

*Now and ever and unto the ages of ages. Amen.*

*Pascha*  
**TONE 8**

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 Myrrhbearing women, granting peace to Thy apostles, and bestowing resurrection on the fallen.

*Prokeimenon*

**TONE 6:** O Lord, save Thy people and bless Thine inheritance!  
vs. To Thee, O Lord, will I call. O my God, be not silent to me!

The Reading is from The Acts of the Pure and Holy Apostles 6:1 – 7

*Epistle*

Now *In those days*: when the number of disciples was multiplying, there arose a complaint against the Hebrews by the Hellenists, because their widows were neglected in the daily distribution. Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, “It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word. And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them. Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith.

*Alleluia*

*Lord, Thou hast been gracious to Thy land; Thou hast turned back the captivity of Jacob. v:  
Mercy and truth have met, righteousness and peace have kissed each other.*

Mark 15:43-16:8

*Gospel*

*At that time*: Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent council member, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, coming and taking courage, went in to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate marveled that He was already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him if He had been dead for some time. So when he found out from the centurion, he granted the body to Joseph. Then he bought fine linen, took Him down, and wrapped Him in the linen. And he laid Him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock, and rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. And Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses observed where He was laid. Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the Mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him. Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they said among themselves, “Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?” But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away – for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. But go tell His disciples – and Peter – that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you.” So they went out quickly and fled from the tomb, for they trembled and were amazed. And they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

And Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!” Jesus said to him, “Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed are those who have not seen and yet believed.” And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.



**Nativity of the Virgin Mary Orthodox Church**  
416 Ewing Avenue, Madison, IL 62060

***Sunday, May 4, 2025***

***3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Pascha: Myrrhbearing Women, St. Joseph of Arimathea and St. Nicodemus***

<http://www.nativityofthevirgin.com/>

***Schedule***

**Sunday, May 4, 2025**

*Myrrhbearing Women*

1:00 P.M. Bless Parish Cemetery

*weather permitting*

**Saturday, May 10, 2025**

11:00 A.M. Parish Council Meeting

5:00 P.M. Vespers

**Sunday, May 11, 2025**

*Paralytic*

9:15 A.M. Church School

9:30 A.M. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hours

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

**Saturday, May 17, 2025**

5:00 P.M. Vespers

**Sunday, May 18, 2025**

*Samaritan Woman*

9:15 A.M. Church School

9:30 A.M. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hours

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

11:30 A.M. Blessing of Motor

Vehicles

**Saturday, May 24, 2025**

5:00 P.M. Vespers

**Sunday, May 25, 2025**

*Blind Man*

9:30 A.M. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hours

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

**Saturday, May 31, 2025**

5:00 P.M. Vespers

**Sunday, June 1, 2025**

*Sunday of the Fathers*

9:00 A.M. 3<sup>rd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Hours

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

*“Represent to yourself, as far as lies in your power, the omnipotence and the great splendor of the personal Word of God. He speaks, and His word immediately becomes manifold and multifarious existences. He says: “Let there be light,” and there is light. He says: “Let there be a firmament,” and He makes the firmament. He says: “Let the waters under the heaven be gathered together unto one place ... Let there be lights in the firmament of heaven ... Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life,” and so on, “and it was so (Genesis 1:3-20),” according to His word. Thus the voice of a chief, resounding through the air and reaching the soldiers’ hearing, moves the troops according to the will of the chief, placing them in various positions, making them perform various evolutions, and attaining through them the fulfilment of his various intentions and purposes. Represent to yourself these masses of created matter. Imagine how the enormous mountains rose up from the earth in accordance with the word of God; what the noise of the waters must have been when they gathered together into oceans, seas, rivers, and sources. Imagine how the air was diffused, how the most varied vegetation suddenly appeared at a single word of the all-creating God. Represent to yourself how the planets appeared and shone, and how they began to perform their infinite revolutions; how the fishes, birds, reptiles suddenly appeared, and, lastly, man. And all these (excepting man) were created from one and the same formless matter, or, to speak more precisely, from only four soulless, formless, inanimate elements. O, does not all this make the mind marvel? “O Lord, how manifold are Thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all (Psalms 104:24)!” Thus even now the Master creates everything that He pleases from matter; He says, and it is done. He changes the bread and wine into the”*

**Prayer Requests**

**Those in this earthly life**

Subdeacon Paul  
Judith  
Peter  
Rebecca  
Raegan  
Helen  
Trent  
Faith  
Michelle  
Janet  
David  
Archpriest James  
Kristine  
George  
Jake  
Cecelia  
Gabriella & CTBB  
Shawn  
Reader Simeon  
Anna  
Elizabeth  
Edmund

Reader Stephen  
Priest Andrew  
Popadija Joan  
Eva  
Catechumen Athanasius  
Alex  
Julia  
Martha  
Kendra  
David  
Adina  
Catechumen Mary  
Alexandra  
Mary Magdalene  
Catechumen David  
Subdeacon Jason  
Justin  
Dymphna  
Hope  
Theodora  
Evangeline

Diana  
Barbara  
Anastasia  
Maria  
Elaine  
Wilma  
Mark  
Angela  
Elijah  
Sophia  
Matushka Tanya  
Mary  
Archpriest John  
Matushka Margaret  
Matthew  
Priest Josef  
Archpriest Michael  
Reader Peter  
Patricia  
Matushka Virginia

*"Body and Blood of the Eucharist. You are a being endued with speech. Remember that you derive your origin from the word of the Creator of all things, and that in union (through faith) with the creative Word, by means of faith, you can yourself be a material and spiritual creator. Believe that by your faith in the creative word of the Father, your own word, too, shall not return to you vain, powerless (when, for instance, you pray to God, the Benefactor, in accordance with the holy Church's direction or the Lord's guidance), but it shall bring you the gift necessary for good deeds; believe that through faith in the creative Word you will not be unsuccessful in teaching people either in the temple during Divine service, or during the celebration of the sacraments in private houses; neither shall your teaching in schools be unsuccessful, but it shall rouse up the minds and hearts of those listening to you. Remember that the possibility of the deed is contained in the word itself; it is only necessary to have faith in the power of the word in its creative faculty. With the Lord the deed is inseparable from the word: "For with God nothing shall be impossible (St. Luke 1:27)." It ought to be the same with us; for we are images of the Word, and the Word is most truly united with us through His incarnation, making us godly and partakers of the Divine nature." My Life in Christ, by St. John of Kronstadt*

**Troparia**

*Resurrection*

**TONE 2**

When Thou didst descend to death, O Life Immortal, Thou didst slay hell with the splendor of Thy Godhead! And when from the depths Thou didst raise the dead, all the powers of heaven cried out: O Giver of Life! Christ our God! Glory to Thee!

*Feast*

**TONE 2**

The Noble Joseph, when he had taken down Thy most pure Body from the tree, wrapped it in fine linen and anointed it with spices, and placed it in a new tomb. But Thou didst rise on the third day, O Lord, granting the world great mercy.

*Feast*

**TONE 2**

The angel came to the myrrhbearing women at the tomb and said: Myrrh is meet for the dead; but Christ has shown Himself a stranger to corruption! So proclaim: The Lord is risen, granting the world great mercy!

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.*

*Feast*

**TONE 2**

Thou didst command the myrrhbearers to rejoice, O Christ! By Thy Resurrection, Thou didst stop the lamentation of Eve, the first mother! Thou didst command them to preach to Thy apostles\*: The Savior is Risen from the tomb!

**Those in the life to come**

Alfred  
Dorothy  
Matushka Olga  
Archpriest Thomas  
Metropolitan THEODOSIUS  
Archpriest Vladimir  
Archbishop PAUL  
Archimandrite Innocent  
Edward  
Francis

Jean  
Olga  
Cheryl  
Nancy  
Magdalene  
John  
Victor  
Barbara