

04 MAY 2025

SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES

SUNDAY OF THE OINTMENT BEARERS 5/4/25

Saturday: 5:30 PM (E) ✨ Joe and ✨ Annette Komisarski (req. by John & Luke MacKenzie)

Sunday: 8:30 AM (G) ✨ Reginald and ✨ Ann Exley (req. by Paula & Larry Reinhart)

11:00 AM (E) For the Parish Family

SUNDAY OF THE PARALYTIC MAN 5/11/25

Saturday: 5:30 PM (E) ✨ Martin M. Pushchak (req. by Anna Marie Dowd)

Sunday: 8:30 AM (G) ✨ Glenn Simkovitch (req. by Andrew C. Simkovitch)

11:00 AM (E) For the Parish Family

OUR RETURN TO THE LORD FOR ALL HE HAS GIVEN US:
04/27/25 \$1158.00

REMEMBER IN PRAYER THE SICK AND HOMEBOUND OF OUR PARISH

Please remember in your prayers all of the sick and homebound of our parish. *Those in their own homes are as follows:* Martha Karmazon, George Smilo, David Kearney, George Huzinec, Michael Molnar, Maureen Huzinec. *Those in nursing homes are as follows:* Elizabeth Andrijiw (Pleasant Ridge Manor), Catherine Kasinec (St. Mary’s Asbury Ridge), Shirley Crisswell (Brevillier Village), Helen Bauman (Sarah Reed Senior Living Center). If you know of anyone who should be on this list, contact Fr. John

EASTERN CATHOLIC FORMATION

God with Us Eastern Catholic Formation is the official catechetical apostolate of the Eastern Catholic Bishops of the United States. The website address is: www.godwithusonline.org This website now makes available radio podcasts, online lectures, a monthly newsletter, books and other education materials which serve to promote a better understanding of Eastern Catholics and their expression of the Catholic faith in the United States. The resource material on this website is constantly updated or changed to better meet the needs of its users.

E.C.F. CLASSES – 9:15 – 10:30 AM (Note revisions for remainder of year)

All students through 8th grade are WELCOME AND ENCOURAGED to attend. E.C.F. classes on **Saturdays in social center at 9:00 AM: 5/10 and 6/14.** The Saturdays are hands-on activities like baking.

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!
CHRISTOS VOSKRESE! VOISTINNU VOSKRESE!

PASCHAL TROPARION: Christ is risen from the dead! By death he trampled death; and to those in the tombs he granted life.

SUNDAY OF THE OINTMENT BEARERS

The word “gospel” means “Good News.” This is the good news of the incarnation announced by the archangel Gabriel, the good news of the Kingdom of Heaven preached by Jesus, the good news of the resurrection proclaimed by the luminous angels to the women.

Mary Magdalene was the last one to remain at the cross and the first at the tomb. This is why she was not only the first to hear the proclamation by the angel, but why she was the first to meet the resurrected Christ. Jesus knew in advance that this woman was ready to receive the good news, since, during his life, he accepted her offering and her anointing him with precious ointment, as a token of love, in view of his burial.

Mary Magdalene received from the angels, then from Christ Himself, the task of announcing the good news to the apostles. The word apostle means “sent”; Jesus chose his apostles in order to send them out to bring the good news to the world, to evangelize the nations. The apostles define themselves as the witnesses of the resurrection (Acts 1:22). Yet, Mary Magdalene beat them all; she becomes the apostle to the apostles, for she is the first witness of the resurrection.

Protect & Nourish Your Soul

What are we doing in this life to protect our immortal souls? Are they not far more valuable than our human bodies? While the sea creature can use a physical shell to protect themselves, only God’s grace and mercy can protect our souls, whose immortality was won by the shedding of Christ’s triumph over sin and death at the glorious Resurrection!

Just as an earthly body must be nourished by the food it eats, so too, must the Lord, Who is the source of its life, nourish the spiritual soul. This nourishment is three-fold: the Eucharistic food of Christ’s Body and Blood, the Word of God (the Sacred Scriptures), and prayer. All three are necessary to feed the soul and protect it from the enemy’s assaults.

All of this takes hard work on our part. It is not something that is automatic, but rather something that we need to nurture. It means that we need to take the time to desire to be with the Lord throughout our busy days and turn to Him as the only true nourishment that will satisfy our souls. When the soul is strengthened by these practices, it will be protected from the ravages of the Devil and instead seek the union with Christ for which it was created.

THE VALUE OF STRUGGLE

You may be struggling, but that does not mean you are failing. A little child makes many attempts before finally taking that first step; a butterfly beats its wings against the confines of the cocoon for days before emerging in its fullness; Jesus fell three times along the road to the greatest victory of all.

Instead of beating ourselves up because we struggle, we should learn to embrace our struggles as a means to a better end. This is key to finding peace in our days. Struggle has its own value. It is necessary for our growth and well-being. Do not be surprised when you are tested beyond your limits, for God means to expand your horizons. Let him.

JESUS PRAYER – Lord Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner