

SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN



Icon of the Myrrh-bearing Women

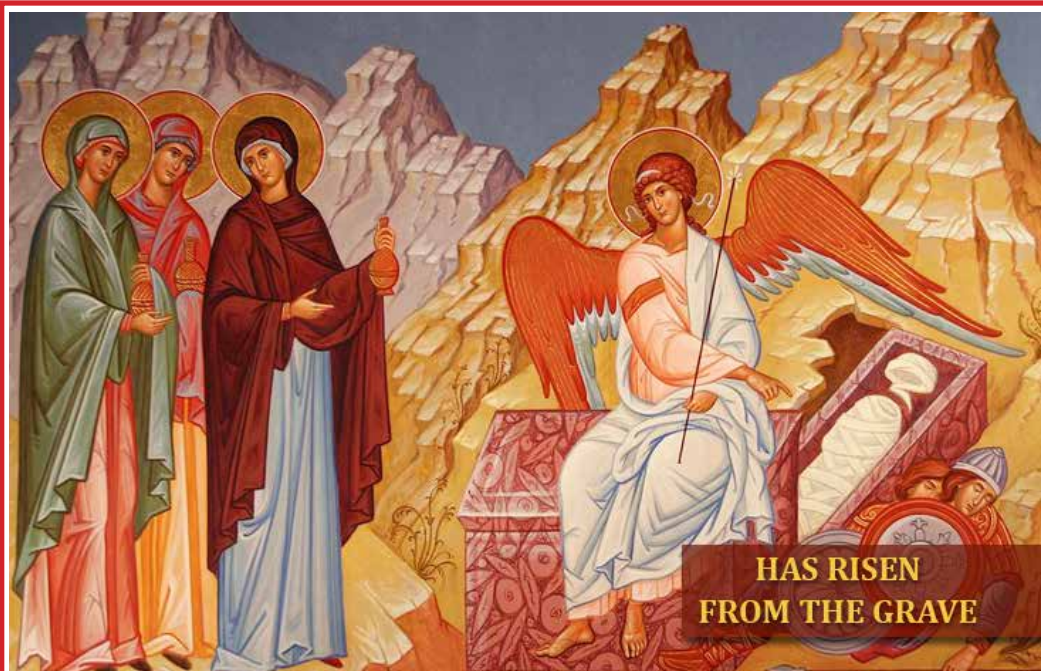
May 5, 2019: Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearers	
Epistle: Acts 6: 1-7	Gospel: Mk. 15:43-16
Mon., May 6	8:00 + Jill King (Dorothy Zinsky)
Tues., May 7	8:00 + John & Nellie Priblo & +Spurge Chudillo (Dolly Daniels)
Wed., May 8	8:00 + Michael Bokowski (Marlene Nestrick)
Thurs., May 9	8:00 + Valerie Polton (Marlene Nestrick)
Fri., May 10	8:00 + Michael Galay (Mary Ann Spryn) 6:30 pm Moleben to the Mother of God
Sat., May 11	No Morning Divine Liturgy 10:30 Confessions 2:00 pm Confessions 4:00 pm + George & Mary Marushock (Daughter Lucille)
Sun., May 12	9:00 + Florence Chomo (Hudak Family) 11:30 For Our Parishioners

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 anoint 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 Nico-

demus 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).

Why do we stand, and not kneel, from Easter to Pentecost?

In the tradition of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, it is not correct to kneel at anytime from Easter to Pentecost. Despite the fact that other churches do it or "visitors...are surprised" does not change the fact that kneeling is not proper during this time. In the Ukrainian Catholic Tradition, the action of kneeling and prostrating is a penitential posture. It is the position of a sinner seeking forgiveness. It is NOT a position of adoration (as it is in the West). This is why it is practiced so often in the Lenten season.

Standing is the proper position for giving praise and thanks to God in the spirit of joy and happiness. During the Paschal Season (Easter to Pentecost),

the time for repentance, and fasting, is over. It is the time of our salvation for "Christ is Risen!" We express our joy, thanksgiving and adoration for this fact and the fact that we who have "...been baptized into Christ and put on Christ" have also risen with Him. It is for this reason that kneeling is improper during this holy season. To kneel during this season is to imply that you do not accept the Resurrection of Christ. By standing for all prayer, (even private before and after services) we are demonstrating, in a bodily way, that you believe that "*Christ is risen from the dead, and by death He has trampled death and to those in the graves He has granted life.*"

My Church

My Church is composed of people like me. We make it what it is.

It will be friendly, if I am.

Its pews will be filled, if I help to fill them.

It will do great work, if I work.

It will make generous gifts to many

causes, if I am a generous giver.

It will bring other people into its worship and fellowship, if I bring them.

MY CHURCH will be a church of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, and a church of noble spirit, if

I, who make what it is, am filled with those things. Therefore, with the help of God, I shall dedicate myself to the

task of being all the things that I want my church to be.

[*St. Stephen Cathedral – Phoenix AZ*]

Mark Your Calendars

Over the past few years, attendance at the Memorial Services at the Cemetery on Pentecost Sunday has been declining. It was decided at a Parish Meeting to change the Memorial Services from Pentecost Sunday to the Sunday of the Memorial Day Weekend. **THEREFORE, THE MEMORIAL SERVICES AT OUR CEMETERY WILL TAKE PLACE ON**

SUNDAY, MAY 26TH AT 10:00 AM. THERE WILL ONLY BE ONE DIVINE LITURGY ON THAT SUNDAY. Following the Divine Liturgy, a Panachyda Service will be held to pray for all those buried at our Cemetery, after which, individual graves will be blessed. Hopefully this will increase attendance.

Collection for Catholic Home Missions Appeal Financially Benefits Our Archeparchy; Please Be Generous in Your Offerings During Our Parish Collection for Catholic Home Missions

The annual collection for the Catholic Home Missions Appeal will be taken up in all parishes of our Philadelphia Archeparchy the weekend of April 28-29. The resources from this collection provide grants for projects to strengthen the faith of the people in the United States. Over forty percent of all dioceses in the United States, over 80 dioceses, receive Catholic Home Missions financial support. Our Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia

will receive funding from this collection in the sum of \$125,000 for the year 2018, far in excess of the amount collected from our parishes. Your generous support of this collection will continue to provide to our archeparchy much needed resources for our Seminary, Religious Education, Evangelization, Communication (the museum, The Way and website), Mission Parishes, and Human Life Ministries, and other areas of faith development.

Thank you for your financial support of the Catholic Home Missions Appeal.

Easter Dinner - Sviachene

Father Myron Myronyuk and his Parish Family of Scranton's Saint Vladimir Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church will conduct their annual Easter Dinner "Sviachene" celebration today (May 5, 2019), beginning at 12:15 pm in the Parish Center at 428 North Seventh Avenue. Dinner will consist of Ukrainian borshch, ham, kobasa, red horseradish, holubchy, potato salad, rye bread, rolls, dessert and beverages. Takeouts available by advance order - must be picked up promptly between 11:30am and no later than 12 noon.

Musical entertainment by the delightful Ihor and Regina Duo. A theme basket and 50/50 raffle will be available along with a drawing for an attractive Ukrainian tablecloth.

Admission: \$15.00 adults; \$8.00 students; age 5 and under free.

Advance reservations only - no tickets at the door. For reservations contact Maria Black at 570 503-1514. Deadline is Monday, April 29.

Everyone is invited to our welcoming church and at our table!

Bus Trip to Enthronement

The North Anthracite Council of LUC has chartered a 33 passenger bus to the Tuesday, June 4th Enthronement of Metropolitan Archbishop Borys Gudziak at our magnificent Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia. Pick-ups will be at 5:15am at SS. Cyril and Methodius Church in Berwick, 5:45am at SS. Peter and Paul Church in Plymouth and 6:15am

at St. Vladimir Church in Scranton. Cost is \$35.00 per person - please make out check to North Anthracite Council - LUC. Reservations can be made by contacting Janina Everett at 570 441-9593, Paul Ewasko at 570 563-2275 or Sandra Berta at 570-383-9487. Reservations are on a first-come first- served basis. Payment in full reserves a bus seat.

From Auxiliary Bishop Andriy Rabiw

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,
During the week of June 2 - 9, the Metropolitan Archeparchy of Philadelphia will welcome our new Metropolitan-Archbishop, Most Reverend Borys Gudziak. It is a time of great joy for our

Church, not only here in Philadelphia, but for the United States.

As you are aware, there are a number of events scheduled to celebrate His Grace's enthronement during this week. One, in particular, is a Day for Youth were

Metropolitan Borys wants to spend a day to get to know, get to listen and share with not only the future of the Church, but it's present generation.

The day, scheduled for Saturday, June 8, will be a day of prayer, of reflection, of dialogue, of visiting and of celebrating. Regardless of what language one speaks, the day will offer an opportunity for our youth and young adults to be with the leadership of our Church, not only in America, but with the head of our entire Church, His Beatitude Sviatoslav.

We invite children, youth and young adults of your family, parish and organization to come and be a part of the celebration of our Church which will highlight them. There will be catechesis for all age groups: Pre-School (up to age 6),

young children (ages 6 - 12), teenagers (ages 13 - 17) and young adults (18 and older). All they have to do is register and bring a sleeping bag.

To register, please have them send an email with their name, address, age and primary language to: h2hyouthday@gmail.com. Once we receive it, information and forms will be sent to be filled out. Enclosed, you will find a copy of the schedule for the day.

We thank you for your willingness to give the children and youth the time to deepen their faith by sharing with our leaders and especially with others of their same age group. Sincerely Yours, and the Lord,

Most Reverend Andriy Rabi

Collection Processing Team...

The Collection Processing Team for the month of May 2019 is Team #1: The Collection Processing Team for the

month of January 2019 is Team #1: Jerry Sereditch, Michaelene Davis, and Gloria Jablonski.

Sunday Collection for April 27 & 28, 2019: \$

Altar Boy and Lector Schedule for May 11 & 12, 2019

	Altar Boys	Lectors
4:00 pm	Nicholas Muchisky -- Nicholas Borowski	John Sakson
9:00 am	Patrick Marcinko -- Nicholas Chylak	Pat Marcinko
11:30 am	Thomas Radle -- Brian Radle	Frank Lesnefsky

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Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

The Myrrh-Bearing Women

The Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women ... reminds us that the love and faithfulness of a few individuals shone brightly in the midst of hopeless darkness. It calls us to ensure that in this world love and faithfulness do not disappear or die out. It judges our lack of courage, our fear, our endless and servile rationalizations. The mysterious Joseph and Nicodemus, and these women who go to the grave at dawn, occupy so little space in the gospels. Precisely here, however, is where the eternal fate of each of us is decided.

Today, I think, we are especially in need of recovering this love and basic human loyalty. For we have entered a time when even these are being discredited by harmful concepts of the person and human life now prevailing in this world. For centuries, the world still had the weak, but still

flickering and shining, glow from that faithfulness, love and co-suffering which was silently present at the sufferings of the Man cast aside by all. And we need to cling, as if to a last thread, to everything in our world that still thrives on the warm light of simple, earthly, human love. Love does not ask about theories and ideologies, but speaks to the heart and soul. Human history has rumbled along, kingdoms have risen and fallen, cultures have been built and bloody wars fought, but what has remained unchanging on earth and in this troubled and tragic history is the bright image of the woman. An image of care, self-giving, love, compassion. Without this presence, without this light, our world, regardless of its successes and accomplishments, would be a world of terror.

Father Alexander Schmemmann