

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL
165 Park Drive
Boston, Massachusetts, 02215

Pascha 2019

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

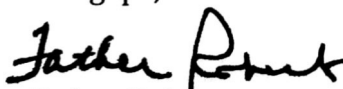
The reality of death permeates every aspect of our existence. That which is inescapable and unavoidable confronts us as we celebrate the resurrection of Christ. The liturgy of his three-day Pascha – his death, burial and resurrection – draws us into an unknown and inexhaustible mystery. Within this mystery, human reason recognizes its limitations as it is overcome by a visceral encounter with the vanquisher of death's dominion. Within this mystery we catch a glimpse of the resurrected Christ filling death with his unending life.

The crucified and risen Christ is the assurance of God's love for us and for all of his creation. His empty tomb confirms that from all eternity, even while anticipating our sinful collapse, God pre-destined us to share eternal life with him. The reality of sin and death could not withhold our Father's love and desire to envelope us in the new life given through his crucified and risen Son.

But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses made us alive together with Christ... (Ephesians 2:4-5)

Pascha is the celebration of our baptism – our dying and rising with Jesus Christ. It is a foretaste of death's demise as it affirms the reign of the Life Giver who holds together all that would otherwise succumb to the dominion of hell and death. This is the Good News each of us is encouraged to receive and share as members of the Church - the living body of Christ. Division and death – those ugly and terrifying manifestations of sin - surround us and work within us. Fear, particularly the fear of death, never ceases to dim or veil the light of the empty tomb. Yet, our Savior invites us to explore the great mystery of his death and resurrection, to share the incomprehensible news that Life Triumphant embraces us as it transforms our fear, sadness and even doubt into eternal and expanding joy.

En agape,


Father Robert