

Saints Peter & Paul  
Byzantine Catholic Church  
107 South Fourth Street  
Minersville, PA 17954

St. Mary's (Dormition of the Mother of God)  
Byzantine Catholic Church  
131 South Morris Street  
Saint Clair, PA 17970

Parish Office: (570) 544-2074

Website: [www.sspeterandpaulminersville.com](http://www.sspeterandpaulminersville.com)

Email: [tvrgjn@outlook.com](mailto:tvrgjn@outlook.com)

Served by: Very Reverend Gregory J. Noga, Pastor

SS. Peter & Paul Cantor: Mr. Paul Konkus      St. Mary Cantor: Dr. Peter Yasenchak

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**CONFESSIONS:** SS. Peter & Paul: Saturday 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. and Sunday 8:00 - 8:30 a.m. prior to  
Divine Liturgy and Daily prior to Divine Liturgy

St. Mary's: Saturday 3:00 PM

**SICK CALLS:** As scheduled, or anytime in case of an emergency. If anyone is homebound or  
hospitalized, please call the rectory (544-2074)

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### *The Myrrh-Bearing Women*

The Sunday of the Myrrh-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 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 faith-

fulness, 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. Human 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*

For publications on Eastern spirituality, visit  
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## SUNDAY OF THE MYRRH-BEARING WOMEN



*Icon of the Myrrh-bearing Women*

**Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearers  
Festal Tone**

Welcome to the parish communities of SS. Peter and Paul and St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Churches of Minersville and Saint Clare, Pennsylvania. We greet and welcome you to our Church. Our Church is a holy place. Our Church is where we get together in Jesus' Name. It is holy because we come here to worship, to be nourished in faith through Sacred Scripture and preaching, to open our hearts and minds to celebrate the mystery of salvation in Jesus Christ and to dedicate ourselves to a life of holiness and service to the Lord and others. The church building itself reflects this faith and calls us to enter into communion with God. We invite you to share our faith in Jesus Christ, to experience our worship and to live a life dedicated to the service of God and one another in Jesus' Name.

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**April 14 – April 20, AD2024**

Vigil of Sunday		
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	<b>Health &amp; Blessings of Family</b> req. by Marie Wanchick *
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	<b>Health and Blessing of the Parishioners*</b> (livestreamed)
Monday	9:00 a.m.	<b>+John Andrachick</b> req. by Brothers & Sisters
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	<b>H&amp;B Msgr. Myron Grabowsky*</b>
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	<b>+John Leshko</b> req. by the Leshko Family+
Thursday	9:00 a.m.	No Divine Liturgy Today
Friday	9:00 a.m.	<b>+George Konkus</b> req. by MM Dante Cola*
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	<b>+John Malusky</b> req. by MM Eugene McClure & Kitty*

\*St. Mary  
\*SS Peter & Paul

**Epistle Readers:** 4/1 – Paulette Murphy; 4/7 – Ellen Sinkovich; 4/14 – Jennifer Keer; 4/21 – Beverly Kostishak; 4/28 – Judy Kostura; 5/5 – Gail Burgess; 5/9 – Dolores Kramer; 5/12 – Anna Keer; 5/18 – Marie Wanchick; 5/19 – Ellen Sinkovich; 5/26 – Jennifer Keer.

**Candle Offering:** The candles in front of the Icons of the Mother God, Jesus Christ and on the Sacramental Table are for the **Health and Blessings of the Leshko Family** offered by the Leshko Family

**Breakfast with Father:**  
We will pick up in September.

**Dates to Remember:**

April 21 Spaghetti Dinner  
May 19 Mothers/Fathers' Day Breakfast  
June 9 Roast Beef Dinner

Details in current and future posters and other communication instruments.

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**The Myrrh-bearing Women  
THE PREDICAMENT OF THE WOMEN**  
*By Sr. Vassa*

On this Sunday of the Myrrhbearers, I'm thinking about the predicament of the women on that Sunday two millennia ago, when they wondered: "Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?" (Mk 16:3) They had certain \*good\* intentions, pious intentions, to do what was proper for the Body of Christ, but there was a huge obstacle in their way, a huge stone. As it turned out, Christ Himself stood in the way of their \*good\* intention, because He rose and took His Body elsewhere. He was not there, where and how they expected to find Him and to serve Him. He had something else in mind for the women, something unexpected and much better for them.

We might find ourselves in a similar predicament, when we intend to serve our Church, the Body of Christ, in ways that are well-intentioned but are not working out. I'm thinking this morning that in these cases we re-focus on our Cornerstone, our Lord Jesus Christ, Who just may be doing the unexpected in our midst. Let us take heart and be open to encountering Him in unexpected ways and places. Christ is risen!

## Wisdom, Be Attentive!

*The noble Joseph took down your most pure body from the cross. He wrapped it in a clean shroud, and with fragrant spices, laid it in burial in a new grave. But You arose in three days, O Lord, bestowing great mercy upon the world* Troparion, Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women.

*The angel stood by the grave and cried out to the women bearing ointment: "Ointment is for the dead, but Christ has shown himself not subject to corruption. So now cry out: 'The Lord is risen, bestowing great mercy upon the world!'"* Troparion, Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women.

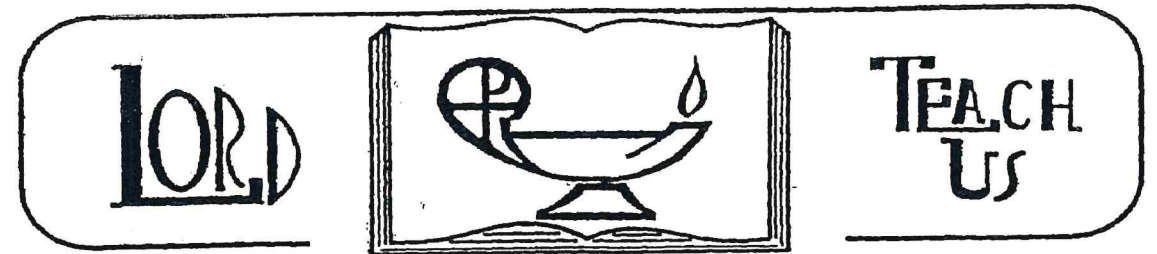
*When You descended to death, O Immortal Life, You destroyed the Abyss through the radiance of your divinity; and when You raised the dead from the depth of the earth, all the heavenly powers cried out: "O Giver of Life, Christ our God, glory to You!"* Troparion, Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women.

*By your resurrection, O Christ God, You told the women bearing ointment to rejoice and you stilled the weeping of Eve, the first mother. You instructed the women to announce to your apostles, "The Saviour is risen from the tomb!"* Kontakion, Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women.

*Although You descended to the grave, O Immortal One, You destroyed the power of death; You arose again as a Victor, O Christ God! You announced to the women bearing ointment, "Rejoice." You gave peace to your apostles and resurrection to the fallen* Kontakion, Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women.

*Save your people, O Lord, and bless your inheritance* Prokimenon, Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women.

*Receive the Body of Christ! Drink the Source of immortality! Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!* Communion Hymn, Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women.



### Charity

*Whereas "knowledge" inflates, charity upbuilds!* Corinthians 8: 1.

*Now I will show you the way which surpasses all the others. If I speak with human tongues and angelic as well, but do not have charity, I am a noisy gong, a clinging cymbal. If I have the gift of prophecy and, with full knowledge, comprehend all mysteries, if I have faith great enough to move mountains, but have not charity, I am nothing. If I give everything I have to feed the poor and hand over my body to be burned, but have not charity, I gain nothing* 1 Corinthians 13: 1 – 3.

*There are in the end, three things that last: faith, hope and charity and the greatest of these is charity* 1 Corinthians 1: 13.

*Seek eagerly after charity and set your hearts on spiritual gifts* 1 Corinthians 14: 1.

*Over all these virtues put on charity, which binds the rest together and makes them perfect* Colossians 3: 14.

*What we are aiming at in this warning is the charity that springs from a pure heart, a good conscience and sincere faith. Some people have neglected these and instead have turned to meaningless talk, wanting to be teachers of the law but actually not understanding the words they are using, much less the matters they discuss with such assurance* 1 Timothy 1: 5 – 7.

*It is no more than right that we thank God unceasingly for you, brothers, because your faith grows apace and your charity increases* 1 Thessalonians 1: 3.

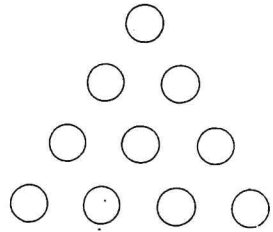
# Test Your Thinking Processes

Man is the only creation of God that has a thinking mind. It is one of the ways man shows he is created in the image of God. We alone are able to reason and think. We are the only ones who know there is a God Who created us. To succeed in the real world, smarts are not always enough. You have to be able to think!

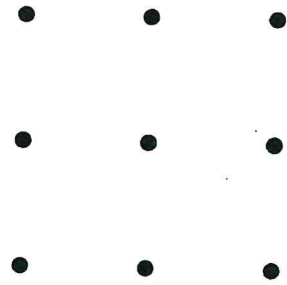
There are all kinds of puzzles, some with missing or misleading information. Other puzzles, like the ones here, are visual, and may even require a few simple items – a pencil, a paper, and some matchsticks – to solve. These will challenge your thinking processes. Give them a try. Concentrate and think about them. Utilize the mind and the intelligence our God has given you. Answers are on the back page.

Just as you can be successful in figuring out these challenges, so, too, you can awaken in yourself a better, true understanding of what your relationship with God is to be from what the Church teaches us.

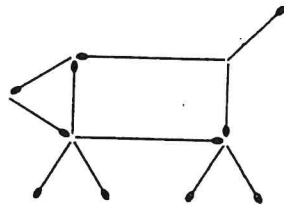
## Test your thinking



Make this triangle point downward by moving the very minimum number of balls.



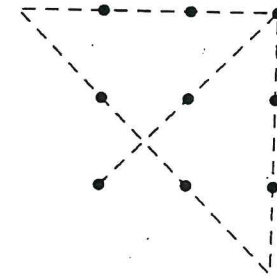
Start at any of the nine dots and draw four straight lines that go through all nine dots. You must not lift your pen from the paper.



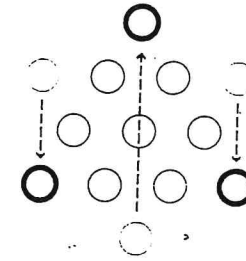
Move just two of these matchsticks to make this dog face to the right instead of to the left. His tail must stay up!

## The answers:

To solve this puzzle, you need to think—and move—outside the box, which is where the expression comes from.



Move just 3 balls as shown here. The top one moves straight down to the bottom center and the end balls on the left and right move up to the top line.



To change the direction of the dog's face, move just two matches, as shown here.

