

St. Nicholas Orthodox Christian Church
Cross and Cottage Streets - Auburn, New York 13021
(www.stnicholasauburn.com)

Very Reverend Michael Speck – Pastor - (315) 246-6051 (Cell), (315) 255-2998 (Home)
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Fr. Michael's Office Hours Monday and Thursday 3:00 PM to 5:00 PM in the Church Hall or by Appointment

Reverend Deacon David Donch	Sr. Warden Greg Michaels	Jr. Warden Rocco Lupo
Subdeacon Michael Speck	Reader Nathaniel Donch	Reader Peter A. Speck

Sunday, April 8 2018 The Feast of Feasts - Holy Pascha
Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen! Христос Воскресе! Воистину воскрес!
May the Blessings of the Risen Lord Be With You Throughout All the Days of Your Life!

Sunday, April 8 – 11:00 AM - Paschal Vespers with Procession.

**Monday, April 9- 9:00 AM - Paschal Divine Liturgy with the Blessing of the
Four Corners of the Church.**

Wednesday, April 11 – 9:00 AM - Paschal Divine Liturgy

Saturday, April 14 – 5:00 PM Confessions

- 5:45 PM – Ninth Hour

- 6:00 PM – Great Vespers

Sunday, April 15 – Antipascha – St. Thomas Sunday

-9:00 AM – Adult Education

-9:40 AM – 3rd and 6th Hours

-10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

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Donations for the General Fund – God Bless You for your Kindnesses

\$75 in memory of George & Michael Pavlyak -- by Michele Pavlyak

Donations for the Beautification of the Church on Holy Pascha

\$50 for the health of the LaComb Family -- by Mary Ellen LaComb

\$30 in memory of Reader William & Anna Kosci and the Kosci Family -- Michael & Anne Speck and the Speck Family -- the Very Reverend Archpriest Stephen Mack and Reverend Dn. Mark Hoepfinger -- and for the health of all the ill and infirm commemorated at St. Nicholas Orthodox Church -- by the Reader Michael Speck

A Zeon/Ladle for use in the preparation of the Holy Eucharist has been donated by several anonymous donors.

Thank you for your generosity!



**ARCHPASTORAL MESSAGE OF HIS BEATITUDE METROPOLITAN TIKHON
PASCHA 2018**

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

I greet all of you on this bright day, the radiant and holy day of Pascha, the day upon which the light of Christ has risen upon all mortal human beings. The light that now surrounds us in our Churches, in our Monasteries, and in all of creation, is greater than can be accounted for by physical candles, chandeliers, or the sun and the moon.

The light that presently shines is the light of the Lord's dramatic victory over hell, over corruption and over death itself. He had reminded His Disciples that *whosoever lives and believes on me, shall never die* and today, that promise is fulfilled in us, for Christ's victory has become our victory – we have entered fully into it.

The Holy Apostle Paul reminds us of this when he says: *Know ye not that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore, we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we should also walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall also be in the likeness of his resurrection (Romans 6:3-5).*

As we share the joy of the Feast of Feasts in our communities, with our families, and even with strangers, let us all give thanks for the light in our hearts, for it is not a simple emotional response, but an experience of authentic life – life which pierces through the darkness of our earthly cares and passions.

And so, let us rejoice in the Lord with thanksgiving for His great victory, and let us cry out with the paschal hymn: *Yesterday, O Christ, I was buried with Thee, and today I rise again with Thee, in Thy rising. Yesterday I was crucified with Thee, now glorify me, O Savior, in Thy Kingdom.*

Christ is risen!

**+TIKHON - Archbishop of Washington
Metropolitan of All America and Canada**

Saint John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople

The Paschal Sermon

If any man be devout and love God, let him enjoy this fair and radiant triumphal feast. If any man be a wise servant, let him rejoicing enter into the joy of his Lord. If any have labored long in fasting, let him now receive his recompense. If any have wrought from the first hour, let him today receive his just reward. If any have come at the third hour, let him with thankfulness keep the feast. If any have arrived at the sixth hour, let him have no misgivings; because he shall in nowise be deprived thereof. If any have delayed until the ninth hour, let him draw near, fearing nothing. If any have tarried even until the eleventh hour, let him, also, be not alarmed at his tardiness; for the Lord, who is jealous of his honor, will accept the last even as the first; he gives rest unto him who comes at the eleventh hour, even as unto him who has wrought from the first hour.

And he shows mercy upon the last, and cares for the first; and to the one he gives, and upon the other he bestows gifts. And he both accepts the deeds, and welcomes the intention, and honors the acts and praises the offering. Wherefore, enter you all into the joy of your Lord; and receive your reward, both the first, and likewise the second. You rich and poor together, hold high festival. You sober and you heedless, honor the day. Rejoice today, both you who have fasted and you who have disregarded the fast. The table is full-laden; feast ye all sumptuously. The calf is fatted; let no one go hungry away.

Enjoy ye all the feast of faith: Receive ye all the riches of loving-kindness. let no one bewail his poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed. Let no one weep for his iniquities, for pardon has shown forth from the grave. Let no one fear death, for the Savior's death has set us free. He that was held prisoner of it has annihilated it. By descending into Hell, He made Hell captive. He embittered it when it tasted of His flesh. And Isaiah, foretelling this, did cry: Hell, said he, was embittered, when it encountered Thee in the lower regions. It was embittered, for it was abolished. It was embittered, for it was mocked. It was embittered, for it was slain. It was embittered, for it was overthrown. It was embittered, for it was fettered in chains. It took a body, and met God face to face. It took earth, and encountered Heaven. It took that which was seen, and fell upon the unseen.

O Death, where is your sting? O Hell, where is your victory? Christ is risen, and you are overthrown. Christ is risen, and the demons are fallen. Christ is risen, and the angels rejoice. Christ is risen, and life reigns. Christ is risen, and not one dead remains in the grave. For Christ, being risen from the dead, is become the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. To Him be glory and dominion unto ages of ages. Amen