



April 30, 2017

**SUNDAY OF THE OINTMENT-BEARING WOMEN**

Liturgical Schedule

<b>Apr. 29 (Sat) Divine Liturgy</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>
<i>+John Haas req by Steve &amp; Judi Muchoney</i>	
<b>Apr. 30 (Sun) Sunday of the Ointment-bearing Women</b>	
<b>ECF Classes (Final ECF Class)</b>	<b>9:00am</b>
<b>Divine Liturgy</b>	<b>10:30am</b>
<i>+David Huzinec req by John &amp; Mary Hresko</i>	
<b>Parish Spring Brunch</b>	<b>12:00 noon</b>
<b>May 1 (Mon) Divine Liturgy</b>	<b>8:30am</b>
<b>May 3 (Wed) Divine Liturgy</b>	<b>8:30am</b>
<i>+Marie Klotz req by Jack &amp; Sue Sabol</i>	
<b>May 6 (Sat) Divine Liturgy</b>	<b>5:00pm</b>
<i>+Alfred Crocker req by Steve &amp; Judi Muchoney</i>	
<b>May 7 (Sun) Sunday of the Paralytic Man</b>	
<b>Divine Liturgy</b>	<b>10:30am</b>



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. 30 thru May 6 for +Clarence Badar reqd by Mary Ann Badar.

*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.*



James Abraham, Tillie Abraham, Diana Abraham, Rosella Busko, Marian Campbell, Ted Druga, John Fekete, Carl Magdic, Fran Mogush, Clarence Rizzi, Helen Rizzi, Joseph Rusinko, Maria Rusinko, Ed Suzina, Mary Soltis, Terry Soltis, Cecelia Stephen, Margaret Weber, John Vorn Sr.

**Our Tithe to our Church**

April 23 , 2017 — \$ 1,893.00

**ATTENTION ALL GRADUATES**



If you or someone in our parish family is graduating from high school or college this year, would you kindly call the parish office or send a text or e-mail with the following information: the name of the graduate, the school from which they are graduating, the college they plan to attend and the area of study in which they will focus, or the type of work or other endeavors that they plan to pursue after graduation.

Thank you for your kind cooperation in this.

**A PARTY!!!**

Yes, you are invited to a party! And it's free!!!

- When? Saturday, 13 May 9:00 am --- ???*
- Where? Church Basement*
- Why? Spring Clean-up*



Okay, so it is a bit of misleading advertising. The basement beneath our church is in need of a thorough cleaning. We will have a large dumpster in the back parking lot, and we need some strong and willing muscles (okay, all you young guys ... a chance to show off all your pecs! There will be photos taken!!!).

And, if you cannot make it on that day or time, you may be willing to come at another time near that date – the dumpster will be here for a short while. Please call or text the time when you are willing to assist.

And thank you in advance.

## A REFLECTION ON PASCHA

This has indeed been a wonderful and life-giving Paschal season for us here at St Stephen Parish. The participation in the Liturgical Services of the Great Fast was very inspiring. Of course, Holy Week has always been a special time for us, and this year was no exception. The Anointing Service of Holy Wednesday was truly a healing event for so many of us.

And then Holy Friday brought its own special movement for our parish. All the people who participated in the different roles, the chanting and singing that was so moving, the various signs and symbols that led us deeper into the mystery of this day, all this contributed to an experience that touches the depths of our souls with the presence of God in our lives.



Such an experience cannot be manufactured. It can only come from a life of faith that is lived daily. And once we have experienced it, no one can deny it. It is simply that real.

Finally, the celebration of Pascha itself always blows all the circuits! It is the life of our Church in its fullness.

Many thanks to the cantors, the servers, the singers, those who participated in the processions and the special events, those who did the background tasks of preparing the church and the flowers, and those who helped to make this season a highlight in the life of our parish. Everyone working together makes our parish such a special place.

Finally, a word of gratitude to all for the generous collection for this feast. It is a sign of your generosity and also a sign of your commitment to our parish. This is truly a blessed place in which to grow in our faith, our life and our spiritual understanding.

## THE OINTMENT-BEARING WOMEN

*Mary Magdalen and the other Mary  
came to the tomb seeking the Lord  
and saw an angel as radiant as light  
sitting upon the stone.*

*He said to them:*

*Why do you seek the Living One among the dead?*

*He is risen as He said ...*

*Why do you seek the Living One among the dead ...?*

This is a good question for all of us ... because we spend so much of our lives looking ... and so often in the wrong places!!!



For example, we find ourselves in a situation that does not seem very life-giving ... pressures at work or with family ... a job that is not very rewarding ... a task that seems never-ending ... a burden from which we do not seem able to escape ... the inability to find a good job ...

Often we are like Mary Magdalen and the others ... we look for a solution ... but we look in the wrong places!

Our God is a God of the *living* ... not of the dead! He does not dwell in the tomb ... He is alive and wants to share life with us.

This means that we need to turn away from the situations that drag us down ... we need to look up towards the light ... and find life. Often it means that we simply need to break out of the confines of our situation (even if we can only do it mentally or through our imagination) ... and look to the people and events that give us life.

*Who are the people who help you to feel alive???*

*What are the events and situations that fill you with life???*