

St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church



(Under the Holy Protection of the Mother of God)

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Rev. Fr. Kyprian Wojciechowski

(724) 953-6835

Holy Mystery of Reconciliation: After Liturgy or by appointment

Holy Mystery of Anointing: prior to surgery or whenever requested

Holy Mysteries of Baptism and Chrismation: Arrange with Father Kyp

New Parishioners: Welcome! Please see Father for registration



DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE FOR APR 12th to APR 22nd, 2026

Sunday Apr 12th 11:00 a.m.	Thomas Sunday – pg 175 Readings: Acts 5:12-20; Jn 20:19-31 Intention: For the people of St Mary's Parish
Sunday Apr 19th 11:00 a.m.	Sunday of the Myrrh Bearers - pg 177 Readings: Acts 6:1-7; Mk 15:43-16:8 Intention: For the people of St Mary's Parish
Wednesday Apr 22nd 6:30 p.m.	Divine Liturgy Readings: Acts 8:18-25; Jn 6:35-39 Intention: For the people of St Mary's Parish

CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED, HE IS RISEN!

CHRISTOS VOSKRESE! VOISTINNU VOSKRESE!

(Slavonic/Rusin)

FELTAMADT KRISZTUS! VALOBAN FELTAMADT!

(Hungarian)

KRISTOS ANNESTI! ALITHOS ANNESTI!

(Greek)



Thomas Sunday

The Second Sunday of Pascha, also known as Thomas Sunday holds a significant place in the Byzantine Catholic tradition.

In John 20:19-31, the passage describes the appearances of Jesus to his disciples after his resurrection. The first appearance occurs on the evening of the resurrection day, where Jesus appears to the disciples who were gathered together in fear behind locked doors. He greets them with the words "Peace be with you" and shows them his hands and side, proving his identity as the risen Christ. Thomas, one of the disciples,



was not present during this encounter and expresses doubt about Jesus' resurrection. However, Jesus appears again a week later, specifically addressing Thomas and inviting him to touch his wounds to dispel his doubts. Thomas responds with a profession of faith, announcing the most precious words in the entire Bible: "You are my Lord and my God." This passage highlights Christ's immeasurable mercy and the importance of faith and belief in the resurrection of Jesus, as well as the significance of encountering the risen Christ in our lives.

The Byzantine Catholic Church prays on this day: "How wonderful is this doubt of Thomas! It brought the hearts of believers to the knowledge of God." It is interesting that in recent times the Sunday of St. Thomas in the Latin Rite has also been proclaimed as the Sunday of

"Diving Mercy" and there is a remarkable similarity between the image of Divine Mercy in the Latin Rite and the icon of the encounter of Christ with St. Thomas. On his day in the entire Church, east and west, the mercy of God is proclaimed.

Marking the end of Bright Week, from this Sunday onward, the Church dedicates Sundays to the Lord's Resurrection. Jesus appears to the Apostles after his Resurrection in a 'spiritualized' body. This is not only Christ's resurrection, but it is a foreshadowing of the destiny God intended for all mankind from the beginning. At the General Resurrection of the dead, for those who have died in Christ, our bodies will resurrect, be reunited with our souls and gloriously transfigured forever just as the Apostles witnessed in the Resurrected body of Jesus Christ. <https://parma.org/events/thomas-sunday>



"Glory be to You, who laid your Cross as a bridge over death that souls might pass over it from the dwelling of the dead to dwelling of life." – St. Ephrem of Syrian

Pray for the Sick, Recovering, and Shut-Ins:



Theresa Glagola at Sundale

Keep all our ailing and healing parishioners in our prayers every day.

Please let Father Kyp know to include any family and parish members who are ill, hospitalized, or need a visit for blessing, anointing, confession, or request of prayers. Kindly call Father Kyp at (724) 953-6835 Thank You.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY WISHES go to:

Anyone celebrating theirs this week

May God bless you with Peace, Health, and Happiness!
For many happy and blessed years!



Sanctuary Candles Intention is for **+Ted and Mary Eldridge**



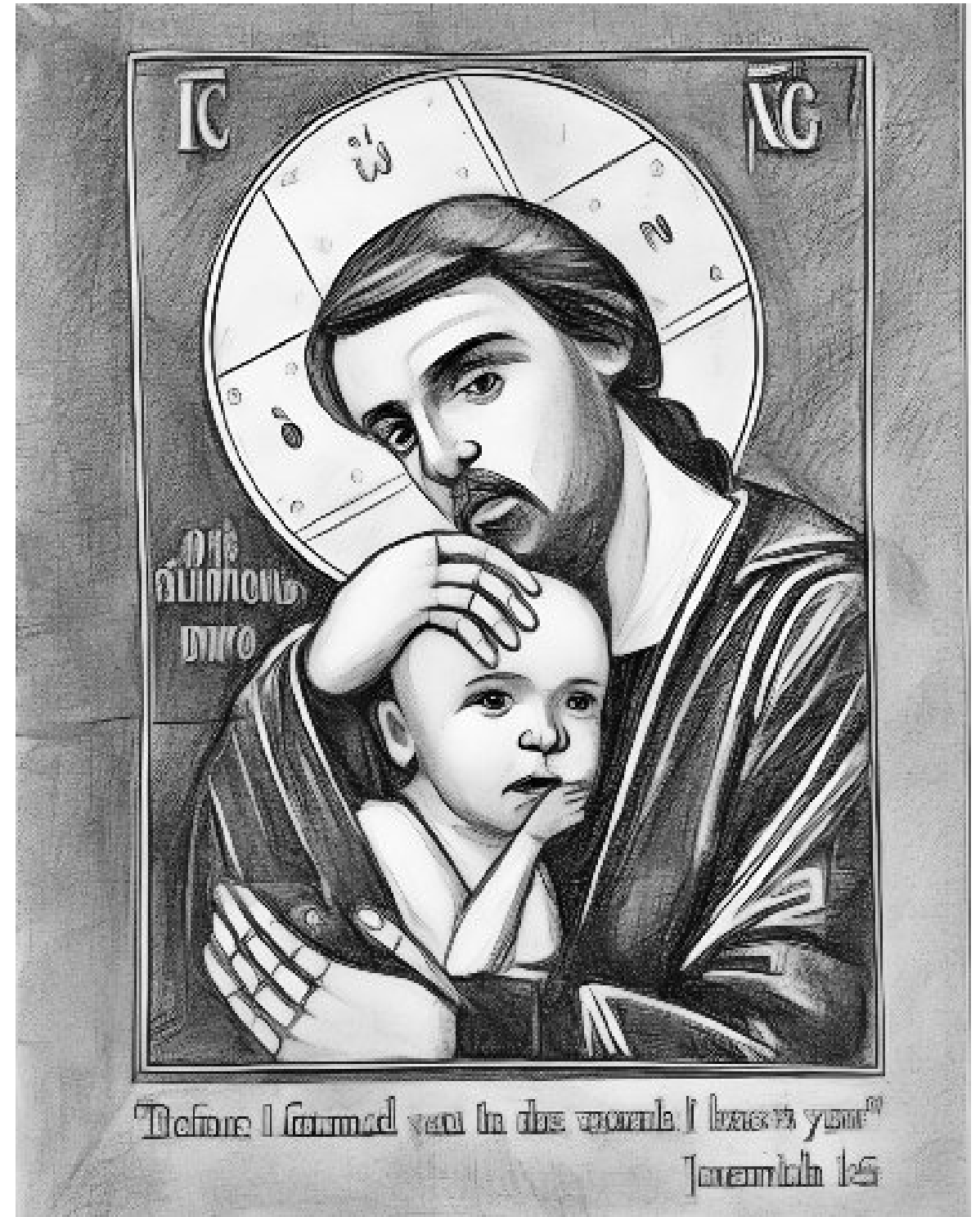
In the Eastern Church, the various prayers for the departed have as their purpose: to pray for the repose of the departed; to comfort the living; and to remind those who remain behind of their own mortality, and the brevity of this earthly life.



Offertory Collection for Apr. 5th, 2026

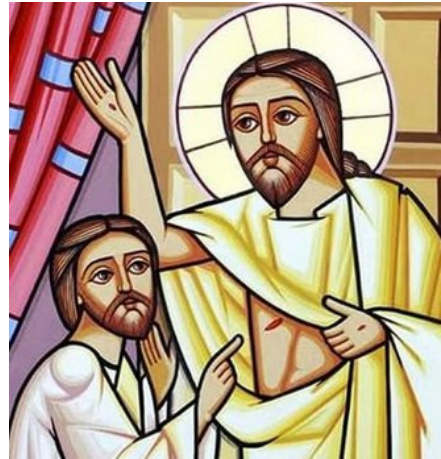
Envelope Offerings	Loose Offerings	Candles	Fest Day	Easter Baking	Building Fund	Seminary	Total
\$507	\$172	\$36	\$55	\$498 9	\$100	\$55	\$591 4

Church Attendance for Sunday was: 38



Thomas Sunday

It is worth noting that the inscriptions of Icons of this event never say “Unbelief” or “Doubting” regarding Thomas. In Greek, the inscription reads Η ψηλάφηση του Θωμά, that is, the “Touching of Thomas”, making no reference to Thomas’ doubt and implying Jesus touching Thomas, both in body and soul, and not the other way around. In Slavic icons, the meaning is even clearer because the inscriptions always read Уверение Фомы, i.e. the “Assurance of Thomas”. Usually, English icons mis-translate the Slavonic and inscribe their icons “The Belief of Thomas”. They miss the point: the



Slavonic emphasizes that Jesus assures Thomas of the reality of His resurrection, His glorified body which still is wounded, His living presence. So too, for us moderns who think we know everything – Christ touches *us*, Christ comes to *us*. He takes the initiative, and we are healed as a result.

In the icon, Jesus is always shown higher than Thomas and the other apostles, to emphasize His status as Son of God Who "is risen from the dead" in a glorified body. Many times, He holds a rolled scroll, to show that He is the Eternal Word, the Logos, Who became incarnate and lived among us. Both of His wounded hands, His wounded feet, and the wound in His side are shown.

Saint Peter is usually in the right foreground, distinguished by his white hair (age and wisdom) and that he is in the front, the spokesman for the group. John the Evangelist is behind him, a reminder that he and Peter went to the empty tomb after the proclamation of Mary Magdalene and the other women. The other apostles are not shown in any particular order. Thomas should be in the left forefront, reaching out to touch the wound in Jesus’ right side. He usually bends down, to show his humility and lower status than Christ, but always has his right index finger extended from his right hand, pointing to the wound (the church of Santa Croce in Rome claims to have this finger). <https://ephx.org/thomas-sunday>



FOUR SEASONS PARTY (Similar to a Calendar Party):

Sunday, May 3, 2026, at St. Mary Assumption Byzantine Catholic Church – 40 Church Street New Salem, PA 15468.

TIME: 1:00-3:00 PM. Doors open at 12:30. Catered lunch will include dessert and beverage. A day of fun, food, and fellowship. Door prizes, Chance Auction, Basket Raffles, 50/50 Raffle. Lottery Boards and more. 80 tickets available by advance purchase only, no later than April 19, 2026. Tickets - \$20.00 per person. Call for

information and tickets – 412-491-9705



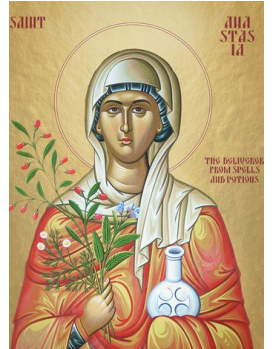
Basilissa and Anastasia - April 15 - (died 68 AD) are early Christian martyrs of Rome, put to death during the reign of Nero. They were among the first converts to Christianity in the 1st century after Christ.



Basilissa and Anastasia were described as "Roman matrons of high rank and great wealth". They were disciples of and might have been baptized by the apostles Peter and Paul, and might have given them "honorable burials" after Peter and Paul's martyrdom in Rome on the same day in 67 AD. The location of the two tombs eventually became St. Peter's Basilica and the Basilica of St. Paul Outside the Walls. The burials might have exposed Basilissa and Anastasia to more persecution, and they were arrested for collecting the relics of and

burying the bodies of other martyred Christians. They refused to recant their Christian faith and were beheaded with swords by order of Nero in 68 AD, after being tortured, including having their tongues torn out, their skins scraped with hooks, being burned with fire, and their breasts and feet cut off. Their relics are at Santa Maria della Pace Church in Rome.

Their feast is April 15. They are venerated by both the Orthodox Church and Roman Catholic Church, and are honored as the patron saints of tailors. A statue of Basilissa is among the statues that line the colonnade overlooking St. Peter's Square in Rome



The Thomas Day Chicken Dinner will follow Liturgy in the church hall. Please come spend some time with your parish family. Free will offering is encouraged.



FIRST ANNUAL PITTSBURGH PRO-LIFE MARCH AND RALLY

Join Us on Saturday, April 18 | 11 AM - 1 PM
Rally | 11 AM
March | 12 PM
Schenley Plaza, 4100 Forbes Ave, Pittsburgh, PA, 15260
Let's celebrate Life in the city of Pittsburgh