

The Apostles Are Persecuted

17 But the high priest rose up and all who were with him, that is, the party of the Sad'ducees, and filled with jealousy 18 they arrested the apostles and put them in the common prison. 19 But at night an angel of the Lord opened the prison doors and brought them out and said, 20 "Go and stand in the temple and speak to the people all the words of this Life."

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Gospel: John 20:19-31

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

19 On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being shut where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." 20 When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. 21 Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I send you." 22 And when he had said this, he breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

Jesus and Thomas

24 Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. 25 So the other



disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and place my hand in his side, I will not believe."

26 Eight days later, his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. The doors were shut, but Jesus came and stood among them, and said, "Peace be with you." 27 Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side; do not be faithless, but believing." 28 Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" 29 Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe."

The Purpose of This Book

30 Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.

Paschal Greeting in Church Slavonic:
Christos voskrese! (Voistinu voskrese!)
If greeted in a language you are unfamiliar with,
translate & respond in English (then learn the response)

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GUEST SERMON

The Paschal Homily of St. John Chrysostom

If anyone is devout and a lover of God, let him enjoy this beautiful and radiant festival.

If anyone is a wise servant, let him, rejoicing, enter into the joy of his Lord.

If anyone has wearied himself in fasting, let him now receive his recompense.

If anyone has labored from the first hour, let him today receive his just reward. If anyone has come at the third hour, with thanksgiving let him keep the feast. If anyone has arrived at the sixth hour, let him have no misgivings; for he shall suffer no loss. If anyone has delayed until the ninth hour, let him draw near without hesitation. If anyone has arrived even at the eleventh hour, let him not fear on account of his delay. For the Master is gracious and receives the last, even as the first; he gives rest to him that comes at the eleventh hour, just as to him who has labored from the first. He has mercy upon the last and cares for the first; to the one he gives, and to the other he is gracious. He both honors the work and praises the intention.

Enter all of you, therefore, into the joy of our Lord, and, whether first or last, receive your reward. O rich and poor, one with another, dance for joy! O you ascetics and you negligent, celebrate the day! You that have fasted and you that have disregarded the fast, rejoice today! The table is rich-laden; feast royally, all of you! The calf is fatted; let no one go forth hungry!

Let all partake of the feast of faith. Let all receive the riches of goodness.

Let no one lament his poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed.

Let no one mourn his transgressions, for pardon has dawned from the grave.

Let no one fear death, for the Saviour's death has set us free.

He that was taken by death has annihilated it! He descended into hades and took hades captive! He embittered it when it tasted his flesh! And anticipating this Isaiah exclaimed, "Hades 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 purged! It was embittered, for it was despoiled! It was embittered, for it was bound in chains!

It took a body and, face to face, met God! It took earth and encountered heaven! It took what it saw but crumbled before what it had not seen!

"O death, where is thy sting? O hades, where is thy 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 a tomb!

For Christ, being raised from the dead, has become the First-fruits of them that slept.

To him be glory and might unto ages of ages. Amen.

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PARISH BULLETIN BOARD ANNOUNCEMENTS



(Please have submissions for this section to Father Dave by Wednesday.)

Having flu-like symptoms? PLEASE KEEP FR. DAVE POSTED OF ANY ILLNESSES SO TO BE ADDED TO OUR PRAYER LIST!

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Calling All Graduates – if you will be graduating from High School, a University, or a Trade School this year, please contact Father ASAP.

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"20 seconds" of Prayer – Following the CDC recommendations, as you wash your hands, instead of singing your ABCs, pray! It takes roughly 20-seconds to pray The Lord's Prayer, sing O Heavenly King, pray Hail Mary (twice), sing You are truly deserving, or say the Jesus Prayer (5 times).

Weekly Candle Intentions / Memorials were offered last week by Joanne Nelson; Tim Martin; Shuster Family; Cindy Pavilionis; Jesko Family.

***"I am the light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."* - John 8:12**

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Candles in Church – If you wish for Father to light your weekly candles, please email or call him with your intentions and mail your candle donation to Tim Martin.

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Now On Instagram (with a new name)

(SJB_Orthodox_Pittsburgh) – Our Parish now has an Instagram page! Father will post a picture before (or after) each service at the church.

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Praying with online services from your domestic-church - Sunday Liturgies at St. John's will be celebrated **BUT WITH ONLY THE PRIEST AND CANTOR IN ATTENDANCE**. This comes from the Protocol from our Metropolitan. We will pray for our parish and the world. PLEASE watch services online! Here are the words of Fr. Matthew Dutko concerning watching services online:

- *"Wake up at the normal time that you always do on a Sunday. If you have kids, wake them up. Shower, get dressed in your Sunday finest and gather together in front of a computer screen.*

- *Light a candle and burn some incense [if you do not have any, contact Fr. Dave who can recommend online sites to order from]. When the Liturgy begins, pray and sing as you always do.*

- *Even though you will be in your home-church, don't let the distractions of being in your own home get in the way. For that hour or so, you will be with your parish family in prayer. I know it's not the same, but we will still be praying to our Lord, all together, all at the same time; just like we always do."*

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Cathedral Live-Broadcast - Our diocese is blessed with the opportunity to watch our Cathedral's Divine Liturgy every Sunday at 9am (and other services). The best scenario is to attend the Divine Liturgy and receive the Eucharist, but with these current limitations, please take the time Sunday morning, Wednesday evening, and throughout the week to pray with our brothers and sisters via the *live broadcast* on the web. www.acrod.org/organizations/cathedral/live/

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ORTHODOXY AROUND DA 'BURGH & OUR DIOCESE



SPF50 (Scripture, Prayer, Family): A Diocese

Family Ministry - The second Issue of SPF50 is available NOW!! It is a digital edition. If you

didn't start with us on March 1, consider joining now. Make a commitment to reading Scripture and Praying together with your family. Visit the Diocesan Website at acrod.org and look for the SPF50 section or go directly to the SPF50 web page at www.acrod.org/ministries/acrod-family/spf50 to find out more about SPF50 and how to help your family read Scripture and Pray together at home. Don't forget to fill out the Commitment Card which is available in the SPF50 Section of the Diocesan Website, and return the card to your priest.

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Our Stewardship Gifts To God

Stewardship:	\$ 565
Candles/Eternal Lamp:	\$ 77
Envelopes/Stewardship:	\$ 3369
Total Collections:	\$ 4011
Capital Improvement Fund:	\$ 0
Relocation Fund:	\$ 0

Give Generously: "For they gave according to their means... and beyond their means, of their own free will." 2 Cor 8:3

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Weekly Offerings to God – During this time that we are in, we request that all weekly donations be mailed to: Tim Martin



2225 McAleer Road

Sewickley, PA 15143

For our parish to continue it's ministries, outreach, and general bill paying, we need your generosity to continue.

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Bulletin Sponsor – Please contact Fr Dave to sponsor a bulletin *In Honor of* (anniversary, birthday, etc.) or *In Memory of* someone. An additional stewardship offering to the Church is requested.

Paschal Greeting in Greek:

Khristós anésti! (Alithós anésti!)

Census Forms: If you have not done your census form yet... when you fill it in, check the box for your race then type in or print Carpatho Rusyn. (Not just Rusyn) There is no guarantee the census bureau will lump the two together. Please pass this on to ALL your Carpatho Rusyn friends and family members.

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Weekly Bulletin Email – If you would like to receive the bulletin in an email at the beginning of each week, please email Father Dave at: fr.sleepless@gmail.com

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Paschal Greeting in Romanian:

Hristos a înviat! (Adevărat a înviat!)

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LOOKING AHEAD LOCALLY



✂ Please Continue to Pray (and wash your hands)

✂ Wed. June 3 – 7pm – Mystery of Holy Unction

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Pysanky in June! Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Carnegie has rescheduled their 53rd Annual Ukrainian Easter Egg Sale to **Saturday, June 6** from 11am to 4pm. Pysanky, folk arts, food, basket raffles, food, door prizes and, of course, more food! It is not too early to put this on your calendar!

Visit Our Diocese On-Line

Diocesan Website: www.acrod.org

Camp Nazareth: www.campnazareth.org

FB: www.facebook.com/acroddiocese

Twitter: twitter.com/acrodnews

You Tube: youtube.com/acroddiocese

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LIVES OF THE SAINTS

Source: www.orthodoxpittsburgh.com/parish-calendar/orthodox-calendar © 1996-2001 by translator Fr. S. Janos

The PriestMartyr Artemon

Commemorated on April 26/13

The PriestMartyr Artemon was born of Christian parents in Syrian Laodiceia in the first half of the III

Century. From the time of his youthful years he dedicated himself to the service of the Church. At 16 years of age the saint was made a reader and in this position he laboured during the course of 12 years. For his zealously in Divine Services, Sainted-

bishop Sisinius ordained him to the dignity of deacon. Saint Artemon did also this service with fervour and diligence for 28 years, after which he was ordained to the priesthood. And in this dignity Saint Artemon served the Church of God for 33 years, preaching the Christian faith amongst pagans. When the emperor Diocletian (284-305) began a fierce persecution against christians, Saint Artemon was already old. The emperor issued an edict, that all christians were to offer sacrifice to idols.

Saint Sisinius, knowing about the impending arrival in the Laodicean district of the military-commander Patricius, went together with the priest Artemon into the pagan-temple of the goddess Artemis. There they smashed and burnt the idols.

Afterwards, Saint Sisinius and Saint Artemon gathered the flock into the church and heatedly exhorted the christians to remain firm in the faith and not fear the threats of torturers.

Having arrived in Laodiceia, Patricius made a five-day celebration in honour of the pagan gods, and then went off to the temple of Artemis to offer sacrifice. He learnt who it was that had destroyed the temple, and set off with a detachment of soldiers to the church where the christians were praying. Not yet having gotten in front of the church, Patricius suddenly felt a chill, and afterwards heat, such that it left him hardly alive, and they entered into the first house they found along the way. "The Christians have put a curse on me, and this their God tormenteth me", – he said to those about him. The prayers of Patricius to the idols did not relieve his sufferings. He dispatched a messenger to Saint Sisinius and asked for his help, promising by way of thanks to make a gold statue of the bishop. The Saint answered: "Thy gold keep to thyself, but if thou wishest to be healed, believe in Christ".

Patricius was afraid of dying and he declared that he believed in Christ. Through the prayer of Saint Sisinius the affliction left him. But even a miracle having been worked did not alter the obdurate soul of the pagan. Although he did not touch Saint Sisinius, he however set off to enforce the imperial edict against other christians in the city of Caesarea. Along the way he encountered an old man, for whom there went in pairs six wild donkeys and two deer. This man was the priest Artemon.

To Patricius' query, how he was able to lead after him these wild beasts, Saint Artemon answered, that everything in the world confesses the Name of Christ and with true faith in Christ nothing is impossible.

Patricius learned from the pagans that the old man he met along the way – was the same Artemon, who had destroyed the pagan temple of Artemis. He gave orders to seize him and take him to the city of Caesarea.



Saint Artemon went along with the soldiers without fear, but he ordered the animals to go to Saint Sisinius.

One of the donkeys received the gift of speech from God and told the sainted-bishop that he had come from Saint Artemon. The sainted-bishop sent him in Caesarea a blessing and prosphora by deacon.

In Caesarea Patricius summoned Saint Artemon to trial and began to try to force him to offer sacrifice in the pagan temple of Asclepius. In this pagan temple there lived many poisonous vipers. The pagan priest never opened up the doors, nor previously carried in the sacrifice to the idol. But Saint Artemon, calling on the Name of Jesus Christ, went into the temple and let out from there the plethora of snakes. The pagans turned in flight, but the saint stopped them and by his breath killed the snakes. One of the pagan priests, Bitalios, believed in Christ and asked Saint Artemon to baptise him.

Patricius thought that Saint Artemon killed the snakes by means of sorcery, and he again started to interrogate and torture him. At this point in time there arrived in Caesarea the donkey which had spoken with Saint Sisinius. The donkey lay down at the feet of the martyr, and afterwards again having received from God the gift of speech, it denounced Patricius, predicting for him an impending death in a boiling cauldron. Patricius was scared, that the miracles done by Saint Artemon would draw still more people to him, and he gave orders to execute him.

He filled an enormous cauldron with boiling tar. Soldiers were needed to throw Saint Artemon therein. But when Patricius rode up on horseback to the kettle, wanting to be sure that the tar was indeed boiling, two Angels in the guise of eagles seized and threw him into the cauldron, but Saint Artemon remained alive. Through the prayer of the saint there issued from the ground a spring of water, in which he baptised the pagan priest Bitalios and many pagans, who had come to believe in Christ. On the following morning Saint Artemon communed the newly-baptised with the Holy Mysteries.

The bishop of Caesarea went to visit with Saint Artemon. He cleared off the place where the martyr suffered, and afterwards was built a church there. Many of the baptised were ordained to the deaconate and priesthood, and Bitalios was made bishop of Palestine. The Priestmartyr Artemon, through a calling by the Divine Voice, went preaching the Gospel into Asia, to the settlement of Bulos. Along the way an Angel appeared to him and transported him openly in view of the villagers. He converted many there to faith in Christ. Pagans seized the saint and beheaded him (+ 303).

*Paschal Greeting in Italian:
Cristo è risorto! (È veramente risorto!)*

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LIVING ORTHODOXY

Guidelines for the Paschal Season
By Fr. Dn. David Keim

These guidelines are intended by our Holy Church to help us experience the joy of this feast and celebrate our Lord's victory over death and sin more completely!
KNEELING – We should not kneel or make prostrations in Church or in our private prayers at home from Pascha through Pentecost (this year, June 7). Kneeling and prostrating are postures of repentance and sorrow for our sins. The brilliant solemnity of the events that we are celebrating takes precedence over such external manifestations of penitence. For our Lord's death and resurrection *"blot[ted] out the handwriting of ordinances that was against us ... nailing it to His cross; and having spoiled principalities and powers, He made a show of*

them openly, triumphing over them in it." (Col. 2:14,15) Accordingly, *"[t]here is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus ..."* (Rom. 8:1) For these same reasons, we do not generally kneel on any Sunday of the year as each Sunday is a "mini-Pascha," commemorating our Lord's resurrection. We resume kneeling at appropriate times during the "Kneeling Vespers" celebrated after the Divine Liturgy for Holy Pentecost.

*Paschal Greeting in Spanish:
¡Cristo ha resucitado!
(¡En verdad ha resucitado!)*

O HEAVENLY KING — From Pascha until Pentecost, the prayer "O Heavenly King," wherein we invoke the presence of the Holy Spirit, is not said either in the

[illegible]

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Paschal Greeting in Swahili:
Kristo amefufukka! (*Kweli amefufukka!*)

O joy of the sorrowful and consolation of the afflicted, stretch out your hands which are full of health and cures, so that having quickly received your wondrous help, we may glorify the Life-giving and Undivided Trinity: the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, now and ever and unto ages of ages. Amen.