



The Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox Church Of McKeesport & Duquesne, Pa
901 Hartman Street, McKeesport, Pa. 15132 **Our Web-site:** stsavapa.org*
***(PLEASE VISIT OUR Parish Website, and Also Our Facebook & Twitter Pages!)**

Very Rev. (Stavrophor) Stevan Rocknage, Parish Priest

Rectory: (412)672-1872 **Hall:** (412) 664-0820 **E-mail:** frstevor@aol.com

MAY 5th – 2nd Sunday Of PASCHA – THOMAS Sunday – Tone 7
(Remembering St. Theodore the Sykeote and St. Platon of Banja Luka)

Today's Epistle Reading:

EPISTLE: ACTS 5: 12-20

Today's Gospel Readings:

MATINS: Mt. 28: 16-20/**LITURGY:** John 20: 19-31

PASCHAL Troparion: "Christ is risen from the dead, trampling down death by death, and upon those in the tombs, bestowing life!

(The Troparion of Thomas Sunday will also be sung!)

PASCHAL Kontakion: "Thou didst descend into the tomb, O Immortal; Thou didst destroy the power of death! In victory, didst Thou arise, O Christ God, proclaiming 'Rejoice' to the myrrh-bearing women, granting peace to Thy Apostles, and bestowing resurrection on the fallen!"

PASCHAL Hymn To

The Theotokos: "The Angel cried to the Lady full of grace: 'Rejoice, rejoice O Pure Virgin! Again I say rejoice – your Son has risen from His three days in the tomb! With Himself, He has raised all the dead; rejoice, rejoice O Pure Virgin! Shine! Shine ! Shine O New Jerusalem! The glory of the Lord has shone on you; Exult, now exult, and be glad O Zion! Be radiant, O Pure Theotokos, in the Resurrection, the Resurrection of your Son!"

Spiritual Food: Today, as we continue celebrating the Paschal Season, we must keep in mind that our entire Faith, Purpose, and our very Existence is directly related to what we are striving to recapture in our Parish's future, as set forth below in our invite to all people:

You are invited, welcomed, accepted, and loved at the St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church regardless of your present or past status in the Orthodox Church; your current family or marital situation; your past or present religious affiliation; or your personal history, age, background, race, or color...

Today's Special Announcements and Upcoming Events For Our Parish:

(1) **TODAY:** We invite you to join us as we celebrate the wonderful Baptism of our Nathaniel Dushan Rocknage, son of Dushan and Lauren Rocknage, and grandson of Proo Stevo and Protinica JoAnn! *God grant him "Many Years!"*

(1-A) **GREAT JOB BY ALL:** preliminary results on the Fish Fry Season – we made a profit of around \$39,000.00!

(2) **Feast Of St. George (tomorrow):** Paschal Liturgy at 9:30AM!

(3) **Please pray for the health and well-being of our following loved ones within our parish:**

Helen Trkula Gary Popovich Donna Moss-NH Katie Repasky Danijela Belo
Ann Vunovic-NH Beverly Stipanovich Keith Bedell Margaret Ivkovich
Melva Buzzelli-NH Prota Adam Yonitch Prota Paul Lazor Prota Joseph Cervo
Helen Mochan Vlade Baskot Melva Dandrea Matthew Schaffer John Ratesic

(4) **Also pray for the souls of those fallen asleep in the Lord:**

+Desa Bunovich +Mark Vojnovich +Nick Trbovic +Stella Stipanovich +Ann Suzich
+Lucy Pcholinski +Protas Dr. Filipovic , Den Pavichevich, St Stepanov/
+Rastko Trbuhovich,+Vaso Sokolovic/Zvonko Kotorcevic +Carl Magdic
+Ray Moss +Ann Cervo +Helen Lia +Alex Stipanovich +Dan Ikach
+Sophie Vranesevic +Louise Zivkovich +Mimi Pavlovich +Nick Pilipovich
+Kh. Stefanie Yazge +Mika Rocknage +Sharon Young +Amy Pacura
+Betty Perich +Dorothy Shumkaroff +George Medich +Arlene Crnkovich +Helen Medic

(5) **MARK YOUR CALENDARS:**

- **St. Cyril of White Lake Food Drive:** bring in donated goods – basket in foyer of Entrance!

- **NEXT Sunday, May 12th:** MOTHER'S DAY – Come celebrate with us!

- **Sunday, May 19th:** Parastos for +Nick Trbovic and +Mark Vojnovich – after Holy Liturgy!

(6) **OUR SUPPORT GROUPS:** we are looking to 'jump-start' the groups back up – are you Interested – please let Fr. Stevo know!

- **SIGN-Up Sheets are at the TUTOR'S DESK – Let's do this!**

SUNDAY OF SAINT THOMAS

The First Paschal Evening was a momentous one for the followers of Christ. The Lord had suddenly appeared among them, in spite of the locked doors, and He spoke to them, ate with them, and breathed the Spirit upon them. They were filled with great joy. All the darkness of Holy Friday and Saturday had been transformed into the brightness of the Resurrection. All the *SADNESS* was now *GLADNESS*.

But the Apostle Thomas was not present that first evening. When the followers of the Lord later found him, they exclaimed: "We have seen the Lord!" Thomas refused to believe that Jesus had risen, saying, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and place my finger in the mark of the nails, and my hand in His side, I will not believe."

He was at least *HONEST* with his doubts, and then took the pains to resolve them. He did not stay away from the apostolic group. He joined the Lord's followers as they met again a week after the Resurrection. Again Jesus suddenly appeared to the group. This time Christ called Thomas to Himself, asking him to see the wounds of the nails, and saying: "Be not faithless, but believing." Thomas was astonished, convinced, and proclaimed: "My Lord and my God!"

The icon captures the moment of faith as Thomas reaches out to the wound in our Lord's side. The Risen Lord stands before the closed doors, an element in the scene used by the iconographer to dramatize the incident. In the background are the walls of Jerusalem. On either side of the door are the apostles of the Lord. Each year, on the Sunday following the Resurrection, the Church remembers this loving conversion of Thomas from *UNBELIEF* to *BELIEF*.