



Church website: www.hrocby.org
 Church Social Hall: (724) 929-7448

*Holy Resurrection
 Orthodox Church*

222 Mary Street, Rostraver Township, PA
 (Serving the faithful of Belle Vernon and surrounding areas)

Reverend Father Stephan Gresh

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May 8, 2022
Sunday of the
Myrrh-Bearing Women
Happy Mother's Day

Christ Is Risen! Indeed He Is Risen!

Services	Sat., May 14 th	Great Vespers with Confession	7 pm
	Sun., May 15 th	Sunday of the Paralytic	
		Church School	9:15 am
		Hours	9:45 am
		Divine Liturgy	10 am
		Memorial at Cross & Grave Blessings at Belle Vernon Cemetery (Weather Permitting)	After Coffee Hour

*Take time to read the scriptures to prepare your heart and mind
 for Sunday Liturgy.

Epistle: Acts 9:32-42

Gospel Reading: John 5:1-15

Epistle (*Resurrection*)

(Acts 6:1-7)

Now in those days, when *the number of* the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution.

Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, “It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables.

“Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of *good* reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business;

“but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”

And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch,

whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them.

Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

Gospel (Resurrection)

(Mark 15:43-16:8)

Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent council member, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, coming and taking courage, went in to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.

Pilate marveled that He was already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him if He had been dead for some time.

So when he found out from the centurion, he granted the body to Joseph.

Then he bought fine linen, took Him down, and wrapped Him in the linen. And he laid Him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock, and rolled a stone against the door of the tomb.

And Mary Magdalene and Mary *the mother* of Joses observed where He was laid.

Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary *the mother* of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him.

Very early in the morning, on the first *day* of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen.

And they said among themselves, “Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?”

But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away – for it was very large.

And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed.

But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him.

“But go, tell His disciples – and Peter – that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you.”

So they went out quickly and fled from the tomb, for they trembled and were amazed. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Announcements:

WEDDING BANNERS Announcement # 2 ~~

Jocelyn Marie Niro and Christopher Michael Nelson will be united in Sacrament of Holy Matrimony on Saturday, May 21.

Please keep them in your prayers for “Many Blessed Years”.

Fr. Stephan and Matushka Denise wish to thank everyone who expressed Paschal greetings through the generous gifts, cards and prayers. Thank you for joining us throughout the Lenten services. May God grant you many rich blessings! Christ is Risen!

Please remember to extend your Paschal greetings to everyone!

Contingent on the weather – blessing of the graves will begin **Sunday, May 15th** after coffee hour. We will begin with a brief service at the cross outside the church then onward to bless the graves in Belle Vernon cemetery. Fr. Stephan will continue grave blessings on Sunday, May 22nd (*weather permitting*). A schedule of other cemeteries will be in next week’s bulletin (Grandview Cemetery, Monessen; Mon Valley Memorial Park; Monongahela Cemetery; West Newton Cemetery). Please contact Fr. Stephan to make arrangements to bless the graves of loved ones at other cemeteries.

A Note from Parish Council: Due to an increase in the cost of candles, the 6 day candles are now **\$4.00**.

This month’s Parish Council meeting is scheduled for **Monday, May 9, 2022 at 7 p.m.**

The lightning/electrical project has begun. See if you can figure out what has already been done? Thanks for the support on getting things started.

Visitors! In addition to the visitor from Belarus on Pascha which Father Stephan shared at last Sunday’s Liturgy, this past Thursday we had family visit from the Ukraine. We extended some much needed support through a financial gift from our Angel Bowl and Kuskie Automotive in Belle Vernon gave them free service for their car.

We have received several thank you cards from the seminarians and their families for the Paschal Gifts we sent. The thank you cards are posted on the vestibule bulletin board.

Please Note: Vespers will be cancelled for Saturday, May 21st.

Reminder: Please have the courtesy to inform others if you have potentially exposed them to Covid. It is still imperative that we remain vigilant to keep safe and healthy.

Please keep in your **PRAYERS** three of our diocesan priests who have been dealing with health issues during the past several months - Fr. Andrew Matychak, Igumen David Lewis, and Igumen Patrick Carpenter.

The Third Sunday after Pascha: St. Joseph of Arimathea and the Myrrh-Bearing Women

By Very Rev. Fr. Lawrence Farley

St. Joseph of Arimathea was a disciple of Jesus and a member of the Sanhedrin, the council that ruled Jerusalem and Jewish affairs. He kept his loyalty to Jesus secret in the early days, since such loyalty was fiercely persecuted in Judea. After Christ's death, Joseph gathered up his courage and went to Pilate to ask for the body of Jesus to give it honorable burial. This was a courageous act, sure to invite persecution from his fellow Jews. Joseph nonetheless carried out the burial, wrapping Christ's body in a clean linen shroud and placing it in his own new tomb, which he had hewn out of the rock in a garden near Golgotha.

Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and Joseph, with other women, saw where Jesus was buried, and they determined to anoint His body as a final act of love and devotion. They had some spices prepared but needed to buy more. Since the weekly Sabbath began immediately after Jesus' burial, they rested on the Sabbath, and after the Sabbath, bought more spices. Early on Sunday, the first day of the week, they met at the tomb, determined somehow to have the stone guarding the door of the tomb moved.

When they arrived, they saw that the stone had already been moved and that the body of Jesus was not there. They saw a vision of angels in white who told them that Christ was not there but had risen. The angels told the women to tell this news to the apostles, assuring them that all should meet the risen Christ in Galilee. The women fled awestruck from the tomb. They told the disciples of their vision, though the apostles did not believe their word alone. The myrrh-bearing women remain in the Church as images of faithful love and courage, enlightened and rewarded by the joy of the Resurrection.