

Family Connections

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



Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

This year many of us will miss our glorious midnight Resurrection Services and the communal and large family gatherings that often follow. The longing for community is real, but in the midst of it we can make firm resolutions to celebrate Christ's victory over sin and death with whomever we are able – even if it is “only” with the Church Triumphant. Decorate paschal candles and light them at midnight. Pray along with the services in

your icon corners or bring your favorite icons nearby to remind you that you are not alone. Christ is in our midst and always shall be, and so are His Saints. Call loved ones via FaceTime, Zoom or phone, and sing together the triumphant hymn “Christ is Risen!”

EXPLORE TOGETHER:

Christ Is Risen! Truly He Is Risen!—Orthodox Christians victoriously proclaim this message for 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 graves. This was a Pascal tradition in old Russia. 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.

**Before next Sunday, 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