

# Epiphany of Our Lord Byzantine Catholic Church

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**April 8, 2018 + Sunday of Saint Thomas**

Divine Liturgy	Saturday, 5:30 PM · Sunday, 10:00 AM · Holy Days, 7:30 PM
Confessions	Saturday, 4:30-5:00 PM · Sunday, 9:00-9:30 AM
Collection	Last week: <b>\$5,092.00</b> . <i>God bless you for your generosity.</i>
Sunday Readings	Acts 5:12-20 + John 20:19-31
Sacramental Needs	Please call Fr. Deacon James 770-993-0973 or 404-227-5401

In April, the Altar Lamp burns before our Lord in the tabernacle in loving memory of  
+Louise Campbell, sister of Peg & Ging Ciborowski. *Vičnaja jeh pamjat.*

## Christ is Risen! ✠ The Fruits of Pascha

*Come, let us drink a new drink, not one marvelously brought forth from a barren rock, but the source of incorruption, which springs forth from the grave of Christ, in Whom we are established (Canon of Pascha).*



During the 50 days which follow Pascha, the liturgical books of the Church are a well-spring of insight and renewal that aids in harvesting the fruit of the Great Fast — a period of nurturing and guidance marked by examples of people of faith answering the call to follow and serve the Risen Christ.

The good habits and virtues that have begun to grow during Lent must now be harvested to serve Christ in new ways. In this state of openness to our Lord and

His message, now is the time to develop ministries, to create new opportunities for service, and to go wherever Christ calls. Thus each Sunday that leads to Pentecost contains the theme of missions and evangelism in a special way.

Today is the eighth day of the paschal celebration, the last day of Bright Week. In the Gospel we encounter the incredulity of Thomas. His doubt, however, leads to tremendous faith: "My Lord and My God". After his encounter with the Risen Lord, Thomas is sent with the other eleven to baptize all nations in the name of the Holy Trinity. Doubt followed by a commission to serve Christ illustrates how faith empowers us to serve Christ in unbelievable ways.

We ourselves have not seen Christ with our physical eyes nor touched his risen body with our physical hands, yet in the Holy Spirit we have seen and touched and tasted the Word of Life, and so we believe.

*Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe" (John 20:27-29).*

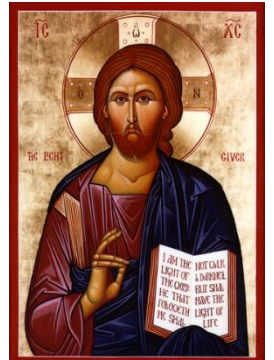
**Adult Education.** Starting this Sunday after the Divine Liturgy, Fr. Deacon James will resume his classes on the first five books of the Old Testament, the *Pentateuch*. The Sacred Scriptures reveal to us the relationship God has had with His people since the beginning of the world. All are encouraged to attend these informative and spiritually stimulating classes.



**Upcoming Maintenance.** Over the next month we will be undertaking some very necessary maintenance work around the property: several dead and fallen trees have already been removed; the rectory roof will be replaced as it is in serious disrepair; the exterior plumbing on the church has not been working for years and will be repaired; the ongoing maintenance on the church steeples will be addressed; and new gravel will be put down on the driveway. Please be as generous as you can in your weekly contribution to help defer these very expensive costs.

**Baba's Kitchen.** We still have assorted pieroghi and nut, poppy seed and apricot rolls available for purchase in the narthex after all Liturgies. The special Easter prices will continue throughout the entire season of Pascha. All proceeds go toward the church roof repair and ongoing maintenance needs of the church property. Be sure to tell all your friends! Please support the work of the parish and continue to enjoy some wonderful treats during the Paschal Season.

**Growing in Knowledge and Faith.** This fall 2018, the Byzantine Catholic Seminary is making available its **Master of Arts in Theology** degree program with fully online courses. These classes are consistent with those offered on campus and utilize many of the seminary's in-house faculty. In keeping with its mission statement, "...teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you" (Mt. 28:20), Byzantine Online seeks to produce exceptional academic leaders in Eastern Christian theology, scripture and dogma. Details can be found at [www.online.bcs.edu](http://www.online.bcs.edu).



Together in the Holy Trinity ... One Faith, One Church, One Future!