



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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Ordained Reader

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April 5, 2026

Glory Be to Jesus Christ! Glory be Forever!

Palm Sunday

Services	Wed., Apr. 8 th	Holy Wednesday Bridegroom Matins	7 pm
	Thurs., Apr. 9 th	Holy Thursday Vesperal Divine Liturgy (<i>Last Supper</i>) Matins/Passion Gospels	9 am 7 pm
	Fri., Apr. 10 th	Holy Friday Royal Hours Vespers of Entombment Matins/Procession	9 am 1 pm 7 pm
	Sat., Apr. 11 th	Holy Saturday Vesperal Divine Liturgy	9 am
	Sun., Apr. 12 th	PASCHA Nocturne/Procession Paschal Matins Paschal Divine Liturgy Blessing of Baskets / Paschal Basket Distribution for our Sunday Schoolers	6 am

PASCHAL FEAST IN SOCIAL HALL

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

Epistle: Acts 1:1-8

Gospel Reading: John 1:1-17

<p>Tone 1 Troparion <i>(Palm Sunday)</i></p> <p>By <u>raising</u> Lazarus from the dead before Thy <u>Passion</u>, Thou didst confirm the universal resurrection, O <u>Christ</u> God. Like the <u>children</u> with the palms of <u>victory</u>, we cry out to Thee, O <u>Vanquisher</u> of Death:</p> <p>“<u>Hosanna</u> in the <u>highest</u>! Blessed is He that comes in the <u>Name</u> of the Lord.”</p> <p>Tone 4 Troparion <i>(Palm Sunday)</i></p> <p>When we were buried with Thee in baptism, O <u>Christ</u> God, we were made worthy of eternal life by Thy <u>Resurrection</u>. Now we <u>praise</u> Thee and sing:</p> <p>“<u>Hosanna</u> in the <u>highest</u>! Blessed is He that comes in the <u>Name</u> of the Lord!”</p>	<p>Tone 6 Kontakion <i>(Palm Sunday)</i></p> <p>Sitting on Thy throne in <u>Heaven</u>, carried on a foal on earth, O <u>Christ</u> God, accept the praise of angels and the songs of <u>children</u>, who sing:</p> <p>“Blessed is He Who comes to recall <u>Adam</u>!”</p>	<p>Tone 4 Prokeimenon</p> <p>Blessed is He that comes in the Name of the Lord. God is the Lord and has revealed Himself to us. <i>(Ps. 117:26b, 27b)</i></p> <p><i>V. O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His mercy endures forever. (Ps. 117:1)</i></p>
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Epistle

(Philippians 4:4-9)

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!

Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord *is* at hand.

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things *are* noble, whatever things *are* just, whatever things *are* pure, whatever things *are* lovely, whatever things *are* of good report, if *there is* any virtue and if *there is* anything praiseworthy – meditate on these things.

The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

Gospel

(John 12:1-18)

Then, six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus was who had been dead, whom He had raised from the dead.

There they made Him a supper; and Martha served, but Lazarus was one of those who sat at the table with Him.

Then Mary took a pound of very costly oil of spikenard, anointed the feet of Jesus, and wiped His feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil.

But one of His disciples, Judas Iscariot, Simon's *son*, who would betray Him, said,

Why was this fragrant oil not sold for three hundred denarii and given to the poor?

This he said, not that he cared for the poor, but because he was a thief, and had the money box; and he used to take what was put in it.

But Jesus said, "**Let her alone; she has kept this for the day of My burial.**

"For the poor you have with you always, but Me you do not have always."

Now a great many of the Jews knew that He was there; and they came, not for Jesus' sake only, but that they might also see Lazarus, whom He had raised from the dead.

But the chief priests plotted to put Lazarus to death also,

because on account of him many of the Jews went away and believed in Jesus.

The next day a great multitude that had come to the feast, when they heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem,

took branches of palm trees and went out to meet Him, and cried out:

"Hosanna!

*'Blessed is He who comes in the
name of the LORD!'*

The King of Israel!"

Then Jesus, when He had found a young donkey, sat on it; as it is written:

"Fear not, daughter of Zion;

Behold, your King is coming,

Sitting on a donkey's colt."

His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things were written about Him and *that* they had done these things to Him.

Therefore the people, who were with Him when He called Lazarus out of his tomb and raised him from the dead, bore witness.

For this reason the people also met Him, because they heard that He had done this sign.

Announcements:

The handmaiden of God, **Bonnie Egros**, wife of Jim Egros, fell asleep in the Lord on March 30th. Our sympathies and condolences are extended to the Egros family. Please include her in your prayers. May her Memory be Eternal!

Julia Urdenis wishes to thank everyone for their prayers, cards and candles as she recuperates. However, Julia needs *our additional prayers* as she is back in the hospital.

TODAY is the last day for the special Paschal collection for our seminarians and their families. The families are most appreciative of all support! The Angel Bowl plans to round up the donations to \$500 for each of the 4 seminarians.

It's never too late to prepare for Pascha! We should try to look back at ourselves and our lives to see where we can improve and come closer to God. Come and attend any of the upcoming Passion services to assist you on your journey towards Pascha. Pick up a copy of the "**Lenten, Holy Week and Paschal 11 Week Calendar**" for days/times.

Father Stephan will be asking for help for the Vespers Divine Liturgy scheduled for April 11th. There are multiple Old Testament readings and this is also the service when the colors are changed from dark to light. Any able help is welcome.

This month's Parish Council meeting is scheduled for **Monday, April 13th at 6:30 pm** (the day after Pascha). There is a lot to discuss with all of the transitions taking place.

Also, Fr. Stephan is gathering hard boiled RED colored eggs to handout when venerating the cross on Pascha. We need volunteers to boil and dye them RED for Pascha. If you can help, please see Mary Merella. Red you ask?

Paschal Egg Dying -

Since time immemorial, eggs have been associated with our celebration of Pascha. Tradition holds that this is because of a miracle worked through St. Mary Magdalene: after Christ's Ascension, she went to Rome to preach the Gospel. Boldly going before the Emperor Tiberias, she proclaimed Christ's Resurrection to him; however, she would not go to the Emperor empty-handed, and so she brought eggs with her as a gift. He scoffed at her, saying that a man could no more rise from the dead than the egg in her hand could turn red. Immediately, to the amazement of the Emperor, the egg turned red, which she then used to preach Christ's Resurrection to him: we are redeemed from the vanity of life not with perishable silver or gold, but rather by the precious Blood of Christ, which brings new life as the egg brings forth a new life into the world; moreover, Christ is risen from the tomb, shattering the gates of hell - the bonds of sin, death, and the demons just as a chick breaks forth from its shell. Some historians credit this as to why the Emperor Tiberias was the only pagan Emperor not to persecute the Church.

In commemoration of this miracle, each person is given a red egg by the priest at the conclusion of the Paschal service, at the veneration of the Cross. We then crack these eggs together during the Agape Feast, celebrating Christ's crushing victory over hell and rejoicing together as we are blessed to return to the consumption of such rich foods!

This year's Paschal service/feast/celebration! ~~

ALL are invited to attend the Feast at Holy Resurrection immediately following the Paschal Divine Liturgy and blessing of the baskets. Father Stephan will be opening his basket for all who want to partake after the blessing of the baskets. **ALL** are invited to attend the Feast, bring a friend! **A SPECIAL REQUEST** – that we please try to share our “Paschal Feast” with our home-bounds as well as those we meet.

PASCHAL ALTAR CANDLES: The following Altar Candles were presented by the following:

In Loving Blessed Memory of Members of the Onufer and Niro Families By Joe and Karen Niro and Families

In Loving Blessed Memory of Ronald A. Zeli by Martha, Loving Children & Grandchildren

In Loving Blessed Memory of Mother Irene, Father Theodore and Members of Soroka Families by Martha Zeli & Family

To the Glory of God and Thanksgiving for Zeli, Martin & Bertram Families and all Grandchildren by Mom/Baba Zeli

Paschal Altar Candles: Gifts are now being accepted for the Paschal Altar Candles. If you would like to make a gift in memory of loved ones or in honor of loved ones – place your offering in an envelope marking it “Paschal Candles” and leave it at the Candle Stand.

Baba Bunny needs your help – Can you help with a donation of some candy? A few of us are getting together to make up some Pascha treat bags for our children filled with candy and goodies. Thanks to everyone for their generosity and help! God Bless!

Don't forget, we need to remember and visit our Home-Bound Parishioners! 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 **UPDATED** 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.

A special thanks to those who have been visiting the shut-ins. They have expressed their appreciation.

Good News!!!! Recently, the parking lot has been completely full on Sundays. The side yard of the rectory is available for overflow parking. If you are able-bodied, please consider utilizing this extra space.

Father Stephan has been in communication with Father Evan Ashmore. He plans to attend Vespers on **Saturday, April 16th** as well as Liturgy on **Saint Thomas Sunday, April 17th**. Saturday should be a wonderful opportunity to have a chance to talk to him since Vespers are usually lightly attended.

Save the Date:

HROC Flea Market is back! The Flea Market will be held on **Friday, June 5th and Saturday, June 6th**. When doing your Spring cleaning, consider donating your clean, gently used, unwanted treasures to the Church. ***All items need to be brought to the church by May 31st. Please NO TVs or computers.*** Organization and pricing of the items will take place on Wednesday, June 3rd and Thursday, June 4th. Unfortunately, there will be no pre-sale this year. If you would like to help out either Friday or Saturday, your assistance would be greatly appreciated!

Plans are in the Works for Trip to St. Tikhon's: Fellow parishioners, Ryan Dunlap and his wife Jackie, had the pleasure of visiting St. Tikhon's Monastery. It was such a great experience that they wanted to share it with their fellow parishioners. Ryan is looking to see who would like to join them for a weekend pilgrimage to St Tikhon's Monastery **Saturday, June 13th through Sunday the 14th**, leaving early **Saturday morning at 7 am and returning around 7 pm Sunday**. He plans to rent a 15-passenger van to take those who are interested up for Saturday Vigil and Sunday Liturgy. There will be time to visit the monastery grounds, bookstore and museum before attending vigil. He is also working out overnight arrangements for all who wish to attend, but there is a chance we may be able to stay in the dorms of the seminary. If you are interested in going, please see Ryan. There is also a sign-up sheet on the vestibule bulletin board. He would like to have a final headcount by April 12th.