



**SAINT NICHOLAS
ORTHODOX CHURCH**
P.O. Box 777
Barton, OH 43905-0777

*A Parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese
Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople*

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Very Rev. Father Michael C. Kabel *Pastor & Dean*

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- WEB SITE: www.stnicholasbarton.org
- PARISH FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/St.NicholasBarton>
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MYSTERY OF HOLY CONFESSION: Before & after Saturday evening Vespers. Other Sacraments by appointment.

GOING TO THE HOSPITAL? Please notify Father when you are admitted if you want him to visit. Kindly notify Father also when you are discharged.

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 16, 2017 DIVINE LITURGY 10:00 AM

**CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!
CHRISTOS VOSKRESE! VOISTINNU VOSKRESE!**

HOLY PASCHA: THE GLORIOUS RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST: Special Antiphons and All Propers can be found on pp. 193-196. The *Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom* is served on this great day. The *Artos* (Easter Bread) will be blessed at the conclusion of the Paschal Service. There will be *Mirovanije* (festive anointing) and the distribution of *red eggs* at the end of the Divine Liturgy. Then *Paschal Food Baskets* will be blessed on the church lawn, weather permitting. *A Blessed & Holy Pascha to all!*

EPISTLE: Acts of the Holy Apostles 1:1-8. **GOSPEL:** John 1:1-17.

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

For the week of April 16, *Bright Week:*

- Sun., April 16:** (6:00 PM) Agape Vespers.
- Bright Monday, April 17:** (9:00 AM) Divine Liturgy for *Bright Monday*. All Propers as on Pascha, except for Prokimen & Alleluia Verses and Amvon Prayer on p. 197. *Procession Gospels* at the four corners of the church. Festive Anointing.

Bright Tuesday, April 18: (9:00 AM) Divine Liturgy for *Bright Tuesday*. All Propers as on Pascha, except for Prokimen & Alleluia Verses and Amvon Prayer on p. 198. Festive Anointing.

Sat., April 22: (6:00 PM) Great Vespers with Litija for the *Sunday of Saint Thomas*.

ANTIPASCHA (Thomas Sunday), April 23:

NO MATINS – BRADY’S ARE AWAY

10:00 AM: Divine Liturgy for the *Sunday of Saint Thomas*. Regular Sunday Antiphons. 3rd Antiphon & Entrance Hymn of Pascha, pp. 193-194. Other Propers as given on pp. 199-200. The *Artos* will be blessed and distributed today.

THE ETERNAL LAMP burns *in memory* of +Joe Kovalcik. With love from *Marie*.

THE LEFT SIDE ALTAR LAMPS (Prothesis) burn with prayers for Laney & Anna Ross. Requested by *Laney & Cindi Ross*.

THE EMPTY TOMB LAMPS burn with prayers and best wishes for a *Happy Birthday* to Bill Bella Requested by *Tony, Janice, Stephen and Daniel*.

THE TETRAPOD LAMPS burn with prayers for *Special Intentions*. Requested by *Theresa Reese*.

THE HOLY GOSPEL is chanted in *English* and *Slavonic* at the Paschal Liturgy, and the church bells are rung after each of the twelve verses of the Gospel. This recalls the tradition of reading the Easter Gospel in twelve different languages, to illustrate that the Good News is meant to be proclaimed to the ends of the earth, to people of every language and nation.

THE RED EGGS, traditionally distributed in many Orthodox churches on Pascha, remind us of the *Blood of Christ* shed on the Cross (the color red) and our *new life* in the Resurrection of Christ (the egg itself).

NO FASTING is permitted during all of Bright Week. Meat may be eaten every day of this week, even on Wednesday and Friday. **CHRISTOS ANESTI!**

BLESSING OF THE ARTOS. The special Paschal bread which we bless today is known as the Artos. It symbolizes Jesus Christ, Who is the Bread of Life come down from Heaven for our spiritual nourishment. The Artos will be cut-up and distributed at the end of the Liturgy *next Sunday, April 23*, Thomas Sunday. If you want to partake, you’ll have to come back *next Sunday!* **CHRISTOS VOSKRESE!**

PLEASE JOIN US! We plan to have an Easter Dinner *next Sunday, April 23*, the Sunday of Saint Thomas, here in the church hall after the Sunday Divine Liturgy. *Grilling meats* will be provided. You are kindly asked to bring your favorite side dishes and desserts. **CHRIST IS RISEN!**

THE OCMC MISSION COIN BOXES, which our youth have been using during Great Lent to collect spare change for the Orthodox Missions, should be returned *next Sunday, April 23*.

OUR 10TH ANNUAL PARISH FLEA MARKET will be held on Saturday, May 6, 2017 from 9 AM til 2 PM. It’s not too early to start getting your stuff ready! Price suggestions would also be welcome. You may bring your donations and items to the church any time **AFTER next Sunday, April 23**.

CAMP NAZARETH ALUMNI DAY will be held on Saturday, May 20, 2017 on the grounds of our Camp. All former campers, staff, volunteers and clergy alumni, and their families, are invited to attend. The event is **free of charge** for Camp alumni and their families. For more information and to register online, visit campnazareth.org and look for “Alumni Day.” Register online by Sunday, May 14.

CAMP NAZARETH *FAMILY CAMP* will be held from Friday, June 9 thru Sunday, June 11, 2017. The theme is “*Your Family’s Sacred Story*.” Register online at campnazareth.org Act soon — space is limited to the first 10 families who sign-up.

EASTER DUTY. All parishioners are reminded of the Diocesan Precept which requires all members to receive the Sacraments of *Holy Confession* and *Holy Communion* at least **once each year**, during the Lenten/Easter season, in order to remain in good standing in the Church.

PASCHAL GREETINGS are extended to all of our parishioners, family members, friends, guests and visitors. It is a special blessing that all Christians are able to celebrate the Resurrection of Christ our Savior together, on the same day, this year! It has been a long and difficult Lenten journey for us. Now let us rejoice and keep the Feast! May the light and peace of the Risen Lord be in your hearts today and always!

With love and joy in the Risen Savior,
Father Michael & Pan'i Kelley

NO KNEELING in church or during personal prayer from Pascha until Pentecost. The elderly and infirm may assume whatever position is most comfortable for them. The doors of the Iconostas are left open throughout Bright Week, because the doors of Heaven have been flung open for us by the Death and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

CAMP NAZARETH 'FAMILY DAY' RAFFLE TICKETS are once again available for a donation of **\$20.00**. Top prize is \$10,000 cash. Drawing will be held on Family Day at Camp Nazareth on Sunday, June 11, 2017. See *Pan'i Kelley* if you would like to purchase a ticket.

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

- Palm Sunday Vespers (4/8) — 9**
- Palm Sunday Divine Liturgy (4/9) — 93**
- First Bridegroom Service (4/9) — 21**
- Second Bridegroom Service (4/10) — 32**
- Third Bridegroom Service (4/11) — 30**
- Holy Unction Service (4/12) — 51**
- Holy Thursday Vespers Liturgy (4/13) — 15**
- 12 Passion Gospels (4/13) — 40**
- Royal Hours for Good Friday (4/14) — 12**
- Good Friday Vespers (4/14) — 78**
- Holy Saturday Vespers Liturgy (4/15) — 19**

UPCOMING EVENTS IN 2017

Please mark your calendars now!

- Friday, May 5** — Vespers Divine Liturgy for the Feast of Saint George at 6:00 PM.
- Saturday, May 6** — 10'th Annual Parish Flea Market.
- Saturday, May 6** — First Confession Day.
- Sunday, May 14** — Mother's Day.

The Icon of the Resurrection

By [Fr. Stavros Akrotirianakis](#)



Peter said, “Brethren, I may say to you confidently of the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants upon his throne, he foresaw and spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did His flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Acts 2: 29-32

Christ is Risen!

For the next forty days, the icon of the Resurrection will be displayed in our churches. The icon of the Resurrection depicts not what happened on Easter Sunday. It actually reflects what happened on Holy Saturday. It does not show Christ coming out of the tomb, like a superhero, carrying a banner that says “I cheated death.” It shows our most Merciful Lord, descending into Hades, and raising all those who had fallen through death.

The icon depicts Christ wearing all white garments, because He is the Light of the world. The wounds in His hands and feet are visible. Christ is often shown carrying His cross, because only through the cross is the Resurrection possible. Sometimes instead of showing a Cross, the icon depicts Christ holding a scroll. In either case, the cross or the scroll, both represent the message that Christ preached to the captives He found in hell when He descended there. Christ is standing on two doors, which are the brass gates of Hades, now broken down because of the Resurrection. They are in the shape of a cross. Scattered near the gates are the locks and keys that bound humanity to Hades.

The most prominent figures in the icon, after the Lord, are Adam and Eve, the first human beings that God had fashioned, the symbols of a human race created in God’s image and likeness, who distorted that image through sin. Adam and Eve are now given a new chance and a restored image. For Christ, who in many places is called “the Second Adam,” has come to earth and done what the first Adam could not. He showed that it is possible to live a life in unity with God, demonstrating faith and love, and avoiding temptation. The reward for this life is eternal life, Resurrection from the dead.

The icon depicts many of the righteous figures who had preceded Christ. A young man is often depicted in the icon. This is Abel, the first person to die, killed by the hand of his brother Cain, the first person to suffer death as a result of the Fall. (Genesis 4) Moses, the one whom God spoke through to give the people the Law is shown. It was Moses who instituted the first Passover. It is very appropriate that he is present for the “new Passover,” the Resurrection. David and Solomon, both kings, both ancestors of Christ, are depicted in the icon. John the Baptist, the forerunner and last of the prophets is also usually depicted.

Christ is shown grabbing the wrists of Adam and Eve. This is an important part of the icon. When people greet one another and shake hands, this denotes a position of equality, you might even say that symbolically it means meeting one another half-way. The depiction of Christ grabbing the wrist of Adam tells us that we are not equal with God. We cannot even meet God half-way. But if we reach out to God, He is ready to grasp us by the wrist to take us with Him to Paradise. This is the most hopeful part of the icon. It reminds us that we have to reach out to God in faith, and let Him take care of the rest.

In some icons of the Resurrection, Eve is depicted behind Christ, waiting her turn for her Resurrection. In some depictions her wrists are covered. In the icons where Christ is grabbing only the hand of Adam, with the other hand, Adam is gesturing towards Eve, as if asking Christ to take care of his helpmate and to save her as well.

The Resurrection was made possible only because of the crucifixion. An earthly death was required in order for the Resurrection to occur. In our lives, an earthly death is required in order to inherit eternal life and enter into the Kingdom of Heaven. The depiction in the icon assures us that those who fall through death will be raised to eternal life because of the Resurrection of the Lord. The righteous figures of the Old Testament died with faith that something greater was coming. They did not immediately go to heaven, because Jesus had not yet come and died for them, as He did for us. Through the Resurrection, when we fall through death, we are raised to Paradise by the power and the mercy of Christ.

Jesus did not “cheat” death—He destroyed the power of death. We will not cheat death either. Each of us will eventually die an earthly death. But because the Resurrection destroyed the power of death over us, when we die on this earth, we will be resurrected with Christ, the power “death” has over us will indeed be destroyed.

The service celebrated Holy Saturday morning is affectionately known as the “proti-Anastasis”, the First Resurrection. This is not a correct sentiment. There was only one Resurrection, and it occurred after the Sabbath passed. The event of Holy Saturday morning is the “First Announcement of the Resurrection,” which came to those in hell. And what an announcement it must have been! A hymn from the Matins of each Sunday (also chanted on Good Friday) says:

The assembly of the Angels was amazed beholding You numbered among the dead, O Savior, destroying the power of Death; with Yourself You raised up Adam, and freed everyone from Hades. (Evlogetaria of Sunday Orthros, and of the Orthros of Holy Saturday, Trans. by Fr. George Papadeas)

May we be so fortunate to hear this announcement when we pass away from our earthly life.

Today Hades cried out groaning: “My power has been trampled on; the Shepherd has been crucified, and Adam He raised up. I have been deprived of those, over whom I ruled; and all those, I had the power to swallow, I have disgorged. He, who was crucified has cleared the tombs. The dominion of death is no more.” Glory O Lord, to Your Cross and Resurrection. (From the Vesperal Liturgy on Holy Saturday Morning, Trans. by Fr. George Papadeas)

May we one day be raised from the dead by the Lord!

+Fr. Stavros

Let’s shine brightly! By Presvytera Alexandra Houck in The Children's Word



Do you have a flashlight or a candle? What does it look like when you shine it in a dark room? When you bring it into the room, the darkness instantly goes away. Everything looks different.

Today, and for the next few weeks, you might hear a beautiful hymn at church. It starts, “It is the day of the Resurrection. Let us shine brightly for the festival...”

How can we shine brightly? We can wear our best, our fanciest clothes. We can hold candles. But the hymn tells us how we can shine the brightest way of all. We can hug one another. We can forgive one another (even people who really don’t like us!) We can tell each other the good news that Christ rose from the dead.

Christ is risen! You know that, of course, but we love to say it again and again. When we tell each other the good news, “Christ is risen!” we shine brightly.

Just like when you shine a flashlight or a candle in a dark room, when we have the good news of “Christ is risen!” everything is different! We are full of joy. Then, we can shine brightly too!