

SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN



Icon of the Myrrh-bearing Women

The Myrrh-Bearing Women

The Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women ... reminds us that the love and faithfulness of a few individuals shone brightly in the midst of hopeless darkness. It calls us to ensure that in this world love and faithfulness do not disappear or die out. It judges our lack of courage, our fear, our endless and servile rationalizations. The mysterious Joseph and Nicodemus, and these women who go to the grave at dawn, occupy so little space in the gospels. Precisely here, however, is where the eternal fate of each of us is decided.

Today, I think, we are especially in need of recovering this love and basic human loyalty. For we have entered a time when even these are being discredited by harmful concepts of the person and human life now prevailing in this world. For centuries, the world still had the weak, but still

flickering and shining, glow from that faithfulness, love and co-suffering which was silently present at the sufferings of the Man cast aside by all. And we need to cling, as if to a last thread, to everything in our world that still thrives on the warm light of simple, earthly, human love. Love does not ask about theories and ideologies, but speaks to the heart and soul. Human history has rumbled along, kingdoms have risen and fallen, cultures have been built and bloody wars fought, but what has remained unchanging on earth and in this troubled and tragic history is the bright image of the woman. An image of care, self-giving, love, compassion. Without this presence, without this light, our world, regardless of its successes and accomplishments, would be a world of terror.

Father Alexander Schmemmann

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Christ is Risen!
Khristos Voskres!

Bridgeport, Pennsylvania 19405
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May 5, 2019
Myrrhbearers

OUR DEAR SCHOOL, STAFF AND STUDENTS will attend the 9 am Divine Liturgy this Sunday and lead us in our veneration of the Theotokos, the Mother of God. Following the Liturgy we will process to our Grotto, weather permitting, for a brief service to honor Mary on this May Day Feast. We trust that all our parish and school community will attend.

AS A SPECIAL TREAT, we will baptize and chrismate on Sunday Luke Mykola, newborn son of Michael and Tiina (Sisas) Raczynsky, born Nov. 30, 2018. We all pray today that our Risen Lord Jesus will bless this angel boy with much love, good health and a strong faith "for many good years".

A GREAT BIG THANKS goes out to all the good folks of the Parish Auxiliary for their good work at the Friday event banquet/dinner for the students of Plymouth White Marsh Highschool. This event was the final one of this spring season and we are so proud of our devoted men and women of the Auxiliary. God bless all of you!

NEXT SUNDAY MORNING our Parish will celebrate our Holy Communion class of 2019, as they receive first solemn Holy Eucharist at the 9 am Holy Liturgy. We congratulate these good young people and their terrific teachers Kathy Plush and Christine Pandolfo. God bless all of you.

A COUPLE OF SEATS remain to be claimed on our May 19 excursion to Washington, DC and Father Robert's 25th priestly anniversary feast. The excursion is free for anyone who can tell you Father Pastor's middle name! Sign up today and enjoy the ride!

A GOODLY PILE of 2019 church calendars remains to be claimed in the basement today, as well as donation boxes for all our faithful. Be sure that all the adults in your family have these items.

AGAIN WE THANK all our wonderful faithful, who were so generous to our vibrant parish this Eastertide. Our parish is alive and well thanks to so many good and giving people. From our pastoral heart we thank all of you for your goodness and love for the Lord and His Holy Community here in Bridgeport.

DIVINE SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Saturday, 6 pm +Dr. Noelle Rotondo (Kathleen, Nick, brothers, sister)
Sunday, 9 am +Barbara Martinick, Antoinette Paul (Parish School)
Thursday, 7 am +Betty Patzuk (Beth Tweed)
Friday, 7 am +Walter and Annie Cwynar (Bill Maruszczak)
Saturday, 8 am +Anna Lonchar (Timbario-Francis Family)
Saturday, 6 pm +Anita Chomiak (Russell Chomiak)
Sunday, 9 am +Joseph Bean (Peter, Marylyn, Petey)

TODAY'S TROPAR:

Christ is risen from the dead, conquering death by death, and bestowing life upon those in the grave.

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER AND...

TODAY'S KONTAK:

O Christ God, You commanded the Myrrhbearing Women to rejoice. You quieted the weeping of Mother Eve with Your Resurrection, and ordered the Apostles to preach: "The Savior has risen from the dead."

TODAY'S PROKIMEN:

Save, O Lord, Your People, bless Your Inheritance.

Христос Воскрес!

O. Rotondo