

THE ORTHODOX CHURCH OF SAINT ELIZABETH THE NEW-MARTYR

WEEKLY BULLETIN

Volume XV

Number 33

14 / 27 April 2014
SECOND SUNDAY OF PASCHA
Thomas Sunday

THIS WEEK AT ST ELIZABETH'S

2ND SUNDAY OF PASCHA: Thomas Sunday

Saturday, 26 April (13 April o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 27 April (14 April o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Trapeza (coffee hour)

3RD SUNDAY OF PASCHA: Myrrhbearers

Saturday, 3 May (20 April o.s.)

6:00 PM Vigil Service;
Confessions

Sunday, 4 May (21 April o.s.)

9:10 AM Third and Sixth Hours
9:30 AM Divine Liturgy;
Trapeza (coffee hour)

NAMEDAYS, BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

LAST TWO WEEKS

Namedays – 14th (St Mary of Egypt): Jennifer Mary Hotz.

Birthdays – 22nd: Katya Darenkov; 24th: Cliff Paul Brangwynne, Reader Gregory Maxey; 25th: Carolyn O'Brien.

Ordination Anniversaries – 13th: Father David Straut (Holy Diaconate, 1986).

Wedding Anniversaries – 18th: Andrew & Carolyn O'Brien (2004).

THIS WEEK

Birthdays – April 30th: Colman (Hugh) O'Beirne; May 1st: Maximus Bibas.

Fallen Asleep in the Lord – 28th: Oksana Stryzak (+2001).

MONTH OF MAY

Namedays – 6th (Great-Martyr George): William George Brien, Noah George Hotz; George Seneko; 21st (Apostle John the Theologian): John Morrow, Jack (John) Welsh; 23rd (Blessed Thais of Egypt): Taisia Seneko; 28th (St Colman of Oughaval): Colman (Hugh) O'Beirne; 29th (St Brendan the Voyager): Brendan (Christopher) Brav.

Birthdays – 1st: Maximus Bibas; 12th: Olga Welsh; 28th: Johan Mladineo; 31st: Valentina Babitsch.

Wedding Anniversaries – 8th: Reader Gregory & Claudia Maxey (1988), Sbdcn Stephanos & Juliana Bibas (2005); 15th: James & Olga Welsh; 26th: Frank & Nina Fitzgerald (1996).

SCRIPTURE READINGS THIS WEEK

SECOND WEEK OF PASCHA	
Su	Second Sunday of Pascha: Thomas Sunday
	<i>1st Resurrectional Matins Gospel:</i> Matt. §116 [28:16-20]
	Acts §14 (5:12-20) John §65 (20:19-31)
M	Acts §9 (3:19-26) John §6 (2:1-11)
Tu	Acts §10 (4:1-10) John §10 (3:16-21)
W	Acts §11 (4:13-22) John §15 (5:17b-24)
Th	Acts §12 (4:23-31) John §16 (5:24-30)
F	Acts §13 (5:1-11) John §17 (5:30b-6:2)
Sa	Acts §15 (5:21-33) John §19 (6:14-27)
THIRD WEEK OF PASCHA	
Su	Third Sunday of Pascha: the Myrrh-bearing Women
	<i>3rd Resurrectional Matins Gospel:</i> Mark §71 (16:9-20)
	Acts §16 (6:1-7) Mark §69 (15:43-16:8)

FASTING DAYS THIS WEEK

Day of Week	Date	Commemoration and Type of Fast
Wednesday	30 April (17 April, o.s.)	HM Symeon & Companions Fast: wine & oil permitted
Friday	2 May (19 Apr., o.s.)	St Matrona the Blind Fast: fish, wine & oil permitted

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today we will receive pieces of the 'Artos.' *Artos* is the Greek word for (leavened) bread. It is the symbolic 'Bread of Life' that was blessed at the end of the Holy Liturgy on the night of Pascha. The Artos is then left in the Church before the Iconostasis for all of Bright Week and carried in any procession made during the course of that Week. On Bright Saturday a special

prayer is said at the conclusion of the Liturgy, the Artos is broken and then prayerfully distributed to the people. The breaking and distribution of the Artos is often delayed until Thomas Sunday in parishes where the Liturgy is not served on Bright Saturday.

The May Parish Council Meeting will be held on the 3rd Sunday of the month rather than the 2nd Sunday, in order not to conflict with Mother's Day. All parish council members asked to make a note of this and are asked to try to attend, despite the change of Sundays.

ST ELIZABETH'S OFFERS MANY THANKS:

- **To our two wonderful Deacons**, Fr Steven Barker and Fr Seraphim Komleski, who so beautify our services and were such a help to Fr David during Great Lent, Holy Week, Pascha, and Bright Week;
- **To Reader Anthony Williams:** who served as our Choir Director from January through April this year;
- **To Claudia Maxey and Jennifer Mary Hotz** who helped with the singing at every service in Great Lent, Holy Week, Pascha, and Bright Week;
- **To Reader Gregory Maxey and all of our other choir members** who faithfully rehearsed, attended, and sang at services, and to **our faithful Readers and Servers** who assisted at the services during Great Lent, Holy Week, and Pascha;
- **To Claudia Maxey who baked** and donated the Artos for Pascha again this year;
- **To those who made contributions for Flowers** to beautify the church, as well as to **those who decorated the church**, for Palm Sunday, Holy Friday, and Pascha;
- **To the servants of God who cleaned the church** during Great Lent and Holy Week;
- **To those who dyed fourteen dozen red eggs** and donated them to our parish at Pascha this year;
- **To Rdr Nicolas Schidlovsky** who once again put together and donated many beautiful Paschal luminaries to brighten the outside of the church on the night of Pascha;
- **To the servants of God** who did so much to set up our basement Hall for our Paschal Meal;
- **To those who made and brought Paschal Foods** for our Agape Meal after the Holy Liturgy on the night of Pascha, as well as to **those who stayed to clean up** after the Paschal Meal;
- **To those who donated sweets and filled eggs** for the children's egg hunt after Agape Vespers this year;
- **To ladies who helped organize** the children's egg hunt on Pascha and enforced the rules;
- **To the Whitacre family** who again provided coffee, bagels, and muffins for the parish after Agape Vespers.

THANK YOU!

Fr David & Matushka Faith want everyone in the parish to know to grateful they are for such wonderful and generous parishioners. The cards and gifts they received at Pascha this year were very much appreciated!

Fr Dcn Seraphim & Mat. Anna Gail, and Fr Dcn Steven & Mat. Hanna would like to thank everyone at St Elizabeth's for the wonderful Cards and generous Gifts at Pascha and the Christian love demonstrated by them. This love has touched them greatly.

Orthopraxis During the Paschal Season

The introductory prayers *Glory to Thee, our God. Glory to Thee!* and *O heavenly King...* are not said either in the liturgical services or in prayers at home from Holy Pascha until the Feast of Pentecost, according to the tradition of the Church, but are replaced by the triple repetition of the paschal troparion. In services during the Paschal Season that do not begin with *O heavenly King...* and the Trisagion Prayers, but instead with the *O come, let us worship and fall down before God our King...*, the paschal troparion is repeated three times instead of *O come, let us worship...*

We do not kneel or make prostrations either in services at church or during prayer at home during the Fifty Days between Pascha and Pentecost (as well as all the Sundays of the year). Following a tradition that comes down from the holy Apostles, Orthodox Christians have ever held that kneeling is incompatible with the joy of the Resurrection we experience during the Fifty Days and on all Sundays. Whenever we would ordinarily kneel or make a prostration during prayer on these days, we make a bow from the waist (*metania*) instead.

The paschal greeting, *Christ is risen!* and the response, *Truly, He is risen!*, are exchanged many times during the services of the Church from the Sunday of Pascha until the Leave-taking of the Feast, thirty nine days later. But this paschal greeting is not a mere liturgical formula. It is a greeting to be exchanged daily during the entire Paschal season between all believing Christians as a proclamation of our faith in the risen Lord!

We sing the words of the paschal troparion '*Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and on those in the tombs bestowing life!*' many times in the liturgical services for forty days from the Sunday of Pascha. Like the paschal greeting, the paschal troparion proclaims our faith in the triumph of Christ over death. Because of this, we should not only sing it in church, but also at home. Appropriate times to sing *Christ is risen...* are before meals throughout the Paschal Season and at the beginning of our morning and evening prayers from Thomas Sunday until the Leave-taking of Pascha.