



St. George Melkite-Greek Catholic Church

1617 West State Street Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53233-1246

"An Eastern Church in communion with the Church of Rome"

Rectory and Office: 414-342-1543
The Rt. Rev. Paul G. Frechette, Pastor

Website: byzantinemilwaukee.com
Facebook: [fb.me/ByzantineMilwaukee](https://www.facebook.com/ByzantineMilwaukee)

April 24, 2022 — St. Thomas Sunday



Icon of Christ and Saint Thomas

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Divine Liturgy

After Liturgy: One-year Memorial for Ann Rebholz

Livestreams and recordings of services on the parish's Facebook page: [facebook.com/pg/ByzantineMilwaukee/videos/](https://www.facebook.com/pg/ByzantineMilwaukee/videos/). An account is not needed.

Intention: Happy and eternal repose of the soul of KEN Skogen Reeson (req. by Jan Taylor)

Hymns

Troparion of Pascha: Christ is risen from the dead and by His death He has trampled upon death; and has given life to those who were in the tomb.

Christos anesti ek nekron thanato thanaton patissas; kai tis en tis mnimassis zoin charisamenos. (Greek)

Al Meseehu qam im bainil amwat wa wati al mawt a bil mawat; Wa wahhab el hayat li ladeena fil kubur. (Arabic)

Troparion of St. Thomas: While the tomb was sealed You shone forth from it, O Christ our Life, and while the doors remained closed, You stood among your Disciples, O Resurrection of all, and through them You restored a new spirit in us according to your great Mercy.

Prokimenon: Great is our Lord, and great is his power, and to his wisdom there is no limit.

Stichon: Praise the Lord, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever.

Apostolic Reading: Acts 5:12-20

In those days by the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were done among the people (and with one accord, they all would meet in Solomon's portico;

Kontakion of Pascha: Though You went down in the tomb, O immortal One, You overthrew the power of Hades and rose victorious, O Christ God. You greeted the ointment bearing women, saying "Rejoice!" You gave peace to Your apostles, and to those who had Fallen resurrection.

Hirmos: O shining light, Mother of God, honorable without compare; you are higher in dignity than any other human being. We magnify you with hymns.

Kinonika: Exalt the Lord, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, Zion! Alleluia!

Receive the Body of Christ and drink from the Source of Immortality! Alleluia!

but of the rest, no one dared to associate with them, yet the people made much of them. And the multitude of men and women who believed in the Lord contin-

ued to increase), so that they carried the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and pallets, in order that, as Peter went by, at least his shadow would fall upon some of them. And crowds also came to Jerusalem from neighboring towns, and they brought the sick and those afflicted with unclean spirits — and all of them were healed.

But the High Priest rose up, and all his supporters (that is, the members of the Sadducean sect), and being filled with hatred, they laid their hands upon the apostles and threw them into the public jail. But during the night, an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the prison, and led them out, saying: "Go, and standing in the temple, speak to the people all the words of this life."

Alleluia: Come, let us rejoice in the Lord, let us sing gladly to God our Savior!

Stichon: For the Lord is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

Gospel: "Peace to you! Be not unbelieving", Jn 20:19-31

When it was late, that same day, the first of the week, though the doors where the disciples gathered had been closed for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst and said to them, "Peace be to you!" And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples therefore rejoiced at the sight of the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be to you! As the Father has sent me, I also send you." When he had said this, he breathed upon them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit; whose sins you shall forgive, they are forgiven them; and whose sins you shall retain, they are retained." Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into

the place of the nails, and put my hand into his side I will not believe." And after eight days, his disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being closed, and stood in their midst, and said, "Peace be to you!" Then he said to Thomas. "Bring here your finger, and see my hands; and bring here your hand, and put it into my side; and be not unbelieving, but believing." Thomas answered and said to him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Because you have seen me, Thomas, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen, and yet have believed." Many other signs also Jesus worked in the sight of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in his name.

Paschal Greeting

The Paschal greeting is a custom among Eastern Christians, consisting of a greeting and response. Instead of "hello" or its equivalent, one is to greet another person with "Christ is risen!" The response is "He is truly risen!" This greeting is used during liturgical ser-

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vices and informally at other times, starting with the feast of Pascha and lasting until Ascension, the period known as Paschaltide:

English	Christ is risen! He is truly risen!
Greek	Christos Anesti! Alithos Anesti!
Arabic	Al-Maseehu Qam! Haqqan Qam!
Church Slavonic	Hristos voskrese! Voistinu voskrese!

Stewardship

Last Sunday: candles=\$15.00; donations=\$400.00; ordinary collections=\$614.00. Donations last month via PayPal: \$420.00. Thanks for your generosity!

Owed to eparchy (assessment, retirement and medical insurance; last updated March 12, 2022): \$38,361

Want to automate donations? One-time or monthly payments via **PayPal**: byzantinemilwaukee.com/donate. Use your bank's **online billpay** (payee information): St. George's Syrian Congregation · 1617 W State St · Milwaukee, WI 53233-1246; phone: (414) 342-1543; email: info@byzantinemilwaukee.com.

Prayer List

Please remember—All those who are sick and in need: Alice Herro*, Nick Langenfeld, Barb Moden (sister of Jan Taylor), Eva Nora (niece of the Noras), Bob Peterson, Joe Radanovich, the Rebholz family, Eva Saseen (Theresa and Janelle Herro's niece), Jan Taylor, Kathy Tomaz, John Zambo and Kathy Zambo. For those we have been asked to pray for: Justin & Krysten Hager (Jan Taylor) and Carl Wallenmeyer (Jan Taylor).

* Please particularly remember Alice Herro who has been having health issues recently.

Schedule for This Week

Monday: *Apostle Mark the Evangelist*

Saturday: *Leave-taking of St. Thomas*

Sunday: *Third Sunday of Easter*

10:30am Divine Liturgy

Congratulations and Happy Birthday to Alice Herro (4/24), Theresa Al Abdulraheem (4/26), Kathleen Roxas (4/26), Krystia Nora (4/27), Giorgio Roxas (4/27) and Ana-Cecilia Roxas (4/30). May God grant you many years!

COVID-19

According to the Milwaukee Health Department, the best way to stop the community spread of COVID-19 is to take preventative action to protect yourself and others:

- Get a COVID-19 vaccine as soon as you can (city.milwaukee.gov/CovidVax). Vaccines are safe and readily available at walk-in clinics throughout the community for anyone over the age of 12 years old.

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- Wear a mask that covers your nose and mouth to help protect yourself and others, and stay at least 6 feet apart from others who don't live with you.
- Avoid crowds and poorly ventilated indoor spaces, and improve ventilation whenever possible.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water. Use hand sanitizer if soap and water aren't available.

More information is available from the health department: [city.milwaukee.gov/coronavirus](https://www.city.milwaukee.gov/coronavirus)

The Good News Within Our Heart

Once, a famous violinist came out on the stage and made the unfortunate discovery that there was something wrong with his violin. He looked for a second and then saw that it was not his famous and valuable one. He felt paralyzed for a moment, then turned to his audience and told them, "Ladies and gentlemen: I will show you that the music is not in the instrument but in the heart."

He played as he had never played before and the music poured forth until the audience was overcome with enthusiasm and the applause almost lifted the roof off the building. Indeed, the man had revealed to them that the music was not in the machine but in his own heart.

Today, the joy of the Resurrection is still within our hearts. And, we must take to

heart the words that Our Lord spoke to His disciples when He appeared to them after His resurrection: "As the Father sent Me, so I send you..." (John 20:21) Indeed, the Lord Himself sends us, like the apostles, to proclaim to the world that "He is risen!"

We proclaim Our Lord's resurrection not just in hymns and inspired songs, but by the very manner in which we live our lives. "Get rid of all bitterness, all anger, harsh words, slander and malice of every kind," says Saint Paul. "In place of these, be kind to one another, compassionate and forgiving, just as God has forgiven you in Christ!" (Ephesians 4:32) May the joy of the resurrection remain within our hearts every day of the year!

Text and cover-icon courtesy of Eastern Christian Bulletin Service
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