

Announcements

- **Welcome Guests and Visitors.** We are delighted to have you join us at our service today in worshiping the Risen Lord! We look forward to getting to know you and answering any questions. To get on the e-mail list of our warm community, just send a short note to Fr. Kirill: frkirill@holy-trinity.org. Thank you!
- **Pascha Continues.** Easter is the real encounter with Him whom our hearts long ago knew and encountered as the life and light of all light. Pascha testifies that Christ is alive and with us, and that we are alive in Him. We celebrate the Resurrection every Sunday but in a particular way for forty days following Pascha. Our energy “ebbs and flows”, of course, but I look forward to continuing the celebration *with you* as May and June unfold.
- **Passover – The Sunday of the Resurrection:** “..Now since you are celebrating the holy Pascha, you should know, brethren, what the Pascha is. Pascha means the crossing-over, and so the Festival is called by this name. For it was on this day that the Children of Israel crossed over out of Egypt, and the Son of God crossed over from this world to His Father. What gain is it to celebrate unless you imitate Him Whom you worship; that is, unless you cross over from Egypt, that is, from the darkness of evildoing to the light of virtue, from the love of this world to the love of your heavenly home?” -*St. Ambrose of Milan*

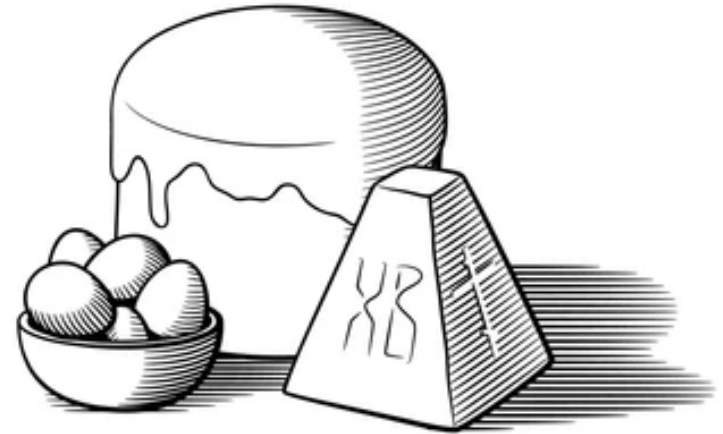
This Week at Holy Trinity

- Wed. April 27: Bright Wednesday**
10:00 am Paschal Divine Liturgy
(no vespers this week)
- Sat. April 30: Bright Saturday**
9:30 am Paschal Divine Liturgy
6:00 pm Great Vespers
- Sun. May 1: ANTIPASCHA. 2nd SUNDAY OF PASCHA.**
9:30 am Divine Liturgy
Parking available Sunday morning at St. Brigid's

Contact Fr. Kirill

Question? Want to talk? Or be on the email list?
FrKirill@holy-trinity.org • 415-673-8565

Holy Trinity Cathedral



HOLY PASCHA Sunday, April 24, 2022

Most Reverend Benjamin,
Archbishop of San Francisco and the West

Very Reverend Dr. Kirill Sokolov, Dean

1520 Green Street
San Francisco, California
holy-trinity.org

Orthodox Church in America
Diocese of the West

*We are delighted to be together with you in worshiping the Risen Lord.
Welcome!*

CHRIST IS RISEN! ХРИСТОСЪ ВОСКРЕСЕ!
ქრისტე აღდგა! HRISTOS A ÎNVIAT! ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ ἄΝΕΣΤΗ!

At Vespers
John 20:19-25

Holy PASCHA
The Resurrection of Our
Lord and Savior Jesus
Christ

Dearly beloved:

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

"Indeed the hour is coming, yes, has now come, that you will be scattered, each to his own, and will leave Me alone. And yet I am not alone, because the Father is with Me. These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world." Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: "Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You..." (John 16:32-17:1)

These words of our Lord were spoken to His disciples at the end of a long discourse preparing them for the coming events of His Trial, Death and Resurrection. He then begins the High Priestly Prayer that points to His glorification. We hear His words at the end of a very long first Passion Gospel on Holy Thursday evening. As we gather throughout Holy Week and then Pascha itself, we need to be girded up the way our Lord knew His disciples needed to be girded up. Our world is full of suffering and tribulation. We deal with weakness of faith, laziness, sickness, poverty, passions, disappointments, and temptations. Our Lenten efforts have barely moved the needle of repentance in our lives. And now we grieve as we watch Orthodox brothers and sisters killing each other as pawns in some geopolitical game. Tribulations indeed.

But our Lord strengthens His disciples (and us) in the midst of these tribulations, and prepares all of us for the coming Victory with two truths: first, we are comforted in the reality that our Lord has overcome the world, despite there always being tribulations. How? By the inauguration of His Kingdom, here and now, in the life of the Church. We flee to the consolation and loving embrace of the Church as a refuge from the harsh sufferings outside the doors of our parishes. All these things the Lord spoke so "that in Me you may have peace." The peace which surpasses all understanding is the gift of Christ's Resurrection experienced in the life of the Church. No tribulation can overwhelm this gift.

Secondly, Jesus lifted up His eyes to His Father and announced that the hour had come. For what? For His glorification. The Son is glorified by freely giving

Himself over to humiliation, spittings, scourging, and finally death hanging broken and bloody on the Cross. The fulfillment and completion of His glorification is in the empty tomb. The Lord promised us that He has overcome the world. But that promise did not say that we did not have to still live in the world, still deal with this world, and still encounter and overcome the tribulations in this world. Our glory must be the same glory as His — faithfully walking through the trials and tribulations of all that the world throws at us, keeping our eyes on Him and not the storms swirling around us.

It seems antithetical to believe that the tribulation is overcome and the glorification is fulfilled in all the sufferings that surround the Lord during His Passion. But it is only antithetical if we look with the eyes of the world instead of the eyes of faith. The eyes of the world see a bloody defeat. The eyes of faith see the ultimate Victory in a faithful endurance and obedience even unto death. Each of us has our own Golgotha to endure in faith and hope. But when we do, we receive the same gift — a passover from death to life.

Brothers and Sisters, be of good cheer, for the Lord Jesus Christ has overcome the world. Be of good cheer, for the hour has come for Him to be glorified. We live in Him and walk with Him so that we, too, might be glorified. May the joy, peace, and light of the Resurrection fill each of your hearts and souls!

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

Yours in the risen Christ,

†BENJAMIN

Archbishop of San Francisco and the Diocese of the West



Gratitude

I am grateful to God for all who have worked so hard this Passion Week and Pascha. The last year has been one of "rebuilding" for our precious Cathedral community. Of course, for Christians, it's not "a new normal" that we are seeking. Rather, we seek to always be growing; we "seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness" (Matthew 6:33). I am grateful for a peaceful and joyful celebration of Pascha and I ask that God continue to strengthen us in all of our work and life together so that we may hear: "Enter into the joy of your Lord" (Matthew 25:23).

With Love in the Risen Lord,
Father Kirill