

**Orthodox Parish of St Martin & St Helen
Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of the
British Isles and Ireland
Patriarchate of Antioch and all the East**

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Sunday 12 April 2026. Issue 24.

**Tone 2
Holy Pascha.**

**Epistle Reading
Acts (1:1-8)**

This is the day which the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Verse: O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good; for his mercy endures forever!

In the first words, Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when He was taken up, after He had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom He had chosen. To them He presented Himself alive after His passion by many proofs, having been seen by them for forty days, and speaking of the Kingdom of God. And having assembled together with them, He charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which He said: "You heard from Me, for John baptised with water, but before many days you shall be baptised with the Holy Spirit". So when they had come together, they asked Him: "Lord, wilt thou at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" And He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or seasons, which the Father has fixed by His own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judaea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Alleluia.

Verse 1: Thou shalt rise up and have pity on Zion.

Verse 2: The Lord from heaven hath looked upon the earth.

Gospel Reading

John (1:1-17)

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was [what] God [was]. This one was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him, nothing came into being that has come into being. In him was life, life that was the light of mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There came a man, sent from God, whose name was John. John came as a witness, to bear witness to the light, so that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but [he was sent] to bear witness to the light. The true light who enlightens everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world had come into existence through him, and the world did not recognize him. He came to his own [people], and those who were his own did not receive him. But as many as received him, to them he gave the ability to become God's children, to those who believe in his Name. They were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God. The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We beheld his glory, glory as a Father's uniquely-begotten son, full of grace and truth. John testified about him; he cried out, saying, "This was the one of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'" And from his fullness, we have all received grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses, [but] grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

Troparion of Holy Pascha

Christ is Risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tomb, bestowing life.

Holy Pascha

Kontakion

When thou didst descend into the grave, O Immortal, thou didst destroy the power of hades. In victory didst thou arise, O Christ God, proclaiming 'Rejoice' to the myrrh-bearing women, granting peace to thine apostles and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

The Paschal Homily of our Holy Father St John Chrysostom

If any man be devout and love God, let him enjoy this fair and radiant triumphal feast. If any man be a wise servant, let him rejoicing enter into the joy of his Lord. If any have labored long in fasting, let him now receive his recompense. Those who have toiled since the first hour, let them now receive their just reward. If let any have come after the third hour, let them be grateful to join the feast. If any have arrived at the sixth hour, let him not be afraid of being too late; for he shall suffer no loss. If any have delayed until the ninth, let him not hesitate but draw near. If any have tarried even until the eleventh hour, let him, not fear on account of his lateness; for the Lord, who is gracious, receives the last even as the first. And he shows mercy upon the last, and cares for the first; and to the one he gives, and upon the other he bestows gifts. And he both accepts the deeds, and welcomes the intention, and honors the acts and praises the offering. Come you all: enter into the joy of your Lord. You the first and you the last, receive alike your reward; you rich and you poor, dance together; you sober and you negligent, celebrate the day. You who have kept the fast and you who have not, rejoice together today. The table is richly loaded: enjoy its royal banquet. The calf is a fatted one: let no one go away hungry. All of you enjoy the banquet of faith; all of you receive the riches of his goodness. Let no one lament over his poverty, for the universal kingdom has been revealed; let no one weep over his sins, for pardon has dawned from the grave; let no one fear death, for the death of our Savior has set us free: He has destroyed it by enduring it, He has despoiled Hades by going down into its kingdom, He vexed it by allowing it to taste of his flesh. When Isaiah foresaw all this, he cried out: Hades has been angered, when you met him face to face down below! Hades is angered! for it was brought to nothing; Hades is angered! for it was mocked; Hades is angered! for it has been overthrown; Hades is angered! for it has been put in chains. Hades seized a body, and lo! it discovered God; Hades seized earth, and, behold! it encountered heaven. It took that which was seen, and fell upon the invisible. O Death, where is your sting? O Hades, where is your victory? Christ is risen! And you, O Death, are annihilated! Christ is risen! and the demons are cast down! Christ is

risen! And the angels rejoice! Christ is risen! And life reigns! Christ is risen! And the tomb is emptied of its dead: For Christ, being risen from the dead, has become the first fruit-fruit, the Leader and Reviver of those who had fallen asleep. To Him be glory and power, now and forever, and from all ages to all ages. Amen.

Hristos a inviat! Adevărat a inviat!

Χριστὸς ἀνέστη! Ἀληθῶς ἀνέστη!

Хрі́сто́съ воскресе́! Вои́стин воскресе́!

المسيح قام! حقًا قام!

খ্রীষ্টেরে উদতি হয়! সত্যই তিনি পুনরুত্থতি

Cristo è risorto! È veramente risorto!

Si Kristo ay nabuhay! Tunsy na nabuhay na siya!

Christus ist auferstanden! Er ist wahrhaftig auferstanden!

Մէ Ըրիստ ճիրիւի! Գօ ճեւմին, տ՛ա ճէ ճիրիւի!

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

Քրիստն ճարշալի ի ճեւմեղոց: Օրհնալ է ճարությունը Քրիստոսի:

Kris la leve! Vrèmanvre li leve soti vivan!

Le Christ est ressuscité! En vérité il est ressuscité!

ΠατριςΤος αΨτωΝΨ! ΗΕΝ οΥΜεΘΜΗι αΨτωΝΨ!

基督复活了！他确实复活了！

मसीहा उठा! वास्तव मे वह जी उठा है!

Cristo ha resucitado! Verdaderamente ha resucitado!

Crist wedi atgyfodi! Yn wir y mae wedi atgyfodi!

!حضرت عیسا نمودار بوئے! میرے شک وہ جی اُٹھا میرے

Christus resurrexit! Surrexit vere!

Chrystus zmartwychwsta! Rzeczywiście zmartwychwsta!