



**Українська Католицька Парафія  
Покров Пресвятої Богородиці**

**Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Ukrainian Catholic Parish**

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*“Today the Virgin stands before us in the temple,  
And together with the choirs of saints prays to God for us.”*

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**16 квітня, 2023**

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**Служби Божі/Divine Liturgies**

Неділя/Sunday: 8:30 am English

10:30 am Ukrainian

**У Свята/Holy Day of Obligation**

10:00 am

**Щодня/Daily (Mon-Sat)**

7:00 am in Chapel

**Сповідь/Confessions**

9:40 - 10:15 am Sunday morning

By appointment during the week

**Baptism** by appointment

**Anointing of the Sick/Hospital Visits/  
Eucharist for the sick** - any time

**Marriages** - the arrangements with the priest  
must be made at least 6 months before the  
marriage

**Funerals** - by arrangement

**Basilian Fathers serving the Parish**

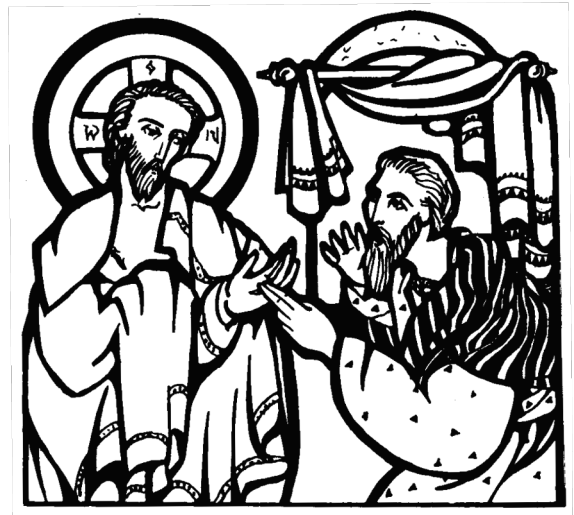
Fr. Joseph Pidskalny, OSBM - Administrator

Fr. Teoktyst Mishchuk, OSBM - Assistant

Fr. Josafat Oliinyk, OSBM - Assistant

**Томина Неділя**

**Перше Святе Причастя**



**Thomas Sunday**

**First Holy Communion**

Acts 5:12-20

John 20:19-31

**Welcome! The Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish welcomes everyone to our Divine Liturgy. Thank you for worshipping with us today.**

**Today:** Our Parish is celebrating **First Holy Communion** at the 10:30 am Divine Liturgy. We offer congratulations and prayers to **Ana Romanish, Fyodor Rystephanuk** and **Roman Ukrainetz** as they receive their First Holy Communion. We pray for them and their families, that Our Lord bless them on this most special and holy occasion. A special Thank you to Susan Lazaruk for the First Communion preparations and lessons.

### **Hymns at 10:30 Divine Liturgy**

Opening: pg 198: Христос Воскрес! Під небозвід; Khrystos voskres! Pid nebozvid

Communion: pg 188: Согласно заспіваймо; Sohlasno zaspivaimo

Closing: pg 200: Христос Воскрес! Радість з неба; Khrystos voskres! Radist' z neba

Anointing with Holy Oil and distribution of the Artos bread (bread blessed at Easter) after each Divine Liturgy.

The Parish Easter Dinner will be held in our auditorium following the 10:30 am Divine Liturgy for those who purchased their tickets ahead of time. No walk-ins at the door.

### **Change in daily Divine Liturgy time**

**Please note:** the daily morning Divine Liturgy time (Monday - Saturday) has been changed to 7:00 am to accommodate the academic schedule of Fathers Josafat and Teoktyst.

A heartfelt "Thank You" to all parishioners and guests for your generosity and kindness during Holy Week and Easter. Thank you to all who assembled and took down the Tomb, and to all who helped with our Holy Week and Easter services. May Our Risen Lord bless you!

**Saturday, April 22: 1:00 pm: Cemetery Services at Forest Lawn Cemetery.** The cemetery services will be done by appointment. Please phone the parish office for an appointed time beginning at 1:00 pm.

**Sunday, April 23: 2:00 pm: Cemetery Services at Forest Lawn Cemetery.** The cemetery services will be done by appointment. Please phone the parish office for an appointed time beginning at 2:00 pm.

**Saturday, April 29: 12:00 noon: Cemetery Services at Gardens of Gethsemane.** The cemetery services will be done by appointment. Please phone the parish office for an appointed time beginning at 12:00 noon.

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession):** Sunday from 9:40 - 10:15 am (between Liturgies) or by appointment during the week.

A **Ukrainian Embroidery Club** meets on Monday evenings at St. Mary's from 5:00 - 7:00 pm in the downstairs classroom. New students, family and friends are welcome. For more information, please call Emily at 778.888.3057.

## Prayer for Ukraine

O Lord Jesus Christ, grant peace and protection to the people of Ukraine. Give them strength and courage to defend what is good, right, and holy. Keep them safe from harm and provide for all their needs, both temporal and spiritual.

Soften the hearts of the unmerciful and convert those who promote hostilities toward reconciliation, so that your beloved children of Ukraine may abide in that tranquility, justice and freedom which reflects your Kingdom. Lord, hear us, and have mercy.



## Body and Blood of Christ

The Eucharist is a sacrament. That means it is a symbol of a greater reality - something that makes real (remembers) what it signifies. In his encyclical letter, *“Redeemer of Humanity,”* Pope John Paul II says the Eucharist “is at one and the same time a Sacrifice-Sacrament, a Communion-Sacrament, and a Presence-Sacrament”. What does he mean by that statement?

Sacrifice-Sacrament: St. Paul said, “For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes” (1 Cor. 11:26). The Eucharist is the way Jesus has given us to be seated at table with him; to celebrate the Last Supper, Jesus' death on the cross, and his glorious Resurrection from the dead. As Pope John Paul II puts it in his encyclical, “The Church never ceases to relive Christ's death on the cross and his Resurrection”.

Communion-Sacrament: We also enter into communion with God and with one another through the Eucharist. St. John Chrysostom (c 347-407) once said in a homily, “What is the bread actually? The Body of Christ. What do communicants become? The Body of Christ.”

Presence-Sacrament: Jesus is truly present to us under the sacramental forms of bread and wine we find in the Eucharist. St. Ignatius of Antioch (c 35-107) said, “the Eucharist is the self-same body of our Saviour Jesus Christ which suffered for our sins, and which the Father in his goodness afterwards raised up again” (Letter to the Smyrnaeans, #7).

We are indeed fortunate to take part in this Sacrifice-Sacrament, Communion-Sacrament, and Presence-Sacrament.

## Thomas Sunday

Thomas Sunday is the feast of St. Thomas, the Apostle. He is popularly dubbed as the “doubting Thomas” because of his unbelief in the appearance of the Risen Christ. St. Thomas, even upon seeing the resurrected Christ walk in through a closed door, required proof to mend his disbelief in the Resurrection. Jesus acknowledged this human need of Thomas and presented Thomas with the wounds of his crucifixion. He then invited him to put his finger in the nail marks in order to relieve Thomas’ doubts.

As we reflect on St. Thomas, the Apostle, we bring to mind our own doubts and place them before the Lord in prayer. He will, as with Thomas, invite us closer to the mystery so that we, too, may believe.

On this feast of St. Thomas, let us thank the Apostle for his courage to express his doubts of faith, because these same doubts led him to his firm and sure belief that Jesus indeed is his “Lord and God”. At the same time let us also pray that, like Thomas, we may grow in our faith by touching ‘the wounds’ of Jesus.

*“Blessed are they who have not seen and yet believe.” John 20:29*



## Artos Bread

Artos - derived from the Greek word meaning wheaten bread, is the symbol for the bread of eternal life - Christ. This round loaf is covered with a metal plate bearing an icon of the Resurrected Christ.

The Artos is blessed by the priest on Easter morning. After it is blessed, the Artos is reserved on the altar or the tetrapod for the entire week.

On the Sunday of St. Thomas, the Artos is cut into small pieces and distributed to the faithful following the Divine Liturgy, at the time of myrovania (blessing with holy oil). The “Artos” symbolizes the Resurrected Christ, who appeared to the Apostles and took food with them.

According to Church tradition this custom was supposed to have its origin in Apostolic times. The Apostles, when sitting down to the table, would leave a vacant place for Jesus Christ, as well as a plate. At this spot they would place bread, reminding them of Jesus. The consuming of the “Artos” by the faithful on Thomas Sunday, symbolizes that after our own resurrection, Christ will give us Himself in eternal communion in His Heavenly Kingdom.