



Before Your own death, O Christ, You raised from Hades Lazarus who had been dead for four days, violently shaking the dominion of Death. Through this one friend whom You loved, You foretold the deliverance of all people from corruption. We therefore worship Your almighty power and cry out: “Blessed are You, O Savior: have mercy on us!”

O Lord, You said to Martha: “I am the Resurrection!” You confirmed Your words by actions, calling Lazarus from Hades. Through my passions, I am dead. Raise me also, I pray You, in Your tender mercies and love for mankind.

Stichera of the Praises

## St. Ignatios of Antioch Melkite Church

1003 Merry St., Augusta, GA 30904

Parish Administrator: Fr. Miguel Grave de Peralta

Parish: 706-738-9388

www.melkite.net

Priest: 706-993-6279

*Lazaros Saturday*

*April 16, 2011*

Apostolos: Hebrews 12:28-13:8

Gospel: John 11:1-45



### Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom

***Antiphon Prayer*** (Said at the end of the *Great Synapte*)

O Christ God, You prefigured for us your glorious Resurrection when You raised your friend Lazarus from the tomb. Wherefore, we Your beloved people, offer You praise with pure mouths, praying You to make us worthy participants in Your Holy Passion and Your glorious Resurrection.

For it belongs to You to have mercy on us, O Christ our God, and to You we render glory, thanksgiving and worship, and to Your Eternal Father and your All-holy, Good and Life-giving Spirit, now and always and forever and ever.

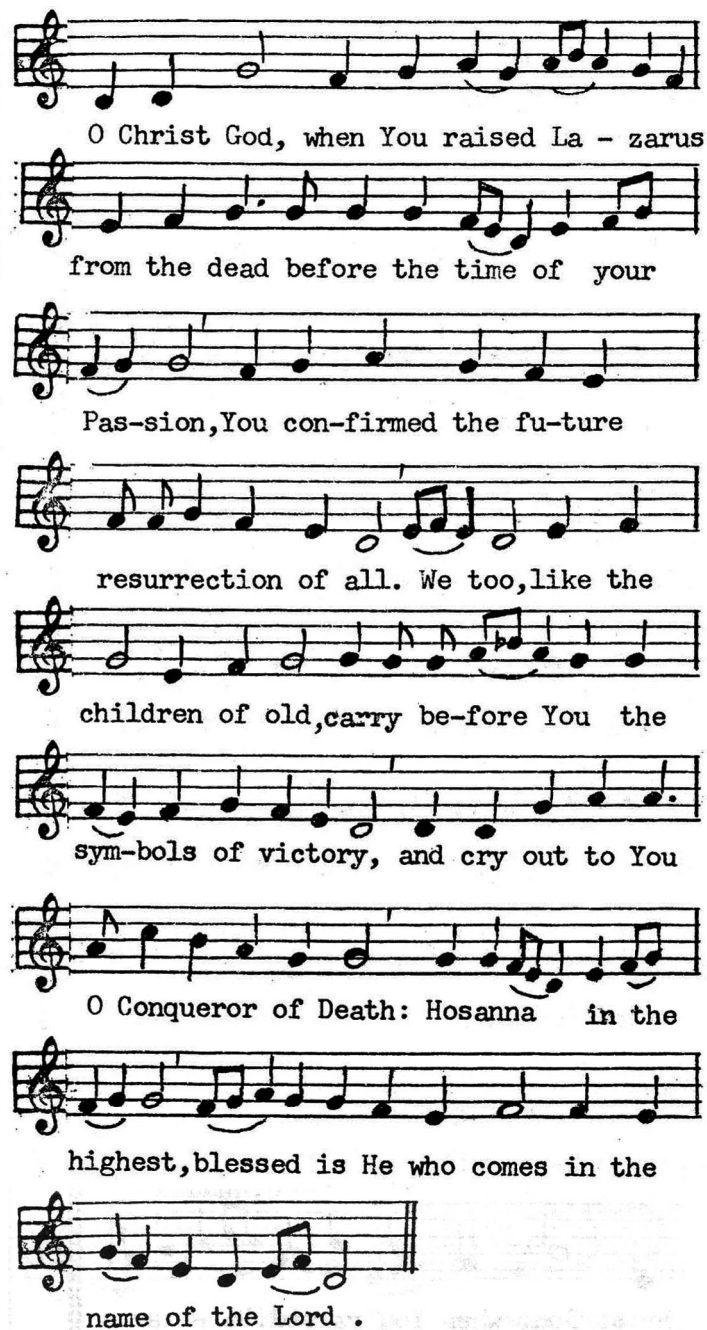
**People: Amen**

***Antiphons of Sunday***

***Entrance hymn of Sunday:*** Come let us worship and bow down before Christ. O Son of God, Who are risen from the dead, save us who sing to You: Alleluia!

Hymns:

Troparion of Lazaros, Tone 1 (three times)



O Christ God, when You raised La - zarus  
from the dead before the time of your  
Pas-sion, You con-firmed the fu-ture  
resurrection of all. We too, like the  
children of old, carry be-fore You the  
sym-bols of victory, and cry out to You  
O Conqueror of Death: Hosanna in the  
highest, blessed is He who comes in the  
name of the Lord .

by name? Oh, sweet and life-giving voice of the only Lover of mankind! That voice can make sons of god out of stones. How can it not wake us from the sleep of sin?

Bp. Nikolai Velimirovic. *Prolog*, 5 February



According to an ancient tradition, it is said that Lazarus was thirty years old when the Lord raised him; then he lived another thirty years on Cyprus and there reposed in the Lord. It is furthermore related that after he was raised from the dead, he never laughed till the end of his life, but that once only, when he saw someone stealing a clay vessel, he smiled and said, "Clay stealing clay." His grave is situated in the city of Kition, having the inscription: "Lazarus the four days dead and friend of Christ." In 890 his sacred relics were transferred to Constantinople by Emperor Leo the Wise, at which time undoubtedly the Emperor composed his stichera for Vespers, "Wishing to behold the tomb of Lazarus . . ."

[www.goarch.org](http://www.goarch.org)

O Lord, Your voice destroyed the kingdom of Death, and Your powerful word raised up from the grave him who had been dead for four days. Thus Lazarus became the prelude of salvation and rebirth for all. O Master, King of all, all things are possible for You: grant Your servants forgiveness and Your great mercy.

Sticheron, Lamplighting Psalms

***Kinonikon:***

From the mouths of infants and babes You have prepared a hymn.  
Alleluia!

***Post-Communion:***

Troparion of Lazarus

---

The miracle performed by Jesus in Bethany surpasses all miracles. Others had raised the dead before him: Elijah gave back life to the son of the widow in Zarephath; Elisha warmed the body of the son of the Shunammite woman and returned him alive to his mother. Jesus himself had resurrected two children before Lazarus. But both for the prophets and for Christ, until this day, it was more a matter of “reanimation” than resurrection, because in each case the awakening took place on the same day as the death: “*My daughter just died,*” said Jairus; the dead were buried on the day of their death at the time of the widow of Nain.

Lazarus, however, has already been in the tomb four days: *he already smells*. Christ comes to deliver man from death, but also to heal him from corruption, for he, having no sin, is incorruptible. God has become fully man...only sin and corruption could not reach him.

Lazarus remains dead for one day more than the Master. This fourth day represents corruption: *he already smells*. As for Jesus, he remains buried in the tomb for three days ...Only Christ is *holy*, he alone is beyond corruption, he alone can free humanity from death and from corruption...

Historically the resurrection of Lazarus precedes that of Jesus. But in its eternal sense, the resurrection of Christ precedes that of Lazarus, for Jesus is “*the first-born from the dead*” (Col 1:18). All persons rise after him. Every person is healed from corruption by the Lord, who alone is incorruptible.

*The Incarnate God*, ed. Catherine Aslanoff, SVS Press

When the Lord cried: ‘Lazarus!’, the man awoke and lived. The Lord knows the name of each of us. If Adam knew the name of each one of God’s creatures, how could God not know each of us

**Kontakion of Lazaros (Tone 4)**

Christ, the Joy of all, Truth, Light, Life and Resurrection of the world, appeared to men on earth, in His great generosity, becoming a sign of resurrection, and granting Divine forgiveness to all.

**Instead of the Trisagion:** All of you who have been baptized...

**Epistle:** Hebrews 12:28-13:8 (Page 366)

**PROKIMENON**

The Lord is my Light and my Savior; whom should I fear?  
V. The Lord is the Protector of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

READING from the Epistle of St. Paul to the Hebrews

Brethren: we who are receiving the unshakable kingdom should have gratitude, with which we should offer worship pleasing to God in reverence and awe. For our God is a consuming fire. Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect hospitality, for through it some have unknowingly entertained angels. Be mindful of prisoners as if sharing their imprisonment, and of the ill-treated as of yourselves, for you also are in the body. Let marriage be honored among all and the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the immoral and adulterers. Let your life be free from love of money but be content with what you have, for He has said, “I will never forsake you or abandon you.” Thus we may say with confidence: “The Lord is my helper, (and) I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?” Remember your leaders who spoke the word of God to you. Consider the outcome of their way of life and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

**ALLELUIA**

The Lord is King, in splendor robed. Robed is the Lord and girt about with strength!

V. And He has made the world firm, not to be moved.

**Gospel:** John 11:1-45 (Page 218)

At that time, a man was ill, Lazarus from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who had anointed the Lord with perfumed oil and dried His feet with her hair; it was her brother Lazarus who was ill. So the sisters sent word to Him, saying, "Master, the one You love is ill." When Jesus heard this He said, "This illness is not to end in death, but is for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So when He heard that he was ill, He remained for two days in the place where He was. Then after this He said to His disciples, "Let us go back to Judea." The disciples said to Him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just trying to stone You, and You want to go back there?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours in a day? If one walks during the day, he does not stumble, because he sees the light of this world. But if one walks at night, he stumbles, because the light is not in him." He said this, and then told them, "Our friend Lazarus is asleep, but I am going to awaken him." So the disciples said to Him, "Master, if he is asleep, he will be saved." But Jesus was talking about his death, while they thought that He meant ordinary sleep. So then Jesus said to them clearly, "Lazarus has died. And I am glad for you that I was not there, that you may believe. Let us go to him." So Thomas, called Didymus, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go to die with Him." When Jesus arrived, He found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, only about two miles away. And many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went to meet Him; but Mary sat at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if You had been here, my brother would not have died. (But) even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise." Martha said to Him, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in Me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in Me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to Him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that You are the Messiah, the Son of God, the

one who is coming into the world." When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary secretly, saying, "The teacher is here and is asking for you." As soon as she heard this, she rose quickly and went to Him. For Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still where Martha had met Him. So when the Jews who were with her in the house comforting her saw Mary get up quickly and go out, they followed her, presuming that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw Him, she fell at His feet and said to Him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come with her weeping, He became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to Him, "Lord, come and see." And Jesus wept. So the Jews said, "See how He loved him." But some of them said, "Could not the One who opened the eyes of the blind man have done something so that this man would not have died?" So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay across it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the dead man's sister, said to Him, "Lord, by now there will be a stench; he has been dead for four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus raised His eyes and said, "Father, I thank You for hearing Me. I know that You always hear Me; but because of the crowd here I have said this, that they may believe that You sent Me." And when He had said this, He cried out in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth. So Jesus said to them, "Untie him and let him go." Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary and seen what He had done began to believe in Him.

**Hymn to the Theotokos:**

Come, you nations of the world, let us honor with hymns of glory the pure Mother of God, who carried divine fire in her womb, and yet was not burned. Let us magnify her with constant hymns of praise.