, *We Are God's People, God With Us Publication.*)



PENANCE SERVICE:

Monday, March 14th at 7 p.m.

Visiting priests will be available
for confession.

“Christ Js Risen!”

“Voices sing in praise of the glory and wonder of the Resurrection. Joyfully we celebrate with songs of exaltation for His Resurrection, and with prayers of gratitude for His gift of life eternal. Reverently we gather in our churches, and with our families and friends we worship, we rejoice. As the miracle of Pascha lives anew, we wish all our members, our friends the spiritual inspiration, the faith-renewing, heartlifting blessings of this holy season.”

“Truly, He is Risen!”

I wish you a holy and blessed Pascha. May you continue to experience the awareness of Christ in your life and in those you encounter.

Father Michael

ICON AND BOOK STORE

Are you looking for something special and can't find it? Have you tried looking in the book store in the church basement? There you will find dyes, wax, lamb molds, basket covers, new icons, cards of all kinds and just about anything you might be looking for. Plan to stop in the book store, browse around and pick up things you can't find in local stores and all at a reasonable price.

Veneration of Icons

The tradition of venerating icons is strong and persistent among Rusyns, Ukrainians, and Slovaks, but it is becoming a lost tradition in our Churches in America. When we venerate (bow, make the sign of the cross, and kiss) an icon, we are acknowledging the presence of God and showing our respect to the people and the event in the icon. When we walk past an icon without any sign of recognition, we are being disrespectful. Remember to show your respect by venerating the icons as you enter and leave the church and help the Church in America regain its lost traditions, as requested by Pope John Paul II.

Vocation Icon

The vocation icon should be in every home for at least one week. Please sign up in the back of the church.

Remember . . .



Slavic American Festival

Sunday, July 17, 2005
Mark your calendars now!

Pussy Willows: Thank you to those who brought pussy willows to the Parish Center for distribution on Flowery Sunday.

PASCHA OFFERINGS:

(*VELIKIJ DEN*) collection is a once-a-year collection and is a major **SPECIAL COLLECTION** of the year. In past years you have been most generous, and we thank you. We ask you to please continue to be as generous as you can: **GOD LOVES A GENEROUS GIVER**. Parishioners please use the Easter offering envelope in your box of offering envelopes. An Easter offering envelope has been included with this Newsletter for use by friends of St. Ann if they so desire.

Self-Denial Folders:

Monies received will be sent to the seminary in Uzhgorod. Only 25 cents a day.

Candles for Resurrection Matins:

The Procession for Resurrection Matins includes lighted candles held by the people. This candle should stay lit during the Matins and Liturgy that follow. This year a large beeswax candle with a wax saver will be used. Please consider making a donation to help cover the cost for this candle that you can use in your Pascha basket and can take home to shine on Pascha.

Easter Holiday Raffle Tickets:

Have you sent in your raffle ticket returns as yet? If not, please do so as soon as possible. Thank you.

Pascha Orders:

When you call Helen Lutzkanin (566-3175) or Eleanor Bereschak (533-7908) to place your order, please leave your phone number so that you can be called with the date (March 14, 15, or 16) for your pick up.

**Nut, Poppy, and Apricot Roll Sale and Perohi Sale
Saturday, March 19 — 9-12 at St. Ann Parish Center**

BAKING AND COOKING SCHEDULE

(tentative)

| | | |
|---------------|------------------|---------|
| Pascha | March 14, 15, 16 | 10 a.m. |
| Halupki | April 4-5 | 9 a.m. |
| Schnitzleih | June 6-7 | 9 a.m. |
| Festival Prep | July 14, 15, 16 | 9 a.m. |

(Call Helen Lutzkanin, 566-3175 and/or check the weekly bulletin for changes.)

SLAVIC SPRING FOLK CUSTOMS

It was believed that the decisive period of struggle between the supernatural forces of good and evil fell within the last week of fast called Passion Week with older generations of Carpatho Rusyns. Pussy willows, which were believed to contain magical powers, were consecrated in their churches on the first Sunday of this week. In their homes the pussy willows were kept in a place of honor near the icons all year long in the belief that this was the best insurance against fires, storms, destructive winds, and other calamities of nature. They were used as protection on other occasions such as the birth of a child; at baptisms, weddings, and were very important in folk medicine.

WORLD YOUTH DAY XX

August 16-21, 2005 — Cologne, Germany
Any interested youth should contact Father Michael.

Mystery of Repentance:

On Lazarus Saturday, March 19, the following will receive the Mystery of Repentance for the first time:

- Alexa Anastasia Duffy • Nicholas Robert Mattis
- Anthony Edward Mistishen

Mnohaja l'ita!

On Flowery Sunday (Palm Sunday), these young people will lead the procession at the 10:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy. After the Liturgy, they will be honored at a celebration in the parish center. Everyone is invited.

Egg Hunt:

For the children of the parish, the Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Sunday, March 20, (FLOWERY SUNDAY — PALM SUNDAY), following the 10:30 A.M. Liturgy. Those who have received their first Mystery of Repentance will be honored at this party. All parishioners are invited to attend — please bring a covered dish, fruit, or healthy snack.

Mnohaya L'ita to our Church Family Members!

Mysteries of Initiation

Dakota Joseph Ebert

son of Peter and Roxanne (Nester) Ebert

Welcome to our New Member

Dorothy Zolyak, Mother of Robert Zolyak

Eternal Memory — Vicnaja Pamyat

Our parish family extends its condolences to the following:

- to the family of Walter Natishyn
- to Father Michael on the death of his cousin Thomas (Rocko) Racosky
- to Cathy Depoi and her family on the death of her father Harry Zimmerman
- to Ray Gruber and his family on the death of his father Robert Gruber.

Call the rectory to give the following information:

- **High School or College Graduates:** Please give your name, the school you attend, and your future plans.
- **Wedding Jubilarians** (celebrating a 5th, 10th, or other wedding anniversary this year, in increments of 5 years): Please give your address, date of marriage and the number of your anniversary — 5th, 10th, 15th, etc.



Sunday, March 20, at 5 p.m. on your calendar as a night of prayer and community. People from parishes throughout our eparchy will come to Saint Ann Church to pray the Vespers for the Great Fast. The Vespers will begin at 5 p.m. Come to pray together as church family and to welcome our guests at a Lenten meal that will follow at the parish center.

REMEMBER THE SICK



Please remember them with a prayer, a card, a visit, or a gift to let them know we are thinking about them.

The Most Reverend Michael J. Dudick, D.D.
c/o Annunciation Monastery
403 W. Country Road
Sugarloaf, PA 18249

Mrs. Winifred Collins
12 S. Queen St.
Littlestown, PA 17340

Mrs. Ann Dorcsis
Grayson View
Room 125
150 Kempton Avenue
Harrisburg, PA 17111

Mrs. Mary Kolonoski
356 Pine Street
Steelton, PA 17113-2349

Mrs. Rose Lefever
623 Firehouse Rd.
Grantville, PA 17028

Miss Isabella Lesko
Outdoor Pointe at Harrisburg
3560 N. Progress Ave.
Room 211
Harrisburg, PA 17921

Mrs. Mary Mucha
c/o M. Palamar
HC 60
P.O. Box 68
Orbisonia, PA 17243

Mr. Michael Ondeck
602 Drexel Road
Harrisburg, PA 17109

Mrs. Marge Fisher
Country Meadows of Hershey
451 Sand Hill Road
Room 212
Hershey, PA 17033

Mr. Nick Pauley
4901 Creek Drive
Harrisburg, PA 17112-2911

Mrs. Mildred Potochney
Dauphin Manor
1205 S. 28th St.
Harrisburg, PA 17111

Mrs. Anna Rosiak
(Ann Falatovich's mother)
c/o Church of God Home
801 North Hanover St.
Carlisle, PA 17013

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Smith
334 Third St.
Hanover, PA 17331-4909

Mrs. Marie Vozenilek
(Mrs. Sedun's daughter)
141 Carol Drive
Clarks Summit, PA 18411

Please remember all men and women who are in the armed forces, especially . . .

Cynthia (Canant) Howarth
5959 Fort Caroline Road, Apt. 108
Jacksonville, FL 32277

— Reminder —

Every Wednesday during the Great Fast, Lenten dinners are served in the parish center from 4-7 p.m. Also, frozen perohi and vegetable soup are for sale.

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT HOLY TRADITION AND PRAYER?

Plan to attend the seminar with guest speaker Father Elias Rafaj on Saturday, April 16, at the Eastern Christian Spirituality Center at Fox Chase. For more information, contact Joan Trautlein, 564-8257.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FOR GREAT AND HOLY WEEK AND PASCHA

Saturday — March 19 - Saturday of Lazarus

9:00 a.m. — First Confessions

9:30 a.m. — Divine Liturgy

Sunday — March 20 - Flowery Sunday (Palm Sunday)

8:00 a.m. — Divine Liturgy

10:30 a.m. — Divine Liturgy

All are invited to process prior to both Liturgies at which willows will be blessed. Everyone is invited to a social in the parish center after the second Liturgy to honor the children who received for the first time the Mystery of Repentance on Lazarus Saturday.

Monday — March 21

7:00 p.m. — Bridegroom Matins

Wednesday — March 23 - Great and Holy Wednesday (Fast Day)

7:00 p.m. — Presanctified Liturgy with the Mystery of Healing (Anointing of all in attendance.)

Thursday — March 24 - Great and Holy Thursday

7:00 p.m. — Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great with Vespers.

Friday — March 25 - Great and Holy Friday and the Annunciation of the Mother of God

[Every so many years the Feast of the Annunciation is the same day as Great and Holy Friday.]

Strict Fast: No Meat or Dairy Products are Eaten!

12:00 Noon — “Strast’i” — Reading of The Twelve Gospels (NOTE: People are needed to hold candles.)

7:00 p.m. — Great Vespers, Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, and Burial Procession with the Holy Shroud. (Outdoor procession, weather permitting.)

Please make every effort to attend church services on Great and Holy Friday.

All Night Vigil — Guarding of the Grave

Begins Friday after vespers until Resurrection Matins on Saturday. No period of guarding of the grave should be without one, two or more people present in the church. There will be a sign-up sheet in the vestibule. Please choose an hour when you and your family can spend time in prayer together, and in this way, we shall not leave the tomb unguarded. (Please remove lipstick before you venerate the shroud and other religious articles.)

Saturday — March 26 - Great and Holy Saturday

10:00 a.m. — Vigil Liturgy of St. Basil the Great (the Great Resurrection)



9:00 p.m. — Removal of the paschanitzza from the tomb, passing of the new light, Procession of Haste, Resurrection Matins, Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom with Gospel reading in many languages, blessing of artos, paschal homily of St. John Chrysostom (followed by his troparion), kissing of the cross with paschal stichers, blessing of paschal foods, and distribution of red eggs. (Men are needed to carry banners.)

NOTE: There will be anointing with oil of gladness (Mirovanije) after the Divine Liturgy. When coming to church, please bring all baskets to the parish center. This applies to Easter Sunday also.

Sunday — March 27 - Feast of the Holy Resurrection - Pascha

10:30 a.m. — Special Intention. Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom followed by the anointing with holy oil of gladness (mirovanije). Blessing of paschal foods in the parish center after the divine liturgy (outdoors - weather permitting).

NOTE: There will be anointing with oil of gladness (mirovanije) after the Divine Liturgy. When coming to church, please bring all baskets to the parish center.

Bright Week — March 28-April 2

This is a week of joy. There is no fasting.

Monday — March 28 - Bright Monday - Easter Monday

7:00 p.m. — Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

NOTE: Outdoor procession – weather permitting – reading of the four Gospels.

Tuesday — March 29 - Bright Tuesday

9:30 a.m. — Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

(Please watch the Sunday bulletin for any changes that might have to be made to this schedule.)

PASCHA-PENTECOST: According to the ancient traditions of our Church, **THERE IS TO BE NO KNEELING BY THE FAITHFUL FROM EASTER UNTIL THE KNEELING PRAYERS OF PENTECOST SUNDAY (PRAYER: O HEAVENLY KING).** The congregation stands during the entire Liturgy. During the Consecration, the faithful are to make a deep bow while standing. **As a sign of the Resurrection, we remain standing for 40 days.** The doors of the Iconostasis are opened at Resurrection Matins. **EXCEPTION:** If you are elderly, feel ill, or for some reason you are not able to stand the entire time, feel free to sit.



But what do we do now about kneeling the rest of the year?

After Pentecost, we may kneel for private and personal devotions. Our Divine Liturgy is not considered among private devotions; therefore, standing is the proscribed position throughout the Liturgy, according to the Fathers of the early Councils. The Holy See exhorts us to return to our roots and follow the norms of the Eastern Church, which states that on Sundays we celebrate the Resurrection of Jesus Christ — we celebrate “little” Pascha. We are to remain standing as prescribed by Canon Law, and as stated in the Liturgy: “Let us stand aright . . . to offer the holy oblation in peace.”

— Fasting —

Though it is not prescribed for every day of Holy Week, Wednesday, Great Friday, and Holy Saturday are fast days. Great Friday is a Black Fast day which means no meat or dairy products are eaten. All those who receive the Holy Eucharist are bound to fast. Only those people who are ill, pregnant or older are excused.