

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

S c h e d u l e o f D i v i n e S e r v i c e s

Saturday, April 23 **5:00 PM +Father Dennis Bogda by Elaine Bogda**
 Sunday, April 24 **9:00 AM +Metropolitan Judson**

Pages for Sunday's Divine Liturgy: Pages 175 - 177

Web Liturgy Intention for Week of April 24, 2022 sponsored by
Beverly Vatral

Sanctuary Candle is lit from April 24 – May 7
In Memory of +Anna Contenta, +Sarah Galzerano, + Nick Galzerano
by Anna Marie & Greg Chekan

SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN

Saturday, April 30 **5:00 PM +Ronald Smoley by Anna Marie Wargo**
 Sunday, May 1 **9:00 AM Special Intention**

OUR RETURN TO THE LORD FOR ALL HE HAS GIVEN ME:

Regular Offertory	\$2,258.00
Maintenance Fund	500.00
Holy Day	80.00
Flowers	310.00
Holy Week	175.00
Easter	19,375.00
Candles	140.33
Loose Cash	63.00
TOTAL	\$22,901.33

During these challenging times we thank you for your kindness and generosity.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND SHUT-INS

AT HOME: Richard Lesko, *Ronald & Arletta Lutka*, Margie Seman, *Elizabeth Pristas*, Teri Phares, Raymond Petro, Jr., Luke Pasternak, Marissa Stout, Tara Seman, Michael Matus, Patrick Singer, Joan Bodnar, Mary Ann Urban, Carole Srsic, Pauline Johnson, *Ann Havrilscak*, Aaron Spang, Janet Ducar, Mary Pavasko, Suzie (Wargo) Bodziach, Betty Martin, Teresa Sekel, Lynne Black, Patty Schneider, Regina Kraus, Elaine Nassif, Jeannie Pasternak

Italicized names indicate Parish Shut-ins. Other names are submitted prayer requests.

NURSING HOMES/REHABILITATION CENTERS/ASSISTED LIVING

Elsie Urban, Len Stagon, Dorothy Hritz, Eleanor Chekan, Sue Goda, Steve Kish

APRIL BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

27 Marjorie Glaid

28 Michael & Carol Suray (Anniversary)

28 Gerald & Judith Rihn (Anniversary)

May God grant to His servant peace, health and happiness for many years!

In person Attendance: *Holy Wednesday: 63*

Holy Thursday: 63

Good Friday Matins: 13; Good Friday Vespers: 108

Saturday, April 16: 204; Sunday, April 17: 71

Bright Monday: 6

Live Stream Viewing: *Holy Wednesday: 38 (WS); 34 (FB)*

Holy Thursday: 51 (WS); 117 (FB)

Good Friday Matins: 21 (WS); 101 (FB)

Good Friday Vespers: 68 (WS); 94 (FB)

Saturday, April 16: 70 (WS); 136 (FB)

Sunday, April 17: 93 (WS); 78 (FB)

Bright Monday: 15 (WS); 22 (FB)

Special Donations

\$25 In Memory of +Richard Vatral by Beverly Vatral

\$25 In Memory of +Leonard & Irene Schwab by Beverly Vatral

Special Parking Lot Donations

\$100 In Memory of +Vicky & John Kostrub by Joe & Peg Barron

\$100 In Memory of +George Matta by Joe & Peg Barron

Live Stream Donations

\$50 In Memory of +Paul & Helen Macko Michalco by Rebecca Michalco (MD)

\$50 Mike & Mary Novak (OH)

UPCOMING CATHEDRAL EVENTS

April 30 Wedding Reception
May 14/15 Stuffed Pork Chop Dinner

EASTER BASKET RAFFLE WINNER

Congratulations to *Raymond Perhach*, who won the basket of chocolates and other Easter items.

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL WOMEN'S DAY OF REFLECTION

Saturday, May 7, 2022, 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM, Cathedral Center. "*A New Perspective on: Compassion, Courage and Confidence.*" ***Pre-registration is required by April 25, 2022, \$40 includes lunch (no refunds).*** Registration forms can be found in the vestibules. For more information call 412-322-8773 or email ore@archpitt.org.

SAINTS CYRIL AND METHODIUS LECTURE

The 22nd Annual Saints Cyril & Methodius Lecture will be presented in person at the Cathedral Center and online, via the Seminary website at www.bcs.edu on **Thursday, May 12 at 7:00 PM.** *Rev. Dr. Radu Bordeianu*, Associate Professor of Theology at Duquesne University, is this year's esteemed lecturer and has selected as his topic: "The Church as Family." The event is free, but registration is required. You can register online at www.bcs.edu or by calling 412-321-8383.

CANDLE OFFERING

Our candle supplier informed us that the cost of wax has increased 37% this past year. Due to this increase, we have to increase our suggested offering for candles. ***Effective May 1, 2022 the suggested offering for candles will be \$3.00.*** Thank you for your understanding with this increase.

FLEA MARKET

We will be holding another Flea Market on June 3 & 4, 2022. Please put aside any items you no longer want or need for our flea market.

As in the past, we cannot accept TV's, computers, shoes and clothes. Small boxes may be left in the church vestibules after April 30, but before May 30. Arrangements can be made to pick up larger items. Please consider also helping to mark and sell the items in May. Thanks for your donations.

ELECTION DAY HOAGIE SALE

Ss. Peter & Paul Parish, Duquesne will be holding a hoagie sale. Order forms are located in the vestibules. Pick up will be at Cathedral Office May 17, 9 AM – 1:30 PM.

Mission Statement

Saint John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Cathedral is a member of the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Church of Pittsburgh who through the Holy Spirit is called to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As a community and family, we grow in faith and in the image and likeness of God by dedicating ourselves to welcoming, celebrating and caring for all of God's people.

Mysteries of Initiation (Baptism, Chrismation & Eucharist): Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the parish family. Pre-baptism instructions are required. Contact Fr. Andrew to schedule.

Mystery of Crowning: Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the parish family. Must meet with Fr. Andrew before setting date and reserving your banquet hall. Pre-Cana program is required and three sessions with Fr. Andrew. The ceremony will be celebrated according to the prescription of the liturgical book of the Byzantine rite.

Mystery of Reconciliation: Celebrated Saturdays, 4:00 PM - 4:30 PM and upon request.

Mystery of Anointing: Celebrated upon request. Ideally celebrated in Church the Sunday before undergoing any surgical or other medical procedure.

Visitation of the Sick: The parishioners confined to their homes or nursing homes due to health reasons are visited monthly. Also, persons who are hospitalized are visited when Fr. Andrew is notified. It especially is important that a family member contact Fr. Andrew whenever a loved-one is hospitalized.

Funerals: Families of the deceased or the funeral director must contact Fr. Andrew before setting and publishing the day and time of the funeral.

Parish Membership: We welcome anyone to become a parishioner of St. John the Baptist Cathedral Parish. Only those who are registered are considered members of the Parish. When one registers to become a parish member they assume the responsibility of rendering stewardship of time, talent and treasure to this parish family. Worship at this parish is always expected. Registration is done only through the pastor by appointment. The Parish Office should be notified as soon as possible of any change of address within the Parish as well as one's leaving.

Godparent/Sponsor Letters: Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the parish.

Rectory Office Hours: Judy is in the parish office Monday – Friday from 9:00 AM – 2 PM. Father Andrew is available on other days and times by appointment.



Attentive to the Word

Thomas Sunday

Acts 5: 12-20

John 20: 19-31

The Lord is always eager to deal with us and to confirm his presence in the midst of our crises. But he does more: He orients us to service as we build on the experiences we gain through interacting with him.

Hidden away in protective seclusion, the disciples were cowering in fear. They could envision no good future for themselves because their Leader was no longer with them. Fearful of those Jewish leaders who had had Jesus killed, the disciples now sulked in dire foreboding about themselves. What a shocking weekend! What a disappointment to their previously high hopes for him - and themselves with him!

What could the future now hold? Then, "Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.'" (20:19). The Presence was a welcomed one! The greeting was a familiar one! The surprise was a heartening one! The result was life-renewing! Fears subsided as he walked among them, showing his hands and side. "Then his disciples were glad when they saw the Lord" (20:20b).

The Lord still confirms his presence, acting in his unique and unmistakable way. He enters into our experience by his own initiative, breaking through all barriers. Despite "the doors being shut...for fear" (20:19). His familiar greeting of shalom! spoken declaratively with his upraised hands spread in the familiar gesture of conferred blessing - this was the needed word, and their fear subsided. There is nothing quite like the word of Jesus to deal with our fears and nothing quite like a sense of his presence to deal with our aloneness.

He enters into our being to assist us at our points of need, helping us to deal with the present that pulls upon us. In the case of those disciples, the problem was fear that reduced them to cowards hiding in fright. Jesus dealt with them at that point of their need. He still deals with his followers at their points of need, whatever those needs might be.

The Lord still confirms his presence, readying for mission those who receive his help. The second uttering of shalom was with the future in view: he was helping them to anticipate going beyond the hour then upon them. "As the Father has sent me, even so I send you" (v. 21). The "breathing" upon them was emblematic of freshness that would attend their lives and work, and it was symbolic of their reception of his very Spirit as they remained open to further enablement to serve his interests.

We must remember, all of us, that true believers are heirs to the companioning Presence of our Lord. We do not now see him as did those who knew him in the flesh; but as Jesus told Thomas, "Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believe" (20:29). There is that familiar story about the little boy flying his kite on a rather cloudy day. One of the adult neighbors passed by, and deciding to chat for a moment, he asked the boy what he was doing. Told that he was flying his kite, the neighbor teasingly remarked, "But I don't see it. How do you know it's still up there?" The little boy smiled as he returned reply, "Because I can feel a strong tug on my string!" The confirming Presence of the Lord is like that for us. Now and again he strengthens us in his unique and unmistakable way, sharing himself in our crises, aiding us at our points of need, and girding us for continuing his work. This is the heritage of every believer. Not seeing, yet believing "I'll never believe it without probing the nail-prints in His hands, without putting my finger in the nail-marks and my hand into His side." With those words from today's Gospel the apostle Thomas was expressing more openly than his companions the skepticism initially felt by all those who saw the risen Lord. In both of the Resurrection appearances in today's Gospel Jesus' friends reacted initially with fear and doubt. These earliest witnesses to the resurrection were not credulous peasants, ready to believe anything. On the contrary, they were hard-headed skeptics who reacted very much as we can imagine ourselves reacting in the same situation.

By James Earl Massey

“REJOICE AND BE GLAD!” CHOIR CONCERT

The Pittsburgh Byzantine Catholic Archeparchial Choir returns to St. John's Cathedral in Munhall, Pa. on April 24th – Thomas Sunday – for prayer and a program of hymns of the glorious Resurrection of our Lord.

The afternoon will begin at 3:00 p.m. with the Moleben for the Living, in celebration and gracious thanks for the much-anticipated return to social events after a 3-year hiatus due to pandemic concerns. The Choir's joyful presentation "Rejoice and Be Glad!" will immediately follow, featuring many beloved and seldom-heard renditions of the Paschal greeting, "Christ is Risen! Christos Voskrese!"

A cake-and-coffee reception will follow the program in the Cathedral's lower level. Members of the Archeparchial Choir, who in 2023 will observe their 25th anniversary year, hope to see you at the Cathedral on Sunday April 24!

WELCOME NEW PARISHIONERS!

As a parish family we are truly blessed to welcome *Nancy Cifrulak, Micahel & Dorothy Moyta, Christopher, Melissa (Cavanaugh) & Lilia Neri, Steven Ostheim, Daniele Tamo, Rostand Tamo* to St. John Cathedral parish family. May God bless them with many happy and blessed years as we together continue this journey of faith!