

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

Schedule of Divine Services

Saturday, April 22 5:00 PM +Father Dennis Bogda by Elaine Bogda

Sunday, April 23 9:00 AM +Metropolitan Judson

Pages for Sunday’s Divine Liturgy: Pages 177 – 180 & Pages 332 - 334

Web Liturgy for Week of April 23 2023 sponsored by
Margaret Seman in memory of “my dad, +Michael Seman”

Sanctuary Candle is lit from April 23 – May 6
+Father Dennis Bogda by Elaine Bogda

SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC MAN

Saturday, April 29 5:00 PM +James Rozanc by Mary Ann Rozanc

Sunday, April 30 9:00AM +Joseph Deskevich by Robert & Madeline Martinazzi

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

Regular Offertory	\$2,232.00
Maintenance Fund	505.00
Holy Day	5.00
Easter	375.00
Candles	82.08
TOTAL	\$3,199.08

Parking Lot: \$50

Live Stream: \$50 Edward & Judith Kisailus (NY)

*During these challenging times we thank you for your kindness and generosity.
Please consider remembering St. John Cathedral in your will
as a lasting legacy for future generations!*

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND SHUT-INS

AT HOME: *Richard Lesko, Ronald & Arletta Lutka, Margie Seman, 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, Patty Schneider, Jeannie Pasternak, Janet Myers, Ethel Wahal.*

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

NURSING HOMES/REHABILITATION CENTERS/ASSISTED LIVING

Elsie Urban, Eleanor Chekan, Sue Goda

APRIL BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

- 27 Marjorie Glead
- 28 Gerald & Judith Rihn (Anniversary)
- 28 Michael A. & Carol Suray

In person Attendance: *Saturday, April 15: 45; Sunday, April 16: 64*

Live Stream Viewing: *Saturday, April 15: 22 (WS); 18 (FB)*
Sunday, April 16: 59 (WS); 51 (FB)

HOLY GREAT MARTYR GEORGE

One of the icons of St. George depicts him as a soldier fighting a dragon to save someone else's life. Dragons may be mythical animals, but myths contain symbols and symbols sum up some aspect of life that is very important or powerful: "I suspect the dragon represents evil in any form. Some people may not like to hear this, but the dragon may represent evil people."

"The dragon is a symbol of the power evil people can wield in this world. They can force good people into submission and either damage them or humiliate them or lead them astray. This is a frightening reality, and it is a reminder that sometimes goodness and holiness mean bravery in the face of wickedness. At a baptism, the new Christian is exorcised, not because she or he is possessed, but because the Christian Church recognizes where human power runs out and we simply have to rely on God.

"Saint George is a reminder that we need help to survive when evil is about. It may be a naive symbolism, but the pictures and statues of Saint George are all about the battle between good and evil. They also hark back to what Jesus said about his sheep. He was there to protect them, because they needed protection. Saint George is a reminder that sometimes good people are called upon to bother to be brave and offer that protection in place of Jesus."

Reflection by Msgr. Peter Fleetwood, Vatican Radio, 2015

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL WOMEN'S DAY OF REFLECTION

Saturday, May 13, 2023, 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM, Cathedral Center. “*Consider the Lilies of the Field (Mt 6:28).*” **Pre-registration is required by May 5, 2023, \$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.

“KATHEDRAL KITCHEN”

We have quarts of *Halushki, Chili & Beef Vegetable, Beef Noodle, Chicken noodle, Turkey, Stuffed Cabbage, **Meatless: Mushroom, Potato/Green Bean, Vegetarian Vegetable** soups* for \$7. *Chicken Paprikash* for \$12. *Pirohi* \$10/dozen. If you would like to buy any please see Patty Bovee, Diane Pochron or Fr. Andrew. **Bold denotes meatless.**

CATHEDRAL COOKBOOK

It has been suggested, and people have volunteered to organize, another Cathedral Cookbook. We are looking for submission of recipes to publish in our cookbook. Please consider sharing some of your favorite recipes. We would prefer electronic submissions, but paper copies will also be accepted and formatted. If you would like to be a part of this project, please inform Fr. Andrew.

FATHER DANSAK'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Fr. Tom Dansak will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of his ordination this year. I have invited him to celebrate the Divine Liturgy on **Sunday, May 7, 2023** at 9 AM for his anniversary Liturgy. Following the Liturgy we will host him at a brunch at our Cathedral Center. If you plan on attending the brunch, please sign the sign-up sheet in the vestibule. **Fr. Tom has asked, “please no gifts. Just your prayers are appreciated.”**

UPCOMING CATHEDRAL EVENTS

April 22	Spring Craft Show
April 29	Archeparchial Assembly
May 20/21	Breaded Chicken Dinner
June 2/3	Rummage Sale

SAINTS CYRIL AND METHIDIUS LECTURE

The 23rd Annual Saints Cyril & Methodius Lecture will be presented online, via the Seminary website at www.bcs.edu on **Wednesday, May 10 at 7:00 PM.** *Fr. John Baldovin, S.J.*, Professor of Historical and Liturgical Theology at the Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, is this year's esteemed lecturer and has selected as his topic: "Making the City a Church." The lecture can be accessed live or at a later time from archives on the B.C.S. YouTube channel.



Attentive to the Word

Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearers

Acts 6: 1-7

Mark 15:43 - 16:8

On this third Sunday of Pascha, we take a step back, back to the tomb of Christ. During Holy Week, the Church led us through the experience of the tomb and the mystery of the death of God; it taught us the biblical meaning of these events—the blessed sabbath, the seventh day of creation, the rest of God. Today, the Church seeks to honor the secondary personages, those who placed Jesus in the tomb, so that we might admire their courage. It is the courage of those who work in the shadows and in secret. On this day, the third Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the feast of the holy myrrh-bearing women. We also remember Joseph of Aramathea, the secret disciple of the Lord. And we also commemorate Nicodemus, who used to come at night to listen to Jesus. (*Synaxarion*)

The Stone Rolled Away

Matthew's gospel, which we read at the vespers of Holy Saturday (Mt. 28: 1-8), speaks of the earthquake and of the stone rolled away by the angel. This text tells us that Christ went out although the seals are unbroken, since the angel tells the women that the tomb is empty. In Mark's gospel, which we read on this Sunday (Mk. 16:1-8), the women go out at the break of dawn with spices to anoint the body of Jesus. They know that a heavy rock blocks the entrance to the tomb, and they do not know how they will remove this obstacle. And yet they leave anyway, with no guarantee of success. This is an act of faith: to go with no assurance of success, when everything is stacked against us, without knowing how our efforts will turn out.

The Bright Messengers

And yet it is women - "the weaker sex," they say, and yet tenacious and faithful—who were the first to receive the message of the resurrection. They are determined, despite the orders of the Sanhedrin, to fulfill all the proper rites of death, to accompany Jesus to the end, because of their love for him. In those countries where faith is

persecuted, we can see the same phenomenon. After the Russian Revolution, for many years only women came to church. By their courage, they prevented the closing and destruction of many sanctuaries. The angels, messengers of the resurrection, are clothed in white. The angel described by Matthew, based on the account of Mary Magdalene, had the appearance of lightning. They are witnesses of the Light, and this is why they reflect the luminous power of the resurrection in their clothing. The colors of Pascha are red and white, the colors of the passion and the resurrection. In decorating our churches, our homes, our banquet tables, in choosing our clothing, with these two bright colors we commemorate Christ's victory over death through his passion-resurrection.

The Women Bearers of the Good News

The word "gospel" means "Good News." This is the good news of the incarnation announced by the archangel Gabriel, the good news of the Kingdom of Heaven preached by Jesus, the good news of the resurrection proclaimed by the luminous angels to the women. "Mary Magdalene was the last one to remain at the cross and the first at the tomb." This is why she was not only the first to hear the proclamation by the angel, but why she was the first to meet the resurrected Christ. Jesus knew in advance that this woman was ready to receive the good news, since, during his life, he accepted her offering and her anointing him with precious ointment, as a token of love, in view of his burial. In pouring this ointment on my body she has done it to prepare me for burial. Truly, I say to you, wherever this Gospel is preached in the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her (Mt. 26: 12-13). Mary Magdalene received from the angels, then from Christ himself, the task of announcing the good news to the apostles. The word apostle means "sent"; Jesus chose his apostles in order to send them out to bring the good news to the world, to evangelize the nations. The apostles define themselves as the witnesses of the resurrection (Acts 1:22). And yet Mary Magdalene beat them all, she becomes the apostle to the apostles, for she is the first witness of the resurrection.

From The Incarnate God - Volume 2. St. Vladimir's Seminary Press. Crestwood, NY.

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.