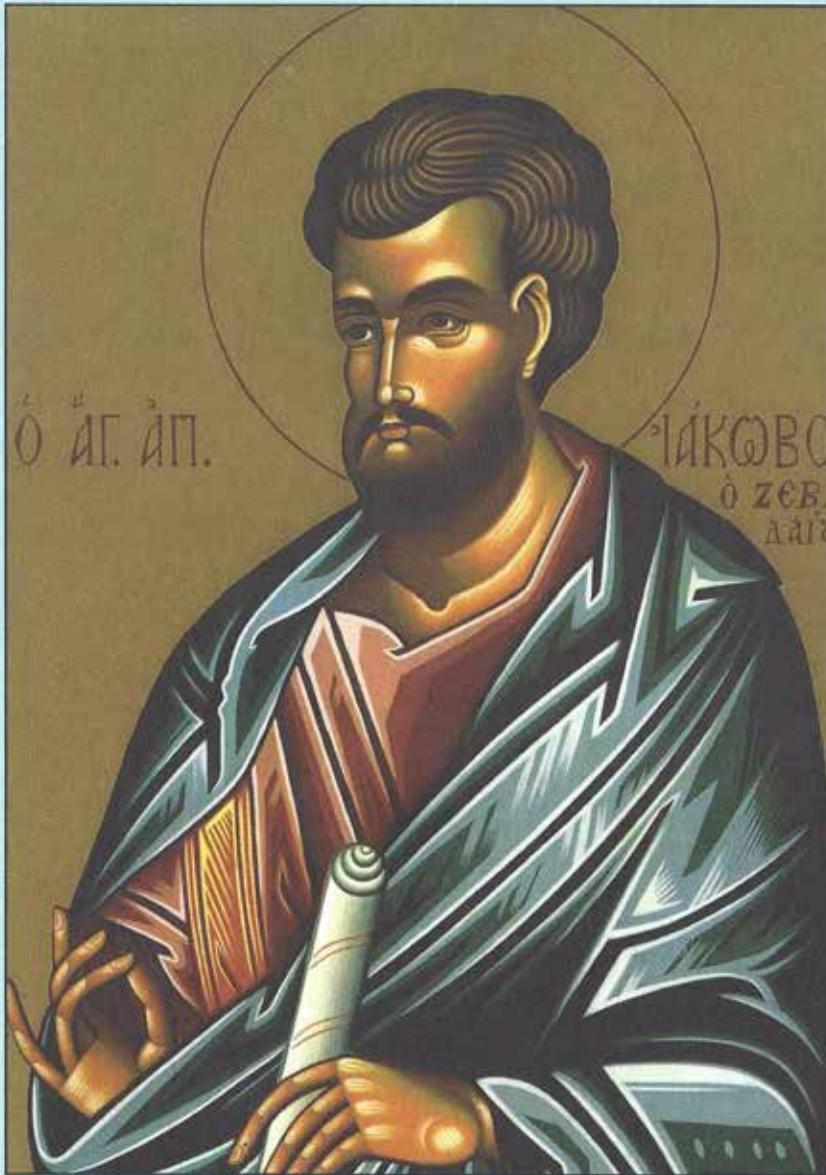


SUNDAY OF THE OINTMENT-BEARING WOMEN
FEAST OF THE HOLY APOSTLE JAMES, THE BROTHER OF JOHN



Icon of the Saint James -- April 30th

April 30, 2017: Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women

Epistle: Acts. 6: 1-7

Gospel: Mk. 15: 43-16

Mon., May 1	10:00	Funeral: + William Davis
Tues., May 2	10:00	Funeral: + Josephine Beckage
Wed., May 3	10:00	Funeral: + Nancy Sereditch
Thurs. May 4	8:00	+ Joseph Klapatch (Wife Mildred)
Fri. May 5	8:00	+ Christine Danylak (Son Leo)
	6:30 pm	Moleben to the Mother of God
Sat., May 6	No Morning Divine Liturgy.	
	10:30	Confessions
	2:00 pm	Confessions
	4:00 pm	+ Ann Jablonski (Peggy Turner)
Sun., May 7	9:00	For Our Parishioners
	11:30	+ John W., Tillie & Gene Turko Jr. (Son Gene)

Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women and Joseph of Arimathea

About the beginning of His thirty-second year, when the Lord Jesus was going throughout Galilee, preaching and working miracles, many women who had received of His beneficence left their own homeland and from then on followed after Him. They ministered unto Him out of their own possessions, even until His crucifixion and entombment; and afterwards, neither losing faith in Him after His death, nor fearing the wrath of the Jewish rulers, they came

to the sepulchre, bearing the myrrh-oils they had prepared to annoint His body. It is because of the myrrh-oils, that these God-loving women brought to the tomb of Jesus that they are called the Myrrh-bearers.

Of those whose names are known are the following: first of all, Mary, the mother of James and Joses; Mary Magdalene (celebrated July 22); Mary, the wife of Clopas; Joanna, wife of Chouza, a steward of Herod Antipas; Salome, the

mother of the sons of Zebedee; Mary and Martha, the sisters of Lazarus; and Susanna. As for the names of the rest of them, the evangelists have kept silence (Matt 27:55-56; 28:1-10. Mark 15:40-41. Luke 8:1-3; 23:55-24:11, 22-24. John 19:25; 20:11-18. Acts 1:14).

Together with them we celebrate also the secret disciples of the Savior, Joseph and Nicodemus. Of these, Nicodemus was probably a Jerusalemite, a prominent leader among the Jews and of the order of the Pharisees, learned in the Law and instructed in the Holy Scriptures. He had believed in Christ when, at the beginning of our Savior's

preaching of salvation, he came to Him by night. Furthermore, he brought some one hundred pounds of myrrh-oils and an aromatic mixture of aloes and spices out of reverence and love for the divine Teacher (John 19:39). Joseph, who was from the city of Arimathea, was a wealthy and noble man, and one of the counselors who were in Jerusalem. He went boldly unto Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus, and together with Nicodemus he gave Him burial. Since time did not permit the preparation of another tomb, he placed the Lord's body in his own tomb which was hewn out of rock, as the Evangelist says (Matt. 27:60).

Kneeling in Our Church

The Pastoral Guide of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the United States (the official rule book for our Parishes in all four Eparchies), states in article 464: "Because kneeling is a sign of pen-

ance in the Eastern tradition, the faithful should be discouraged from kneeling during the Paschal [Easter] Season and all Sundays of the year.

Frequently Asked Questions: What is an Eastern Catholic Church?

Many people think of the Catholic Church as a monolithic structure with a clear leadership and traditions. People also mistakenly refer to the whole as the Roman Catholic Church. But this is not quite accurate.

The Catholic Church actually com-

prises twenty-two particular Churches in full communion with one another. There are twenty-one Eastern Catholic Churches, and one Latin Catholic Church (i.e., the Church of Rome). Each of these particular Churches is self-governing (the term in Latin is *sui iuris*,

“of their own law”), even while being in communion with the Church of Rome.

Each of these particular Churches is self-governing (*sui iuris*) because they have their own hierarchy. In other words, what makes a particular Church self-governing (*sui iuris*) is that each particular Church has its own leaders which govern all the faithful Christians belonging to that particular Church. These hierarchs (whether Patriarchs, Major Archbishops, Metropolitans, Bishops, or otherwise) are in communion with one another, and with the Church of Rome. The correct term is to be in communion with Rome, and not “under the Pope” (as many people will mistakenly say).

Eastern Catholics are the minority in terms of the number of Catholics worldwide. However, they are the vast majority in terms of diversity within the Catholic Church (twenty-one to one!). Eastern Catholics are distinct from the Latin Church in that they have four distinguishing characteristics. They have their own (1) theology, (2) spirituality, (3) canon law, and (4) liturgy. In other words, the Eastern Churches have their own theological way of understand the mysteries of God, their own spirituality and devotional practices, their own laws and customs, and their own styles of liturgy. This is what distinguishes them from the Latin Church.

People mistakenly refer to the Eastern Catholic Churches as ‘Eastern Rite Roman Catholics’, or simply as ‘The Eastern Rite,’ as if there is only one. There are many rites within the Catholic Church, and what makes an Eastern Church is more than simply its liturgical rite. An Eastern Church also has its own theology, spirituality, and canon law. Even the term ‘The Eastern Church’ is wrong, since there are more than one Eastern Churches.

Almost all Eastern Catholic Churches have counterparts in the Eastern and Oriental Orthodox Churches. In fact, those with counterparts all came from their mother Orthodox Churches throughout the past four hundred years or so. Therefore, many Eastern Catholics choose to identify themselves as ‘Orthodox Christians in communion with Rome,’ since Eastern Catholics are meant to be an example of how to be fully Eastern, and yet fully in communion with Rome.

Eastern Catholic Churches are traditionally found in Eastern Europe, the Middle East, North Africa, and India. However, nowadays we can find Eastern Churches throughout the world, speaking a multitude of languages, and serving a vast array of people.

ALL of the particular Catholic Churches share “equal dignity, so that

none of them is superior to the others as regards rite, and they enjoy the same rights and are under the same obligations, also in respect of preaching the

Gospel to the whole world (cf. Mark 16:15)...” (Second Vatican Council, Decree on the Eastern Catholic Churches).

Do You Know How the Apostles Died?

This will serve as a reminder that our personal and business sufferings are minor... compared to the intense persecution and cold cruelty the Apostles and disciples of Jesus Christ faced in those times because of their undying Faith.

ST. MATTHEW suffered martyrdom in Ethiopia, killed by a sword wound.

ST. MARK died in Alexandria, Egypt, after being dragged by horses through the streets until he was dead.

ST. LUKE was hanged in Greece as a result of his tremendous preaching to the lost.

ST. JOHN faced martyrdom when he was boiled in huge basin of boiling oil during a wave of persecution in Rome. However, he was miraculously delivered from death. John was then sentenced to the mines on the prison island of Patmos. He wrote his prophetic “Book of Revelation” on Patmos. The apostle John was later freed and returned to serve as Bishop of Edessa in modern Turkey. He died as an old man, the only apostle to die peacefully.

ST. PETER was crucified upside down on a cross. According to church tradition it was because he told his tormentors that he felt unworthy to die in the same way that Jesus Christ had died.

ST. JAMES just “The Leader” of the church in Jerusalem, he was thrown over a hundred feet down from the southeast pinnacle of the Temple when he refused to deny his faith in Christ. When they discovered that he survived the fall, his enemies beat James to death with a fuller’s club. This was the same pinnacle where Satan had taken Jesus during “The Temptation.”

ST. JAMES THE GREAT son of Zebedee, James was a fisherman by trade when Jesus called him to a lifetime of ministry. As a strong leader of the church, James was ultimately beheaded at Jerusalem. The Roman officer who guarded James watched amazed as James defended his faith at his trial. Later, the officer walked beside James to the place of execution. Overcome by conviction, he declared his new faith to the judge and knelt beside James to accept beheading as a Christian.

ST. BARTHOLOMEW also known as Nathaniel, he was a missionary to Asia. He witnessed for our Lord in present day Turkey. Bartholomew was martyred for his preaching in Armenia where he was flayed to death by a whip.

ST. ANDREW was crucified on an x-shaped cross in Patras, Greece. After being whipped severely by seven soldiers, they tied his body to the cross with cords to prolong his agony. His followers reported that, when he was led toward the cross, Andrew saluted it in these words: "I have long desired and expected this happy hour. The cross has been consecrated by the body of Christ hanging on it." He continued to preach to his tormentors for two days until he expired.

ST. THOMAS was stabbed with a

spear in India during one of his missionary trips to establish the church in the sub-continent.

ST. JUDE was killed with arrows when he refused to deny his faith in Christ.

ST. MATTHIAS, the apostle chosen to replace the traitor Judas Iscariot, was stoned and then beheaded.

ST. PAUL was tortured and then beheaded by the evil Emperor Nero at Rome in A.D. 67. Paul endured a lengthy imprisonment, which allowed him to write his many epistles to the churches he had formed throughout the Roman Empire. These letters, which taught many of the foundational doctrines of Christianity, form a large portion of the New Testament.

Day for Vocations

The Sunday of the Paralytic Man, May 7th, 2017, has been designated as a Day for Vocations for all parishes and institutions in the Archeparchy of Philadelphia. Just as Our Lord raised the Paralytic Man and healed him of his infirmity, so to are we called to lift up those who may be open to God's call to service in His Holy Church. Please be sure to pray for an increase of vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life on this day.

If there is someone in your family, or you have a friend (or even yourself!), whom you think God might be calling to a challenging, but extremely rewarding and fulfilling, life as a Ukrainian Catholic priest, deacon, or religious monk or nun, be sure to pray for them. Have your priest talk with them and pray with them over their call. For more information, be sure to check out our new vocations website at www.ukrainiancatholicvocations.com.

Bus Trip to New York City

Seats are available for the May 21 LUC bus trip to New York City - we've had cancellations due to illness, therefore there are four

seats still available. Contact Paul Ewasko at 570 563-2275

Our Condolences

We would like to express our sincere condolences to Turko Family on the occasion of falling asleep of + Joan Turko on April 23, 2017. Her funeral was held at St. Cyril's Church on April 28, 2017.

May the Lord God help and bless grieving Family at this difficult time and may He accept the departed servant of God Joan into the Heavenly Kingdom. Everlasting Memory! Vichnaya Pam'yat'!

St. Mary's International Dinner Club

ST. MARY'S BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH DINNER CLUB, 320 Mifflin Ave., Scranton, Pa. will feature La Cena Italiana on May 11, 2017. The menu will start with Pasta e Fagioli Soup and the Entrée will be a Boneless Chicken Breast topped with Eggplant, Prosciutto & Provo-

lone Cheeses and Fresh Marinara Sauce, Pasta Primavera and for dessert an Italian Ricotta Pie. Coffee, Tea, Soda, and Water is available. Seatings are at 5:30 or 6:30pm and the price is only \$20.00 per person. Reservations can be made by calling 570-343-5151 no later than Tuesday, May 9th.

Collection Processing Team...

The Collection Processing Team for the month of April 2017 is Team #4: Tom

Matkosky, Ed Stecco, and Joe Smagula.

Sunday Collection for April 22 & 23, 2017: \$

Altar Boy and Lector Schedule for May 6 & 7, 2017

	Altar Boys	Lectors
4:00 pm	Joseph Chylak -- Nicholas Chylak	John Sakson
9:00 am	Michael Roberts -- Joseph Skirpan	Pat Marcinko
11:30 am	Brian Radle -- Jordan Radle	Frank Lesnefsky

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Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

Fight the Good Fight of Faith

About that time King Herod laid hands upon some members of the church to harm them. He had James, the brother of John, killed by the sword, and when he saw that this was pleasing to the Jews he proceeded to arrest Peter also. (It was [the] feast of Unleavened Bread.) He had him taken into custody and put in prison under the guard of four squads of four soldiers each. He intended to bring him before the people after Passover. Peter thus was being kept in prison, but prayer by the church was fervently being made to God on his behalf.

On the very night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter, secured by double chains, was sleeping between two soldiers, while outside the door guards kept watch on the prison. Suddenly the angel of the Lord stood by him and a light shone in the cell. He tapped Peter on the side and awakened him, saying, "Get up quickly." The chains fell from his wrists. The angel

said to him, "Put on your belt and your sandals." He did so. Then he said to him, "Put on your cloak and follow me." So he followed him out, not realizing that what was happening through the angel was real; he thought he was seeing a vision. They passed the first guard, then the second, and came to the iron gate leading out to the city, which opened for them by itself. They emerged and made their way down an alley, and suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter recovered his senses and said, "Now I know for certain that [the] Lord sent his angel and rescued me from the hand of Herod and from all that the Jewish people had been expecting." When he realized this, he went to the house of Mary, the mother of John who is called Mark, where there were many people gathered in prayer.

Acts of the Apostles 12: 1-12

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