

# Archpastoral Letter for the Resurrection of Our Lord 2025

April 20/7, 2025



To the beloved clergy, religious, and faithful of the True Orthodox Church of the Diaspora--mercy, peace, and love be yours in ever-greater measure.

*“Christ our Savior, having nailed to the Cross the handwriting against us, blotted it out, and abolished the dominion of death; we worship His Resurrection on the third day.”*

*-Paschal Vespers*

So often, when we think of the Resurrection of Our Lord, and all the events the preceded it, we think of it as an event far removed from today. We are grateful for all that has been accomplished on our behalf by the Savior, but we don't always get the connection to our lives today. We fail to see it as an ongoing event in which we still participate and concretely reap the benefits.

The Resurrection of Christ has given every person from Adam to those walking the streets today a second chance, and for that we should all be grateful. There is no one among us who hasn't made some foolish choice in our lives or done something that we regret. We might not have listened to the serpent and eaten

from the forbidden tree, but we've all done enough to warrant the need for repentance. We can't go back in time to change the past, but because of Christ and His death and Resurrection we can take solace in the knowledge that those mistakes can no longer hold us bound. Christ has brought forgiveness to all from the grave and that forgiveness touches each of us personally. Not only are the gates to paradise, once again, opened to us but we know that forgiveness is ours if we only ask. In the Old Testament we witnessed God's just wrath. In the New Testament we are witnesses to His love and mercy, a love which does not remember our pasts but leads us to the possibilities of the future.

The glorious Feast that we celebrate today now begs the question, “What are we going to do with that second chance”? If we're wise, we will jump at the opportunity to be free from the past and make it our resolve to not end up in that place again. Second chances, however, are only beneficial if we make use of them. So today, we have a choice before us. Hopefully, we all make the choice to take the joy and light of the Resurrection and let it fill our hearts and guide our actions to the end of our days.

May we all be witnesses to the world of the wonders that can happen when we're given a second chance.

With the bestowal of our blessings and prayers for all of you, we remain

Sincerely in Christ,

+ALEXY

Metropolitan and First Hierarch of the True Orthodox Church of the Diaspora  
Archbishop of Minneapolis

+HARALAMPOS

Archbishop of Dallas and Texas

+NICHOLAS

Archbishop of Edenborn

Vicar for the Archdiocese of North America  
& the Diaspora

+HERMOGEN

Archbishop of Odessa and Tavrychesk

+ALEXIOS

Archbishop of Hazleton and Weatherly

+PHILIP

Retired Archbishop of Philadelphia