

HOLY TRINITY BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

April 12, 2026

Thomas Sunday (Antipascha) – Second Sunday of Pascha

Contact Us

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Facebook @ Holy Trinity Byzantine
Catholic Church

Office Hours

9am–5pm Tuesday–Friday

Weekend Services

5pm Saturday Vigil Divine Liturgy

9am Sunday Divine Liturgy

Confession

6–6:30pm Wednesday

4–4:30pm Saturday

Who preserved the disciple's hand unconsumed when he drew nigh unto the fiery side of the Lord? Who gave it the daring and strength to feel the bone that was flaming? Surely, it was that which was touched. For if that side had not bestowed might unto that earthen right hand, how could it have touched those wounds which caused both things above and below to quake? This grace was given to Thomas, that he might touch and cry out to Christ: You are my Lord and my God.

Ikos from the Matins of Thomas Sunday

Week at a Glance

Christos voskres! Voistinu voskres!

Our return to God for His abundant gifts (4/5): \$6,080

Online giving: <https://holytrinitysykesville.org/onlinegiving>

Sun, April 12 Thomas Sunday – Second Sunday of Pascha
9am Divine Liturgy

Wed, April 15 6:30pm Vespers

Sat, April 18 5pm Vigil Divine Liturgy

Sun, April 19 Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearers – Third Sunday of Pascha
9am Divine Liturgy

Coffee Social Bakers for April 19: Hannah Ketcham, Rebecca Pennington



Ronald Yamrick (April 16)

Kaden Bush (April 18)

Cyril Ketcham (April 19)

CANTORS' CORNER

Saturday	Sunday
<p><u>4/11</u> Bright Saturday 10:30am Paschal Divine Liturgy 5pm Great Vespers with Litija <i>Cantoring will be provided by participants of the Archeparchy's youth and young adult event this day.</i></p>	<p><u>4/12</u> Thomas Sunday 9am Divine Liturgy Cantor: Zeb B. Lector: Mike K. (Acts 5:12-20) Propers: Second Sunday of Pascha (175); Cherubikon in "B"</p>
<p><u>4/18</u> 5pm Vigil Divine Liturgy Cantor: Victor K. Propers in paper supplement; closing hymn, "Now you may dismiss" (452)</p>	<p><u>4/19</u> Sunday of the Myrrh-Bearers 9am Divine Liturgy Cantor: Victor K. Lector: Joseph C. (Acts 6:1-7) Propers: Third Sunday of Pascha (177); Cherubikon in "A"</p>
<p><u>4/25</u> 5pm Vigil Divine liturgy Cantor: Victor K. Propers in paper supplement; closing hymn, "Now you may dismiss" (452)</p>	<p><u>4/26</u> Sunday of the Paralytic 11am (note time change!) Cantor: Zeb B. Lector: Corey M. (Acts 9:32-42) Propers: Fourth Sunday after Pascha (181); Cherubikon in "D"</p>
<p><u>5/2</u> 5pm Vigil Divine Liturgy Cantor: Victor K. Propers in paper supplement; closing hymn, "Now you may dismiss" (452)</p>	<p><u>5/3</u> Sunday of the Samaritan Woman 9am Divine Liturgy Cantor: Victor K. Lector: Mike K. (Acts 11:19-26, 29-30) Propers: Fifth Sunday after Pascha (186); Cherubikon in B</p>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christ is risen! Indeed he is risen!

✠ Dates to Remember

- Thursday, April 23: Feast of the Holy Great-Martyr George
- Sunday, April 26: Pascha Pig Roast
- Wednesday, April 29: Feast of Mid-Pentecost

✠ 2nd Annual Pascha Pig Roast

Our second annual pig roast to celebrate the Feast of Feasts will be coming up in just a few short weeks on Sunday, April 26, at Nativity Social Hall (904 Howard Ave, DuBois, PA). As with last year, we will be switching the Divine Liturgy times at Holy Trinity and Nativity this day and the pig roast will follow at 1pm. Main dishes, drinks, and games for the kids will be provided. Please bring a side dish and/or a dessert to share! RSVPs may be collected via email or on the sign-up sheet in the entryway of the church. Family and friends are welcome. Christ is risen!



✠ Annual Cemetery Care Donation for 2026

Our suggested donation is \$75 per grave. The annual average cost for grass cutting and maintenance is \$2,500. Two Lawnmowers and other equipment require weekly care. We have a larger cemetery and road to maintain with the recent expansion. This past January, we replaced our old cemetery sign with a new sign and brick work, greatly enhancing the look of our cemetery. This year we plan to give the cemetery road a fresh seal coat and add four Benches for seating. Please use the donation envelope in your offertory box labeled "cemetery care" or a plain envelope labeled "cemetery care" to ensure that we can continue to take good care of our cemetery. Thank you for your support! Questions or concerns may be directed to Matthew Kosko.

✠ *Life and Liturgy* Adult Catechesis Series

- IMPORTANT UPDATE! Thank you to all who have participated in our *Life and Liturgy* sessions since August, as they have been a wonderfully blessed time of prayer, reflection, and fellowship. Please be advised that the next two sessions of *Life and Liturgy* are being altered for the sake of other parish events:
 - The next session of *Life and Liturgy* will be May 9, as originally scheduled.
- Session Recordings
 - Parish website: [holytrinitysykesville.org/resources](https://www.holytrinitysykesville.org/resources)
 - YouTube: Search “Holy Trinity Byzantine Sykesville” and find the “Life and Liturgy Adult Enrichment Series 2025–2026” playlist
<https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PLhMUIKohjH84WPLgf3eWj1stcEvZr7d26&si=CLkimL6ToHBx-XXV>
- As a reminder, these sessions will take place on a monthly basis until June 2026. This is a wonderful opportunity to gather for beautiful liturgical prayer outside of the Divine Liturgy and to learn more about why we do what we do at church and how it relates to the rest of our lives.

✠ Standing Reminder

After Pentecost 2026, we will be celebrating Great Vespers or Vigil only on Saturday evening (no longer with Divine Liturgy). Until then, any change in the Saturday schedule is only on those dates when a session of *Life and Liturgy* takes place.

THE ANTIPASCHA: ON THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THOMAS SUNDAY

On this Sunday, the second Sunday of Pascha, we celebrate the Antipascha, that is to say the re-dedication of the Resurrection of Christ, and also commemorate the event of the Holy Apostle Thomas' touching the wounds of Christ. This commemoration is due to the ancient custom of rededicating important events. As a year would pass and the date of such an event would arrive, a commemoration was made so that such great events would not be forgotten. This is why the Israelites celebrated the Passover at Gilgal, to commemorate the passing through the Red Sea. They also commemorated the consecration of the Tabernacle of Witness that was in the wilderness and many other holy events. Since the Resurrection of the Lord is the greatest and most important event and beyond all thought, it is rededicated not only once a year, but also on every "eighth" day.

The first rededication of the Resurrection is this present Sunday, for it is truly both the "eighth" day and the "first." It is the eighth day after Pascha, and the first day, because it is the beginning of the other days. Again, it is called the "eighth" day because it prefigures the unending day of the future age to come, which will be truly the "first" day and a day that is not divided by a single night. This is why this Sunday is called the Antipascha, which interpreted means "in the place of Pascha." We should also know that due to the honor given Sunday by the Lord's Resurrection, the Holy Apostles transferred the weekly day of rest from the Jewish Sabbath (Saturday) to this most honored day.

It is also called Thomas Sunday, the reason being as follows: On the day of the Resurrection, when Christ showed himself to the Disciples in the evening, Thomas was not present, because he had not yet joined the other Disciples for fear of the Jews. When he rejoined the others, not only did he not believe what they told him about the Resurrection of Christ and the fact that they had seen Him, but he absolutely refused to believe that Christ had risen, even though he himself was one of the Twelve. God the good Master, in His true economy, waited eight days to make His love more perfect, firmly willing to truthfully verify the Resurrection and also the events that had occurred after the Resurrection. Thus, Thomas did not believe so that he could more truthfully proclaim to all the belief in the Resurrection. Therefore, the Lord came to the Apostles again while Thomas was among them. Though the doors were shut as before, He entered and granted them peace according to the custom. He then turned toward Thomas and said, "Reach

your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing” (John 20:27). Then Thomas intentionally scrutinized the Lord’s side more attentively, and receiving faith through the examination, he cried, “My Lord and my God!” (John 20:28). He said “Lord” in witnessing to the bodily form of Christ and “God” in witnessing to His Divinity. Then Christ said to him, “Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed” (John 20:29). This was the second appearance of Christ.

Thomas was called “The Twain” - or Twin, for one of several possible reasons: either he was born a twin - one of two children born at the same time; or because he was born doubtful of the Resurrection; or because by nature the middle finger and the index finger of his right hand were joined together. Since by Divine Providence he was allowed to doubt, it was with these certain two fingers that he would probe Christ’s side. Yet, others say that it is more likely and more truthful that Thomas, being interpreted, means “twin.” The third appearance of Christ was at the Sea of Tiberias during the catching of the fish where He even ate a meal of broiled fish and honeycomb; this particular food, as He alone knew, was consumed by the Divine Fire. This event gave further proof of the Resurrection of the body - not only His, but ours in the Age to come. After this, He revealed himself on the road to Emmaus. The fifth time He appeared was in Galilee to the eleven, as it is written. From the Resurrection until His Ascension, He worked before His Disciples many signs that surpassed all nature. However, He did not reveal all these signs to very many, for it was impossible for men yet living in this world to hear such inexpressible wonders.

Through the prayers of your Holy Apostle Thomas, O Lord Jesus Christ our God, have mercy on us.



JOIN US FOR A

Pascha Pig-Roast Potluck

SUNDAY OF THE PAREALYTIC MAN

APRIL 26 1PM

NATIVITY SOCIAL HALL

904 Howard Ave, DuBois, PA 15801

Enjoy pig roast, drinks, and outdoor games!

Please bring side dishes to share.

All friends and family welcome!

RSVP BY APRIL 19

holytrinitysykesville@gmail.com

or church sign-up sheet



MYSTERIES OF THE CHURCH

Parish Membership: To be a parish member, you must (1) be registered in the parish; (2) demonstrate faithful and consistent participation in the liturgical life of the parish on Sundays and holy days; and (3) regularly offer time, talent, or treasure to the parish according to your ability. Parish membership is required for participation in the sacraments below (but exceptions may be made with Fr. Nate's discretion). All are welcome to become members after attending the parish for one year.

Contact Fr. Nate to register.

Mysteries of Initiation (Baptism, Chrismation, and Eucharist): Contact Fr. Nate to schedule pre-baptism instruction. Sponsors must be practicing Catholics.

Mystery of Crowning: Contact Fr. Nate before setting a date or reserving your reception hall (at least six months before the desired wedding date). Pre-Cana program and three sessions with Fr. Nate are required. The ceremony will be celebrated according to the Byzantine Rite.

Mystery of Anointing and Visitation of the Sick: This mystery may be celebrated upon request for anyone navigating spiritual or physical challenges. If you or your loved one is homebound or hospitalized, notify Fr. Nate as soon as possible to ensure they can be visited.

Funerals: Families of the deceased or the funeral director must contact Fr. Nate before setting the time and date of funeral. The deceased need not be a member in good standing. Cremation is discouraged but permitted within certain limitations.

Liturgy Intentions can be requested through the offertory envelopes provided or in person from Fr. Nate or Dcn. Luke. A liturgy may be requested with or without the conventional \$20 stipend, which is considered a donation not a requirement.