

# HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH

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A parish of the American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese of North America · Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople

## HTOC Weekly Update



**Christ is risen! Indeed he is risen!**

**Sunday, May 5, 2024 · 9 a.m.**

Matins and Divine Liturgy

Blessing of Easter Baskets

Pascha

Resurrection of Christ Jesus

### The Bottom Line!

**Christ Jesus** — whose rising from death we'll celebrate this coming Sunday on **Pascha** (May 5) — tells us boldly: **"Have no fear! I am the first and the last, the one who lives! I died, but now I am alive forever — and I hold in my hand the keys to death and where the dead are!"** (Revelation 1:17-18).



Jesus died as all die. But death couldn't hold him hostage like other humans, because as a mortal man he embodied immortal God **"who alone can never die"** (1 Timothy 6:16). The passing of Everliving Life into the dimension of death short-circuited its power! The two could not coexist!

Jesus, our Lord and brother, came out of death alive. He holds its keys now. His death frees us from being **"slaves to fear of dying"** (Hebrews 2:15). His resurrection is his down payment on our own: **"Christ rose first — then those who belong to Christ will rise when he returns"** (1 Corinthians 15:23).

**That, dear siblings in Christ, is the bottom line and breathtaking good news of Pascha!**

### Pitch In!

Church doesn't happen on its own. It happens when all of us pool our time, talent, and treasure together and put them at God's disposal to do his will as followers of Jesus. In a word, that's **stewardship**. Want to lend a helping hand? See our parish priest, Father Alexis Woytek to find out what needs doing. Want to become a supporting member? See our parish treasurer, Mrs. Lydia Pinkowski to find out how. Thanks for pitching in to make **your** church happen!

### Reach Out!

The Church doesn't exist for itself. God calls it to reach out and share his love with the world that it lives in. Our parish charity bin is one way that we do such **outreach**, by collecting nonperishable food that our friends at **People Helping People in Hernando County** (phphernando.org) share with locals in need. Download a **grocery list** from our website (tinyurl.com/htoc-list). Thanks for reaching out and helping others through **your** church's charity!

**MORE! ➡**

## **Safe and Sound**

COVID is no longer a global pandemic, but coronavirus still crops up now and then, here and there. Please keep alert and take sensible precautions while our church remains open.

If you feel ill, please stay home, follow doctor's orders, and take good care of yourself. Let us know if you want us to pray for you. We look forward to seeing you again once you get well!

Please feel free to wear a face mask if your health requires it or you just feel safer doing so.

Please respect personal space and give each other courteous leeway.

Thanks for your consideration, which is simply part of doing what Christ Jesus told us to do: **"Love others as much as you love yourself"** (Mark 12:31).

## **Next Week!**

Join Father Alexis Woytek and our church family on

**Sunday, May 12, 2024 · 9:30 a.m.**

Divine Liturgy

Second Sunday of Pascha

Thomas Sunday

**We look forward to seeing you then!**

**"Let us not give up the habit of meeting together... Instead, let us encourage each other all the more..."**

Hebrews 10:25