



Church website: www.hrocbv.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)

Very Reverend Fr. Stephan Gresh

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May 4, 2025
Sunday of the
Myrrhbearers

Christ Is Risen! Indeed He Is Risen!

Services	Sat., May 10 th	Great Vespers with Confession	6 pm
	Sun., May 11 th	Sunday of the Paralytic <i>(Mother's Day)</i>	
		Sunday School	9:15 am
		Hours	9:45 am
		Divine Liturgy	10 am

Memorial at Cross & Grave Blessings
Are Postponed until May 18th

*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

<p>Tone 3 Troparion <i>(Resurrection)</i> Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. He has</p>	<p>Tone 3 Kontakion <i>(Pentecostarion)</i> By Thy divine intercession, O Lord, as Thou didst raise up the Paralytic of old, so raise</p>	<p>Tone 1 Prokeimenon <i>(Pentecostarion)</i> Let Thy mercy, O Lord, be upon us as we have set our hope on Thee! <i>(Ps. 32:22)</i></p>
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<p>trampled down <u>death</u> by death. He has become the <u>first</u> born of the dead. He has delivered us from the <u>depths</u> of hell, and has <u>granted</u> to the world <u>great</u> <u>mercy</u>.</p>	<p>up my soul, paralyzed by sins and <u>thoughtless</u> acts; so that being saved I may <u>sing</u> to Thee: “Glory to Thy <u>power</u>, O <u>compassionate</u> Christ!”</p> <p>Tone 8 Kontakion <i>(Pascha)</i> Thou didst descend <u>into</u> the <u>tomb</u>, O <u>Immortal</u>, Thou didst <u>destroy</u> the <u>power</u> of death. In victory didst <u>Thou</u> <u>arise</u>, O <u>Christ</u> God, proclaiming, “<u>Rejoice!</u>” <u>to</u> the Myrrhbearing <u>Women</u>, granting peace to <u>Thine</u> <u>Apostles</u>, and bestowing Resurrection on the <u>fallen</u>.</p>	<p><i>V. Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous! Praise befits the just! (Ps. 32:1)</i></p>
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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.

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.

Announcements:

We will miss our Dorothy and her smile! One of the earliest members of HROC, ***Dorothy Karbowsky***, fell asleep in the Lord this past Monday and was buried from our Church. Our sympathies and condolences are extended to her family. Please include her in your prayers. May her Memory be Eternal! Christ is Risen!

Very Important Note from Fr. Stephan: Please drive carefully and reduce your speed. Spring has sprung and children are out playing and riding bikes. There are a lot of children in the neighborhood as well as in the Church. *Please take care when driving to and around the Church.*

“He restores my soul, He leads me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.” (Psalm 23:3)

The Paths of Righteousness, the hiking group launched in 2020 at St. Michael’s in Greensburg under the leadership of Fr. Sam is eagerly planning to embark on wilderness hikes of 5-7 miles in length on Saturdays on established trails in Westmoreland, Fayette, Somerset, Indiana and Cambria counties of which Fr. Sam is familiar with. The first hike is scheduled for **Saturday, May 10th**. Everyone will meet and depart from St. Michael’s in Greensburg at **7:30 a.m.**

Don’t forget, we need to remember and visit our Home-Bound Parishioners especially during the Paschal season! We have quite a few parishioners who are not able to get out and about as well as they use to. See today’s bulletin insert for a listing of our Home-Bound Parishioners. All of these folks are very appreciative that their parish has not forgotten them and enthusiastically send their love to all here at HROC. *If you know of a person who needs to be added to it, please let Father Stephan know.*

Please remember to extend your Paschal greetings to everyone!

The recent storms have caused a lot of damage in and around Western Pennsylvania, specifically at Saint Nicholas Church in McKees Rocks. One of the domes was blown off the roof. Please keep them in your prayers and we will be obtaining information if anyone wants to contribute towards the restoration. Also, don’t forget to please check on your neighbors to see if they are in any need of help or support.

Local glass artisan and friend of HROC ***“Kiln it by Donna”*** has created custom order, one of a kind Orthodox Glass Crosses as garden medallions, gravestone markers, table top centerpieces and any other custom design can be created as a beautiful reflection of our faith. In the vestibule there is a cross, flyer with samples pictures, business cards and a sign-up sheet if interested.

SAVE THE DATE:

The Iveron weeping icon will be visiting Saint Basil’s (Ridge Road, Belle Vernon) on **Tuesday, May 20th at 6:30 pm**. All are invited to attend!