

Dear Fathers, Deacons, and Faithful of Toledo and the Midwest Diocese,

**Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!**

**!المسيح قيامة! حق اقام**

When Adam fell, he could, from then on, only see ahead of him. Close to the ground and on his knees, his spiritual vision was narrowed to seeing only horizontally. He couldn't see above him. But from his knees he could pray.

The long Lent is over. As Holy Week begins, and as the fast returns, we begin to get up off the ground. We are ready for a standing posture not a prostration. Easter and Pascha show us we were meant to look above us in a heavenly direction.

*“Christ is Risen, and there is no one left in the tombs.”* The humiliation of the Cross is changed into the glorification of His Resurrection. Everything has changed for me too. The Resurrection of Christ has opened the door to eternity. The limits of time that stop us from discovering the possibilities of who we are have been overcome. I see only opportunities forever in Christ. *“And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being changed into the likeness from one degree of glory to another.”* (2 Corinthians 3:18).

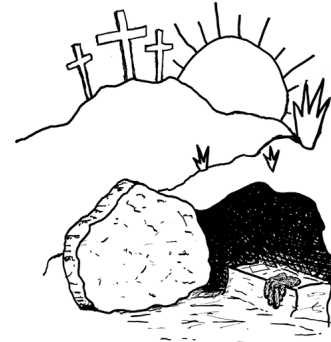
May the never ending light of His Resurrection shine forever in your hearts.

Wishing you a blessed Pascha!

*+ Bishop Anthony*

**Bishop of Toledo  
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of North America**

*Any announcements for the Sunday bulletin? Please submit by Wednesday each week to Fr. Andrew, by email or phone.*



He is not here; for He is risen, as He said.  
Come, see the place where the Lord lay.  
Matthew 28:6

## St. George Orthodox Church of Spring Valley

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### **Sunday, April 12, 2015 – HOLY PASCHA, THE RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD**

**Midnight Office, Procession, Matins and Divine Liturgy, 10:00 PM**  
**Holy Bread and Coffee Hour:** Robert Abraham, and the Sanders and Medawar families

*Please join us for our Easter potluck breakfast downstairs after the service!*

Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death,  
and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!

*(Arabic)* Al-Masih kam, min bain il amwat, wa wati al-mouta bil mout,  
wa wa ha bil hayat lillatheena fil qubur.

*(Greek)* Christos anesti ek nekron, thanato thanaton patisas, kai tis en tis mnemasi, zoen  
karisamenos.

*(Slavonic)* Christos voskrese iz mertvych, smertiju smert' poprav, i suschim vo hrob'ich zivot  
darovav.

**Hypakoe of Pascha (Tone 4):** They who were with Mary came before the dawn, found the stone rolled away from the sepulchre, and heard the angels say unto them: “Why seek ye Him as man with the dead, who dwells in Light eternal? Behold the grave wrappings; make haste

St. George is a parish of the Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese  
The Most Reverend Metropolitan JOSEPH, primate  
The Right Reverend Bishop ANTHONY, Diocese of Toledo and the Midwest  
[www.antiochian.org](http://www.antiochian.org)

and declare to the world that the Lord is risen, and hath caused death to die; for He is the Son of God, the Savior of the world.

**Kontakion of Pascha (Tone 8):** Though Thou, O Deathless One, didst descend into the grave, Thou didst destroy the power of hell and as Victor Thou didst rise again, O Christ our God. Thou didst greet the ointment-bearing women, saying: "Rejoice!" Thou didst bestow peace upon Thy disciples and resurrection upon those that are fallen.

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*This is the day which the Lord hath made; let us rejoice and be glad therein.  
Praise ye the Lord, for He is gracious; for His mercy endureth forever.*

**The reading is from the Acts of the Apostles (1:1-8)**

In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. To them he presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me, for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit." So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth."

**The reading is from the Holy Gospel according to St. John (1:1-17)**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light. The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not. He came to his own home, and his own people received him not. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (John bore witness to him, and cried, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.'") And from his fulness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

## Announcements and Upcoming Events

*For a full calendar of events and services at St. George, consult the calendar on our website, [www.stgeorgeorthodox.org](http://www.stgeorgeorthodox.org).*

- **Easter day:** We will have **Agape Vespers at noon**, a short service of joyful Easter hymns.
- **Saturday, April 18:** Vespers, 6pm
- **Sunday, April 19: Sunday of St. Thomas.** Matins at 9am and Divine Liturgy at 10am, and our **monthly Parish Council meeting** will take place after coffee hour.
- **Wednesday, April 22:** We will celebrate the **Feast of St. George**, our church's patronal feast day, **at 6:00 pm**, with a Divine Liturgy. We are expecting several other Orthodox priests from the area to join us this evening. Please come honor our saint, and show our customary hospitality to our guests!

### Collections for the Archdiocese

In addition to your regular support of the church, one of our most important Christian duties is almsgiving. Please consider designating a gift to any or all of the following collections, supported by our Antiochian Archdiocese. (Make your checks payable to St. George Church with the desired designation on the memo line.)

- **Patriarch's Offering** - our annual support to our Patriarch and mother church in Syria
  - **Food for Hungry People** - your Lenten coin boxes. Please return your coin boxes at this time, if you have been collecting. Feel free also to write a check to St. George Church, with "Food for Hungry People" in the memo line. These funds are sent to our Archdiocese for various charitable projects both here and in the Middle East.
  - **Food donation box** - Kaitlyn Kelley is collecting non-perishable food donations downstairs for the food pantry.
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