



The Orthodox Church in America  
DIOCESE OF PHILADELPHIA AND EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA  
The Most Rev. Mark, Archbishop of Philadelphia

May 02 April 16, 2021

*Blessed Feast of Feasts!*

*Christ is risen from the dead trampling down death by death  
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.*

*We celebrate the abolition of death,  
the destruction of Hades and the first fruit of everlasting life.  
And as we leap with joy, we praise the Cause of these good gifts,  
the God of our fathers who is alone blessed and most gloried.*

*Beloved clergy, Matushki and faithful,*

*Christ is Risen! Truly, He is Risen! El Messieh Kahm! Hakken Kahm!  
Khristos Voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese! Let us embrace one another and forgive all  
things for the sake of Christ's Holy Resurrection. May Christ's Holy Resurrection  
strengthen us for a life of purity and holiness. Let us say with St. Paul "I have been  
crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the  
life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, Who loved me and gave  
Himself for me." (Gal. 2: 20) Let us guard this gift of eternal life so freely bestowed!  
Forgiving as Christ forgives. Let us love as Christ loves. May this Sacred and Holy  
Gift of Eternal Life always be our point of reference for all we do and say. Christos  
Anesti! Alithos Anesti! Cristos Vaskres! Vaistinu Vaskres! Cristos a Inviat!  
Adevarat a Inviat!*

*Your unworthy father in Christ,*

*+ Mark*

*+ Mark, Archbishop of Philadelphia and the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania*



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"Thou hast made us for Thyself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in Thee." Augustine