

Вітаємо до Парафії Воздвиження Чесного Хреста! Welcome to Exaltation of the Holy Cross Parish!



## Христос Воскрес! Воістину Воскрес! Christ Is Risen! Indeed He is Risen!

We extend a warm "Happy Easter Season!" to all our parishioners, their families, and guests, and pray that your participation in today's festive Divine Liturgy and our communal dinner will be enriching, fulfilling, meaningful, and truly special for all of you.

### April 28, 2019 ~ Sunday of St. Thomas

Today's Readings: Epistle: Acts 5: 12-20

Gospel: John 20: 19-31

Troparia and special texts are located starting on page 4 of the white Easter season booklets

#### Epistle Readers

Saturday (5 p.m.): Michael Watral  
Sunday (10 a.m.): Christopher Tennant



#### Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday (5 p.m.): Zenya Puchalski  
Sunday (10 a.m.): Murray Salomon

### Words of Faith and Glory

"Jesus' willingness to accommodate  
Thomas' unbelief is a reminder  
that God can handle all our doubt."

~ David D. Flowers ~

## Your Return Gift to God

Let us strive to live as Christian stewards, receive God's gifts gratefully, cultivate them responsibly, share them generously and lovingly with others, and return them with increase to the Lord.



APRIL 21

Envelopes and Loose: \$3,941.<sup>25</sup>  
Special Projects: \$20.<sup>00</sup>  
Vigil Lights: \$252.<sup>40</sup>

Thank you for your generosity! Дякуємо за вашу щедрість!

April's Mission Collection is designated for the **Thunder Bay and District Humane Society**, a 100% not-for-profit established as a corporation in 1994 and an affiliate of the Ontario SPCA that does not receive any government funding, but rather relies solely on donations, fundraising and adoption income. Visit [www.tbdhs.ca](http://www.tbdhs.ca) for more information.

# Thank You



Christ is Risen! I wish to thank you, dear parishioners, for your Easter greetings, good wishes, cards and "gifts of love." May the Risen Christ bless you with 100-fold grace and family love! May God grant You good health, love and prosperity!

Humbly yours, Father Stepan Didur

## Parish News & Activities

Our **Parish Easter Dinner (Свячене)** takes place on Sunday following the Divine Liturgy. Please join us in our parish hall in this community sharing of a festive meal.

 Applications for St. George's Scholarships are available in the narthex. All potential high school graduates who are parishioners of Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church, are encouraged to apply. The deadline is this **Friday, May 3, 2019**. The completed application must be submitted to no later than that date. For more information, please contact Dr. Patrick Opaski, Scholarship Chairman, at 767-0253.

On **Sunday, May 12** following the 10:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, we invite all mothers, grandmothers, great-grandmothers and godmothers of our parish to come to the hall for the annual **Mother's Day Brunch** sponsored by the members of St. George's Society. We ask those who are planning to attend to please sign the list in the narthex in order that the appropriate arrangements can be made. *Thank you for your cooperation.* ☺

Holy Cross Golden Agers will have their pyrohy making on **Tuesday, June 4**. To place your order, please call Ann Kozlowski (622-3006) or Ann (G) Opaski (577-2805) now to avoid disappointment, as the cut-off date is quickly approaching!



## Schedule of Liturgical Services

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

6:30 p.m. ~ Moleben to the Mother of God

SATURDAY, MAY 4

5:00 p.m. ~ **Sunday of the Myrrh-bearing Women**  
Epistle Reader: Gloria Sherban  
Eucharistic Minister: Christopher Tennant

SUNDAY, MAY 5

10:00 a.m. ~ **Sunday of the Myrrh-bearing Women**  
Epistle Reader: Mary Ann Lysak  
Eucharistic Minister: Mary Ann Lysak



As was the practice last year during the month of May, we will pray the Rosary **20 minutes** before the start of each Saturday/Sunday Divine Liturgy. Everyone is welcome to help lead or join in this beautiful recitation.



In today's Gospel of St. John, Jesus says to Thomas that because he had seen Him, he believed; but those who have not seen Jesus, yet believe, are especially blessed. When the Word of God was completed, the need for supernatural appearances of Jesus was not necessary any longer. We have the witness of the apostles in the Gospels and in the rest of the New Testament — that is, the completion of the Word of God. And St. Paul says clearly that "faith comes by hearing and by hearing the Word of God." (Romans 10:17) Thomas' declaration, "My Lord and my God!" is the finest example of New Testament Christology (the doctrine of Christ). No longer then is he "Doubting Thomas", but rather "Professing Thomas" or perhaps "Confessing Thomas", and now, most undoubtedly, "Believing Thomas." It is by accepting Thomas's bold declaration of who Jesus is and placing our faith in Him that we can have life through His name.

~ from a sermon by Chuck Sligh

## **HOLY CROSS GOLDEN AGERS**

Regular afternoon activities take place on Thursdays starting at 1:00 p.m. with doors opened at 12 noon, and new members are still welcome to join our ranks. Pop by and see us!

If you missed the last bus to Grand Portage, then you're in luck! The next one departs the church parking lot on **Wednesday, May 15** at 3:45 p.m. and returns @ 10:00 p.m. To book your free seat, give Ann Kozlowski or Ann (G) Opaski a call or sign the sheet at the weekly gathering.

Orders for our Spring Pyrohy Making session on **Tuesday, June 4** can be placed anytime. Contact Ann Kozlowski at 622-3006 or Ann (G) Opaski at 577-2805 to get your name of the list. The price is \$6 per dozen (for cooked or raw frozen). Help spread the word!

**Do not regret growing older.  
It's a privilege denied to many!**



## **ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY**

Attention all members! There will be no monthly meeting in April; our next one will be on **Sunday, May 26** at **7 p.m.** Please remember: help will be needed for the annual Mother's Day Breakfast (**May 12**). Speak with Dr. Larry Watral if you are able to assist in any way.

Our next bingo session is a matinee on **Monday, May 20** Those who have agreed to volunteer on that date should be at the hall no later than 12 noon in proper attire.



The next bingo training date and time is:  
**Sunday, May 26 @ 4:00 p.m.**

All members (and parishioners 18 years and over) are invited to take the training (it's only an hour long) and assist at future bingos. Please inform Gerry Bullock, our volunteer coordinator so that he can confirm your attendance with the staff at Superior Shores.

*Love and Service to God since 1960!*



**Blue Mass** - St. Patrick Cathedral will be celebrating a 'Blue Mass' on **Sunday, April 28, 2019** at 1:00 p.m. to show support and appreciation of the Thunder Bay First Responders. Invited to this Mass are members of the Thunder Bay Police Services, O.P.P., R.C.M.P., Anishinabek Police Services, Thunder Bay Fire Rescue and Superior North Emergency Medical Services. A reception will follow. All are welcome!

**Travel the World in 48 hours!** - Thunder Bay Multicultural Association's 46<sup>th</sup> annual "Folklore Festival" on **Saturday, May 4 & Sunday, May 5** at the FW Gardens & Curling Club. Tantalizing international foods, imported wines & beers, incredible entertainment, 'shop-the-world' booths, an activity-packed Children's Area with all free activities, beautiful exhibits & displays, and local artists on site await you. Adults: \$5; Seniors/Students: \$3; Children (4-12): \$1, and those 4 and under: free. Win a fabulous "stay-cation" for 4 courtesy of Victoria Inn Hotel & Convention Centre. Check out the poster on the narthex bulletin board or visit the website at [www.folklorefestival.ca](http://www.folklorefestival.ca) for more info.

**Fantastic entertainment on Mother's Day weekend!** - Zorya Ukrainian Dance Association presents its 21<sup>st</sup> annual concert "Podorozh" on **Saturday, May 11** at 7:00 p.m. at the Thunder Bay Community Auditorium. Zorya Dancers will be travelling to Ukraine in August 2019. At this concert, they will take the audience on a trip through Ukraine. Join them as they will be on the road again." Tickets available in person at the TBCA Box Office or call 684-4444 or order yours online at [www.tbca.com](http://www.tbca.com).



**MAY THE RISEN CHRIST** bless the many individuals who assisted to make the Lenten, Holy Week and Easter celebrations so beautiful and meaningful. From those of our Music Ministry for their faithful leadership in the various services and liturgies and the many singers under their direction, to those who helped iron the linens and change the altar cloths for Lent and Easter and decorated the church so lovely; to those who helped assemble (and disassemble) the tomb, to those who participated in the procession around the church on Good Friday, to the members of St. George's Society, family members, and parishioners who were present to watch and pray over our Lord's tomb on Friday evening and Saturday afternoon, to those who facilitated with the children's Easter Basket workshop and those who participated in the Easter basket blessing, to everyone who was present at the celebration of the Resurrectional Matins and Solemn Divine Liturgy on Easter Sunday, to those who attended the joyous Bright Week services; and last, but not least, to those who set-up, made cabbage rolls, prepared the traditional foods, and will serve and clean-up after our parish Easter Dinner. Your time and effort are always sincerely appreciated! We pray for that all of you may be spiritually uplifted during this holy and glorious season!

**Christ is risen! Indeed He is risen!**

**Readings for the Sunday of the Myrrh-bearing Women**  
(to help prepare for the nourishment of the Word of God at Liturgy)



**Epistle: Acts 6: 1-7**  
(The Seven Helpers)

**Gospel: Mark 15:43 - 16:8**  
(The Noble Joseph and Myrrh-bearing Women)

As you read each passage, ask yourself these questions:  
"What thoughts, ideas, words or images come to mind?"  
and "What are the connections between them?"  
This will help make them easier to follow and understand.





# Checking the Roll: The Story of Thomas



What is the first thing your teacher does at the beginning of the school day? He or she probably checks the roll or takes attendance. The teacher opens his or her book and begins to call out the names... Johnny, Susie, Mary, James. As the student's names are called, they raise their hand and answer, "Here!" If the teacher calls Caleb's name and he is not there, the teacher marks in the book that he was absent. Why is it important for the teacher to know that Caleb is absent? It is important because he needs to be told what he missed when he was absent.

That's similar to something that happened in our Bible lesson today. It was the Sunday after Jesus was crucified and His disciples had gathered together in a locked room because they were afraid. They were afraid of what Jesus' enemies might do to them. The Bible tells us that, even though the doors were locked, Jesus came in and stood there with His disciples. When the disciples saw Jesus, they were very happy.

One of the disciples, whose name was Thomas, was not there with the others in that room when Jesus appeared to them. We don't know why Thomas wasn't there. Perhaps he was sick, or maybe he just decided to stay at home that day. The next

time the other disciples saw Thomas, they told him what he had missed when he was absent. They said, "We have seen Jesus. He is alive!" Thomas didn't believe them. He said, "Unless I see the nail marks in His hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."

The next week the disciples were in the house again, and this time Thomas was with them. The very same thing happened again. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among His disciples. He turned to Thomas and said, "See My hands; put your fingers here. Reach out your hand and put it into My side. Stop doubting and believe."

Thomas didn't need to touch the wounds where the nails had been or put his hand into Jesus' side. He fell on his knees before Jesus and said, "My Lord and my God!"

One of the great promises Jesus made was when He said, "Where two or three gather in My name, I am there with them." Each week we come together in the name of Jesus to worship and to praise Him. So, what do we miss out on if we are absent? We miss out on the same thing that Thomas missed out on when he was absent -- the chance to be with Jesus!

Source: [www.sermons4kids.com](http://www.sermons4kids.com)

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