

# ST. NICHOLAS ORTHODOX CHURCH

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Fr. Mark Sherman - Priest

Robert Popadic - Starosta

Basil Andruchow - Protodeacon

Philip Grayton - Choir Director

Basil Safchuk - Protodeacon 04/11/10

Stephen Kelsey - Church School

Sunday, April 11, **2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY OF PASCHA - Tone 1. St. Thomas Sunday.**

Hieromartyr Antipas, Bishop of Pergamum, disciple of St. John the Theologian (92).

Epistle:

Gospel:

Acts 5:12-20

John 20:19-31

Romans 6:3-11 (Baptism)

Matt. 28:16-20 (Baptism)

Cutting and Distribution of the Artos, following Divine Liturgy  
Annual Blessing of Graves in Salem (1 pm) and Peabody (2:30 pm)

Tuesday, April 13, Day of Rejoicing (Radonitsa)

Daily Vespers, 5:30 pm

Saturday, April 17

Akathist, *Glory to God for All Things*, 1 pm

followed by a Retirement Party for Fr. Mark and Matushka Anne

Great Vespers for the Resurrection, 6 pm

Sunday, April 18, **3<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY OF PASCHA - Tone 2. Holy Myrrhbearing Women. St.**

John, disciple of St. Gregory of Decapolis (9<sup>th</sup> c.). St. Evfimii, Enlightener of Karelia.

Sixth Hour, 9:50 am

Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom, **10 am**

Epistle:

Gospel:

Acts 6:1-7

Mark 15:43-16:8

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## CONGRATULATIONS

Many Blessed Years to the infant, Luke Zhilkov, who is Baptized in the Liturgy this morning, and to parents Kirill and Alana, and to the God Parents and all the family!

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## SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL

This year our worship at Pascha and Holy Week was truly inspiring and wonderful. The celebration over Pascha and Holy Week doesn't just happen, but is the result of hard work from numbers of people, whether organizing, cleaning, choir preparation, decorating and setting up, carrying out the Easter Bread and Roll Sale, cooking, bringing canned goods, or providing flowers. Thanks to all for the good work this season. Christ is Risen!

In addition, Anne and I thank all for the love and consideration expressed to us this Pascha season. With love in the Risen Christ, Fr. Mark.

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## SPECIAL PRAYER SATURDAY AT 1 PM

This coming Saturday at 1 pm, His Grace Bishop Nikon will join us for the Akathist prayer, "*Glory to God for All Things*." As well as a celebration of Fr. Mark and Anne's 25<sup>th</sup> year in the priesthood, and retirement, this prayer will be a celebration for all the blessings and all good that our God gives to us all the days of our life. A catered luncheon will follow. Please plan to come and join this prayer of Thanksgiving to our God!

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## PRAYERS DURING PASCHA SEASON

During Pascha Season, we begin our prayers with "Christ is Risen from . . ." "O Heavenly King" is not said now until Pentecost. Besides this modification, this week we return to our regular personal daily prayers and the regular weekly fasting regime (Wednesdays and Fridays). The Church in its wisdom gives us the openness and celebration of Bright Week, but then returns us quickly to our regular prayers so that we might not lose the spiritual progress we made in Great Lent.

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## THE ARTOS

Near the end of the Paschal Vigil, after the Prayer Before the Ambo, a single large loaf of bread, the Artos, is blessed with a special prayer and sprinkled with Holy Water. The Artos is topped by an icon of the Resurrection of Christ and symbolizes the physical presence of the resurrected Christ among the disciples. The Artos is placed on a small table before the Iconostasis where it remains throughout Bright Week. The Artos symbolizes Christ as the bread of life, and it serves to remind all Christians of the events connected with the Resurrection of Our Lord.

Today, after the Divine Liturgy, another prayer is said over the Artos and it is then broken and distributed among the whole congregation along with the Prospora. It is our custom to keep a portion of the Artos throughout the year and with due reverence and faith to eat of it in time of illness or distress.