

ST. GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICES FOR BRIGHT WEEK

<u>Saturday, March 30</u> Great and Holy Saturday (St. George's parish, Mckees Rocks) 8.00p.m. - Prayer at the Tomb, Resurrection Matins (abbreviated) Divine Liturgy, blessing of baskets

- Sunday, March 31Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ9.30 a.m. Divine Liturgy, blessing of basketsGod's blessing on all parishioners (By Fr. Igor)
- Monday, April 1 Bright Monday Reading: Acts 1:12-17 & 21-26; Jn. 1:18-28 6:30 p.m. Agape Vespers
- Saturday, April 6Bright SaturdayReading: Acts. 5:12-20; Jn. 20:19-316:30 P.MVigil Divine Liturgy (McKees Rocks)
- Sunday, April 7The Sunday of Saint Thomas
Readings: Acts. 5:12-20; Jn. 20:19-31*Easter Egg Hunt*9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy
Supplications will be offered for +Philip Perkun &
Larry Merritt, given by Perkun family

After the Ambon Prayer, the Paschal Artos will be broken for distribution, and the faithful will receive it along with Festal Holy Anointing.

Easter Sunrise Surprise

He is not here; he has risen! Luke 24:6a (NIV) The puzzle is based on Luke 24:1-12 (NIV).

> YLXYPKWGPRXIFLW DBARHVNESPICESK P W V S L I P U E F Z S Z U T ARWANUSVTKQAEFN GDORCKTZOWTJONA YROLTQOKMBODYLZ G M O W L D N E B S S T B Q J YDBUGEEVNRTHKEZ W L Z O N Q D U L T W H J M T FOIQWDJUFOERXSC RRMVREMEMBERRSI 1 D IEIUDPRECIEPK GFEGNNNBDDFCGDO ODDAHSGCQAAIXIV LATFDTMPJFYZTFL

living	tomb	rolled	risen	dead
women	first	spices	away	bowed
faces	stone	entered	ground	remember
morning	week	body	fright	day



Artos

In our Holy Church during Bright Week, the week following Pascha/Easter, you will notice that the Holy Doors in the Iconostasis are open and there is a table in front to the right of the opening on which there is a round loaf of bread. If you look closely, you will note that on this bread is either the icon of the Resurrection of Our Lord or another symbol of Christ's victory over

death, the Cross surmounted by a crown of thorns. This bread is called the Artos. "Artos" is a Greek word meaning bread made with yeast. It is blessed at the end of the Resurrection Matins and the faithful kiss it at the end of the Pascal Divine Liturgy. According to the oldest tradition, the Apostles, after the Ascension of Our Lord, placed bread on the Holy Table-Altar each time during the Divine Services, for the Divine Master. This they did for their Master, confessing or believing in His invisible presence among them. At the end of the services, they took the bread and lifted it up with the words: "Glory be to You, O Christ, Our God, Glory be to You. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit." The Apostles, after receiving the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Day, went to preach the Gospel throughout the world and, according to tradition, left a loaf of bread on the Altar in remembrance of His Glorious Resurrection.

It is interesting that at the blessing, the priest chants: ... "May we who offer it (this bread), and those who shall kiss it and shall take of it, may be partakers of Thy heavenly benediction; and by Thy might root out from us all sickness and infirmity, granting health to all. For Thou are the source of blessing, and the bestower of health..." The significance of the Artos is that it serves to remind all Christians of the events connected with the Resurrection of Our Lord God and Savior Jesus Christ. While still living on earth, the Lord called Himself the Bread of Life, saying: "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me shall not hunger, and he who believes in Me shall never thirst" (John 6:35). The Artos is put before us as a symbol of Jesus Christ the Bread of life Who nourishes us with the food of His divine mercies. This is somewhat reminiscent of the Shewbread mentioned in Exodus 25:30; Numbers 4:7; 1 Samuel 21:6; Nehemiah 10:33; Matthew 12:4; and Hebrews 9:2. However, it was unleavened and was to be eaten by the Old Testament priests only while the Artos is leavened, alive with yeast symbolizing life and is to be eaten by all believers who are alive in the Lord. It is a pious custom amongst our faithful to keep a piece of the Artos in their Icon Corner throughout the year and with faith to eat a piece of it when they are sick or under stress. Sometimes, a sip of Holy Water blessed on the Feast of Theophany is taken with it.



<u>March 31, 2024</u>

Great and Holy Pascha The Resurrection of our Lord

<u>Changeable Parts</u> – Pages **3-5** in the Booklet of Changeable Parts (Small white book)

> Христос Воскрес! Воістину Воскрес!

Christ is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

Together we celebrate Pascha: the Day of Resurrection! With the angels in heaven and all the faithful on earth let us proclaim this message of victory that "Indeed, He is risen." This year let the strength of the Resurrected Savior, who today victoriously comes forth from the sealed tomb, be our light, our strength and our song!

Wishing you a Blessed Pascha!

Fr. Igor & Family

Announcements:

Liturgical Custom

Starting today, the Feast of Pascha, and continuing until Pentecost Sunday (even throughout the week), we do not kneel during the Divine Liturgy. Kneeling is a sign of penance and contrition – but the joy of Pascha is so much greater in this season that we stand in celebration instead.

Sincere Thanks:

To all parishioners for the beautiful Easter cards, greetings and gifts. May Our Risen Lord bless you and reward you for your kindness and generosity.

Pastoral Letter

For the Feast of the Resurrection, we have received the 2024 Paschal Pastoral Letter. The entire text is posted on the bulletin board in the Church vestibule.

Privileged Week

Please remember that during Bright Week (Sunday of Pascha to the Sunday of St. Thomas), there is no fasting at all. Bright Week is seen, liturgically speaking, as one single day -a continuation of Pascha throughout the whole week.

Next Sunday: Easter Egg Hunt

This year (weather permitting) our Easter Egg Hunt will take place next Sunday, April 7, the Sunday of St. Thomas, following the Divine Liturgy. If we have a bad weather forecast, we will postpone it to the following Sunday, April 14th. All children from our parish family are invited to be part of this happy event.

Scholarship

Again this year the Education Board of St. George's is happy to announce that students who are attending or are planning to attend Duquesne University should be aware of the availability of the Estina Franzak Perpetual Scholarship Fund. The Fund is intended to benefit students of Ukrainian ethnicity in their studies at Duquesne University. The amount of scholarship varies. Scholarships are awarded on an academic year basis. Recipients from prior years will be considered for renewal of awards provided that they demonstrate satisfactory academic progress.

For additional details please see Fr. Igor or Olga Perkun. Applications must be submitted to the Education Board of St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church by June 1, 2024

<u>Pyrohy</u>

As we celebrate the Feast of Pascha, I would like to thank all our dedicated women and men who dedicated their time and labor for our parish pyrohy activity. The total income from our last pyrohy sale was **\$2,890.00**. Thank you!

Collection- May God bless you...

The total for Palm Sunday March 24, 2024 was \$**1,524.00** + **\$2,890.00** (Collection: \$1,048.00, Loose & candles: \$35.00, Soup sale: \$124.00, Nut Rolls: \$40.00, Ukraine Aid -\$277.00,)

*The names and prayerful intentions of our parishioners that donated towards our Easter Flowers will be published on Thomas Sunday, April 27th.



