

RUSSIAN TRUE ORTHODOX CHURCH  
ARCHDIOCESE OF NORTH AMERICA  
СИАМГЕРУ

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РУССКАЯ ИСТИННО-ПРАВОСЛАВНАЯ ЦЕРКОВЬ  
СЕРБНО-АМЕРИКАНСКАЯ АРХИЕПАРХИЯ  
КАНИЦАРИЯ

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**To the beloved clergy, monastics and faithful of the Russian True Orthodox Church, Metropolia of Moscow—mercy and peace be yours.**

**“Yesterday I was buried with Thee, O Christ. Today I arise with Thee in Thy resurrection. Yesterday I was crucified with Thee: Glorify me with Thee, O Savior, in Thy kingdom.”**

These words that we sing during Paschal matins give us a framework in which we see a roadmap on the way toward salvation. The Christian life is all about fall and redemption. It is a life in which we look at our yesterdays but are never held captive by them, because there is always today to start fresh.

As we celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord today, I hope that each of us has used the days given to us during Great Lent to look at where we’ve been and to see where we would like to be today. Just because we’ve reached this great day doesn’t mean we have reached our goals. Today is, without question, a day to take a victory lap. We’ve endured the Fast, we’ve wrestled with our demons, and hopefully we’ve come to this day a better person.

What we know, however, is that tomorrow is another day. We can never rest on our accomplishments. Instead, we need to take the lessons we’ve learned and use them to make ourselves just a little better each and every day. That doesn’t mean we won’t fall again and again. No one of us is perfect and falling is simply part of living. It just hopefully means that we’ve learned that when we fall we don’t have to remain down.

It is my firm hope that these past days of reflection have allowed us to reach today with new hope and the knowledge that with God all things are possible. Today, let us arise, let our enemies be scattered, let our demons be vanquished, and let us joyfully give thanks to Him who endured suffering and death so that we might be raised with Him to newness of life.

With the bestowal of my archiepiscopal blessing upon you, I remain

Sincerely in Christ,

**+ALEXY**

First Hierarch of the Russian True Orthodox Church - Metropolia of Moscow  
Metropolitan of Moscow and all Russia  
Archbishop of North America