

Christ is Risen! Indeed He Is Risen!

May 12, 2019

(Sunday of the Holy Myrrh-Bearing Women)

(Happy Mother's Day)

Epistle Reading: Acts 6:1-7 **Gospel Reading:** Mark 15:43-16:8

Next Week: Acts 9:32-42 **Gospel Reading:** John 5:1-15

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

Services Sun., May 19th

Sunday of the Paralytic
(4th Sunday of Pascha)

LAST DAY of Church School

Hours

Divine Liturgy

9:15 am

9:45 am

10 am

Memorial at Cross & Grave Blessings
(Weather Permitting)

Announcements:

Fr. Stephan and Matushka Denise extend warmest festal greetings to all Parishioners and wish to thank all for their Paschal gifts, cards and greetings! Christ is Risen!

Don't forget Mom! **TODAY** our Youth Group will be hosting a special Mother's Day Coffee Hour to honor all Moms in our Parish! Don't take Mom to an overcrowded restaurant where you're hurriedly ushered in and out. Stop by and treat your Special Mom to a relaxing, delicious homemade Brunch which Mom will not forget! Make Her Feel Like A Queen For A Day!

Christ Is Risen! What a Paschal Celebration! Well it was overcast, but it was a glorious day to celebrate together! And we did! It started with a very busy, busy lent, but we made it! Thank you to **everyone** for all of their love, prayers, generous donations of candy for our kids, of the hardboiled eggs for Pascha and the donation of the time and energy of our tireless paska bakers, the nimble hands that crafted the palm crosses for Palm Sunday, etc., etc. What a display of teamwork! But nothing less than the best from everyone which is our norm! God bless everyone and thank you for everything! Let's keep it going!

Matushka Denise weekly updates our Parish website with the bulletin and prayer list, she wanted to know if you have a photo(s) from this year's Pascha you would like to share? If so, please send them to Matushka Denise at pagenealogygirl@gmail.com.

Don't forget to visit our Homebounds over this Paschal season!

Fr. Stephan will be helping his son Jacob relocate to the State of Washington for his new job and will be leaving after Liturgy on May 12th returning late Saturday, May 18th. Fr. Peterson will be available for our pastoral needs (724/483-4441). The Saturday, May 18th Vespers are cancelled.

Hopefully, **Sunday, May 19th**, we expect to celebrate the Memorial for our Beloved Departed at the Cross in front of the Church doors following Coffee Hour, weather permitting. A Procession will then proceed to the Belle Vernon Cemetery to bless the graves of family members and former parishioners. Otherwise, the Memorial will be re-scheduled for Sunday, June 2nd. Also, if anyone has a request for a Paschal Grave Blessing at locations other than Belle Vernon, please let Father Stephan know so arrangements can be made.

Our monthly Parish Council Meeting will be postponed until Tuesday, May 21st at 7 pm.

Collection: May 5th: \$2,005.00



MYRRH-BEARERS SUNDAY

The Myrrh Bearers were the individuals who were directly involved in the burial or who witnessed the Resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth. The term traditionally refers to the women with myrrh who came to the tomb of Christ early in the morning and were the first witnesses of the Resurrection of Jesus. This refers to the three Marys – Mary Magdalene; Mary, the wife of Cleopas; and Mary, the mother of James and Joses. Also included as myrrh bearers are Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus who took the body of Jesus down from the cross, embalmed it with myrrh and aloes, wrapped it in clean linen, and placed it in a new tomb donated by Joseph.

The women followed Jesus during his earthly ministry in Galilee providing for Him and His followers out of their own means. They remained faithful to Him even during the most dangerous time of His arrest and execution, and not only stood by the cross, but accompanied Him to his burial, noticing where the tomb was located. Because of the impending Sabbath, it was necessary for the burial preparations to be brief. Jewish custom at the time dictated that mourners return to the tomb every day for three days. Once the Sabbath had passed, the women returned at the earliest possible moment, bringing myrrh to anoint the body. It was at this point that the Resurrection was revealed to them and they were commissioned to go and tell the Apostles. They were in effect the apostles to the Apostles. For this reason, the myrrh bearing women are sometimes referred to as "Equal to the Apostles."