



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

April 14, 2024 — Sunday of the Ointment-Bearing Women



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Divine Liturgy

Intention: Health, peace and salvation of MARY JO Zachow (req. by Jan Taylor)

Hymns

Troparion of the Resurrection (tone 2): When you descended to death, O Immortal Life, You destroyed Hades by the splendor of your Divinity, and when you raised the dead from under the ground, all the Powers of heaven cried out: O Christ our God, the giver of life, glory to you.

Troparion of Joseph: The Noble Joseph, taking down your spotless body from the wood and wrapping it in a clean shroud with aromatic spices, laid it in a new tomb. But on the third day, You arose, O Lord, and bestowed great mercy upon the world.

Troparion of the Myrrh-bearers: The angel stood by the tomb and cried out to the Ointment-bearing Women: "Ointments are for the dead, but Christ has proved Himself free from corruption. Cry out, then: "The Lord is risen and has bestowed great mercy upon the world."

Prokimenon: My strength and my courage is the Lord, and He has been my Savior.

Stichon: The Lord has chastised me through His teaching, yet He has not delivered me to death.

Apostolic Reading: Acts 6:1-7

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)

Kontakion: 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.

Kinonikon: Receive the Body of Christ and drink from the Source of Immortality.

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In those days, as the number of disciples increased; there arose a complaint among the Greeks against the Hebrews, in that their widows were being neglected in the daily service. And so, the twelve summoned the many disciples and said, "It is not good that we give up the word of God and serve at tables. Therefore, brethren, select from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and of wisdom that we could put to this service, while we devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word."

Alleluia: The Lord shall hear you on the day of distress; the name of the God of Jacob shall defend you.

Stichon: O Lord, save your king and listen to us on whatever day we call upon you.

Gospel: Christ's Burial and Resurrection, Mk 15:43-16:8

At that time there came Joseph, the one from Arimathea, a councilor of high rank, who was himself looking for the kingdom of God. And he went in boldly to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. But Pilate wondered whether he had expired so soon. And sending for the centurion, he asked him whether he was already dead. And when he learned from the centurion that he was, he granted the body to Joseph. And he bought a linen cloth, and took him down, and wrapped him in the linen cloth, and laid him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock. Then he rolled a stone to the entrance of the tomb. But Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jose were looking on and saw where he was laid. And when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, bought spices, in order to go and anoint him. And

And the plan was pleasing to the whole crowd, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip and Prochorus and Nicanor and Timon and Parmenas and Nicholas, a recent convert from Antioch. These they presented to the apostles, who then prayed and laid their hands upon them. And God's word was growing, and the number of the disciples increased considerably in Jerusalem; and many of the priests also accepted the faith.

very early on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb, when the sun had just risen. And they were saying to one another, "Who will roll the stone back from the entrance of the tomb for us?" And looking up they saw that the stone had been rolled back—now, it was very large. But on entering the tomb, they saw a young man sitting at the right side, clothed in a white robe, and they were amazed. He said to them, "Do not be terrified. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has risen, he is not here. Behold the place where they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he goes before you into Galilee; there you shall see him, as he told you." And they left and fled from the tomb, for trembling and fear had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

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Stewardship

Last Sunday: donations=\$93.28; candles=\$2.00; ordinary collections=\$451.00. Thanks for your generosity!

Owed to eparchy (assessment, retirement and medical insurance; last updated February 4, 2024): \$\$25,348.10.

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: M.J. Harden and Ken Schmidt (sister and brother-in-law of Brian Harden), Barb Moden (sister of Jan Taylor), Eva Nora (niece of the Noras), Sandy Rabuse (godmother of Katerina Lessard), the Rebholz family, Eva Saseen (Theresa and Janelle Herro's niece), Dan Sylvester (neighbor of Benjamin Neumann), Jan Taylor, Kathy Tomaz and John Zambo. For those we have been asked to pray for: Justin & Krysten Hager (Jan Taylor). For the people of the Middle East.

Schedule for This Week

Sunday: *Sunday of the Paralytic*
 10:30am Divine Liturgy

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 vaccinated and boosted (city.milwaukee.gov/CovidVax) when you are eligible, wear a mask (city.milwaukee.gov/coronavirus/masks) in public spaces, wash your hands often and practice physical distancing.

More information is available from the health department: city.milwaukee.gov/coronavirus

The Ointment-Bearing Women

The Sunday of the Ointment-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

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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. Hu-

man 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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