

PARISH BULLETIN

Dear Brothers and Sisters, **CHRIST IS RISEN!**

UPCOMING CHURCH SERVICES:

Dear Parishioners,
To protect the health and safety of all, current rules and guidelines regarding the coronavirus require that there are no Public services at our parish until further notice.

If you wish us to light a candle or say a prayer for yourself or your family member, friend please let us know.

Please do not forget us, we still need your donations to pay our monthly bills.

With the exception of Liturgies, all other weekday services are canceled due to the Coronavirus situation.

“Now on the first day of the week, very early in the morning, they, and certain other women with them, came to the tomb...but they found the stone rolled away...and did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. ... two men stood by them in shining garments. ... they said to them. “Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here, **BUT IS RISEN!**” (Lk. 24. 1-6)

Every life, within itself, has death and resurrection. Modern science is telling us that every single cell in our body, from the day we are born to the day we breathe our last breath, goes through death and resurrection. I know that today we are surrounded with fear and anxiety, but at the same time we are reminded that Resurrection is part of our life too. Our own biology is preaching to the whole fallen world that Christ is Risen. We all die but we do rise with faith in His Holy Resurrection. Christ Himself has been giving us the truth that we, like him, are born, crucified, die, and rise every single day of our lives. We as orthodox christians are living participants in this miracle, the miracle of Resurrection.

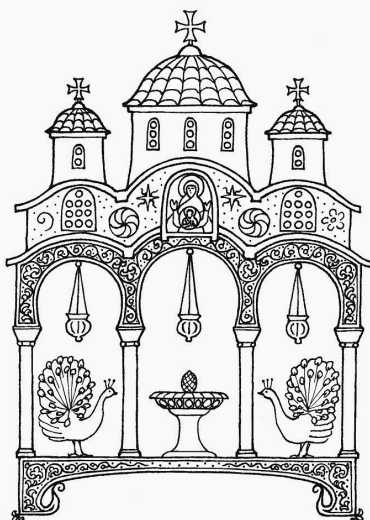
I know that our journey to the empty tomb has been difficult; not the same as in years past. We were not able to journey together with Him through the beautiful Liturgical cycle because of this terrible virus. But nevertheless we are here. Within the walls of our homes, our little churches; we are ready. We prayed. We fasted. We are ready to cry out to the whole world; **CHRIST IS RISEN!**

Today we are confined within these walls of our homes. But this is the same place where St. Apostle Thomas, who doubted, had experienced the resurrected Lord. Behind the locked door of fear and anxiety he met Life Eternal. The same spiritual experience we are called upon to share with him today. There is no virus in this world that can stop us from touching

**ADULT CLASSES ARE
CANCELED UNTIL
FURTHER NOTICE**

**PLEASE CALL YOUR
PRIEST IF YOU WOULD
LIKE YOUR HOME TO BE
BLESSED.**

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NEW WEBSITE:
stgeorgecarmichaels.org



His Holy wounds and then saying with joy: “My Lord and my God!”(Jn. 20;28)

A priest once said that today death still rules the world but it does not have that last word, the resurrected Christ has it, and he says to all of us; **Rise!**

We are all walking in the spiritual footsteps of our father Abraham. Remember he was very rich; he had everything, but God told him to leave it and to follow Him. He left material certainty and entered into the realm of uncertainty. But his heart was telling him something that was exactly the opposite; that he was safe. Upon hearing the voice from on high, he left everything and followed Him who is the foundation of all certainties - Lord of all.

My Dear Parishioners, we are all heavenly when we have enough faith, courage and hope. So what is suffering really? Dostoevsky said that he did not care what it was because he was not afraid of it, even though sometimes it could be overwhelming. He used to be afraid, but then found that this terrible thing was actually doing something wonderful to him; adding miraculous strength to his being. And he knew he could conquer all that came his way. He said that every moment of his life he could say: “I AM. Through a thousand difficulties - I AM. My body is cramping because of all the anguish, but I AM!” He was happy to see the Sun, and even when he was not able to see it, he knew it was there, “And to know that the Sun exists, that is life itself.”

“Why are you troubled?” (Lk. 24,38) Asks Jesus.

Today we, like Dostoevsky, know the Sun exists!

Today we know that death has sting no more!

Today we know that **Christ is Risen!!!**

May His eternal light shine upon all of you. May it bring peace and joy from above. May the healing power of His holy myrrh flow abundantly and wash away every evil and sickness from your side.

CHRIST IS RISEN!!!