



THE ENLIGHTENER

Newsletter of St. Ann Byzantine Catholic Church

Volume 6, Issue 1

Harrisburg, PA

March 2006

THE FEAST OF THE RESURRECTION – PASCHA

April 16, 2006



**Blessed
Theodore
Romzha
Prayer for
Canonization**

O gracious Lord, in Your infinite goodness You have given us a fearless Bishop and Martyr, Blessed Theodore G. Romzha, who by his uncommon courage, sufferings and violent death gave a heroic witness to his unshakable Faith and inspired our people to hold fast to their Faith in time of persecution. Therefore, we humbly beseech You to glorify Your faithful servant, that Man of Faith, Blessed Theodore, and to strengthen our Faith by granting us through his kind intercession... (*here make your request*).

For you are a merciful and gracious God, and we render glory to you, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, now and forever, Amen.

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“Today is the day of the resurrection: O nations, let us be jubilant. For this Passover is the Passover of the Lord, in that Christ has made us pass from death to life and from earth to heaven: we who sing this song of victory” (Paschal Canon, First Ode).

“Pascha celebrates the death and resurrection of Christ, by which He passed - and enables us to pass as well - ‘from death to life and from earth to heaven’ (Canon of St John of Damascus). Because Christ’s saving work marks this passage to eternal life, St Paul called Christ our *Pascha*, or *Passover*: “Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us” (1 Corinthians 5:7). Echoing these

saints, we call this Feast the *Pascha*, or *Passover*, of the Lord.

“St Paul did not invent the word ‘Passover.’ He adopted a term that referred to the deliverance of the Hebrews from physical death in Egypt (Exodus 12:17-27): the event which marked the beginning of the Exodus, the passage of the Hebrews out of Egypt through the Red Sea on their way to the Promised Land. It is the event which Jews celebrate to this day on the feast they call Passover.

“By calling Christ ‘our Passover,’ St Paul meant that He is the ultimate Passover. He does not save us from mere physical death, but from eternal death, the result of sin. Christ’s death and resurrection are the highpoint of Salvation History and the beginning of the Christian community.

“The 8th-century English Saint Bede, the Venerable, explained that the name Easter came from the Scandinavian *Ostra* and the Teutonic (German) *Ostern* or *Eastre*, both goddesses of mythology, signifying spring and fertility, whose festival was celebrated on the first day of Spring. The ‘Easter bunny’ is actually a symbol of fertility, associated with this pagan festival. Because we are not honoring a pagan fertility goddess but Christ our Passover, our Church calls the feast of His resurrection *Pascha*” (*We Respond to God*).

We, too, should use the word *Pascha* rather than *Easter*. Every time we say *Pascha*, we are reminded that through Jesus Christ we will pass over into eternal life.

Christos Voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese! — Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!



ST. ANN BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

5408 Locust Lane
Harrisburg, PA 17109

Served by Fr. Michael Shear
717-652-1415

stann@stannbyz.org
www.stannbyz.org

Divine Liturgies
at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.
Holy Day Vigil 7:00 p.m.

From Father Michael

I am extremely grateful to our parishioners and non-parishioners for all the prayers, cards, and items dropped off at the rectory. If I don’t open the door, I am resting. I will continue chemotherapy for every week for the next six to seven weeks. Please continue to pray to Blessed Bishop Theodore Romzha, Christ, the Mother of God, and all the saints so that we can overcome this disease.

I thank the priests who have been helping at Saint Ann’s during the past few months; Sister Ann, who has been helping in the office; and Sister Ruth, who spent one month with us.

I wish you a peaceful and holy Great Fast so that you can sing out “Christ is risen!” with the strength and love that grows through prayer and fasting. Self denial is a daily act during the fast.



The ECF Sponsors have planned at least one activity each month to encourage our Church family members to come together often. Plan to attend the next meeting to hear about the many activities and to sign up to help. Meetings are held in the parish center between Liturgies.

ECF SPONSORS ACTIVITIES

- WASHINGTON, DC TRIP — March 25
- FLOWERY SUNDAY BRUNCH/EGG HUNT — April 9-12 noon
- MAY FAIR — May 7
- KNOEBEL'S GROVE FAMILY DAY — May 21
- BALTIMORE AQUARIUM TRIP — June 25
- BIBLE SUMMER SCHOOL — July 30-August 3

Check the weekly bulletin for more information about these activities. Call Roxanne Ebert at 717-671-0274 or e-mail: ecfactivities@stannbyz.org for details and to volunteer to help.

Pysanky Classes

Do you want to learn how to make pysanky? Plan to attend the classes that will be offered Sundays (March 12, 19, and 26) from 2 to 5 at the parish center.

Don't forget to check in our church store for any supplies or gifts you need for Pascha.

HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE GRADUATES

If you are going to graduate from high school or college this year, please give the following information to the rectory: your name, the school you attend, your degree, and your future plans. Thank you.



WEDDING JUBILARIANS

Will you be celebrating a 5th, 10th, 15th, or other wedding anniversary this year, in increments of 5 years? If so, please notify the rectory giving your address, date of marriage and the number of your anniversary - 5th, 10th, 15th, etc. The celebration is on September 10 at 3 p.m.

Happy 90th Birthday to Bishop Michael —
May he have many healthful years!

COMMUNITY YARD SALE
Saturday, September 16, 2006

On Lazarus Saturday, April 8th, nine children will receive their 4th Sacrament, The Mystery of Repentance. They will then be recognized by the entire parish on Palm Sunday as they help lead the procession prior to Liturgy and by a reception following the 10:30 Liturgy.

The largest St. Ann class ever is composed of:

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Sierra Marie Castaneira | Madison Delaney Lilloick |
| Jesse Charles Grubb | Leslie Renee Peters |
| Jessica Rae Jones | Tirza Ann Rentovich |
| Nicholas Peter Kuzma | Nazariy O. Tkachenko |
| Andriy Anatoliy Laychock | |

May God grant you many happy and blessed years!

Parish Projects

THANK YOU TO ALL THE PARISHIONERS who are supporting our aluminum can project. Cans can be placed in the blue bin behind the parish center. Money from these cans will be used for the Summer Bible School.

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. The kneeling prayers are taken on Pentecost Sunday. **As a sign of the Resurrection, we remain standing for 40 days.** The doors of the Iconostasis are opened at Resurrection Matins. **EXCEPTION TO STANDING:** If you are elderly, feel ill, or for some reason you are not able to stand the entire time, feel free to sit.

The Pascha collection is a major collection of the church. Would it be an impossibility to double last year's offering or at least a 10% increase in thanksgiving for all the benefits we have living in the United States and all the blessings God has given us? Think it over.

Remember His Will in Yours: You can express your commitment to our Church by making a bequest to St. Ann Parish. Simply have the following statement included in your will: I LEAVE TO ST. ANN PARISH, BUILDING FUND, OR ECF, THE SUM OF _____ (or) _____ percent of residue of my estate) for its religious, educational, and charitable works. Thank you for considering this!

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE FOR GREAT AND HOLY WEEK AND PASCHA

Saturday — April 8 — Saturday of Lazarus

9:00 a.m. - First Confessions

9:30 a.m. - Divine Liturgy

Sunday — April 9 — 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 — April 10

7:00 p.m. - Bridegroom Matins

Wednesday — April 12 — Great and Holy Wednesday (Fast Day)

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

Thursday — April 13 — Great and Holy Thursday

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

Friday — April 14 — 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 — April 15 — 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 plaschanitzta 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 holy oil of gladness (Mirovanije) after the Divine Liturgy. When coming to church, please bring all baskets to the parish center. This applies to Pascha Sunday, also.

Sunday — April 16 — 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 holy oil of gladness (Mirovanije) after the Divine Liturgy. When coming to church, please bring all baskets to the parish center.

Bright Week — April 17-22

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

Monday — April 17 — Bright Monday - Easter Monday

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

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

Tuesday — April 18 — 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.)

Remember The Sick

Those who are hospitalized, those who are residents in nursing homes, those who in some way are incapacitated, and those who cannot worship with us. Please remember them with a prayer, a card, a visit, or a gift to let them know we are thinking about them and have not forgotten them.

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

Mrs. Winifred Collins
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Littlestown, Pa 17340

Rev. Father Michael Shear
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Mrs. Anna Rosiak
(Ann Falatovich's mother)
c/o Church of God Home
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Carlisle, PA 17013

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

Father Ray Orloski
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Kulpmont, PA 17834

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Harrisburg, PA 17109

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



DAYS OF RECOLLECTION

April 2, Sunday, and April 3, Monday • Time: 7 p.m.

Visiting clergy will be available for the Mystery of Repentance.

Scheduled Activities:

LENTEN PEROHI/FISH DINNERS — Wednesdays 4-6:30 p.m.
March 1st thru April 5th.

PEROHI SALES — Wednesdays 12 noon - 1 p.m. & 4-6:30 p.m.
March 1st to April 5th.

NUT ROLL SALE — Saturday, April 8th - 9 a.m.

Baking Schedule:

NUT ROLL BAKING — Mondays, & Tuesdays beginning
February 27th thru March 28th. (Dough making — 9 a.m.-
12 Noon and Baking — 5 p.m.-7:30 p.m.)

PASCHA — April 3-4-5 at 10 a.m.

HALUPKI — April 24-25 at 9 a.m.

SCHNITZLE — May 8-9 at 9 a.m.

(Other dates the week before Festival will be announced later.)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!

Slavic American Festival

Sunday, July 16, 2006



ByzanTEEN Youth Rally 2006

The 2006 Rally, sponsored by the Intereparchial Youth Commission, will take place July 20-23 at Mount Saint Mary's, Emmitsburg, Maryland. All Byzantine Catholic youth between the ages of 13-19 are encouraged to attend this rally. The cost for each person is \$250 without transportation fees. The youth are participating in fundraisers, but they need your help. Please support them by purchasing gift cards, candy, and perohi. Also, bring in your aluminum cans for their collection. They are accepting any donations that will help them reach their goal. We have 33 youth who are active in our ECF program, and we want to encourage all of them to attend this year's rally.

From the youth . . .

*We thank everyone who supports us and our activities throughout the year. We are proud to be
ST. ANN BYZANTEEN CATHOLIC YOUTH!*

