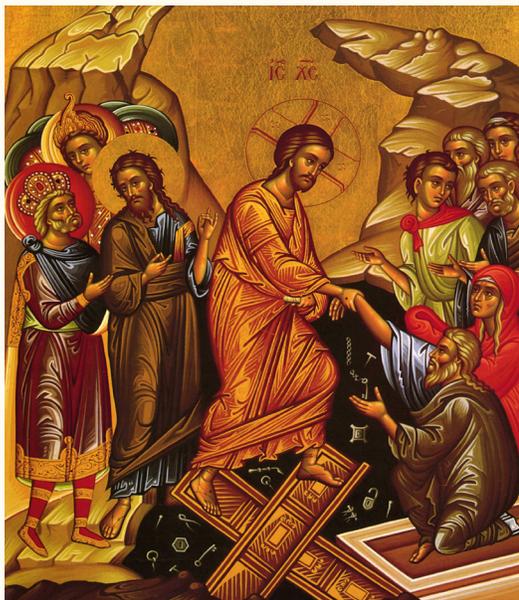


Family Connections

The Resurrection of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ
Acts 1:1-8 & John 1:1-17



Yesterday I was crucified with Him; today I am glorified with Him. Yesterday I died with Him; today I am made alive with Him. Yesterday I was buried with Him; today I am raised up with Him... Let us become like Christ, since Christ became like us. Let us become Divine for His sake, since for us He became Man. He assumed the worse that He might give us the better. He became poor that by His poverty we might become rich. He accepted the form of a servant that we might win back our freedom. He came down that we might be lifted up. He was tempted that through Him we might conquer. He was dishonored that He might glorify us. He died that He might save us. He ascended that He might draw to Himself us, who were thrown down through the fall of sin. — St. Gregory the Theologian (4th century)

EXPLORE TOGETHER:

Christ Is Risen! Truly He Is Risen!—Orthodox Christians through the world victoriously proclaim this message for a full 40 days after Pascha. As a family, learn to declare the Resurrection in different languages. Start off with languages spoken by people you know and then learn whatever interests you. An excellent resource for this is Pascha Polyglotta (<http://srbigham.com/en/>). This website offers the resurrection greeting in 250 different languages—with both the written text and audio.

Visit the Cemetery—Take time today or this week to stop by the cemetery. Walk through as a family singing “Christ is risen!” with your Pascha candles lit. If you have loved ones buried there, take flowers for their grave. This was a tradition in old Russia on Pascha. The priest would walk through the cemetery with the choir and altar boys singing “Christ is risen” and greeting the families who stood by their loved ones’ graves. What a beautiful way to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord with our loved ones who have departed this life.

Bringing the Light Home—After Pascha services, plan on bringing the light of the Resurrection home. Purchase one of the five-day candles from your parish and light it with the Pascha flame as you leave the church. Keep the flame lit during Bright Week at your family iconostasion. Gather there as a family each day to pray the Paschal Hours and sing “Christ is risen.” Visit www.goarch.org for information about the Resurrection and resources to guide your family's spiritual development.

**Before church next week, read the scripture passages for the
Sunday of Thomas**

Acts 12:1-11 & John 15:17-27; 16:1-2

FOR MORE INFORMATION FOR COUPLES AND FAMILIES, VISIT:



Center for Family Care of the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America
www.family.goarch.org