April 19: GREAT and HOLY PASCHA

The reading is from the Acts of the Apostles 1:1-8

In the first book, O Theophilos, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commandment through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. To them he presented himself alive after his passion by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days, and speaking of the kingdom of God. And while staying with them he charged them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me, for John baptized with water, but before many days you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom of Israel?" He said to them, "it is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has fixed by his own authority. But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth."

The Gospel According to John 1:1-17

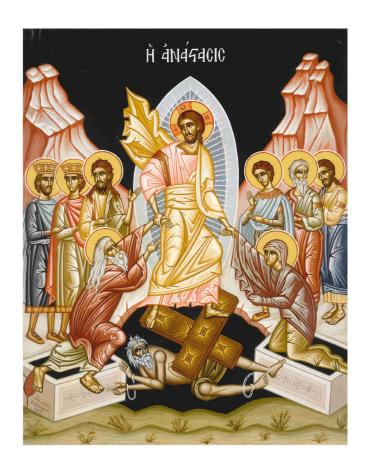
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light.

The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not. He came to his own home, and his own people received him not. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (John bore witness to him, and cried, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who

comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.") And from his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.



Christ Is Risen! Truly He Is Risen!

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From the Fathers...on the Cross

They hanged upon a tree him who stretches out the earth; they transfixed him with nails who laid firm the foundation of the world; they circumscribed him who circumscribed the heavens; they bound him who frees sinners.

-St. Alexander of Alexandria

Daily Bible Readings

Sunday, April 19: HOLY PASCHA Acts 1:1-8 • John 1:1-17

Monday, April 20: Bright Monday Acts 1:12-17, 21-26 • John 1:18-28

Tuesday, April 21: Bright Tuesday; Alexandra the Empress Acts 2:14-21 • Luke 24:12-35

> Wednesday, April 22: Bright Wednesday Acts 2:22-38 • John 1:35-52

Thursday, April 23: Bright Thursday; Saint George Acts 12:1-11 • John 15:17 – 16:2

Friday, April 24: Life-Giving Font of the Theotokos
Acts 3:1-8 • John 2:12-22

Saturday, April 25: Bright Saturday; Saint Mark
First Peter 5:6-14 • Luke 10:16-21

Sunday, April 26: Sunday of Saint Thomas Acts 5:12-20 • John 20:19-31

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