

·THE RES· URRECTION·



CHRIST IS RISEN! INDEED HE IS RISEN!

PASCHA OF OUR LORD 2026

Christ is risen! Indeed he is risen!

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Today, on the joyous occasion of Our Lord's Resurrection from the tomb and his glorious conquest of death through the Cross, Our Lord institutes a New Passover, not to deliver us from slavery or bondage to any earthly power, but to deliver us from the power of death and sin over us. Today, Christ, the new paschal lamb, has passed us over through his holy death and resurrection, being himself offered for the sake of all mankind. Today, we share in the joy and rest of the master, whose "yoke is easy and burden light" (Mt 11:30).

As a pastor, I have witnessed many different instances of how difficult and arduous the past few months have been for many in our community. Not a single person has remained unscathed from the harsh weather, difficulties in life, failing health, and so on. For many this has left us feeling unsatisfied and even disappointed in our Lenten and Holy Week observances. Our Lord knows our weaknesses, he sees our struggles, and knows what is in our heart. After all, his own apostles, who knew him better than anyone, hardly understood what he was doing for them. Yet, he went to his passion, death, and burial nonetheless. Only after his resurrection and the descent of the Holy Spirit did the apostles fully understand.

Let us be reminded of the words of St. John Chrysostom's homily, as he encourages all of us to enter into the joy and rest of Our Lord no matter how perfect we are before him:

Let us all enter into the joy of the Lord! First and last alike receive your reward; rich and poor, rejoice together! Sober and slothful, celebrate the day! You that have kept the fast, and you that have not, rejoice today for the Table is richly laden! Feast royally on it, the calf is a fattened one. Let no one go away hungry; partake, all, of the cup of faith. Enjoy all the riches of His goodness!

May the Lord bless you all richly this Paschal season.

Fr. Nate

HOLY TRINITY BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

April 5, 2026

FEAST OF FEASTS – THE PASCHA OF OUR LORD AND SAVIOR
JESUS CHRIST

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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

Passover, Passover, and again I say, Passover, for Christ our Passover, has been sacrificed for us. How can we repay you, O God according to nature and Father according to grace? We offer you praise from our lips: Glory to you who were baptized! Glory to you who were crucified! Glory to you who were buried! Glory to you, for you are risen and raise us with you!

From the Ambon Prayer of Bright Monday

Week at a Glance

Our return to God for His abundant gifts (3/29): \$1,747

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

April 5–April 11 – Bright Week

Mon, April 6 Bright Monday

9am Resurrection Matins and Paschal Divine Liturgy with Gospel Procession

Sat, April 11 Bright Saturday (Special Schedule for Archeparchial Youth Event)

10:30am Paschal Divine Liturgy with Archbishop William

4pm Confession

5pm Great Vespers with Litija for Thomas Sunday

Sun, April 12 Thomas Sunday – Second Sunday of Pascha

9am Divine Liturgy

Coffee Social Bakers for April 12: Julia Kennis, Jess Mottern



Gregory Chrusch (April 9)
Madelyn Sawtelle (April 9)



Gabe and Karen Sweka (April 5)

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

✠ Dates to Remember

- Saturday, April 11: Converge 2026, the Archeparchy's annual youth and young adult, will be held at Holy Trinity, beginning with the Divine Liturgy at 10:30.
- Sunday, April 26: Pascha Pig Roast

✠ Mysteries of Initiation on Holy Saturday

Please give a hearty welcome and congratulations to Zayne Knight, who entered into the Church through the holy mysteries of initiation of baptism, chrismation, and eucharist this Pascha. The essential mystery of Pascha (or "Passover") is *deliverance* from the bondage to sin. For this reason, the Catholic Church throughout the entire world, both western and eastern, welcomes thousands of adult converts ever year into the Body of Christ on the eve of Pascha. All baptisms are a sign of life and spiritual health of a community and we ought to thank Our Lord and see his victory present in every instance.

✠ What is Bright Week?

The first six days after Pascha constitute what is known in the Slav tradition as Bright Week. All services are conducted exactly the same as on Pascha itself, with mostly the same hymns, rites, and joyful character. All the doors of the Iconostasis remain open during these six days, even when the services are concluded. The open doors remind us of the stone rolled away from the empty tomb of Christ and the unlocking of the gates of heaven to mankind through the death, burial, and resurrection of Our Lord. There is no fasting during this joyous week. Funeral services held during Bright Week have a special rite, consisting almost entirely of the Paschal hymns from Resurrection Matins. As a symbol of Our Lord's risen presence among his people, the *artos* that is blessed on Pascha remains on the tetrapod for the entirety of the week and the faithful venerate the icon on the *artos* to venerate Our Risen Lord.

✠ 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 Youth and Young Adult Gathering which our archeparchy has asked us to host on April 11 will be in place of April’s session of *Life and Liturgy*, originally scheduled for April 18. With all that is taking place in April, we are simply cancelling April’s *Life and Liturgy*.
 - 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.

✘ Youth Events in 2026

Registration for the ByzanTEEN Rally is now open! Please check with Fr. Nate about registration and payment. Registration can be accessed either through the QR code on the flyer, or through this link:

<https://form.jotform.com/YouthArchPitt/byzanteen-rally-2026-participant-fo>

EARLY BIRD
(BEFORE APRIL 1)
&
SIBLING DISCOUNT
\$350

Registration is OPEN now!

Deadline to register is Friday, May 15, 2026

JULY 9-12 2026

FULL PRICE **\$380**
AFTER APRIL 1

“TAKE COURAGE!
I HAVE OVERCOME
THE WORLD.”
JOHN 16:33

AGES 13 THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL!

JOHN CARROLL UNIVERSITY
CLEVELAND
OHIO

More info & registration
Scan QR code

“I HAVE CALLED YOU FRIENDS”
(John 15:15)

CONVERGE! 2026

An Annual Gathering of Teens and Young Adults

Sponsored by the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh & Holy Trinity Byzantine Catholic Church, Sykesville, PA



SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2026
10:00 AM – 4:00 PM

HOLY TRINITY BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

104 SHAFFER STREET, SYKESVILLE, PA. 15865

Highlights of the Day:

- **Divine Liturgy and Q&A Session** with Archbishop Metropolitan William C. Skurla
- **Lunch and Fellowship**
- **Keynote Address** by Dr. Alexander Harb (Melkite Catholic – Alabama)
- **Separate activities & interactive sessions** for teens and young adults

This event is open to:

- **Teens:** 7th grade through high school
- **Young Adults:** Ages 18–39 (single and married)
- **Parents** are welcome to attend with their teens.

REGISTER by April 1
via QR CODE
OR visit www.archpitt.org



Registration Fee
\$5/person

Don't miss this yearly celebration of next-generation followers of Christ gathered together in joy, connection, faith, and friendship!



The Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry
The Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh

www.archpitt.org

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.