

April 21, 2019

The Resurrection of Our Lord, Christ is Risen!



SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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

Proprs for this Sunday: pp. 164 - 171

Divine Services for the Week:

SAT., APR. 20 7:00 P.M.	PASCHA, HOLY RESURRECTION of our LORD RESURRECTION MATINS, DIVINE LITURGY <i>Blessing of Easter baskets and reception following</i>
SUN., APR. 21 8:30 A.M	PASCHA, HOLY RESURRECTION of our LORD Divine Liturgy, Mirovaniye, <i>Blessing of the Artos and Blessing of Easter baskets following</i>
MON., APR. 22 9:00 A.M.	BRIGHT MONDAY Divine Liturgy, Procession and four Resurrection Gospels, Mirovaniye
TUE., APR. 23 6:00 P.M.	BRIGHT TUESDAY, ST. GEORGE the GREAT MARTYR HOLY DAY Divine Liturgy
SUN., APR. 28 *10:00 A.M.*	THOMAS SUNDAY Divine Liturgy, Mirovaniye, Distribution of the Artos PATRONAL CELEBRATION LUNCHEON, following Liturgy

Privileged Week

During Bright Week (Sunday of Pascha to the Sunday of St. Thomas), there is no fasting at all. Bright Week is seen, liturgically speaking as one single day – a continuation of Pascha throughout the whole week.

Christ is Risen! ~ Indeed He is Risen!

Happy Birthday Greetings This Week:

April 25: John Gural,

Wedding Anniversaries Last Week:

April 16: Connie & Francis Hersh

Please Pray For Our Sick and Shut-ins

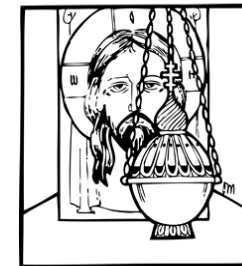
HOME – Margaret Barilla, Eileen Batcha, Natalie Jugan-Diaz, Rebecca Dickun, Marianne Dove, Alice Haber, Jean Herdt, Rebecca Hutcheon, Kevin Joray, Neil Jugan, Marion Malackanich, Josephine Maruhnich, Carole Panella, Mary Salamon

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

West Hills Health & Rehab Center (951 Brodhead Road, Coraopolis, PA 15108) – Margaret Klacik

Beaver Meadows (5130 Tuscarawas Rd, Beaver, PA 15009) - Paul Valiga, Angie Yuhasz

Epistle Readers – April 21: Prudence Peya – April 28: Joanne Futato
Ushers – April 21: M. Bobanic/F. Hersh – April 28: F. Hersh/R. Mudron
Troica Holders – April 21: M. Mudron – April 28: F. Hersh



THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP

April 21 - 27, 2019

Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:

+ Nicholas Maruhnich

(In Loving Memory)

Offered By:

Ed & Isabel Maruhnich

“Everyone must give according to whatever he has inwardly decided; not sadly, not grudgingly, for God loves a cheerful giver.”

(2 Cor 9:7)

Christos Voskrese! ~ Voistinu Voskrese!

Mark Your Calendar!!

St. George Flea Market July 12 & 13. Plan on volunteering in any and all capacities from planning, set-up, advertising, or working the sale. Speak to Jo Ann Hersh for details. *We are taking donations throughout the year for our annual Flea Market. Any time you have an item to donate, please leave it in the Center.*

Mother's Day Breakfast in Three Weeks

On Sunday, May 12, our annual Mother's Day Breakfast will take place in the Center following the 8:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy. We will come together as a Church family in honor of all mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers, spiritual mothers, and all who portray a motherly role. **Everyone is invited.** This will be sponsored by our Men's Club.

Jadran Beaver Valley present Annual Spring Concert

The Jadran Beaver Valley Junior Tamburitians will present their 61st Annual Spring Concert on Sunday, May 19, 2019, at Ambridge Area High School, 901 Duss Ave, Ambridge PA. The curtain will open at 2:00 P.M. Our directors and performers have been working hard throughout the year to present dances and songs from Croatia, Serbia, Bulgaria, Hungary, and Russia. In addition to our junior tamburitians, we will have two local groups as our guest.



The Happy Hearts Junior Tamburitians hailing from Youngstown, OH and the Slavjane Folk Ensemble from Pittsburgh, PA will round out our show. Immediately following the performance, a reception will be held at the Aliquippa Croatian Center located at 2365 Concord St. Aliquippa, PA 15001. The dedicated staff of the Center will prepare a wonderful buffet dinner for our guests. During and after dinner, the popular Orkestra Radost will entertain and take all of your dancing requests throughout the evening. Our parent organization will hold a bake sale with many homemade treats and there will be Chinese auction with many great baskets up for grabs. Ticket prices for the concert and reception are as follows: Adult Concert and Reception \$25.00 (Concert only \$10.00 / Reception only \$15.00) Children under 12 Concert and Reception \$15.00 (Concert only \$5.00 / Reception only \$10.00) Children under 2 are Free. The group looks forward to seeing all of our family and friends as we present our annual spring concert. Hope to see you there. *St. George parishioner Louisa Hersh is one of the directors and an alumni.*

Sixteenth Annual Day of Reflection for Women, God Speaks: Do We Listen?

This day of reflection will take place on Saturday, May 11, 2019 from 9:00 A.M. – 2:30 P.M. at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, 210 Greentree Road, Munhall, PA 15120. Topics include; Healthy Body/Peaceful Soul, God Speaks to all Generations, and My Spiritual Homecoming. The cost is \$25 per person and includes lunch. Registration forms are available in the Center. The deadline to register is April 24.

St. George Patronal Feast Day Celebration Next Sunday

Next **Sunday, April 28** we will celebrate our Parish Feast Day here at St. George Church. **The Divine Liturgy will be at 10:00 A.M. followed by a luncheon in our Center.** 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 luncheon. **An Easter Egg Hunt will take place following the Patronal Feast Day Brunch.** All children in attendance are invited to participate, ALL AGES. 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. Please sign-up THIS WEEKEND so we may prepare accordingly. *Thank you!*

Blessing of Easter Baskets Following Each Pascha Service

The Holy Spirit reminds us "not to reject the traditions of our elders, which they have learned from their fathers" (Sirach 8:9). Together with the Byzantine Rite, we have inherited many meaningful customs which make our liturgical worship inspiring, spiritually rich, and close to the heart of our people. Among these venerable customs we count the custom of blessing food at Easter. This venerable custom was brought to the United States by our fore-fathers. As we celebrate the Pasch, a feast of new life, we bless the food sustaining our physical life. Thus our custom has its meaning even today and, therefore, it should be piously observed.



At the appointed time of the blessing of the paschal foods, the basket is brought to the church. Having prepared themselves during Lent and by making their Easter confession and receiving Holy Communion, the faithful eat the blessed food on Easter Sunday and the days following Easter.

Wishing you a Blessed Pascha!

Together as a parish family we celebrate Pascha: the Day of Resurrection! With the angels in heaven and all the faithful on earth let us proclaim this message of victory that "Indeed, He is risen." We extend a warm welcome to our parishioners, visitors, and friends. This year let the strength of the Resurrected Savior, who today victoriously comes forth from the sealed tomb, be our light, our strength and our song! We are glad that you have come to worship with us today and pray that your participation in our parish will be enriching to you. **Join us in the Center after the Saturday night Pascha services as we break the fast and indulge in our traditional Easter foods.** *Christ is Risen!*



The Traditional Three Days of Easter and Bright Week

It is the custom of the Byzantine Catholic Church that we continue the triumph, the magnificence, and the splendor of Jesus' New Passover and His Radiant Resurrection. This is accomplished by our celebrating Easter itself and the following two days: **BRIGHT MONDAY** and **BRIGHT TUESDAY**. The services of Bright Week are done with the Royal Doors fully open. This unblocked view of the altar symbolizes the open door of Christ's empty tomb as well as the rent veil of the Jewish Temple, which was torn apart at the moment Christ died. The Church grants to all who come to Church these days with particular graces as they participate and receive the Glorified Eucharistic Christ in Holy Communion. The Church ever continues to place great spiritual emphasis and importance upon the Most Holy Eucharist as the essential Bread of Life. Therefore, since innumerable graces are received from God in availing ourselves to this unique opportunity, it is recommended that all take advantage by coming to Church during these days. In receiving the Divine Eucharist, remember to include on your Communion intentions the well-being and stability of our nation, and all who have lost their lives in war, and the advancement of the Byzantine Catholic Church in this country as well as throughout the entire world.



"Let God's people recognize that they are a new creation in Christ, and with all vigilance understand by Whom they have been adopted and Whom they have adopted. Let not the things, which have been made new, return to their ancient instability ... let no one fall back into that from which he has risen ... for, as it is written, when the just man falls he shall not be overthrown, because the Lord will stretch out His hand."

Saint Leo the Great, On the Lord's Resurrection

Prayers Needed

One of St. Mary's parishioners is in need of a kidney transplant. She has been diagnosed with kidney disease and her best chance of survival lies in the hands of someone willing to be a living kidney donor. Please remember this need in your prayers. If you or anyone you know want to learn more about being a living kidney donor, please reach out to the rectory at St. Mary's for information.

The Feast of our Patron, St. George

April 23rd marks the Feast Day of our Patron Saint, St. George. George was born of a father from Cappadocia and a mother from Palestine. Being a military tribune, he was illustrious in battle and highly honored for his courage. When he learned that Emperor Diocletian was preparing a persecution of the Christians, Saint George presented himself publicly before the Emperor and denounced him. When threats and promises could not move him from his steadfast confession, he was put to unheard of tortures, which he endured with great bravery, overcoming them by faith and love towards Christ. By the wondrous signs that took place in his contest, he guided many to the knowledge of the truth, including Queen Alexandria, wife of Diocletian, and was finally beheaded in 296 in Nicomedia. His sacred remains were taken by his servants from Nicomedia to Palestine, to a town called Lydda, the homeland of his mother, and then were finally transferred to the Church which was raised up in his name. **We will celebrate the Feast of our Patron at the Bright Tuesday Liturgy on April 23 at 6:00 P.M. and again at the Thomas Sunday Divine Liturgy on April 28 at 10:00 A.M. followed by a parish luncheon in the Center. HAPPY PARISH FEAST DAY TO ALL!**



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.



The Glorified Cross



Throughout the entire Resurrection period, the Byzantine Catholic Church glorifies the triumphant Cross of Jesus. The 3-bar Cross equally emphasizes both the crucifixion and the Resurrection of Christ. In the normal position of the Cross, the bottom bar slants upward to Jesus' right side and it is depicted throughout the course of the year in this way. However, during the 50 days until Pentecost, it is turned around on the back side to remind us that Jesus crushed the power of death. He made it a precious symbol of victory and life. So, during these next 50 days, let us turn our crosses around in reverse to emphasize the

"Glorified Cross" of our Lord, reminding us of Jesus' victory over death

"This is the day of Resurrection. Let us be enlightened by this feast, and let us embrace one another. Let us call brothers and sisters, even those who hate us, and in the Resurrection forgive everything."

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!
Christos Voskrese! Voistinu voskrese!
Christus resurrexit! Resurrexit vere!
M'shee ho dkom! Ha koo qam!
Hristos a Inviat! Adeverat a Inviat!
Pchristos aftooun! Alethos aftooun!
Qimle Maran! Shouha Lshimeh!

Christós Anésti! Alithós Anésti!
¡Cristo ha resucitado! ¡En verdad ha resucitado!
Krisztus feltámadt! Valóban feltámadt!
Krishti U Ngjall! Vertet U Ngjall!
Kristus vstal zmr'tvyeh! Skutoc ne vstal!
El Messieh kahm! Hakken kahm!



Resurrection of Our Lord - Pascha: Icon Reflection

"Christ is Risen," is the Gospel proclamation. All four Gospels are silent on the manner of Christ's Resurrection. Nowhere in Scripture is there a factual account of the event, but rather it expresses what occurred before or after the Resurrection.

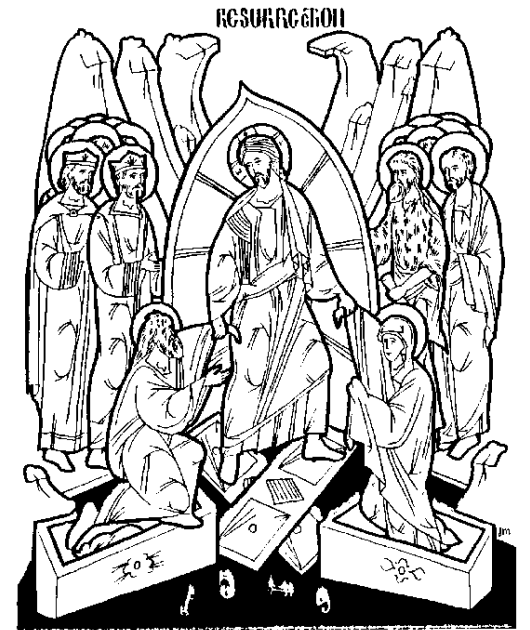
Two Icons depict this mystery of the Resurrection, the Descent into Hades and the Myrrh-Bearing Women. The more familiar one is the Icon of the Descent into Hades. In it, Christ is seen trampling the gates of Hades, taking Adam and Eve by the hands and drawing them to life.

Our Lord's entrance into Hades, (depths of the earth) transforms it. Through death He entered the realm of Hades which in the Icon is shown by the black abyss. Christ's presence in Hades showed that He took upon Himself every humiliation and sin of mankind. He is shown as a conqueror with a radiant halo, the symbol of glory. His garments are brilliant, filling the darkness with the light of His divine presence. He stands upon the broken gate of the kingdom of death, thus indicating His victory over death by His own death and resurrection. Through His humiliation and death, He raised all creation to participate in Divine Life.

Bolts, broken chains, and keys are scattered about to signify the freeing of those held captive and the breaking of death's hold over men. By Christ's descent, Hades is destroyed and its gates trampled. Having broken the bonds of death's power, Christ is seen raising Adam and Eve from the grave. In freeing our first parents, Christ also frees those who put their faith in His coming.

"The Resurrection is an earthquake for the Faithful, a cause of dread for the ignorant; for the Faithful because the sluggish body bestirs itself from the sleep of death, for the ignorant because, disturbed by the trembling of the body and the movement of the earth, they depart from faith and belief in the Resurrection."

- By Saint Ambrose of Milan



SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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PARISH WEBSITE: www.stgeorgebyzantinecatholicchurch.org

Cantors: Jo Ann Hersh, David Klacik, Louisa Hersh
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 AnointingAsk prior to surgery or serious illness
Holy Mystery of MarriageContact the church office eight months prior to wedding
Religious Education Classes.....September through May, following Sunday Divine Liturgy
Pirohi Sales 2nd Friday of each month, Sept. through May
St. George Ladies' Guild & Men's Club..... Everyone welcome to participate

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

2019 Paschal Message

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

As we celebrate Easter Sunday, we deepen our belief and understanding of its meaning on our lives. The events of Jesus's death and resurrection show our path through this life leading to eternal life in heaven. Our perspective changes and deepens with each celebration during our lifetime.

Jesus explained to the Apostles many times everything that was going to happen. They were going to Jerusalem where He would be arrested, suffer, and be crucified. After three days, He would rise from death to new life. The resurrection of Jesus Christ would make it possible to follow him to the heaven.

However, even though the Apostles were told the plan of salvation, when the arrest, trial, and death of Jesus happened, most of the Apostles were afraid and scattered. Judas gave up his faith and turned against Jesus. And only the Apostle John remained with Jesus to the end.

Just like the Apostles, we know the story of the death and resurrection of Jesus. However, even though we know the story in our lives and the life of the Church, our faith is challenged. Scandals in the Church or problems in our personal lives or families hurt us and can cause us to question our faith.

We are called to be like the faith-filled Apostle John. We are called to a faith in Jesus Christ that reveals the way to our resurrection. Through our faith in the resurrection and our cooperation with the Holy Spirit, the current darkness will be blown away with the light of Christ our Lord and Savior. Our faith compels us to spread the news that we believe that Christ is truly Risen.

As we prepare for the 50th Anniversary of the Metropolitan Church of Pittsburgh and the June Assembly, many people in our churches have begun the process of renewal in their lives and in their parish churches. We thank all who are praying and working for the renewal of our Archeparchy. We pray that this Easter Season helps us to continue to increase our faith and our good works for the Lord.

Our faith and our actions add to the light of Resurrected Christ. Each prayer and action helps brighten the way of our families, our churches, and our communities. We extend to all the proclamation that Christ is Risen!

“Christ is Risen.” And, they will answer, “Indeed He is Risen.”

Sincerely yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "William C Skurla". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Most Reverend William C. Skurla, D.D.
Metropolitan Archbishop of Pittsburgh