The Orthodox Church in America
DIOCESE PHILADELPHIA AND EASTERN PENNSYLVANIA
The Most Rev. Mark, Archbishop of Philadelphia

April 8, 2015

Christ is risen from the dead trampling down death by death
and upon those in the tombs bestowing life.
We celebrate the abolition of death,
the destruction of Hades and the first fruit of everlasting life.
And as we leap with joy, we praise the Cause of these good gifts,
the God of our fathers who is alone blessed and most gloried.

Beloved clergy, Matushki and faithful,

Christ is Risen! Truly, He is Risen! El Messieh kahm! Hakken kahm! Khristos voskrese! Voistinu voskrese! Let us embrace one another and forgive all things for the sake of Christ's Holy Resurrection. May Christ's Holy Resurrection strengthen us for a life of purity and Holiness. Let us say with St. Paul "*I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me."* (Gal. 2: 20) Let us guard this gift of eternal life so freely bestowed! Forgiving as Christ forgives. Let us love as Christ loves. Christos anesti! Alithos anesti! Cristos vaskres! Vaistinu vaskres! Cristos a inviat! Adevarat a inviat!

Yours in Christ,
+ Mark
Archbishop of Philadelphia and the Diocese of Eastern Pennsylvania

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