

April 10, 2016

Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women

FROM THE DESK OF THE PASTOR

Dear Friends in Christ,

Christ is Risen! Truly He is Risen! ~ Христос воскрес! Воистину воскрес!

Listening to today's Gospel reading we encounter the faith of St. Mary Magdalene. It's interesting to note that in the eyes of the Church we are remembered for the good we've done, not the bad. Take Mary Magdalene as an example. She is called by our holy Church as the "Apostle to the Apostles."

Why is she called "Apostle to the Apostles"? Although the apostles proclaimed the resurrection of Christ to the whole world, it was Mary Magdalene alone who proclaimed the resurrection of Christ to the apostles themselves, hiding and cowering as they were in fear behind locked doors in the back room in an obscure neighborhood. It was she who was the first to arise and go to the empty tomb, for her love of Jesus drew her there as a magnet draws steel to itself. None of the Apostles were there. She went to the tomb of our Blessed Lord Jesus and saw that the stone had been taken away from the entrance.

Now, take a step back! The amazing thing is this: the Church puts forward as the primary witness to our Faith a woman (contrary to Jewish law), and not just a woman but one who was possessed at one time by demons, and a woman whose sins were very much of the scarlet variety. Yet, she is called the *Apostle to the Apostles* and is given one of the closest Sundays to Easter, "The Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women," on our very crowded calendar. The world is just the opposite of this. It would refer to her by her past misdeeds. But, not the Church! She for us is among our cherished examples in love and faith. So, the next time you hear propaganda in the media or feel that the Church is "judgmental, anti-woman or negative" just take a look at St. Mary Magdalene. Share this reflection with someone you feel could use a cheering up today!

In Christ,

Jason (priest and sinner)

New Things Happening at Holy Trinity:

- Camp Heritage at Trinity Acres will be held 3 weeks this summer for age group 4 -12 from 9:30am – 3:30 pm daily.

Week 1: June 20-24 (Monday – Friday)

Week 2: June 27 – July 1 (Monday – Friday)

Week 3: July 5-7 (mini-camp) (Tuesday – Thursday)

Early Bird Registration Cost BEFORE May 15th: Weeks 1& 2 @ \$75 / wk, Week 3 @ \$50. Hot lunch and daily snacks provided. Faith, Fun & Friendship!!!

- Congratulations to Harry Kohl, Mark Medwig and Russell Zorey for being elected for a three year term on PAC (Pastor's Advisory Committee).
- Fresco on ceiling above the holy altar is peeling. This was discussed at last PAC meeting. After Easter we will move forward with the best way to resolve the problem. Fundraiser to come, so keep your spare change handy!
- SVIACHENE 2016 will be Next Sunday, April 17th in the church hall, after the 10:30am bi-lingual Divine Liturgy. Registration is necessary by Noon, Friday, April 15th.
- In accord with the Particular Law of the UGCC, our parish will soon begin the practice of reciting the Third Hour prayers before the celebration on the Divine Liturgy on Sundays.

Prayer List: Make a point of praying for everyone on the prayer list. If you don't have a prayer list, contact the office and we'll send you one. Keep in your prayers: Anastasia Chruszcz, Stephanya Borszcz, Pauline Danesky, Alice Haritan, Luba and Peter Hlutkowsky, Daniel Holowaty, Theophil Konecky, John Maslany, Helen Novak, Joe & Kathleen Popivchak, Mary Simek, Margaret Staskowicz, Anna Szmul, Tillie Volanski, Bishop Richard Seminack, our former pastor, Donald Schultz, & Pat McGuire.

Take responsibility to protect your life! Prepare NOW for a sudden emergency. You could be anywhere - at work, school, home, or in the car. How will you communicate, find each other & know if your children, family members & parents are safe? Where will you meet, where will you go, & what will you eat? Our church's fallout shelter may not provide for everyone's needs - regardless of how many frozen pyrohi are stored. The last presentation "Disaster Preparedness for Seniors" will THIS Sunday, April 10th at 1pm in the church hall.

Holy Trinity Fundraising. We have a number of costs facing our parish. First, the fresco of the Most Holy Trinity on the ceiling above the altar is chipping again. I understand this happens every few years. We will need to hire an expert to examine the root causes of this problem before we begin restoration work. Any painting done there, however, will have to fit into a color scheme which compliments the rest of the church. Second, the wooden base around the gutters on the church roof are beginning to rot. Third, we will need to do renovation work on the washrooms in the church hall, as well as the floors of the church office itself. Pyrohi funds can help with some of this, but the rest we will need to look at fundraising ideas. If you have an idea, please write it down and put it anonymously in the collection basket.

As part of the VIBRANT PARISH (A place to encounter the living Christ) you can find a Mission Days Guidebook from Ascension to Pentecost written in English and Ukrainian on the eparchy's website www.stjosapheparchy.com. The first page in this Guidebook describes the Mission Days.

Mission Days: A Ten Day Journey: By taking an active role in the spiritual efforts of these ten Mission Days, we are called to better understand that, by their very nature, our parish communities and families (domestic churches) have a missionary character. This missionary spirit is a consequence of the gift of our Baptism, by virtue of which we, as Christians, take upon ourselves the responsibility to believe, live, serve, and share the witness of our faith in Christ, not just among our family members, but with our neighbors, wherever we may live. Thus, the mission of our parish community is to allow our Lord to enter more deeply into our lives, and to carry the Good News beyond our own community, inviting others to partake in the Kingdom of God. From Ascension to Pentecost, as a parish community we pray that the Lord might renew our life in God through the power and action of His Holy Spirit.

Climbing the Stairs to Mercy will be at Pokrova Church (Parma, OH) Saturday, April 16th with speakers Archimandrite George Appleyard and Very Rev. Protopresbyter Bryan Eyman, D. Min D. Phil. If you are unable to attend, SEE IT LIVE- at <https://livestream.com/ECEDlivebroadcast/events/4833496>.

9:30 am - 9:45 am: Registration

9:45 am – 10:00 am: Welcome and prayer by Sr. Ann

10:00 am - 10:45 am: Archimandrite George Appleyard followed by Q & A

11:00 am - 11:45 am: Archimandrite George Appleyard followed by Q & A

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm: Lunch

1:00 pm - 1:45 pm: Very Rev. Protopresbyter Bryan R. Eyman, D. Min D. Phil
followed by Q & A

2:00 pm - Kiss of Christ video and confessions followed by Divine Liturgy

The fifth series of “Discovering Ways to Live the Year of Mercy” is available in the church vestibule. In addition, you will find a flyer “Suggestions for Living in the Jubilee Year of Mercy: Mercy Begins with Me.” Both are in English and Ukrainian. If you need more copies, please call the rectory.



Mother’s Day (May 8th) offering envelopes and cards are in the church vestibule. Deadline to submit your envelopes listing your mother’s name is Wednesday, May 4th. Please place in the collection basket.

YOU ARE INVITED to hear the first-hand experience of Dr. John R. Cencich, an international law enforcement professional next Sunday, April 17th at 11am at St. Gregory Byzantine Catholic Church Hall (2005 Mohawk Rd, Upper St. Clair). This event is FREE and open to the public. Dr. Cencich is the author of The Devil’s Garden: A War Crimes Investigator’s Study and was also instrumental in the development of the History Channel’s 8 episode mini-series “Hunting Hitler” which aired last year. For directions, visit: www.stgregoryusc.org.

Bishop Canevin High School presents GUYS and DOLLS on Thursday, April 21st, Friday, April 22nd and Saturday, April 23rd * ShowTime: 7:30pm Call 412-922-7400 x 210 to reserve your tickets [\$10 / \$7]



The Parish Youth Group will be assembling 130 lunches (260 sandwiches) for the homeless on Friday, May 6th at 6pm in the church hall. Distribution of these lunches to homeless and less fortunate in Pittsburgh’s Hill District takes place on Saturday morning, May 7th. The total cost of this project is approximately \$300.00. If you would like to support the Youth Group with this project please contact Bo Mykhailiv at [412-726-8309](tel:412-726-8309) or bohdanmykhailiv@yahoo.com

The 9th Annual Carnegie Volunteer Fire Dept. 5K Run/Walk will take place on Saturday, April 23rd 8am sharp at the Carnegie Municipal Borough Bldg. Registration fee through April 1 is \$15. Entry forms are available at www.carnegieborough.com or call 412-276-1414 ext. 1421. All proceeds benefit the Carnegie Volunteer Fire Dept.

9th Annual Blessing of the Bikes will be sponsored by Carnegie Presbyterian Church (219 Ewing Rd, Carnegie) on April 23rd. Registration: 10am, Blessing: 11am. Visit their website to pre-register www.cpcriders.org.



FREE Mammography and Women's Wellness Day takes place on Saturday, April 23rd at St. Clair Hospital Breast Care Center for women 40 and older who do not have health insurance from 8am-1pm. Free transportation will also be available. Pre-registration is required. Call 412-942-7811 by Wed. April 20th.

Quarterly Reminder (April 2016): Our Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma is obligated to remind its members that they, especially the victims, have a right and duty to report any incident of the sexual abuse of a minor by the clergy, or by an employee or a volunteer. One should come forward and make that known to his or her pastor or to the bishop or to one of those who assist him in this regard. Once more we remind our readers that our current Bishop Bohdan Danylo can be reached at his Chancery at 440-888-1522 or by writing to him at P.O. Box 347180, Parma, OH 44134-7180. The Victim Assistance Coordinator, Marika Zaliszczuk can be reached on her cell 412-215-5372. You may view the Policies & Procedures at www.stjosaphateparchy.com.

The Church was a Mother to you in Life, providing for your Spiritual Needs: Please Remember the Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma in your Last Will and Testament. The wording to do this is as follows:

“I give and bequeath to the Ukrainian Catholic Diocese of St. Josaphat in Parma, located in Parma, Ohio, ___% of the residue of my estate [or: the sum of \$_____].”

Vital Stats: \$2,970.53 was offered in the collection last weekend with another \$106.28 for candles, \$488 for Utilities, \$375 for Easter, \$25 for Good Friday / Holy Land, \$25 for the Annunciation, \$11.90 Lenten offering box, \$1,196.50 Paska Bread Project, \$66 for “The Natalia Protynyak in Ukraine Fund”, and \$489 for Easter Altar Flowers, all for a grand total of \$5,753.21. Many blessings to all of our contributors whose sacrificial giving is known by God! The Pyrohi “frozen” Project brought in \$519.50. Many blessings to all the pyrohi volunteers!

Lector Schedule:

- Saturday, April 16 at 4pm: Helen Zaletski
- Sunday, April 17th at 10:30am: Serhiy Chovnyk (in Ukrainian) and George Honchar (in English)



April Birthdays

Christine Medwig

Bernard Ciarallo

Brian Medwig

Vasyl Koutsyk

Oksana Slota

Yurko Honchar

Anthanasia Medwig

Halyna Charron

Liliya Didoshak

Maggie Saad

John Pretka

Esther Koss

Avery Artinger

Richard Pietratonio

Dr. Ivan Colaizzi

Mary Sembrat

Rosemary Zuk

Mary Simek

Katya Charron

QUOTE OF THE WEEK:

To be controlled by human nature results in death; to be controlled by the Spirit results in life (and peace)...If we share Christ's suffering, we will also share his glory. Rome 8:6, 17

Am I running away from the sufferings God permits me in this life? If so, I may be running from the very thing that will resurrect me. ~Anon.