



## The Resurrection

In this Icon, Jesus Christ stands victoriously in the centre, robed in Heavenly white. He is surrounded by star-studded light, representing the Glory of God. Christ is shown dramatically pulling Adam, the first man, from the tomb. Eve is to Christ's left, waiting for Him to act.

Surrounding Christ are John the Baptist and the Old Testament Saints who preceded Jesus. Those who died before Christ's crucifixion descended to Hades, where they patiently awaited the coming of their Messiah. Now they are freed from this underworld, and mingle freely with Christ and His angels.

Beneath Christ's feet – which still carry the marks of His crucifixion – lay the gates of Hades, smashed wide open. They are shown lying in the shape of the Cross, with broken locks and chains surrounding them.

This icon is placed over the centre of the church doorway. It is the icon under which

we pass as we leave the church to go back out into the world.

### *A prayer for the Resurrection*

Grant, Lord,  
 that we who are baptized into the death  
 of your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ  
 may continually put to death our evil desires  
 and be buried with him;  
 and that through the grave and gate of death  
 we may pass to our joyful resurrection;  
 through his merits,  
 who died and was buried and rose again for us,  
 your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.