

Christ is Risen!

Acts 17:3-Opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ. (KJV)

Jesus' Resurrection is celebrated from Pascha until the Feast of the Ascension. The joy of the Resurrection abounds in the Church throughout the Paschal period. Believers' hearts, minds and souls experience and are transformed by Paschal joy. Serious believers are renewed and reorient their lives at the Paschal celebration. Pascha is celebrated in the present in God's Holy Church as the Feast of Feasts. The Lord Jesus Christ's Resurrection is continuously experienced in the present.

Romans 8:34-Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us. (KJV)

The Risen Christ is firmly present and alive in believers' hearts, minds and souls. Lives change, are transformed and renewed in and through the Risen Christ. Minds, hearts and souls open to the Risen Christ savor the joy of the Resurrection. Eternal life becomes verifiably possible with the evidence of Christ's Resurrection. Jesus' appearances following His death and burial establish new unwavering hope. Darkness in life is eradicated with the brightness of the Lord Jesus' Resurrection.

I Corinthians 15:20-But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept. (KJV)

The Holy Scriptures provide written verification of Jesus Christ's Resurrection. Efforts to suppress the truth of the Resurrection through the centuries have failed. Communism and atheistic views have not eradicated the truth that Christ is Risen. The Resurrection gives believers facing imminent death the hope of eternal life. The Risen Jesus is the firm foundation of hope for life beyond the earthly grave. The Lord Jesus Christ destroyed the limits of death when He rose from the tomb.

Colossians 2:12-Buried with him in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with him through the faith of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead. (KJV)

Baptism unites the believer with the Risen Christ for the remaining time of life. Life after baptism is eternally linked with the Resurrected Lord Jesus Christ. The Risen Christ nourishes, renews and guides the believer throughout life. Believers that rise with Christ at baptism are to honor Christ every day of life. Baptism brings immeasurable joy to the new believer's heart, mind and soul. Hearts, minds and souls filled with the Risen Christ radiate Resurrection joy.

Wednesday of Thomas' Week. Holy Hieromartyr Januarius. April 21/May 4, 2022.
Hidden Valley, Pennsylvania. Father Rodney Torbic

