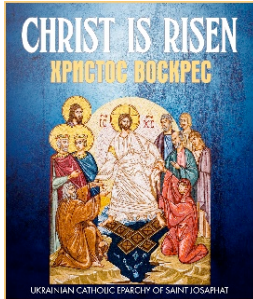




**Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Ukrainian Catholic Church  
(St. Mary's)  
6719 Token Valley Road  
Manassas, VA 20112  
(703) – 791 – 6635  
www.stmarysbyz.com**

**Reverend Alexander Dumenko — Pastor (301) – 421 – 1739  
Sunday Divine Liturgies: 8:30 a.m. Holy Days as scheduled in the Bulletin**



*“Jesus said to her, ‘Mary!’ She turned and said to him in Hebrew, ‘Rabbouni,’ which means ‘Teacher’...” John 20:16*

April 12, 2020

*Resurrection of Our Lord*

Dear Parishioners

***Christ is Risen!***

***Indeed He is Risen!***

Today, we share a joy, a joy of wonder, a joy that comes from within, because Christ is risen! Today, we share the same joy of the disciples to whom Mary Magdalene brought the good news that Jesus Christ is risen, and she has seen Him!

This joy of the Resurrection starts from a personal encounter with the Risen Christ. What did it take for Mary Magdalene’s tears to give way to Easter joy? Nothing less than **meeting the risen Christ!** And so, the Easter Gospel is not only about life from death, but also about this **encounter** Mary has with the Lord. Jesus meets us – calls our name, opens our eyes, and invites us to see. He wants us to experience the joy of encountering Him and living for Him and not for ourselves. If we do this, we will experience the joy of being liberated from our sins which trap us in self-centeredness. No matter what may be happening in our lives, we can still experience spiritual joy through the love of God and living the way God made us to live, which is to live for others and for Him.

I realize that many families are going through difficult times right now. Some are dealing with illness in their house. Almost everyone knows someone who is sick, or is vulnerable to getting sick. There is also the worry, as the crisis lasts, of financial problems in each household as the economy suffers. In a similar way, our parish is sharing that same hardship. With the extension of the social distance guidelines until the end of the month, our parish will have gone through seven weeks without a public Liturgy, and without our weekly offertory collection, which is the largest source of support for the parish. Typically, these seven weeks provide about one-third of the parish’s annual income. It would be hard for most households to suffer such a loss.

Therefore, I ask you to please support your parish during this time of need. We will get through this crisis and come out on the other side, but our parish needs to pay its bills as much as possible now. Of course, if your personal financial hardship prevents you from contributing at your normal level or at all, I certainly understand and I pray for you. But for those that are able, please do what you can, now, to help.

One day soon, an announcement will be made that we can publicly celebrate the Divine Liturgy again. I look forward to that day, and to welcoming you back into church. It will be a joyous day, and we will all appreciate seeing each other more than ever, and as we pray together in church we will give thanks again for Christ’s gift of the Church to us!

My fervent prayer is that our Resurrected and Living Lord may bestow his peace and grace upon you and your loved ones, upon our community, our nation and the world! May God bless you and keep you!

Sincerely yours,

Rev. Alexander Dumenko

**Sunday April 12 EASTER SUNDAY - PASCHA**

**EPISTLE ACTS 1:1-8; GOSPEL: JN 1:1-17 FESTAL TONE**

8:30AM – Resurrection Matins 9:00AM Divine Liturgy: For God’s Blessings on Our Parishioners Easter baskets will be blessed via livestream from other parishes of our Archeparchy, following the celebration of Resurrection Matins and Divine Liturgy. The blessing pronounced in our church will extend to the respective items in your homes. The prayer of blessing is the key element in these sacramental rituals. The faithful who have holy water in their homes may sprinkle it on these items while participating in the prayer via internet or by saying the prayers of blessing alone or together as a family or household.

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**RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST**



"Let all then enter into the joy of our Lord. Ye first and last receiving alike your reward; ye rich and poor, rejoice together. Ye sober and ye slothful, celebrate the day. Ye that have kept the fast, and ye that have not, rejoice today; for the Table is richly laden. Fare ye royally on it. The calf is a fatted one. Let no one go away hungry. Partake ye all of the cup of faith. Enjoy ye all the riches of His Goodness. Let no one grieve of his poverty; for the Universal Kingdom hath been revealed.

Let no one mourn that he hath fallen again and again; for forgiveness hath risen from the grave. Let no one fear death; for the Death of our Savior hath set us free. He hath destroyed it by enduring it. He spoiled Hades when He descended thereto. He vexed it even as it tasted of His flesh. Isaiah foretold this when he cried, Thou, O Hades, hast been vexed by encountering Him below...O Hades, where is thy victory? Christ is Risen, and thou art annihilated. Christ is Risen, and the evil ones are cast down. Christ is Risen, and the Angels

rejoice. Christ is Risen, and life is liberated. Christ is Risen, and the tomb is emptied of the dead; for Christ, having Risen from the dead, is become the firstfruits of those that have fallen asleep. To Him be glory and power forever and ever. Amen."

*(Sermon of Saint John Chrysostom, Archbishop of Constantinople)*

**Announcements**

•+**Metropolitan-Archbishop Emeritus Stephen Sulyk** With profound sadness the Diocesan Chancery announces that Metropolitan-Archbishop Emeritus Stephen Sulyk reposed in the Lord on Monday, April 6, 2020. The funeral of Metropolitan Stephen Sulyk will be on Monday, April 13 at 10:00 am. Interment will be in the Cathedral crypt next to Bishop Soter Ortynsky, Bishop Constantine Bohachevsky and Metropolitan Ambrose Senyshyn. We ask our faithful to pray for Archbishop Stephen at home due to the coronavirus epidemic. The faithful may watch the funeral live streamed on the Facebook page of the Archeparchy of Philadelphia at 10 AM. (It will be available on the internet in recorded form.) Please pray for the blessed repose of Archbishop Stephen!

•**Help your parish during COVID 19 - DONATE.** During these challenging days of this coronavirus outbreak, it’s important that we practice social distancing and encourage one another to stay healthy. It is also important to mail your weekly offerings to our parish until public services are resumed. With your sacrificial giving we’ll be able to pay our bills and continue our mission during this challenging period.

You may send your donations PO Box 2735, Manassas, VA 20108. THANK YOU!

**Sincere thanks for all your kindness and generosity to our Holy Church!**