Christ the Saviour Cathedral

"CATHEDRAL JOTTINGS"



Corner of Garfield Street and Butler Avenue
Johnstown, Pa. 15906
Rectory Office – 249 Butler Avenue; Johnstown, Pa. 15906
Cathedral Church of His Eminence, Metropolitan Gregory of Nyssa
of the
American Carpatho-Russian Orthodox Diocese
of the
Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople

Cathedral Clergy

Pastor – Very Reverend Protopresbyter Robert A. Buczak, Cathedral Dean
Very Reverend Protopresbyter Frank P. Miloro, Chancellor
Very Rev. John S. Brancho

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Cathedral: http://www.acrod.org/organizations/cathedral ***Twitter***: https://twitter.com/acrodnews
Camp Nazareth: http://www.campnazareth.org ***You Tube***: https://youtube.com/acroddiocese

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Vol. 82 No. 1942

Sunday, April 20th, 2025



Holy Pascha

The Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ

Divine Liturgy/ Choir Sunday – 9:00 am

Epistle: Acts 1: 1 - 8 Tropar & Kondak: pages 193 - 196 Gospel: John 1:1 - 17

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April 21 - Bright Monday

Resurrection Matins – 8:15 am - Divine Liturgy – After Matins (Approximately 9:00 am)

Epistle: Acts 1:12-17, 21-26 Gospel: John 1:18-28

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April 22 - Bright Tuesday

Resurrection Matins – 8:15 am - Divine Liturgy – After Matins (Approximately 9:00 am)

Epistle: Acts 2:14-21 Gospel: Luke 24:12-35

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Sat. 4/26 … Great Vespers……..……4:00 pm

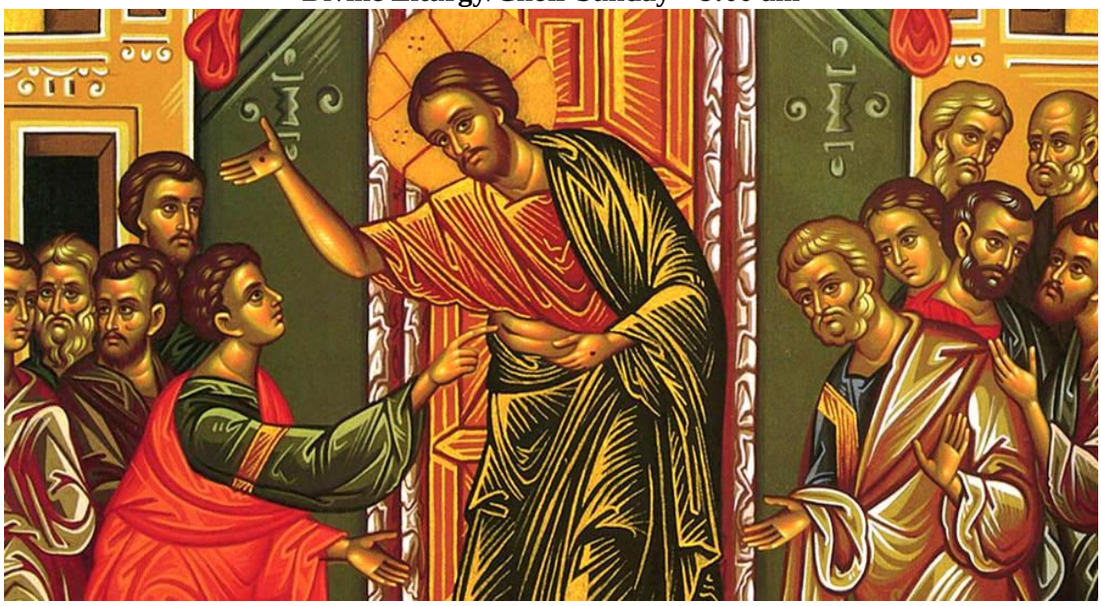
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Sunday, April 27th, 2025

The Second Sunday of Pascha

St. Thomas Sunday

Divine Liturgy/Choir Sunday – 9:00 am



Resurrection Tone 1

Epistle: Acts 5:12-20 Tropar & Kondak: pages 193 & 199 Gospel: John 20:19-31

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Sunday, May 4th, 2025

Third Sunday of Pascha

Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women



Divine Liturgy – 9:00 am

Panachida for ***+John Dzura, +Anna Dzura***; ***+Katherine Rogel and +Pani Donna Smoley*** offered by Pani Kathy and Fr. Robert; ***+Margaret Blehi*** offered by Pam Lister; ***+Leonard F. Messner*** offered by his wife, Julie; ***+Anna Jovorka-Knaze*** offered by grandson, Steve Knaze; and ***+Larry Buksa*** offered by Joe and Pat Knetz

Resurrection Tone 2

Tropar & Kondak: pages 193 & 200

Epistle: Acts 6:1-7

Gospel: Mark 15:17-27; 16:1-2

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Tuesday May 6, 2025

Feast of the Great Martyr George

Divine Liturgy - 9:00 am

Remembered in the Great Entrance - Departed members of the Yurcisin & Popovich Families offered by Ann Melanie Yurcisin; ***John Sr., Michael, John Jr. & Mary*** offered by Mary Yech;

Epistle: Acts 12:1-11

Gospel: John 15:17-16:2

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Wed. 5/07… ***Moleben to Saint Nectarios with holy anointing……..6:00 pm***

Fri. 5/09 … +Fr. Peter Pavlinchak; +Helen and Vasil Chopey offered by Anna Smider;

+George and Helen Pazuchanics; +Helen Krett offered by Edward and Rita Hanechak;

+Joseph Bearjar and +Mary and Michael Burcha (Perpetual)

Sat. 5/10 … Great Vespers……..……6:00 pm

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Sunday, May 11th, 2025

Fourth Sunday of Pascha

Sunday of the Paralytic

Mother's Day

Divine Liturgy/Choir Sunday – 9:00 am

Panachida for +***Very Reverend Protopresbyter Michael Rosco, and Pani Patsy Joseph*** offered by Fr. Robert and Pani Kathy Buczak; ***+Ann Homyak*** offered by Helen Koval;

And +All Departed Mothers

Resurrection Tone 3 - Tropar & Kondak pages 193 & 202

Epistle: Acts 9:32-42 Gospel: John 5:1-15

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BIRTHDAY PRAYERS – ***Jeffrey Robel (4/20), Alec Miller (4/21), Amanda Gilchrist (4/22), Joey Sally (4/24), Jonah Strenski (4/24), Jillian Devine Billetdeaux (4/25), John Barley (4/27), Barry Gilchrist (5/1), Darby Sprintz (5/2), Adam Lichvar (5/3), Pani Betty Jean Baranik (5/5), Brian Cassidy (5/5), Donald Bodnar Jr. (5/ 6), Veronica Buczak (5/7), Anastasia Benc (5/8), Michael Miller (5/8), Abigal Barley (5/8), David Kovalik (5/9), and Stephen Machik (5/10).***

You were remembered in Proskomedia!

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BULLETIN SPONSOR – The Cathedral Jottings Bulletin is sponsored on April 20th in memory of +***Mr. and Mrs. Peter Dutko and +Daniel Tvarozna by the Tvarozna Family.***

THE ETERNAL LAMP – is offered the week of April 20th in memory of +***Mr. and Mrs. Peter Dutko and +Daniel Tvarozna by the Tvarozna Family.***

THE ETERNAL LAMP – is offered the week of April 27th in memory of the 25th Anniversary of the falling asleep of +***Michael Pysh by his children Dave and Melanie Dudak.***

THE ETERNAL LAMP – is offered the week of May 4th in memory of the +***Michael Savering by his wife Mary Ann Savering.***

THE ALTAR CANDLES – are offered the week of April 20th in memory of +***Mr. and Mrs. Peter Dutko and +Daniel Tvarozna by the Tvarozna Family.***

THE ALTAR CANDLES – are offered the week of May 4th in memory of +***Michael Savering by his wife Mary Ann Savering.***

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HAPPENINGS AT CAMP NAZARETH:
DON'T MISS OUT!

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CAMP NAZARETH SUMMER CAMP 2025
REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

Week 3: Sunday, August 3rd – Saturday, August 9th, 2025– Johnstown, Pocono, Southern Tier, Youngstown, and Chicago Deaneries.

Please contact Fr. Buczak for the code if you are planning on going to camp.

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Clergy Family Week

This will be our third ever Clergy Family Week! Our clergy families are invited to Camp anytime, for any number of days, from Monday, 6/2/25 - Thursday, 6/5/25. The Clergy Family Week is free-of-charge. It is for ALL our Clergy, not just for Camp, and will provide 3 meals/day and snacks, as well as the accommodations. There will also be 1 or 2 scheduled activities during the day for our Clergy Families (hiking, Ropes Course, basketball, swimming, and more!), as well as morning and evening services. There are structured evening activities for everyone, but they'll also be plenty of free-time to rest, relax, read or just sit outside and enjoy the scenery. Kid-sitting will be available as well. Clergy families are invited to simply enjoy the peaceful environment of the Camp together. Registration is NOW OPEN! Visit this link to Register: 2025 Clergy Family Week. You can also visit campnazareth.org for more information. Registration closes on May 20, 2025.

2025 Saints Joachim and Anna Senior Retreat

Our Diocese is pleased to announce its sixth annual Sts. Joachim and Anna Senior Retreat which will take place at Camp Nazareth Retreat and Conference Center in Mercer, PA from May 2-4, 2025. The Retreat will feature keynote addresses by Very Rev. Nicholas Ferencz. You can read Fr. Nik's biography here. His Eminence Metropolitan Gregory is inviting all our Diocesan Seniors, ages 55 and over, to join him for 2 days of fellowship, prayer, and fun. The Theme of the Retreat – Matthew 22: The BIG Questions We should ALL want to Talk about and Answer! The schedule will include worship, fellowship, learning, fun, time for reflection and relaxation, time spent with our Diocesan Hierarch, and great activities! Online Registration is now open!! Visit 2025 Senior Retreat to register for the event. Visit campnazareth.org for more information. You may also call (724-662-4840) or email the Camp at campnazareth@acrod.org for more information.

Don't miss out on our sixth annual Saints Joachim and Anna Senior Retreat! Register today! Registration closes Friday, April 25, 2025.

Camp Nazareth Family Camp 2025

Friday, May 30 – Sunday, June 1

Our Diocese is pleased to announce its 11th annual Family Camp at Camp Nazareth this year in conjunction with Family Day. The event is exactly what it sounds like. Families "camping" together in the Camp cabins and participating in a weekend of services, games, discussions, activities and challenges that are all designed to help families deepen their relationship with God and with one another.

This year's theme – The "Puzzle" that is Your Family… Discovering why God has put us Together! Our families were given by God. He has joined the "pieces" of our family's "puzzle" together. Come discover what all the "pieces" mean to your family and what they mean to a world in need of your family! The schedule includes time to pray together, have fun together, relax together and learn together. In addition, kids and parents will also have their own activities and discussions separate from one another as well. This years' Keynote Speaker for the adults is Rev. Timothy Paproski, our parish priest at St. Nicholas Church in Warren, OH. This years' leader for the kids is Pani Hailey Paproski. We are excited to have both of them as part of this years' Family Camp! Family Camp is scheduled for Friday, May 30 – Sunday, June 1, 2025. Come enjoy time with your family and with other Diocesan families in the beautiful environment of the Camp! Each year we have a wonderful time together! Come, be a part of it! Don't miss out on this opportunity

for you and your family. Space is limited, so be sure to register soon! Online Registration is NOW OPEN! Visit the following link to register: 2025 Family Camp. Visit campnazareth.org for more information.

Icons of the Commemoration of Great and Holy Pascha



One of the most symbolic of the Festal Icons of the Orthodox Church is that of the Holy Resurrection. In the center of this radiant event is Christ pulling Adam and Eve up from their tombs. The gates of the Realm of Death are broken and thrown down. Death, personified in human form is defeated, and bound hand and foot at the bottom of the scene. We recall the joyous words of St. Paul: "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?" (1 Corinthians 15:55)



Christ pulls Adam and Eve from their tombs.



Christ is depicted trampling upon the gates of Hades.

In the background stands the host of the departed, so numerous they cannot be depicted. Among them in the front of the multitude are some of the righteous dead, though now invigorated by the Resurrection. King David and his son Solomon are seen on the left wearing crowns. Near the center is Saint John the Baptist. On the other side is Abel, the son of Adam and the first man to ever die. He wears a shepherd's robe and has a cane. Many Icons of this subject depict large crowds with a few other recognizable prophets.



Standing amongst the departed are



Abel, the son of Adam (left) and the

Saint John the Baptist (right) and first man to die, is present and depicted wearing a shepherd's robe.

King David (left).

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CUSTOMS OF THE RESURRECTION

ROYAL DOORS – The Royal Doors (Center Doors) remain open throughout Bright Week. This symbolizes that through the Resurrection of Our Lord Jesus Christ, Paradise is opened for mankind to enter. They are closed at the end of Bright Week when we hear on St. Thomas Sunday that the Lord came through the closed doors and appeared to his Disciples.

DEACON'S DOORS – The "Deacon's Doors (the doors through which the deacon goes in and out) remain open for forty days. This symbolizes that the Resurrected Lord spent forty days teaching and instructing his Disciples. They are closed after the fortieth day on the Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord into Heaven.

STANDING IN PRAYER – NO KNEELING – After entering the Nave of the Church and venerating the icon on the Sacramental Table, we "stand" to pray in the pew. There is no kneeling anytime until the Feast of Pentecost as the priest prays for the Descent of the Holy Spirit to come upon the Faithful of the Church.

"CHRIST IS RISEN" – For the next forty days, we greet each other with the Paschal Tiding "Christ is Risen". Try it out. Instead of good morning or hello, greet each other by proclaiming the Risen Lord; you may be surprised with the reaction you receive; "Christ is Risen!"

MALES ENTER FIRST – This one may cause grief to our "politically correct" society. It is customary during the Paschal Season for the male member of the family to enter the house first when visiting relatives or friends. As he enters the home, he proclaims the greeting "Christ is Risen".

THE HOLY SHROUD (PLASCHANITSA) – The Holy Shroud of Our Lord is taken from the tomb and placed on the Holy Altar Table. The Divine Liturgy is served on it for the next forty days.

SPECIAL BLESSINGS FROM THE PRIEST – In our Tradition, During Bright Week, the priest blesses with the Troytsa (the Triple Candle) which also has the Icon of the Resurrection attached. The priest blesses with the Hand Cross for the remaining days of the Feast.

RED EGGS – Holy Tradition says that after the Resurrection of Our Lord, Mary Magdalene went to Pontius Pilate and gave him a red dyed egg and told him "Christ is Risen!" The egg which was colored red symbolized the blood of the Crucified Lord; but after you remove its shell, it appears as white as the light! (What a shock for him).

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The Miracle of the Holy Fire

Orthodox tradition holds that the Holy Fire is a miracle that happens annually on the day preceding Orthodox Easter, in which a blue light emanates within Jesus Christ's tomb (usually rising from the marble slab covering the stone bed believed to be that upon which Jesus' body was placed for burial) now in the Holy Sepulcher, which eventually forms a column containing a form of fire, from which candles are lit, which are then used to light the candles of the clergy and pilgrims in attendance. The fire is also said to spontaneously light other lamps and candles around the church. Pilgrims and clergy claim that the Holy Fire does not burn them.

While the Patriarch is inside the chapel kneeling in front of the stone, there is darkness but far from silence outside. One hears a rather loud mumbling, and the atmosphere is very tense. When the Patriarch comes out with the two candles lit and shining brightly in the darkness, a roar of jubilee resounds in the Church. The Holy Fire is brought to certain Orthodox countries, such as Greece by special flights, being received by church and state leaders. The Russian hegumen Daniil (Daniel), who was present at the ceremony in 1106 AD, says that the beliefs "that the Holy Ghost descends upon the Holy Sepulcher in the form of a dove"

and "that it is lightning from heaven which kindles the lamps above the Sepulcher of the Lord" are not true. It is the Divine Grace which comes down unseen from heaven that lights the lamps of the Sepulcher of our Lord. Thousands of pilgrims gather in Jerusalem to partake and witness this annual miracle.

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All who truly believe in Him and cleave to Him with all their soul are changed into His image by the power of His Resurrection.

Raise up the truth of the Resurrection, in all of its breadth, depth, and height……

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DAY WITHOUT EVENING

To the Orthodox, the celebration of Pascha reveals the mystery of the eighth day. It is not merely an historical reenactment of the event of Christ's Resurrection. It is a way to experience the new creation of the world a taste of the new and unending day of the Kingdom of God.

This new day is conveyed to the faithful in the length of the paschal services, in the repetition of the paschal order for all the services of Bright Week, and in the special paschal features retained in the services for the forty days until Ascension. Forty days are, as it were, treated as one day.

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WHY DID JESUS FOLD THE NAPKIN?

The Gospel of St. John tells us that the napkin, which was placed over the face of Jesus, was not just thrown aside like the grave clothes. The bible takes an entire verse to tell us that the napkin was neatly folded, and was placed at the head of that stony coffin.

Early Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and found that the stone had been rolled away from the entrance. She ran and found Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved. She said, “They have taken the Lord’s body out of the tomb, and I don’t know where they have put him!” Peter and the other disciple ran to the tomb to see. The other disciple out ran Peter and got there first. He stooped and looked inside and saw the linen clothes lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon arrived and went inside. He noticed the linen wrappings lying there, while the cloth that had covered Jesus’ head was folded up and lying to the side.

In order to understand the significance of the folded napkin, one must understand the Hebrew tradition of that time. The folded napkin had to do with the Master and Servant. When the servant set the dinner table for the master, he made sure that it was exactly the way the master wanted it. The table was furnished perfectly, and the servant would wait, just out of sight, until the master had finished eating. Now if the master was done eating, he would rise from the table, wipe his fingers and his mouth, and would wad up the napkin and toss it on the table. The servant would then know to clear the table. For the wadded napkin meant “I am finished”. But if the master got up from the table and folded his napkin and laid it beside his plate, the servant dare not touch the table for the folded napkin meant: ***“I am coming back.”***

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PRAYER CHAIN

Thomas Buczak	Judith Rowlands	Beverly Mayo	John Rosiak	Lisa Luterman
Steve Martyak	Angeline Komara	Al Kuzmyak	Louis Pocchiari	Jeanne Norris
Veronica Buczak	Arianna Risso	Michael Paul Gost	Ed and Christine Sakmar	Kristo Burkett
Michael Sakmar	Charlie Erisman	Brooklyn Balamuto	Julie Locher	Amanda May
Joseph Muchesko	Rachael Costlow	Matushka Helen Jasiukowicz	Denise Stroud	Jean Romesburg
Roberta Kovalik	Marshall Rosenow	Joanne Democko	Brianna Thompson	MaryAnn Savering
Kira Pronin	Shirley Mazurak	Robert and Barbara Stokes	Elijah Groff	Marilyn Stolzfus
Alexxa Lowery	Erin Demich	Marcia Matthews	Michael Mehalacki	Spenser Kreger
Romayne Laichak	Mary Ann Muchesko	Jolene McClain	Matthew Hanak	Zander Marshall
Zachary Rogina	Michaela Miller	Georgene Coulter	Mary Frances Dutko	Kara Dorsey
Ron Kuzmyak	Arianna Jade Miller	Tanya Britan	Clarabella Knight	Ronald Patrick
Paul Kalcik	Taylor Miller	Frank and Daniel Porembka	Matushka Mary Margaret	Lisa Daugherty
Henry Laichak	Jennifer Gardenhour	Dr. Rose Ann Jordan	Remona Blunt-Wall	Cindy LaBarr
Ronald Kmet	Steve Prieber	Demetra Mavrophilipos	Patti Sweeney	Amber
Barry Gilchrist	Aberdeen Rudge	Rose Conjelko	Samantha Salway	Diana Gvozdich-Smith
Robert Janeway	Pat Hanuska	Cindy Birth	Joan Bost	Jean Barnes
Eva Zeleniak-Whitak	Dwight Nugle	Roger Zankey	Cheryl Reese	Jennifer Beas
Malcolm Barnes	Rose and Terry Fyock	Jess Ambrose	Sheri Smay	Douglas Gvozdich
Larry Eisenhauer	Rosalia Horner	Paul Kalinyak	Geroge Kuzmiak	Ellen Kuzmyak

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You have never really lived

until you have done something for someone who cannot possibly pay you back.

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CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE CATHEDRAL ON-LINE

Did you know that you can make donations to Christ the Saviour Cathedral on-line? Many parishioners and non-parishioners save time and efforts by donating to the Cathedral at: **https://www.acrod.org/directories/cathedral/**