



APRIL 24, 2022  
*THOMAS SUNDAY*

Apr. 24 (Sun) THOMAS SUNDAY  
Divine Liturgy 10:30am  
Blessing and Distribution of Artos  
*Health & Well-Being of Father John Petro*

Apr. 30 (Sat) Divine Liturgy 5:00pm  
*+Tillie Abraham req of the Parish Family*

May 1 (Sun) SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARERS  
Divine Liturgy 10:30am  
*+George Lucas req of the Pasternak Family*

Our Tithe to our Parish - April 17, 2022 - NA

The Sanctuary Lamp continues to burn before the presence of Our Risen Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ in our church during the week of Apr. 24 thru Apr. 30 for God's Blessings on Fr. John Petro.



*Let us remember in our prayers all of our friends and parish family members who are sick at home or in a nursing facility and for all who are in need of our prayers.*

Ron Bishop, George Bodnar, Pamela Seech Dawson, Steve Fekete, Margaret Gegick, Kevin Ianni, Ted Race, Helen Rizzi, Joseph Rusinko Sr.

A NEW PERSPECTIVE”

*17th Annual Women's Day of Reflection*

The 17th annual Women's Day of Reflection will be held 9:00am - 2:30pm, Saturday, May 7 at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, 210 Greentree Rd., Munhall..

This year's theme is: "A New Perspective on: Compassion-Courage-Confidence.

Presenters include:

- ◆ Dr. Regina Poletunow Boerio, Phd, a Professor of Psychology
- ◆ Andrea Wedner, she was wounded in the vicious attack on the Jewish Community
- ◆ Alissa West, who provides Music Therapy Services

Contact Sister Marion Dobos at 412-322-8773 or mdobos1@gmail.com for more information. Cost of \$40 includes lunch. No refunds. Pre-registration is required.

**Deadline is April 25.**

A registration form is available at archpitt.org.

We greet each other during the next forty days with our Paschal greeting:

Christ is Risen ! (English) Indeed He is Risen!

Christos Voskrese! (Slavonic) Voistinnu Voskrese!

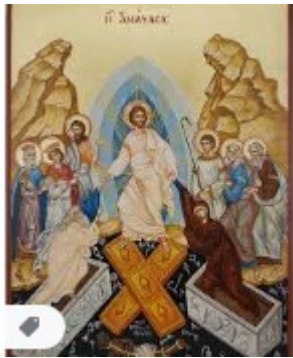
Christos Anesti! (Greek) Alithos Anesti!

## ***CHRIST IS RISEN!***

### ***INDEED HE IS RISEN!***

After the intensity of the Lenten season and Holy Week, the Paschal season often seems to be rather sedate. We normally do not attend church services as often ... there are not as many special practices that touch our daily living (such as fasting or keeping a more somber lifestyle)... In fact, outside the church atmosphere, there is very little said about Easter after the day itself.

Some people even speak of feeling a little bit of a “let down” after all the fervor of the Lenten season.



Here is where our Church can speak to us and offer us some guidance in this Paschal season. There is an entire “resurrectional flavor” that permeates our churches during this season. First of all, the Divine Liturgy is celebrated frequently again ... for it is the Paschal celebration. Every Divine Liturgy is a commemoration and celebration of the “Pascha” of the Lord ... his “Passover” from death to life! The Divine Liturgy is not just the “ordinary” service of our Church, it is truly our way of sharing in the life of the Resurrection.

Hence we continue to stand for all our prayers, even for our private prayers at home, during this season ... there is no more kneeling or prostrations ... as a sign of our being lifted up in the Resurrection. Early Christians not only stood during the fifty days until Pentecost ... they also stood every Sunday in honor of its being the Day of the Resurrection; they also stood every time that the Divine Liturgy is celebrated.

Notice the Troparia and Kontakia that we sing every Sunday. Their sole theme is the Resurrection. Each Sunday of the year is our weekly return to the Resurrection event ... we drink from its well.

And each of the Sunday Gospel readings after Easter continue to unfold the mystery of the Resurrection. For example, today’s story of the apostle Thomas reinforces the reality of the Resurrection not only for Thomas ... but for all who hear his story.

## ***SUNDAY OF ST THOMAS***

God can make good happen ... even out of bad things.

We see many examples of this in the Scriptures. During the Lenten season when we were reading from the Old Testament during the Presanctified Liturgy, we heard the story of Joseph. He was one of twelve brothers ... and out of jealousy, his brothers sold him into slavery. He was taken as a slave into Egypt ... where he eventually gained the favor of Pharaoh and was placed in a very high position. Later, when his brothers were suffering during a famine it was Joseph who was able to save them.



God can take even the wrong things we do and bring good out of them. Today we hear the story of Thomas ... the disciple who was not present when the risen Christ appeared to his disciples. Thomas refused to believe that the Lord was risen ... until he could see for himself.

The hymns of our Church call his doubt a great gift to the rest of us.

*How wonderful is this doubt of Thomas!  
It brought the hearts of believers  
to the knowledge of God ...*

The Lord appeared to Thomas and showed him his hands and side ... let him reach out and touch the wounds ... to confirm that this was indeed the same Lord who was crucified and buried.

The doubt of Thomas led to this new confirmation of the Resurrection. Not only Thomas now comes to believe ... but we also are strengthened in our faith.

Yes, God can make good things happen ... even from the negative parts of our life. He can write straight even with the crooked lines of our lives.