

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

Matushka Kyra and I greet you with joy at this Paschal season and wish to update everyone on the progress I have made since my accident two years ago. I am blessed to have wonderful doctors, nurses, caregivers, and physical therapists and of course the prayers of the faithful as well as God's help as I continue to grow stronger.

Two years ago I spent the Paschal season recovering from surgery. We were so excited when my big toe moved that we made a video to mark the event.

Last year I returned home before Pascha after spending nine months at the VA Spinal Center in the Bronx. I cannot express in words just how good they were to me. They taught me the skills I needed to know to live successfully at home.

Now for Pascha 2018: During a recent physical therapy session, I was able to stand from a sitting position with help from my therapist. That gave us so much hope. I have been attending church at St. Nicholas Church in Olyphant and for Paschal Matins and Divine Liturgy I vested and participated in the services. Fr. Vladimir asked me to read the sermon of St. John Chrysostom to my St. Nicholas family. I was so grateful for the opportunity to serve with Fr. Vladimir and Fr. Eli. It was a glorious Pascha!

We are both so thankful to the faithful of the Church for your cards, messages, help, and especially for your prayers. God has been so good to us throughout this journey. He has allowed me to progress in my recovery from moving my toe to standing.

May God continue His blessings upon each of you.

With a grateful heart,

Fr. John & Matushka Kyra