



St. Michael Youth Program

May 2016

Christ is risen! Truly, He is risen!

Home Discussion

The Hymn, "Christ is risen!" is sung three times before every prayer, like at our meals for forty days after Pascha. Following the prayer we say, "Christ is risen!" and everyone responds, "Truly, He is risen!" This is done for forty days following the Feast of Holy Pascha (Easter).

The Feast of Christ's Resurrection (Pascha) celebrates our renewed life in Christ. The Resurrection is not very easy for anyone to grasp, however we have several examples in nature that help us in our conversation with our children: 1) the birth of a chick from an egg, 2) the transformation of a caterpillar into a butterfly, 3) the new growth of a plant from a seed, 4) the new growth of plants in Spring.

There are eleven appearances of Jesus to the disciples recorded in the Gospel (before His Ascension). Can you find them? They are read in the morning service each Sunday; called the Eothinon [ee-oh-THÉE-non] Gospels.

Memory Verse

[Jesus said] "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." (Matthew 28:19-20)

Hymn of Holy Pascha

Christ is risen from the dead,
trampling down death by Death
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life!

Paschal Communion Hymn

Receive the Body of Jesus Christ.
Taste the fountain of immortality.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Calendar

May 1 - Holy Pascha - At the "Apage" (Love) Vespers we hear the Gospel announcing the good news of God's forgiveness in several languages. This demonstrates how God's love and good news is to all people and all nations. [John 20:19-31]

May 8 - The Sunday of Thomas - The Apostle Thomas wanted to see Jesus for Himself having doubted in hearing about the Lord's Resurrection. [Matthew 28:16-20]

May 15 - The Sunday of the Myrrh-bearing Women - The women who went to the tomb discovered it empty and were told by an angel that the Lord had risen. [Mark 15:43-47; 16:1-8]

May 22 - The Sunday of the Paralytic - Jesus heals a paralyzed man who after giving excuses, responds to Jesus' words to pick up his bed and walk. [John 5:1-15]

May 29 - Sunday of the Samaritan Woman - Jesus meets a Samaritan woman at Jacob's Well and speaks of springs of "living water"; speaking of God's Spirit who satisfies one's spiritual "thirst." [John 4:5-42]

For Planning Ahead: The Feast of the Ascension - (June 9th) concludes the forty-day season of Holy Pascha and celebrates Christ's ascending into heaven.

Activities

The Book of the Acts of the Apostles are the epistle readings that begin at Easter that tell us what began happening following the Resurrection. Start reading each chapter to discover what the Apostles began doing.

Have you turned in your Food for the Hungry People collection box? Place your name on the box and turn it in to your Church School teacher as soon as possible.

Does your family have plans to attend the Parish Life Conference in Phoenix, Arizona (June 28 to July 3)? Our teens will be preparing for the Bible Bowl to answer questions on the Gospel of St. John and we will learn who received awards in all of the Creative Festivals.

Special Events

Reagan Library Vatican Exhibit Tour - Saturday, May 14, 10:30 a.m. (contact Emile Skaff for your reservation)

St. Michael Golf Classic Dinner - Monday, May 16; a wonderful evening of fellowship for the whole family.

Memorial Day - Monday, May 30; we visit the graves and remember our departed loved ones at cemeteries; also the departed veterans who died in service to our country; and will sing, "Christ is risen!"