

St. Alexander Nevsky Orthodox Cathedral

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The Cathedral Messenger

Orthodox Church in America
Diocese of Western Pennsylvania

Archbishop Melchisedek
Archpriest John Mikita (Dean)
Protodeacon Michael Wusylko
Deacon Stephen Boyd

April 2022

This is the Day of Resurrection

By Fr. John Mikita

The joy of Great Lent rests in knowing that we are preparing for the day without evening and without darkness; the bright and everlasting day of Pascha. It is for this very reason that the spiritually brightest service of the whole year is served as early as possible, in the physical darkness. The Paschal Divine Liturgy brings light and fills the darkness with bright joy. As the earliest Divine Liturgy of the year by prescription, we serve it just after midnight, or in the early morning. This is *intended* as a disruption to our normal schedule, just as the resurrection of Christ is a disruption of the power of death. Light breaks through and throws down the darkness. On this night we do something that we do on no other night in recognition of how momentous the resurrection of Christ is to our lives. Orthodox Christians around the world celebrate the same way as the Holy Fire emerges from the altar, the Church sings "Thy Resurrection O Christ our Saviour..." and soon after, the great Paschal troparion.

This disruption is easier for some than for others. Parents struggle to know when and how it is appropriate to bring younger children. What we have found over the years is that, one, children absolutely love going to Church in the middle of the night; and two, it serves as a kind of rite of passage as they get older. Younger kids can come in their pajamas and even bring pillows and sleeping bags. They love sitting in the dark Church and receiving a candle to hold. But eventually they need to sleep and can go in the corner, or, if there's room, on the pew, or in the children's room or library with a parent standing nearby. The younger ones may get up to receive communion or they may sleep through it. They will usually remember the first Pascha they made it all the way through without sleep, and some will do it much younger than others. When *we* approach it with anticipation and joy, they pick up on it and do so also. It becomes a highlight of their memories of Church while growing up.

For other members, it may be hard to drive at night, or their health may not permit it. It's good to plan

This month's newsletter is sponsored by Ray and Claudia Steeb in honor and memory of their parents, Frank and Lydia Goidich and Ray and Etta Steeb.

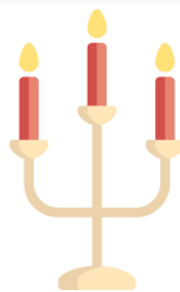
ahead and carpool with others if driving at night is a worry. And even if that is not possible, the Holy Church does not leave us without benefit. The Vespertine Liturgy on Saturday morning already contains the Gospel of the Resurrection, and it is the service in which we change the colors to white. If we receive the Mysteries then, and come back later on Sunday for Paschal Vespers, we still enter into the bright joy of this greatest of feasts. Even the Liturgy on Bright Monday follows the exact same pattern and spirit as the Paschal Liturgy in the middle of the night – we call it Bright Week because the light of Pascha just keeps on shining, and no matter what our station in life or our limitations, we can still enter into the joy of the Lord.

The more we embrace Great Lent and see it as a wonderful tool to grow in Christ, the more we experience the overwhelming beauty of the Paschal services.



Choir Rehearsal

April 2nd, Saturday, following Vespers
April 15th, Friday, 7:00 pm



This month's Troitsa candles are sponsored by Janet Casciato for the health of Dan Casciato and in memory of parents, John and Anna Sekel and sister, Karen Sanford.

Church School Notes

Please see church school schedule below.

2021-2022 St. Alexander Nevsky Church School Calendar		
April 17, 2022	Procession with Palms	Palm Sunday
April 24, 2022	No Church School	Pascha
May 1, 2022	No Church School / Egg Hunt	St. Thomas Sunday
May 22, 2022	Youth Sunday / Last Day of Church School	
August 1-5, 2022	Summer Church Camp	
	** Classes start at 9:00 a.m. Sunday mornings	



Please see Ann Hershey if you would like an OCMC coin box to collect change during Lent. Please return the money by Palm Sunday.

St. Alexander Nevsky Church Camp - August 1 - 5 - see Ann Hershey with questions - Please let Ann know if you are interested in assisting with the camp (part-time or full-time). All ages are welcome to help! There are many different jobs (i.e. food preparation, craft prep, clean-up).

St. Tikhon's Summer Camp - July 3 - 9 - see the website for details www.sttikhonscamp.org. Please direct questions to Fr. John.

Egg Hunt will be held after church on St. Thomas Sunday - May 1st

Schedule of Divine Services

April 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Mar. 27 Venerable Precious Cross Church School 9 am Hours 9:40 am Liturgy of St. Basil 10:00 am Mission Vespers 4:30 pm	Mar. 28	Mar. 29	Mar. 30 Presanctified Liturgy 7:00 pm	Mar. 31	1	2 Memorial Saturday Hours 8:40 am Liturgy 9:00 am Great Vespers & Confessions 5:00 pm
3 St. John Climacus Church School 9 am Hours 9:40 am Liturgy of St. Basil 10:00 am	4	5	6 Presanctified Liturgy 7:00 pm	7	8 Akathist 7:00 pm	9 Great Vespers & Confessions 5:00 pm
10 St. Mary of Egypt Church School 9 am Hours 9:40 am Liturgy of St Basil 10:00 am	11	12	13 Presanctified Liturgy 7:00 pm	14	15	16 Lazarus Saturday Baptism 9:00 am Divine Liturgy 10:00 am Vigil 5:00 pm
17 Palm Sunday Church School 9 am Hours 9:40 am Liturgy 10:00 am Bridegroom Matins 5:00 pm	18 Bridegroom Matins 7:00 pm	19 Bridegroom Matins 7:00 pm	20 Holy Supper Matins 7:00 pm	21 Vespersal Divine Liturgy 9:00 am Matins with 12 Gospel Readings 7:00 pm	22 Great Friday Royal Hours 8:00 am Vespers of Holy Friday 3:00 pm Matins with Praises 7:00 pm	23 Vespersal Divine Liturgy 9:00 am Nocturns 10:00 pm Paschal Matins 10:30 pm
24 Holy Pascha Paschal Vespers 1:30 pm	25 Divine Liturgy 9:00 am	26	27	28	29	30 Great Vespers & Confessions 5:00 pm

SANWA ANNOUNCEMENT



Next Pirogie workshop – Friday, April 15th

SANWA is assisting Alex Glisan with the Golf Outing on Monday, July 11. We will be providing gift baskets for a raffle. Please see Judy Tesone. We will also be asking for hole sponsorship; please see Janet Casciato and Yvonne Baker.

Thank you everyone for your help for the Diocesan Vespers held on Sunday, March 27th and hosting the seminarians from St. Tikhon's on April 1-3.



Gift Shop

Pascha is coming this month. Pictured below are some items you may need.

Consider EGG WRAPS, which are easy to use, and it looks as though you've made Passanky eggs. (medium eggs work the best). We have WOODEN EGGS in various patterns, too. We have various BASKET COVERS besides the one below. You might need a DECORATED CANDLE for your basket or your table. We do have several patterns of PASCHA CARDS that come with envelopes. The HOLY WEEK CROSS comes with a stand to display in your home.

The board in the picture is filled with Faberge-Style RESURRECTION EGGS. You wear these in place of your cross from Pascha until Ascension. We have BOW PINS and some CHAINS for attaching your egg.

If you need CHEESE MOLDS OR BUTTER MOLDS, we may need to order them. Remember, too, we have individual service books for Holy Week. Please advise us now if you need special icons or other items not mentioned, so we can order them.





Clip and insert in prayer book to pray for those in the prayer list

Prayer List

(All names should be submitted to one of the Cathedral Clergy for commemoration at the divine services.)

For Health and Salvation: Metropolitan Herman Protopresbyter Dimitrios Archpriest Andrew Archpriest Michael Archpriest Alexander Hieromonk Patrick Nun Galina Eleanor George	Gregory Naomi Vladimir Thomas Barbara Missy Michele Enrico Daniel Sophia Tony	Chloe and child Taisia with child Demetra with child Erica with child Barbara Josephine Marilyn Georgette Marilyn	For the Newly Departed: Monk Nektarius Anna Claudia Al Antoun David William Francis
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Assignments

Date	Epistle	Hours	Greeters	Candle Room	Collection Counters	Brunch Group
Apr. 3	R Hershey	F Namisnak	C Namisnak	S Romanchik	G Ribar, T Papariella	III
Apr. 10	G Pazin	T Shewczyk	L Papakirk	Rinaldo	J Dille, G Ribar	IV
Apr. 17	J Pazin	M Wusylko	C Steeb	G Ribar	N Tesone, K Zallow	V
Apr. 24	R Glisan	B Dubos	A Ribar	B Savchik	R Steeb, R Horodnic	I
May 1	G Brkovich	G Pazin	E Glisan	S Romanchik	G Ribar, T Papariella	II
May 8	R Hershey	F Namisnak	C Namisnak	Rinaldo	J Dille, G Ribar	III
May 15	G Pazin	R Hershey	L Papakirk	G Ribar	N Tesone, K Zallow	IV
May 22	Youth	Youth	C Steeb	B Savchik	R Steeb, R Horodnic	V
May 29	J Pazin	T Shewczyk	A Ribar	R Steeb	J Dille, G Ribar	I

Women's Choice Network

Where "Choice" is "Choice for Life"

Supported by St. Alexander Nevsky Orthodox Cathedral

We are once again putting together some new mom and new baby bags for the Women's Choice Network, as we have done in the past. These bags are given to the moms who **choose life**. Gift bags will be available in the church hall on April 17th with the cards below on each bag. Each card lists 5 items the WCN would like to have in the bags; this ensures that each new mom and baby receive similar types of items. **Please do not include diapers, as WCN is well stocked at this time.** Thank you in advance for your donations!! **Deadline for returning filled bags: Sunday, May 22.**

Questions? See Eileen Glisan, Larissa Lindquist, or Beth Benton



New Mom Bags

- Bath/Shower Gels
- Loofas / wash cloths
- Makeup /Makeup bags
- Skin Care items
- Lotions



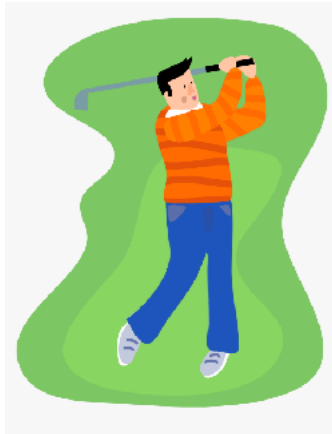
New Baby Bags

- Baby toiletries like lotions, shampoos, soaps
- Baby wash cloths or towel
- Thermometer or wipes
- Onesies, socks
- One or two small toys, stuffed animal, or book



On Sunday, June 5, 2022, we will be honoring our high school, college and post-graduate studies graduates. If you or your son/daughter will be graduating this spring (or graduated in December 2021), please contact Claudia Steeb at 412-496-5531 or claudia9@consolidated.net so we can honor you/your graduate.

CALLING ALL GOLFERS! SAVE THE DATE!



This year's Nevsky Golf Outing will be held on **Monday, July 11**, at the Connoquenessing Country Club in Ellwood City.

Mark your calendars! **Look for the registration form in the May Newsletter.**

Contact Alex Glisan with questions: (724) 831-6466.

Special Church Events

Sunday of Orthodoxy

