

THE UNIVERSAL LIVING ROSARY ASSOCIATION

International Center for Eastern Europe/Ukraine-Russia

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GLORY BE TO JESUS CHRIST!

Dear Members, Benefactors and Apostles,

We greet you with love and gratitude. Please do not let anyone be discouraged that they might be too late in sending to us the names of family, friends and beloved dead for the Lenten Bouquet of Masses. Our Easter is celebrated on May 1. The Holy Masses for our members will be continued up and through this date. In the Eastern Church, we never forget to pray for our departed loved ones. In this way, the living are comforted, reminded of the brevity of this life and encouraged to do penance in order to detach themselves from the material goods which bind them to this earth.

Easter is the summit of the Mystery of the Sacred Liturgy! The individual who is happy enough to enter, with his whole mind and heart, into the knowledge and love of the Paschal Mystery, has reached the very center of the supernatural life. All is a preparation for Easter. The human race was dead and the gates of Hell were shut against it. On Easter, the Son of God rises from the dead and takes possession of Eternal Life.

The features of His human body delighted the eye as it was now endowed with glorious qualities: the **BRIGHTNESS** of His glorified Body made Him resplendent; He possessed **IMPASSIBILITY** whereby His Body was no longer subject to suffering and death but was now adorned with Immortality of Life. His glorified Body was endowed with **AGILITY**, whereby He was able to pass from one place to another instantly and without effort in the twinkling of an eye. For those to whom He appeared after His Resurrection, He said:

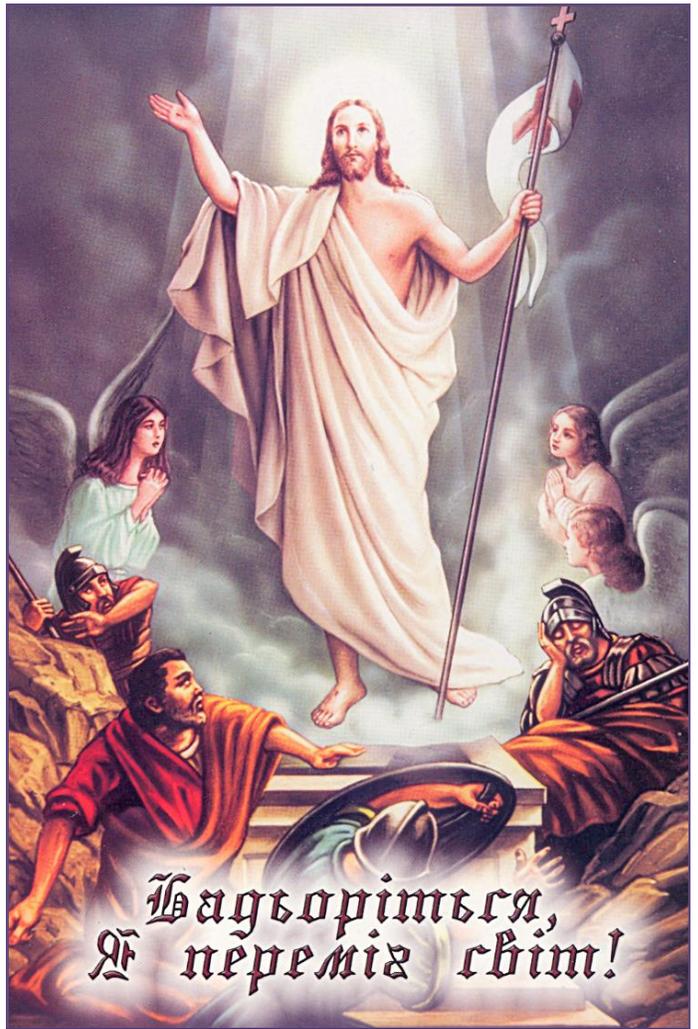
"See Me! Touch Me! Feel! It is I, indeed!"

During the 40 days, Christ remained on earth after His Resurrection. He spoke to the apostles of the Kingdom of God. He redeemed man by His Blood and His Victory over death; He wrought reconciliation between Heaven and earth - all that now remained to be done was the organization of the Church.

Three things were needed by the Church in order that She might carry on Her mission: a constitution framed by the very Hand of God, whereby She would become a visible and permanent Society; the possession of all the Truths which Her Divine Lord came upon earth to reveal or confirm and, in this, is included the right to teach and to preach infallibly; thirdly, the means whereby She was to apply to souls the fruits of the Sacrifice of the Cross, the Graces of Salvation and Sanctification. Hierarchy, Doctrine and Sacraments are the subjects upon which Our Lord instructed the Apostles during these 40 days before His Ascension into Heaven. They eagerly listened to all He had to say, for they knew He was to leave them soon.



It is true that forty days after His Resurrection, the God-Man is to withdraw His visible presence from the world. He is not to be seen again on earth until the Last Day, when He will come again to judge the living and the dead. Even so, He could never abandon mankind, for whom He offered Himself on the Cross. We were to have the Church. It is to the Church He would leave His Authority and all the Truths He had taught; it is the Church that He made the dispenser of all the means of Salvation which He had destined for the world. The Church is a Society, unto which all mankind is invited to be members. This Society is the Spouse of Christ. It is by Her, He produces the elect. Outside of Her bosom, there is no salvation. *"Thou art Peter and upon this rock, I will build My Church, feed My lambs!" "The gates of Hell shall not prevail against My Church."* Therefore, let the Church show Herself, take Her stand, and spread throughout the length and breadth of all Nations.



Let us give thanks to Jesus, Our Divine Shepherd. The authority, strength and unity of the Church come from Him Who is Her infinitely powerful and merciful Shepherd! What is needed now are strong and united lay people in every parish, well informed, resolute and courageous, true apostles, who by their lives of holiness teach and preach the Faith to all those around them. Faithful souls through whose prayers, sacrifices and sufferings,

bring the fruits of Our Lord's Passion to those in distant lands who know not their Savior, and souls consecrated to the Mother of God reaching out to the world with Her Sacramentals and maternal love, that they might find Her crucified Jesus and, through Him, eternal salvation.

By His Death, may we have eternal life! We are remembering you at the Sacred Altar in a special way during the Easter Octave and the weeks that follow. May your families have peace and may you be filled with the fearlessness, strength and courage needed to resist the evil by which you are surrounded and persevere do the end in the Grace and Love of Jesus Crucified!



I impart to all of you, my priestly blessing:
 ✠ *In the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

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