

April 18, 2021

Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women, Third Sunday of Pascha



SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fighting the Good Fight with Faith

Christ is Risen! Indeed he is Risen! ~ Christos Voskrese Voistinu Voskrese!

Propers for this Sunday: pp. 177 – 180

Divine Services for the Week:

SUN., APR. 18
8:30 A.M.

SUNDAY of the MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN
DIVINE LITURGY
+ Michael & Mary Chapes, requested by son, Michael Chapes

FRI., APR. 23
6:00 P.M.

ST. GEORGE the GREAT MARTYR HOLY DAY
DIVINE LITURGY
For the Parishioners

SUN., APR. 25
*10:00 A.M.

SUNDAY of the PARALYTIC
JOINT-PARISHES DIVINE LITURGY,
Patronal celebration breakfast/luncheon
For the Parishioners

St. George Patronal Feast Day Celebration Friday and Next Sunday

There will be a Divine Liturgy on our Patronal Feast Day, **Friday, April 23 at 6:00 P.M.** The following **Sunday, April 25**, we will continue our celebration here at St. George Church. **There will be a Liturgy at 10:00 A.M. and this will be the only Liturgy that weekend for both parishes. A breakfast/luncheon will follow.** Please remember the Liturgy time change. The parish family of St. Mary in Ambridge has also been invited to attend Liturgy along with staying for the breakfast/luncheon. We welcome all parishioners and guests to come and honor our Patron, St. George the Great Martyr and to celebrate together as a parish family. We look forward to a wonderful celebration!

Happy Birthday Greetings This Week:

None for the week

Wedding Anniversaries this Week:

None for the week

Please Pray For Our Sick and Shut-ins

HOME – Eileen Batcha, Rebecca Dickun, Marianne Dove, Jean Herdt, Rebecca Hutcheon, Kevin Joray, Mary Ann Jugan, Neil Jugan, Mary Salamon, John Simunick

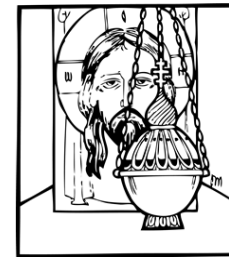
Hunter's Care Home (1916 Main St, Aliquippa, PA 15001) – Mary Poiarkoff

Beaver Elder Care (616 Golf Course Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001) – Josephine Maruhnich

Epistle Readers – April 18: Joanne Futato – April 25: Jo Ann Hersh

Ushers – Stand in as needed

Troica Holders – April 18: J. Yurosky – April 25: Francis Hersh



THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP

April 18 – 24, 2021

Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:

+ Art Todd

(In loving memory)

Offered By:

Mary Salamon

Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!
Христосъ воскресе! Воистину воскресе!
Χριστός ανέστη! Ἀληθῶς ανέστη!
al-Masīh qām! Ḥaqqan qām!
¡Cristo ha resucitado! ¡En Verdad ha resucitado!
Foltamadt Krisztus! Valoban Foltamadt!
Hristos a înviat! Adevărat a înviat!

Developing a Eucharistic Lifestyle, By Fr. Vasile Colopelnic

“This bread, indeed, requires the hunger of the inner man...”

(St. Augustine, on the Gospel of John XXVI, 1)

The Catechism of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, “Christ our Pascha” (English ed. 2016) teaches that through the Mystery of the Holy Eucharist we “grow in the grace received in Baptism and Chrismation – the grace to be sons and daughters of God” (# 431).

To belong to God’s family, by virtue of being His children has implications for how we must live our lives. This notion of considering Christians “sons and daughters” of God, becomes a major challenge to everyone who seriously reflects upon their vocation of how to become authentic followers of Jesus Christ in our modern and secularized world. In this world many are hungry for unconditional love, authentic friendship, and for a deeper meaning of life. It becomes a difficult task of developing a Eucharistic life style in our times, when we are all impacted by the hectic rhythms of modern life.

However, let us remember that God remains the same, full of love for all human beings, never tired of calling man “to seek Him, to know Him and to love Him” (CCC 1). How can we do this? How can we seek, know, and love God? This can be done only through our faith in the risen Christ, the foundation upon which His Church stands! Therefore, our Christian faith must be seen through a threefold prism: it must be professed - meaning we courageously and joyfully express our knowledge of God’s mysteries present in our lives; it must be lived – we are to bear fruits in our daily lives which are inspired by the faith we profess and through which we must bring others closer to God; and it must be celebrated – every time we meet as a parish community at the celebration of the Divine Liturgy we come to thank God (Eucharist in Greek means “thanksgiving”) for the gift of our salvation and redemption. These three aspects of our faith and how we experience them in our spiritual life are deeply intertwined with the reality of Christ’s presence in his Church through the Mystery of the Holy Eucharist.

St. Hilary of Poitiers, called the Holy Eucharist “the sacrament of divinization”, a central theme of eastern spirituality (Dizionario Patristico e di Antichita Cristiane, Eucharistia, Marietti 1994). Saint John Chrysostom emphasizes that the mystery of the Holy Eucharist “makes earth become heaven” (Homilies on First Corinthians XXIV, 8). In all patristic literature, the Church Fathers point out the necessity for Christ’s disciples to lead an exemplary life inspired by the Mystery of Christ’s presence among us. Therefore, it is indispensable that today’s disciples of Christ continue to be nurtured and invigorated by Christ’s presence in His Church and continue to be agents of peace, unity, and respect of human dignity toward all of God’s children. This can be accomplished when we live the life of Christ! St. Augustine exclaims: “how much more boldly ought we to say that a man is drawn to Christ when he delights in the truth, (...) blessedness, (...) righteousness (...) and in everlasting life, all which Christ is!” (St. Augustine, On the gospel of John XXVI, 4)

A Note from Father Geoff

Christ is risen!

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

On the third Paschal Sunday we commemorate and celebrate the holy Myrrh-Bearers, the righteous women who, on Easter morning, went to anoint the body of our Lord Jesus Christ, and were the first to be witnesses to his Resurrection. Each of the four Gospels focuses on a different group of these faithful women and their experiences going to the tomb on the first day of the week. We know the story: at some point in the night before, Christ's lifeless body had begun breathing again, his heart began beating, and he was raised up in a glorified body. And while these faithful few were attending to this corporal work of mercy, the Apostles - Christ's most trusted followers - were faithlessly hidden behind locked doors out of fear.

As we commemorate the faith of these women, I am reminded of all of the "silent saints" of the church. It's easy and very common for us to focus on the great saints of the Church who have become known for great miracles, signs and wonders, apparitions, martyrdom, and the like. They are exciting and show the power and providence of our Lord.

But *far* more common in the Church of both the past and the present, are those untold thousands who simply, quietly, and without fanfare, act in faith, day by day. They don't perform miracles. They don't preach to multitudes. They may not have evangelized anyone or have any deep theological insights. But they are faithful and they act in faith, even when it is dark or difficult. Perhaps even when the "great" ones among us are cowering in fear.

Let us ask for the grace of the Myrrh-Bearing women. May our Lord, who always shows mercy, give us the strength and courage to be faithful in day-to-day things, in the things that nobody will see or know about.

May our Lord, who showed us by the example of his humility the way to be faithful, grant us his mercy and grace as we strive to follow him. And by his grace, may we, like the faithful women at the tomb, be granted the grace to see our Lord in his glory.

Christ is risen!

Fr. Geoff

Go! Tell the World He is risen!

The women were first to honor the risen Christ, the apostles first to suffer for Him. The women were ready with spices; the apostles prepared for scourges. The women entered the tomb; the apostles would soon enter the dungeon. The women hastened to express their eulogy; the apostles embraced chains for His sake. The women poured oils; and the apostles poured out their blood. (*Peter Chrysologus*)

Sunday of the Myrrh Bearing Women Reflection

In today's Epistle and Gospel text we are introduced to eight new figures who will play a prominent role in the early church. In some ways, we can begin to speak of a "second generation" of Christian leaders. The first generation are, of course the Apostles. But now the Apostles need help, and the seven "servants" (deacons) are chosen from among the "many disciples" which now followed the Way. The eighth figure is that of Joseph of Arimathea, and in many ways he reveals to us today the meaning of the services of the first deacons.


We know that through baptism we are incorporated into Christ and made into his body. Each baptized Christian is called to be the hands and feet, the arms and legs, the eyes and ears of Christ. We are, through Holy Baptism, made into the revelation of Christ on Earth. And each one of us is called to his ministry of Salvation. Thus, when we serve each other, it is Christ who serves through us. And, when we serve each other, it is Christ himself whom we serve. Just as Joseph of Arimathea cared for the body of Christ as he took it down from the cross, wrapped it in linen with spices and laid it in his own new tomb, the seven new deacons ordained in today's Epistle serve Christ himself in the person of the widows, the hungry, and the needy.

The ministry of service, however, is not reserved for the deacon alone. Each one of us who is baptized into Christ, are called to learn from the deacons and assist them in Christ's ministry. For it is Christ who told us that he has come "not to be served but to serve." All of the members of Christ's body, if we are to live His life, must begin to live this life in service to others. Through this service, we will serve Christ Himself.

CHALLENGE QUESTIONS:

1. What are the ways that God may be calling me to serve others in my own life?
2. Do I recognize Christ in my fellow brothers and sisters, and in myself?

Y	R	E	N	A	W	A	E	L	S	MARY	SEPULCHRE	EARTHQUAKE
A	R	K	J	E	S	O	J	G	E	ANGEL	STONE	ROBE
M	O	A	U	S	S	T	N	O	M	SNOW	JESUS	RISEN
N	B	U	M	U	S	I	O	S	A	AWE	JOY	GREETINGS
I	E	Q	U	S	T	Y	R	N	M			
T	N	H	O	E	O	U	G	A	E			
E	L	T	E	J	Q	E	R	I	R			
E	E	R	H	C	L	U	P	E	S			
R	G	A	E	G	N	A	W	K	E			
G	A	E	A	R	T	A	Q	U	A			



Christ is Risen! ~ Christos Voskrese Voistinu Voskrese!

We honor the Myrrh-bearing Women....Who are they?

The women with Mary, before the dawn, found the stone rolled away from the tomb, and they heard the Angel say: "Why do you seek among the dead, as a mortal, the One who abides in everlasting light? Behold the linens of burial. Go in haste and proclaim to the world that, having conquered Death, the Lord is risen; for He is the Son of God, the Savior of mankind."



The Holy Myrrh-bearing women followed the Lord while He preached and served Him and His disciples from their own possessions. For His sake, they aided the poor, the sick, and the suffering. During His sufferings and death on the Cross, even when all the apostles had run away in fear, the Myrrh-bearers did not abandon their Savior. They stood at Golgotha (the place of the Crucifixion) and with their presence helped ease the unbearable pain and suffering of the All-Pure Mother of God.

The Myrrh-bearers did not abandon the Lord even after His death and burial. Very early in the morning, they came with myrrh (expensive oil) according to the Jewish tradition, to anoint the Lord's precious Body and render Him their final respects. There, the Lord rewarded the women for all their undying love and devoted care. The Myrrh-bearers worthily became the first witnesses to the Resurrection of Christ, having found the empty tomb and having heard the joyful news from the angel. The Holy and Equal-to-the-Apostles Myrrhbearer Mary Magdalene was the first to meet and worship the Risen Savior and to go and tell of this to His Apostles.

It's St. George Flea Market Time!

Our Flea Market will return this summer here at St. George Church, date to be announced. We are in need of new donations. Consider donating items you no longer need to our Flea Market, no clothing please. Items can be brought to the Center every Saturday from 9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. or Sundays when you come to Church. A table will be set up in the Center for the donations. Ask family and friends to consider donating items to our Flea Market. Your help with this event will be greatly appreciated. *Thank you!*

Christ is Risen! ~ Indeed He is Risen!
Christos Voskrese! ~ Voistinu Voskrese!

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Cantors: Jo Ann Hersh, Louisa Hersh, David Klacik E.C.F. coordinator: Jo Ann Hersh

Facilities Supervisor: John Poiarkoff

Holy Mystery of Reconciliation Before and after Liturgies
Holy Mysteries of Initiation Contact the church office
Holy Mystery of Anointing Ask prior to surgery or serious illness
Holy Mystery of Marriage Contact the church office eight months prior to wedding
Religious Education Classes September through May, following Sunday Divine Liturgy
St. George Ladies' Guild & Men's Club Everyone welcome to participate

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen! Христос Воскресе! Восстину Воскресе!

