

St. Mary's Orthodox Church
217 First Street – Coaldale Pa 18218-1602
Phone.....570-645-2772
OUR WEBSITE...www.stmarysnativity.org

Rector: V. Rev. James Weremedic
Retired Attached: V. Rev Paul Ropitsky
Reader Hours: Kaitlyn Dmytrow

Sunday, April 30, 2023
Choir Director: Wash King
Reader Epistle: Michael Ropitsky

3rd SUNDAY OF PASCHA

HOLY MYRRHBEARING WOMEN
HOLY APOSTLE JAMES

Christ is Risen! Indeed, He is Risen!
Christos Voskrese! Voistinu Voskrese!
Christos Anesti Alithos Anesti
El Messieh Kahm! Hakken Kahm!
Cristos a Inviat! Adevarat a Inviat!

Services:

Sunday, April 30	8:45 AM – Church School
Sunday, April 30	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship (Sunday of the Myrrhbearers)
Saturday, May 6	5:00 PM – Great Vespers & Confessions
Sunday, May 7	8:45 AM – Church School
Sunday, May 7	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship (Sunday of the Paralytic)
	Adult Class: "Living with Grief as Orthodox Christians," pages 121-127
Saturday, May 13	5:00 PM – Great Vespers & Confessions
Sunday, May 14	8:45 AM – Church School
Sunday, May 14	9:30 AM – Divine Liturgy & Fellowship (The Samaritan Woman)

We WELCOME all our visitors today! We want to let you know that we are so glad you came to pray with us. Please come again; join us after the Divine Liturgy in the Church Hall for Coffee Hour. If you do not have a home church, we invite you to become a part of our Church Family. Only those Orthodox Christians who have properly prepared themselves may approach the Chalice and receive Holy Communion.

If anyone is in need of a priest, please call Father James Weremedic at 570-645-2772. Visitation of the Sick and Infirm: If you are going into the hospital for any reason, please inform Fr. James at the Rectory. Emergency Calls: Please call the Rectory (570-645-2772) anytime (day or night) in an emergency.

Prayer List:

Fr. James Weremedic, Matushka Lisa Weremedic
 Andrew Balliet, Michael Birocik, Clark Andrew Bogosh, Theodore Bogosh, Danielle Bogosh,
 Elizabeth Brennan, Stephanie Chmel, Ilene Devine, Kimberly Evetushick, Nadine Fegley, Julia
 Forte, Michael & Julia Harahus, Karen & Rose Harkins, Nancy King, Michael Kulick, Olga Kushnir,
 Anna Marie Mantey, Dorothy & Joseph Macenka, Mildred O'Shura, Anna Pierson, Melissa Schmitt,
 Althea Shellock, Helen Sheers, Olga Sidoriak, Mary Simone, Jolie Skelton, Martha Staffiniak, Martha
 Teno, Michael Teno, Elizabeth Warcholak, Russell Wishousky, Russell Yallas, George Yurchak, &
 Marie Yurchak.

Candles (April 30)

7-day Vigils-Altar... In memory of **Aunt Jennie Niadna** offered by Russell & Geri King
 Altar Candles... In memory of **Mother, Mary Lutash** offered by Raymond & Mary Jo Danchak
 Eternal Lamp... For the Health of **Joyce Wasko** offered by Julia Forte
 Vigil Crosses... In memory of **Aunt Olga Hebda** offered by Raymond & Mary Jo Danchak
 7-day Vigils-Tetrapod... For the Health of **Jack O'Shura** offered by Millie O'Shura
 Decorated Candles/Tetrapod- In memory of **Andrew & Mary Bybel & Family** offered by Family Members

May Birthdays: 2- Lynn Sharpe, 5- Sal Herbert, 17- Russell King, 17- Julia Forte,
 21- Lindsey Ruch, 31- Marie Skripnek

May Anniversary: May 9 - Richard & Julie McHugh

Financials 4/23/23: Operating Acct: Weekly Envelopes \$1468, Weekly non-envelopes \$250,
 Holy Days \$355, Candles \$74, Donations \$1200

Fellowship Hour Hosts:

April 30	Helen King	May 21	Michael Tatusko
May 7	John Evetushick	May 28	OPEN
May 14	Marie Berezniak		

Coming Events:

May 21 Chinese Auction Donations and monetary gifts would be greatly appreciated. See
 Helen King, Marie Skripnek, or Gloria Bench

June 10 Yard Sale

If you have any Redner receipts, please call or get them to Helen King
 Please use your Boyer's card when shopping at Boyers; if you need one call Helen King

-:- HE IS NOT HERE! HE IS RISEN! -:-

At the time of His Passion, our Lord seemingly stood alone against the world. Judas betrayed Him. Peter denied even knowing Him. The other Apostles ran away and hid, fearing for their safety.

Amidst this shameful display of faithlessness, the Gospel tells another tale – a story of unprecedented loyalty and devotion. This is the story of the **MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN**.

The Evangelists relate to us that throughout Christ's earthly ministry, He was accompanied by a small group of women, who cared for His needs and those of His small band of followers. They refused to desert their Master. Even when He endured His terrible Crucifixion, they stood in the shadow of the Cross until the end.

The loyalty of the Myrrh-Bearing Women did not stop there. Risking an encounter with the Roman soldiers assigned to guard the tomb of Christ, they bravely set out to anoint the Body of Jesus. Their sense of obligation to carry out the prescribed customs of their faith was much stronger than their fears. Little did they know that the greatest of rewards awaited them in the early hours of dawn on that first Pascha. The tomb was empty! Christ has risen, and they were the first to know this wonderful news! May the example of the Myrrh-Bearing Women inspire us to live similar lives of LOVE and SERVICE to our Savior.

**3rd SUNDAY OF PASCHA Tone 2 Myrrhbearing Women.
Holy Apostle James (Jacob), the brother of St. John the Theologian (44 A.D.).**

Sunday of the Holy Myrrhbearing Women with the Noble Joseph

Troparion — Tone 2 - The Noble Joseph, / when he had taken down Your most pure Body from the tree, / wrapped it in fine linen and anointed it with spices, / and placed it in a new tomb. / But You rose on the third day, O Lord, / granting the world great mercy.

Troparion — Tone 2 - The angel came to the myrrhbearing women at the tomb and said: / Myrrh is meet for the dead; / but Christ has shown Himself a stranger to corruption! / So proclaim: The Lord is risen, / granting the world great mercy!

Troparion — Tone 4 - You visited Christ the Lord in the night, / and were born from above¹ being received, as it were, as a secret Apostle. / With good courage you disputed with the Pharisees and Scribes² / and followed the Savior. / Taking Him dead from the Cross, / you wrapped Him in cloths with myrrh and laid Him in the tomb, / O fervent³ Nikódēmos.

Kontakion — Tone 2 - When You proclaimed "Rejoice" to the Myrrhbearers, / You caused the lamentation of the first mother Eve to cease by Your Resurrection; O Christ God; / You bade Your Apostles to preach: / "The Savior is risen from the tomb."

Acts 6:1-7 (Epistle)

Now in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables.

Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word."

And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them. Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

Acts 12:1-11 (Epistle, Saint)

Now about that time Herod the king stretched out his hand to harass some from the church. Then he killed James the brother of John with the sword.

And because he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to seize Peter also. Now it was during the Days of Unleavened Bread.

So, when he had arrested him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four squads of soldiers to keep him, intending to bring him before the people after Passover. Peter was therefore kept in prison, but constant prayer was offered to God for him by the church.

And when Herod was about to bring him out, that night Peter was sleeping, bound with two chains between two soldiers; and the guards before the door were keeping the prison.

Now behold, an angel of the Lord stood by him, and a light shone in the prison; and he struck Peter on the side and raised him up, saying, "Arise quickly!" And his chains fell off his hands. Then the angel said to him, "Gird yourself and tie on your sandals"; and so he did. And he said to him, "Put on your garment and follow me." So, he went out and followed him, and did not know that what was done by the angel was real, but thought he was seeing a vision.

When they were past the first and the second guard posts, they came to the iron gate that leads to the city, which opened to them of its own accord; and they went out and went down one street, and immediately the angel departed from him.

And when Peter had come to himself, he said, "Now I know for certain that the Lord has sent His angel, and has delivered me from the hand of Herod and from all the expectation of the Jewish people."

Mark 15:43-16:8 (Gospel)

Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent council member, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, coming and taking courage, went in to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate marveled that He was already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him if He had been dead for some time.

So, when he found out from the centurion, he granted the body to Joseph.

Then he bought fine linen, took Him down, and wrapped Him in the linen. And he laid Him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock, and rolled a stone against the door of the tomb.

And Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James observed where He was laid.

Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him. Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen.

And they said among themselves, "Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?" But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away – for it was very large.

And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed.

But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him.

But go, tell His disciples – and Peter – that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you."

So, they went out quickly and fled from the tomb, for they trembled and were amazed. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

The Myrrh-bearing women are those women who followed the Lord, along with His Mother. They remained with her during the time of the saving Passion, and anointed the Lord's body with myrrh. Joseph and Nikódēmos asked for and received the Lord's body from Pilate. They took it down from the Cross, wrapped it in linen cloths and spices, then they laid it in a tomb, and then they placed a great stone over the entrance of the tomb.

According to the Evangelist Matthew (27:57-61) Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of James and James (Mark 15:40) were there sitting opposite the sepulchre, and they saw where He had been laid. This other Mary was the Mother of God. Not only were these present, but also many other women, as Saint Luke says (24:10).

Today the Church honors Saints Mary Magdalene (July 22), Mary the wife of Cleopas (May 23), Joanna (June 27), Salome, mother of the sons of Zebedee (August 3), Martha and Mary, sisters of Lazarus (June 4), and the Most Holy Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary, who was the stepmother of her husband Joseph's sons James (October 23) and James (October 30). Today we also remember Saint Joseph of Arimathea (July 31), who was a secret disciple (John 19:38), and Saint Nikódēmos, who was a disciple by night (John 3:3; 19:38).

Apostle James the Brother of Saint John the Theologian

Troparion — Tone 8 - As a soldier of the Lord you were ranked among the choir of apostles. / Together with your brother, O James, you clung wholeheartedly to the Savior. / Armed with the power of the Spirit you preached him to all and were slain by the sword. / Therefore, we sing your praises!

Troparion — Tone 3 - You were a chosen apostle of Christ / and the only brother of the beloved Theologian. / Most praised James, ask remission of sins and great mercy / for those who sing hymns to you.

Kontakion — Tone 2 - You heard the voice of God calling you / and turned away from the love of your father. / With your brother you hastened after Christ, O glorious James. / With him, you were counted worthy to behold the Lord's divine Transfiguration!

The Holy Apostle James, the son of Zebedee, was the brother of Saint John the Theologian, and one of the Twelve Apostles. He and his brother, Saint John, were called to be Apostles by our Lord Jesus Christ, Who called them the "Sons of Thunder" (Mark 3:17). It was this James, with John and Peter, who witnessed the Raising of the daughter of Jairus, the Lord's Transfiguration on Mount Tabor, and His agony in the Garden of Gethsemane.

Saint James, after the Descent of the Holy Spirit, preached in Spain and in other lands, and then he returned to Jerusalem. He openly and boldly preached Jesus Christ as the Savior of the world, and he denounced the Pharisees and the Scribes with the words of Holy Scripture, reproaching them for their malice of heart and unbelief.

The Jews could not prevail against Saint James, and so they hired the sorcerer Hermogenes to dispute with the apostle and refute his arguments that Christ was the promised Messiah Who had come into the world. The sorcerer sent to the apostle his pupil Philip, who was converted to belief in Christ. Then Hermogenes himself became persuaded of the power of God, he burned his books of magic, accepted holy Baptism and became a true follower of Christ.

The Jews persuaded Herod Agrippa (40-44) to arrest the Apostle James and sentence him to death (Acts 12:1-2). Eusebius provides some of the details of the saint's execution (CHURCH HISTORY II, 9). Saint James calmly heard the death sentence and continued to bear witness to Christ. One of the false witnesses, whose name was Josiah, was struck by the courage of Saint James. He came to believe in Jesus Christ as the Messiah. When they led the apostle forth to execution, Josiah fell at his feet, repenting of his sin and asking forgiveness. The apostle embraced him, gave him a kiss and said, "Peace and forgiveness to you." Then Josiah confessed his faith in Christ before everyone, and he was beheaded with Saint James in the year 44 at Jerusalem.

Saint James was the first of the Apostles to die as a martyr.

**COMMEMORATION OF DEPARTED SOULS
PENTECOST SUNDAY – JUNE 2023**

Dear Father,
Kindly include the following names of the beloved souls
to be remembered in the Pentecost Memorial Services

Family Name: _____

Parish Cemetery-Summit Hill

Sunday, June 4 at 1:00 PM
Rain Date, Sunday, June 11 at 1:00 PM

First Names:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Submitted by _____

Offering _____

Please send your list and offering made payable to:

V. Rev. James Weremedic
c/o St. Mary's Orthodox Church
217 First Street, Coaldale, PA 18218

**COMMEMORATION OF DEPARTED SOULS
PENTECOST SUNDAY – JUNE 2023**

Dear Father,
Kindly include the following names of the beloved souls
to be remembered in the Pentecost Memorial Services

Family Name: _____

Sky View Mausoleum-Hometown

Saturday, June 3 at 2:00 PM
Rain Date, Saturday, June 10 at 2:00 PM

First Names:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Submitted by _____

Offering _____

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