

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

Saints Peter & Paul Rectory: (570) 544-074

Website: www.sspeterandpaulminersville.com

Email: tvrgjn@outlook.com

Served by: Very Reverend Gregory J. Noga, Pastor

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

CONFESSIONS : SS. Peter & Paul Sunday One half hour prior to Divine Liturgy and Daily
prior to Divine Liturgy. Saturday 1pm to 2pm

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 570-544-2074

Bulletins are sponsored by

Mahal-Ritzel Funeral Home

Minersville, PA 5445111

Mark J. Mahal- Funeral Director

Following the Risen Lord in All Things

Christ has redeemed us by giving Himself as our ransom; He is the price paid for every soul, and by redeeming us from death and giving us immortality He has made us His own. So now that we belong to the Lord we must follow His will in all things, not living for ourselves anymore but only for Him who has purchased us with His life. We are no longer autonomous but belong to the One who has bought us, and we must be ruled by His will. As long as death had power over us we were ruled by sin, but now that we belong to the Lord of life we must give our allegiance to our new Master. Sin must never again make us disobey Him, for that would bring us once more under the domination of the evil one and of death.

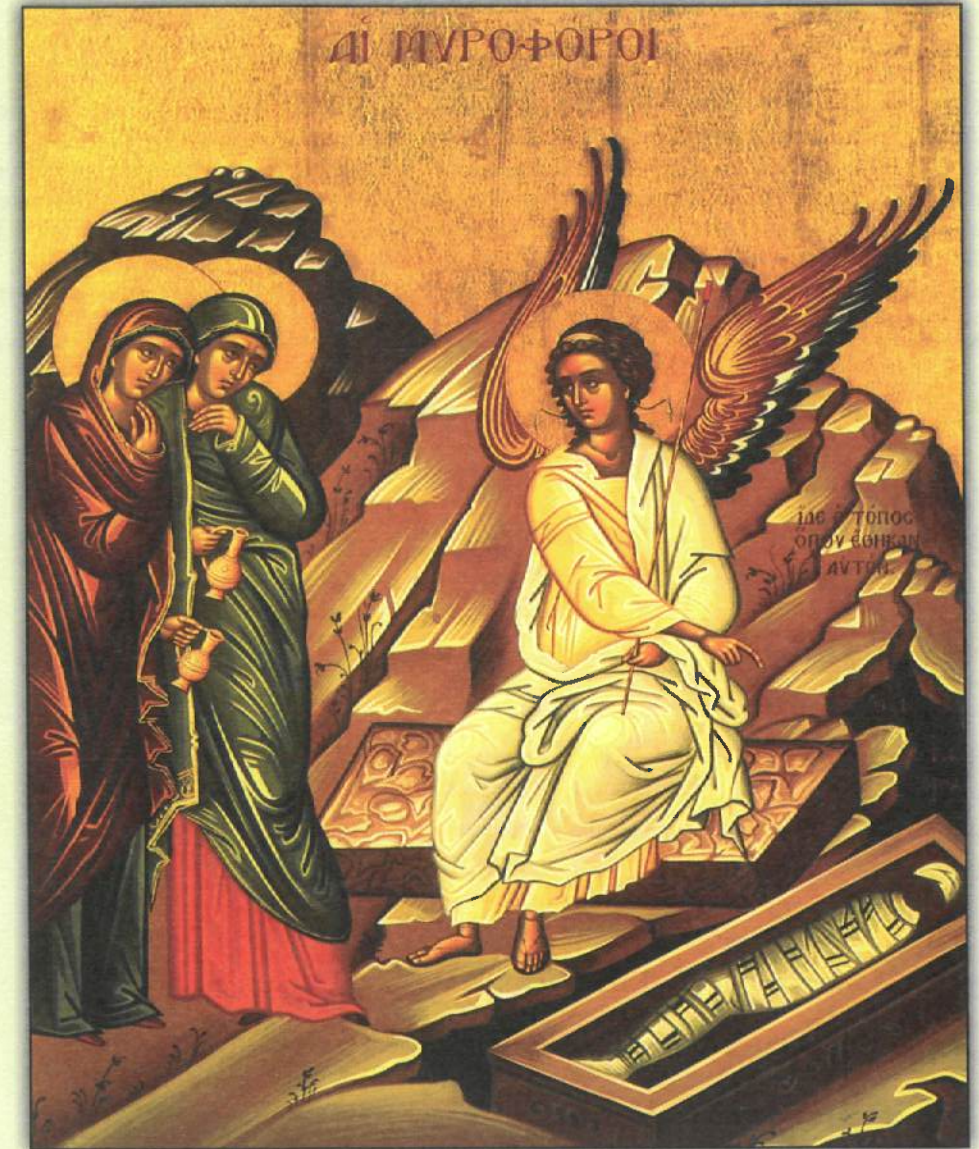
We feel bound to Christ when we know that He is, as Paul tells us, both victim and priest, that He was actually offered for us as our paschal sacrifice, and that He Himself was the priest

who made this offering to God. He gave himself up, says Paul, as a sacrifice to us. Those who realize that Christ gave himself up and became our Passover will in their turn offer themselves to God as living sacrifices, holy and acceptable. They will become spiritual oblations. Refusing to conform to the standards of the world, they will change their whole outlook so as to know the will of God, what is good, pleasing to Him, and best in every way ...

While our minds remain subject to our lower nature we are at enmity with God and refuse to obey His law ... Meditating on Christ's offering of His own blood in atonement for our sins should teach us to imitate Him and to make atonement for our own sins, mortifying our bodies in order to purify our souls.

St. Gregory of Nyssa

SUNDAY OF THE OINTMENT-BEARING WOMEN



Icon of the Ointment-Bearing Women

Sunday of the Ointment-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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May 4 – May 10, AD2025

Vigil of Sunday		
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	Private Intention*
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Health and Blessings of the Parishioners*
Monday	9:00 a.m.	No Divine Liturgy Today*
Tuesday	9:00 a.m.	+Charles Sinko req. by George Chaposky*
Wednesday	9:00 a.m.	+Charles Sinko req. by Susan Cheneka*
Thursday	9:00 a.m.	+Andrew & +Margaret Gerchak req. by Estate*
Friday	9:00 a.m.	+ Andrew & +Margaret Gerchak req. by Estate*
Saturday	4:00 p.m.	Private Intention*

*St. Mary
*SS Peter & Paul

Epistle Readers:

5/4 – Paulette Murphy; 5/11 – Beverly Kostishak; 5/20 – Judy Kostura; 5/25 – Dolores Kramer; 5/29 – Marie Wanchick; 6/1 – Laura Mitchell.

Breakfast with Father: Cancelled

Pastor's Message:

Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,
As we continue to celebrate the Holy Resurrection of Jesus Christ, we note that Joseph of Arimathea, unlike the Apostles, did not run from the Crucifixion, but remained at the service of Jesus by requesting the Body of Jesus to give it a proper burial. This action put him at risk for retaliation by the Jewish Leaders, especially since Joseph voted against them in their desire to put Jesus to death. Notice too that by going against the tide he is remembered by name while the Leaders are remembered simply anonymously.

The ointment-bearers are celebrated because of their love of Jesus. The Law of Moses did not permit any work to be done on the Sabbath so it was impossible for the women to prepare the body for burial. Therefore, as soon as the Sabbath concluded, they proceeded to the tomb to fulfill the prescriptions of the Law by anointing Jesus' body, but were instead greeted by an Angel with the words, "He is Risen." Their intended act of love was rewarded with being the first to hear the news of Resurrection and to communicate that to the Apostles who were in hiding.

We who have participated in Holy Week and the Resurrection and Bright Week, Thomas Sunday and today, the Sunday of the Ointment-Bearers are better prepared to announce the Good News to those who may not have knowledge of Jesus and His gift to us, can now explain to the unchurched what we believe and bring them to the Truth. Go for it!

News to report: My Assistant at the Holy table, **Bradley Kostishak**, has been named Precision Machining *Student of the Month* for March at the Schuylkill Technology Center. We offer him our congratulations and best wishes.

The Holy Myrrhbearers

Commemorated on the Third Sunday of Pascha

On the second Sunday after the Resurrection, the Church celebrates the first witnesses of the Lord's Resurrection — the women who came to anoint His body with fragrant oils, the "Myrrhbearers" — and the men who buried Him, St. Joseph of Arimathea & St. Nicodemus.

Jesus Christ was crucified on Friday — the day before the Sabbath (Saturday) and the day before the Old Testament Passover feast. When He died, it was imperative that He be buried before the Sabbath, because it was against the Law to work on the Sabbath. SS. Joseph & Nicodemus took His Body down from the cross, hastily anointed the Lord with aloe and myrrh, and wrapped Him in a sheer strip of linen. They placed Him in the newly-completed tomb — dug out of solid rock! — that was intended for the wealthy St. Joseph when he died, and sealed the tomb with a massive stone.

While St. Peter and the other male disciples slept, the women disciples of the Lord bought more expensive, fragrant oils and myrrh. They went to the tomb as soon as the Sabbath-day ended — in the middle of the night — to anoint His body properly. As they walked, they discussed how they could even get into the tomb, sealed by the huge stone that was too big for them to move. When they arrived, the tomb was open, and He was gone! They made several trips back and forth to Jerusalem, telling the disciples the good news, leading them back to the tomb, and searching for His Body to confirm the Resurrection the angels proclaimed.

After the Resurrection, St. Mary Magdalene went to Rome. Tradition teaches that when Mary first met the Roman emperor, Tiberius Caesar, she held a plain egg in her hand and greeted him with the words, "Christ is risen!" Tiberius exclaimed: "How can someone rise from the dead? This is hard to believe. It is just as likely that Christ rose from the dead as it is that the egg you are holding will turn red." Even as he spoke, the egg turned a brilliant red! She then preached the good news of Jesus Christ to the emperor and the imperial household.

Mary Magdalene told Tiberius all that Pontius Pilate and the leaders of the Jews had done to the Savior. Her testimony was enough to condemn them to death. St. Mary Magdalene left Rome for the city of Ephesus, where she died and was buried by the Bishop there, the Apostle John (the Theologian)! Emperor Leo the Wise later moved her relics to Constantinople.

Indeed He 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.

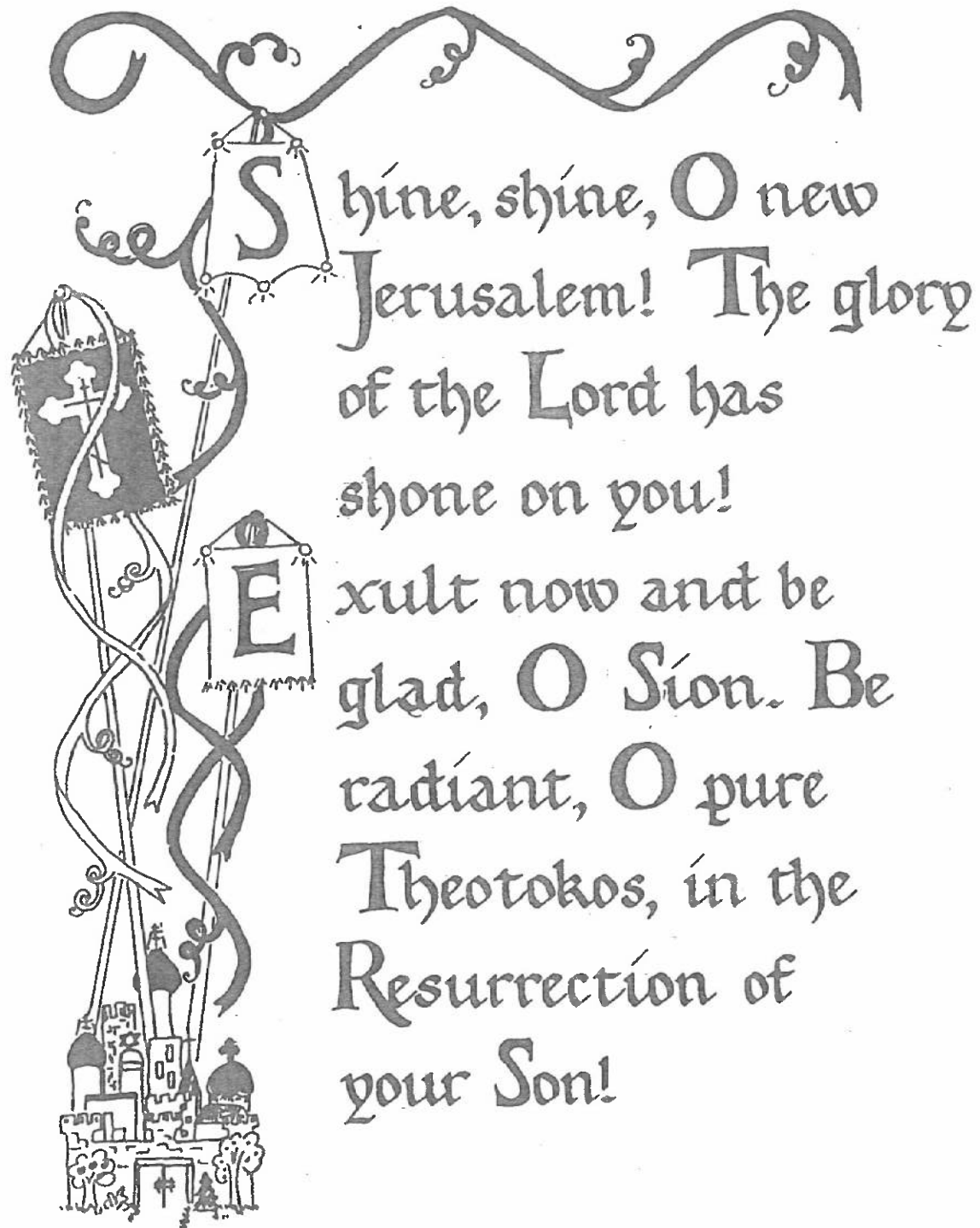
Although You descended to the grave, O Immortal One, You destroyed the power of death; You arose again as a Victor, O Christ God! You announced to the women bearing ointment, "Rejoice." You gave peace to your apostles and resurrection to the fallen Kontakion, Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearing Women.

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.

Did You Know That ...

- ...there is no pleasure in having nothing to do; the fun is having lots to do and not doing it?
- ...hope is the feeling you have that the feeling you have isn't permanent?
- ...success will not spoil you if you have always been insufferable?
- ...he who hesitates is not only lost, but usually miles from the next exit?
- ...time is nature's way of keeping everything from happening at once?
- ...the armchair philosopher says, 'If I had known I would live this long, I would have taken better care of myself?'
- ...our national flower is the concrete cloverleaf?
- ...it's a rare person who wants to hear what he doesn't want to hear?
- ...a kleptomaniac is a person who helps himself because he can't help himself?
- ...the brain-damaged person says: "I don't like any of my loved ones."
- ...progress may have been good once, but hasn't it gone on somewhat too long?
- ...the young man who will not weep is a savage and the old man who will not laugh is a fool?
- ...everything has been figured out except how to live?
- ...when it is not necessary to make a decision, it is necessary not to make a decision?
- ...there is no kind of dishonesty into which otherwise good people more easily and frequently fall than that of defrauding the government?
- ...maybe it is better that a girl has beauty than brains because boys see better than they think?
- ...when ideals fail, verbosity becomes handy?



Shine, shine, O new
Jerusalem! The glory
of the Lord has
shone on you!
Exult now and be
glad, O Sion. Be
radiant, O pure
Theotokos, in the
Resurrection of
your Son!



Investing in the Goodness
of Community



Dear Pastor:

The 13th Annual Byzantine Family Day will be held on Friday, July 25, 2025 at Knoebels Park, Elysburg, PA. Park hours are 12 NOON-8 PM. A prayer service will be held at 11:45 AM before the lunch. Lunch will be served at Pavilion J at 12 NOON.

NEW this year: Ride all day ticket for \$35 (good only on 7/25). This ticket excludes the Haunted Mansion. The GCU also has discounted ticket books for \$16 each (regular pricing is \$20). Ticket books may be used for rides, pool, food & games inside the park. Lunch tickets can be purchased for GCU members at \$10 & \$16.50 for non-GCU members and must be purchased in advance for the July 25th date. Age 2 & under eat free. No discount tickets will be available for purchase at the park. Ticket books can be used throughout the 2025 season.

Deadline to order tickets and lunches is Tuesday, July 15, 2025. Order tickets and pay with a credit or debit card at the GCU's website – www.GCUusa.com

Please include this information in your upcoming bulletin(s) for all of the parishes that you may be assigned to and/or post the included flier on your information board.

If you have any questions, please contact me at 878-207-2327 or email me at mjaggars@GCUusa.com.

Sincerely,

Melissa Jaggars
GCU Corporate Community Events Coordinator
Eastern PA, NY, NJ, MD, MA, CT, DE, VA, NC, SC, GA & FL



Investing in the Goodness
of Community



13th Annual Byzantine Family Day

Friday, July 25, 2025 at Knoebels Park

Family/Group Leader's Name _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

(Ticket and lunch vouchers will be sent to mailing address given above.)

My ticket order is as follows:

	No. of Tickets	Total
Ride All Day Ticket (must be used on 7-25-25)..... \$35.00 Tickets include all rides except Haunted Mansion	_____	_____
Ticket Books (\$20 Value)..... \$16.00 Tickets are good for rides, pool, food & games inside park! NO discount books will be available at the Park	_____	_____
Catered Lunch (ages 3 & over) GCU Member..... \$10.00	_____	_____
Catered Lunch (ages 3 & over) Non-GCU Member..... \$16.50 All Lunches are preorder only—NO Lunches can be purchased at the park!	_____	_____
Catered Lunch (ages 2 & under)FREE*	_____	_____
	Total Enclosed	_____

**Although there is no charge for lunch for children ages 2 and under, we must have an accurate count for Knoebels Catering Services.*

Make checks payable to: GCU – KNOEBELS, 5400 Tuscarawas Road, Beaver PA, 15009

All tickets & lunch vouchers will be mailed to the name and address listed above after payment is received. Lunch will be served at Pavilion J promptly at 12 noon and includes ¼ bar-b-que'd chicken, hamburgers, hot dogs, macaroni salad, cole slaw, chocolate chip cookies & iced tea.

Please call 1-800-722-4428 ext. 3810 or email events@GCUusa.com with any questions.

Deadline for ticket orders - Tuesday, July 15, 2025

Or order tickets & pay with credit or debit card at GCUusa.com under Events