

*Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!*

Schedule of Divine Services

Saturday, April 15     **5:00 PM +Ronald Smoley by Anna Marie Wargo**  
Sunday, April 16     **9:00 AM +Aaron Zini by Parents**

**Pages for Sunday’s Divine Liturgy: Pages 175 - 177**

Web Liturgy for Week of April 16 2023 sponsored by  
**Marian Anderson in memory of +John A. Anderson**

*Sanctuary Candle* is lit from April 9 – April 22  
**+Andrew & +Anna Borsh by Agnes Borsh**

**SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARERS –GEORGE GREAT MARTYR**

Saturday, April 22     **5:00 PM +Father Dennis Bogda by Elaine Bogda**  
Sunday, April 23     **9:00 AM +Metropolitan Judson**

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

Regular Offertory	\$3,936.00
Maintenance Fund	644.00
Easter	22,675.00
Flowers	55.00
Candles	225.62
Loose Cash	335.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$27,870.62</b>

Special Easter Donations

- \$40 Michael Farkal
- \$25 Eileen Beavers Rosenberg
- \$300 Kathleen Zavada
- \$100 in Memory of +Marguerite T. Seigler by Staci, Ron & Jack

*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 Havrilscek, 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**

16 Shawn & Margaret Condon (Anniversary)  
18 Anna Marie Miller  
18 Maria Wahal  
19 Michael Semego  
20 Marsha Hrabik

### **In person Attendance:**

*Wednesday Presanctified Liturgy: 48*

*Holy Thursday: 55*

*Good Friday Royal Hours: 5; Entombment Vespers: 102*

*Pascha, Saturday, April 8: 170; Sunday, April 9: 62*

*Bright Monday: 15*

### **Live Stream Viewing:**

*Wednesday Presanctified Liturgy: 38 (WS); 32 (FB)*

*Holy Thursday: 45 (WS); 29 (FB)*

*Good Friday Royal Hours: 12 (WS); 8 (FB)*

*Entombment Vespers: 57 (WS); 48 (FB)*

*Pascha, Saturday, March April 8: 66 (WS); 59 (FB)*

*Pascha, Sunday, April 9: 72 (WS); 66 (FB)*

*Bright Monday: 9 (WS); 8 (FB)*

## **Live Stream**

\$50 Beverly Vatral      \$300 John Woessner

## **Special Parking Lot Donation**

\$100 Joseph & Margaret Barron

## **Special Donation**

\$100 in memory of Bernard Hruska, Carol Serechin, Raymond Perhacs and Carol Collins

## ARCHEPARCHIAL ASSEMBLY 2023

The Office of Religious Education will be sponsoring the Archeparchial Assembly on “Synodal Synthesis” **Saturday, April 29, 2023** at our Cathedral Center from 9 AM – 3 PM. Registration forms are available in the church vestibules, deadline **April 22, 2023**.

## 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](mailto: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 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Fr. Tom Dansak will celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> 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



# Attentive to the Word

*Thomas Sunday*

*Acts 5: 12-20*

*John 20: 19-31*

When two persons are born at the same time who have the same mother and father, we call them twins. There are two kinds of twins: identical twins and fraternal twins. Identical twins are of the same sex and look very similar. Fraternal twins may be of the same sex or one may be male and the other female, but they usually do not look alike. Whether the two are identical or fraternal, we call them twins.

The Gospel today tells us that Thomas means "Twin." Have we ever wondered who Thomas' twin was? Before we can answer that question, it would help us to look at what kind of person Thomas was. Then we might get a clue as to whom his twin is. Thomas has suffered from bad press. Doubting Thomas is the label attached to a person who did not so much doubt Jesus' resurrection, as someone who just wanted to be shown. After probing the nail-prints in Jesus' hands, and putting his hand into Jesus' side, Thomas will believe. We might say that Thomas is the precursor of modern scientific methods. One week later, Thomas has his chance. The subject is present; Thomas can observe, investigate, and reach a conclusion.

Does Thomas probe the nail-prints in Jesus' hands or the wound in His side? No! The Gospel leads us to believe he does not touch Jesus, even though Jesus invites him to do so. Thomas sees and believes. And he shouts, "My Lord and my God." Notice: Thomas never got his proof, at least not scientific proof. Thomas believed. Thomas reveals some interesting things to us about ourselves.

We live in a scientific world which says prove it. It is not so much that we doubt; it's just that we want proof. We want proof that a certain car will get 40 miles per gallon of gasoline. It is not that we doubt that it will not. But, testing and writing a 200-page report - which we will probably never read - cataloguing the results, will prove to us that it will get 40 miles per gallon. "The president is losing his popularity," says the reporter

on the evening news. And we unconsciously say, "Prove it." Before we can take our next breath, the survey results of the latest opinion poll are flashed across the TV screen. There we have it. The poll proves that the president is losing his popularity. "This TV set is guaranteed for eight years," states the salesperson. It is satisfaction guaranteed or we get our money back. We get the written guarantee and file it with our important papers. The guarantee proves that the salesperson is telling us the truth. There are many other ways in which we want proof. Our scientific world has created a scientific mind for each one of us. Unless everything is proved, we will not believe it.

But here we are, gathered together in this room, like the disciples of old. Not one of us has ever seen Jesus. Jesus has not appeared here and displayed His nail-marks and wounds and invited us to believe. We have no proof that He was raised from the dead. But is proof necessary? Does the scientific method apply to faith? No, it does not. Not one of us has seen the risen Lord, yet we believe.

Deep down in our hearts we may be coming to see who Thomas' twin is. The Gospel never tells us who Thomas' twin is for a reason. And the reason is simple - each of us is twin to Thomas. We doubt. We want proof. But ultimately we believe without proof. Thomas became a believer. Likewise, we twins come to believe. Faith is believing in a God who raised Jesus from the dead. The scientific method will not work. No one can prove - not even Thomas - that Jesus was raised from the dead. All we can do is believe - or choose not to believe. If we choose not to believe, then we merely forget it and go our merry way. However, if we choose to believe, we can say with certainty that Thomas' long lost twin has been found!

## **CHOIR CONCERT**

The Pittsburgh Byzantine Catholic Archeparchial Choir returns to Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church at 4815 Fifth Avenue Oakland, Pa. on April 16, 2023 – Thomas Sunday – for a program of readings and hymns celebrating the glorious Resurrection of our Lord. The program will begin at 2:00 p.m. with the Choir's joyful presentation "Sing the Hymn of Victory!" featuring many beloved and seldom-heard renditions of the Paschal greeting, "Christ is Risen! Christos Voskrese!" A hospitality reception will follow the program in the lower level of the church.

## 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.