



# GREEK ORTHODOX METROPOLIS OF NEW JERSEY

## ΙΕΡΑ ΜΗΤΡΟΠΟΛΙΣ ΝΕΑΣ ΙΕΡΣΕΗΣ

### PASCHAL MESSAGE 2026 OF HIS EMINENCE METROPOLITAN APOSTOLOS OF NEW JERSEY

Beloved Reverend Clergy and faithful children in the Lord,

*“Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death...”*

With ineffable joy and spiritual exultation, we proclaim the great and salvific event of the Resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. Today, the Church celebrates the victory of life over death, of light over darkness, of truth over falsehood.

The Risen Lord confirms the words of Holy Scripture: “Where, O death, is your sting? Where, O Hades, is your victory?” (1 Cor. 15:55). And as the holy Apostle Paul declares, “If Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain” (1 Cor. 15:14). The Resurrection is not merely an event of the past, but a living reality that transforms our lives today.

The Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew in his Paschal Encyclical emphasizes that the Resurrection of Christ is not merely an historical event, but is also a source of inexhaustible hope for the modern person, who is tested by various crises and uncertainties. The light of the Resurrection dispels the darkness of fear and despair and calls humanity to a renewal of life and relationships.

The Resurrection of Christ calls all of us to renew our faith, to strengthen our hope, and to live in love and forgiveness. In the light of the Resurrection, let us not forget our brethren who are sick, who are sorrowful, who are facing trials and tribulations. The love of the Risen Christ calls us to become bearers of peace, hope, and consolation.

Beloved,

The night has passed, the light has dawned. Life has conquered death. The Resurrection is our sure hope, our joy, and our strength. From my heart, I pray that the unwaning light of the Resurrection may fill your hearts, granting you health, peace, and spiritual growth.

Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen!

With paternal blessings and love in the Risen Lord,

*Metropolitan Apostolos*

†APOSTOLOS  
Metropolitan of New Jersey