## April 23, 2023

Third Paschal Sunday, Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women, St. George the Great Martyr



#### SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fighting the Good Fight with Faith

Christ is Risen! Indeed he is Risen! ~ Christos Voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese! Хрїсто́съ воскре́се! Воистину воскресе!

Propers for this Sunday: pp. 177-180 and for St. George: pp. 332-334

## Divine Services for the Week:

SUN., APRIL 23 SUNDAY of the MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN,

ST. GEORGE the GREAT MARTYR HOLY DAY

**10:00 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY,** Patronal Feast Day Luncheon following

For the Parishioners

SUN., APRIL 30 SUNDAY of the PARALYTIC MAN

8:30 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY

Health of Marian O'brien, offered by Fr. Elias O'brien, O. Carm

### Welcome Parishioners, Visitors, and Friends!

We extend a warm welcome to our parishioners, visitors, and friends. We are glad that you have come to worship with us today to celebrate our Patron Saint. We pray that your participation in our parish will be enriching to you. Following today's Sunday Divine Liturgy will be a luncheon in honor of our Patron, St. George.

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen! Christos Voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese! Хрїсто́съ воскре́се! Воистину воскресе!

#### Happy Birthday Greetings:

April 25: John Gural, April 29, Isabel Maruhnich

#### Wedding Anniversaries this Week:

None for the week

#### Please Pray For Our Sick and Shut-ins

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

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

Betty Polas – Apple Blossom Senior Living (125 Apple Blossom Way, #307, Moon Twp., PA 15108)

Carol Huchko – Concordia at Villa St. Joseph (1040 State St, Baden, PA 15005)

Epistle Readers – April 23: Joanne Futato – April 30: Louisa Hersh Ushers – Stand in as needed

Troica Holders – April 23: M. Bobanic – April: 30: J. Yurosky

If you would like to be a Trioca Holder, please see one of them following Liturgy.

We could always use the help!





## THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP

April 23 - 29, 2023

Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:

+ Nicholas Maruhnich

(In Loving Memory)

Offered By: Ed & Isabel Maruhnich

## Church Mice

Copyright Karl A. Zorowski

But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said.'

~ Matthew 28:5-6



#### St. George Family Bowling and Fellowship Night

In continuation of our Patronal Feast Day this week, there will be a bowling and fellowship night on Thursday, **April 27** at **7:00 PM** at Sheffield Bowling Lanes in Aliquippa. Our night includes 2 hours of bowling with pizza and unlimited soft drinks included. You can also purchase other food and drinks if desired. A final number of people attending is needed today. See JoAnn Hersh to sign-up. Join us for this Church family fun event!

#### It's St. George Flea Market Time!

We will again be having a Flea Market here at St. George Church this summer, date to be announced. Consider donating items you no longer need to our flea market. Items can be brought to the Center every Saturday from 9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. You may also bring items on Sunday when you come to Church. Ask family and friends to consider donating items to our Flea Market. Thank you!

#### Free Lecture on the Byzantine Liturgy in Constantinople

The Byzantine Catholic Seminary in Pittsburgh announces its 23rd annual Ss. Cyril & Methodius Lecture on May 10 at 7:00 PM. This year's lecturer is Fr. John F. Baldovin, S.J. and is titled "Making the City a Church: Liturgical Processions in Constantinople from the Sixth to Tenth Centuries." The Lecture this year will be livestreamed online at youtube.com/c/ByzantineCatholicSeminary. Fr. Baldovin is Professor of Historical and Liturgical Theology at the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry. He is a member of the USA-East province of the Society of Jesus and received his PhD from Yale. His is a past president of the North American Academy of Liturgy and is the author of numerous publications.

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#### A Note from Fr. Geoff

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Today, as the parishioners of St. Mary and St. George come together to celebrate the **Feast of St. George**, it is propitious that the feast falls on the **Sunday of the Holy Myrrh Bearers** this year. Although it is the third Sunday of Pascha, we sort of "go back" to that *first* Pascha, when the first disciples discover that Jesus has been raised from the dead.

Although Christ's inner circle - his Apostles - had scattered at the Crucifixion, there were a few faithful followers of Christ who stepped up. The Gospel tells us that "Joseph of Arimathea, a respected member of the council.... went boldly to Pilate to ask for the body of Jesus." (Mk. 15.43) He was assisted by Nicodemus in preparing Christ's body for burial (John 19.39-40).

And then, on the first day of the week, those faithful women disciples came to anoint Jesus' body. They didn't know how they'd get the stone rolled back. But they were determined to show the honor and respect due to their beloved Rabbi. We read in Mark's Gospel that "Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome" brought spices to the tomb. In the other Gospels the names of additional Myrrh

Bearers are given - eight in all.

What I love about these Biblical figures is that when everyone else is out of the picture, when there's nobody else to show up and do what ought to be done, these faithful women step up. Without fanfare and with great courage, they seek to perform a work of mercy for our Lord.

As we celebrate the patronal feast of St. George's, I am reminded of these Myrrh Bearers and their faithfulness, especially as I see the quiet faithfulness of so many men and women in our parishes who quietly and without fanfare or praise, take care of our churches. It is faithful who take up the role of beautifying the church for feast days, caring for the buildings and grounds, working in the office, making pierohi to raise funds, baking prosphora, serving at tables, and so many other tasks. In a very real way, the Holy Myrrh Bearers are patron saints for those who love the beauty of God's house.

Many thanks to all of you who, throughout the year, do so much to keep our parishes running. May God bless you and reward you for your labors. And may he, through the intercessions of Myrrh Bearing Women, grant you his great and abundant mercy!

Yours in Christ.

Fr. Geoff

## About the Holy Myrrh-Bearing Women...

1. Mary Magdalene is honored by the Church as a Holy Ointment-Bearer and Equal-to-the-Apostles. Tradition informs us that Mary was young and pretty and led a sinful life. It says in the Gospels that the Lord expelled seven devils from Mary (Luke 8:2). Mary followed after the Lord, when He went with the Apostles through the cities and villages of Judea and Galilee, preaching about the Kingdom of God and served Him from her own possessions (Luke 8:1-3). She was present on Golgotha at the Lord's Crucifixion and the burial of the Lord. She went to the tomb the following Sunday



and saw the stone pushed away from the cave. She was the first to see the Risen Jesus, and the Lord deemed her worthy to be first proclaiming His Resurrection. She ran to the Apostles and announced, "I have seen the Lord!" This was the first preaching in the world about the Resurrection. Tradition relates that in Italy she visited the Roman Emperor Tiberias (14-37 AD) and proclaimed Christ's Resurrection to him, taking a red egg and greeting him with the words: "Christ is Risen!" The custom of exchanging paschal eggs on Pascha spread over all the world. From Rome, she moved to Ephesus and continued her labors with the Holy Apostle John, who with her wrote the first 20 Chapters of his Gospel account. There she finished her earthly life and was buried.

- **2. Salome**, the mother of James and John, the sons of Zebedee, was a very saintly woman whose great love for Christ was shared by her two famous sons, James and John, two of the original Twelve Apostles of Christ. Tradition tells us that Salome enjoyed a very close relationship with the family of the Most Holy Birthgiver-of-God. She remained devoted to Mary after the Ascension of Christ.
- **3.** Mary, the Mother of James and Joses, the wife of Cleophas. Very little is recorded concerning her life other than that she devoted many years in the service of our Lord.
- **4. Joanna, the wife of Chuza**, Herod Antipas' steward (her feast day is celebrated on June 27th). Joanna first heard of the coming of Christ during His first visit to the temple in Jerusalem. She became a true believer and assisted the Apostles during their first years as leaders of the new Faith. She was a woman of great courage.
- **5. Susanna** was a close friend of Mary Magdalene, constantly by her side during her affliction. Susanna remained with the Apostles of Christ and shared in the work of spreading the message of salvation. She assisted with the serving of the "Communion Suppers" and administering to the sick and the aged.
- **6. & 7. Mary and Martha**, **the sisters of Lazarus** lived with their brother Lazarus and our Lord visited them on many occasions. The sisters became followers of Christ and dedicated their lives to Him. After the miracle of Lazarus' resurrection by Jesus Christ, Mary and Martha returned with Jesus and His Apostles. They devoted their lives to the spreading of the faith. After the murder of the Holy Archdeacon Stephen, persecution against the Jerusalem Church broke out, and Righteous Lazarus was cast out of Jerusalem. The holy sisters then assisted their brother in proclaiming of the Gospel in various lands.

# Today's St. George Luncheon

#### **Order of Events:**

- Following Liturgy today, please proceed to our Center for our celebration luncheon.
- Enjoy appetizers and drinks until the luncheon food is ready to serve. 50/50 raffle tickets will be sold.
- Blessing of the food.
- Luncheon served (tables will be called).
- Dessert and coffee, social time.
- 50/50 raffle drawing.

Thank you all for celebrating with us today!



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O Victorious Great Martyr George, protector of the poor, liberator of prisoners, physician of the sick, and champion of kings, intercede with Christ our God to save our souls.

### HAPPY PARISH FEAST DAY TO ALL!

## Great- Martyr and Wonderworker George

The well-known image of Saint George shows him thrusting a long spear into a menacing beast, a dragon, but accounts of his life don't include such an episode. Yet it is an appropriate image, because it reflects his courage in challenging powerful evil, and overcoming its might through prayer. The image reminds us that we also must stand up to evil and defend the faith. We also need to be people of prayer who can face "dragons" of various kinds rather than running away from them.



**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)

#### ST. GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

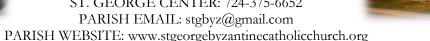
1001 Clinton Street- Aliquippa, PA 15001

#### PASTOR: FATHER GEOFFREY MACKEY

Fr. Geoffrey's Direct Line: (412) 356-3698 OFFICE PHONE: 724-375-2742

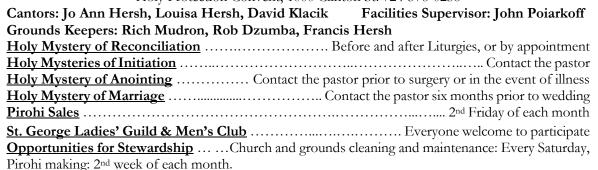
FAX: 724-375-8776

ST. GEORGE CENTER: 724-375-6652



Religious: Sr. Mary Virginia O' Carm

Like us on Facebook Holy Protection Convent, 1000 Clinton St. 724-378-0238



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

