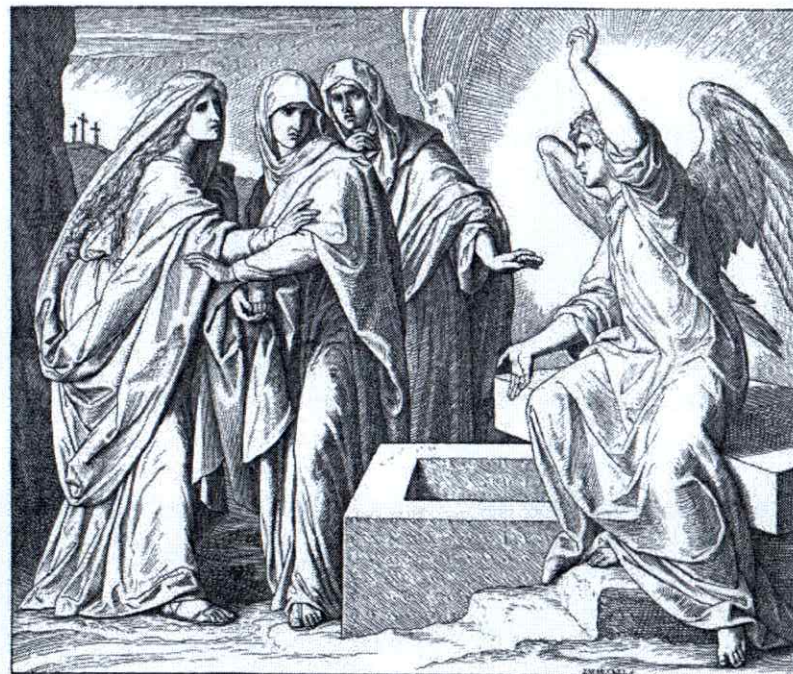


## Metropolitan Anthony Bloom on the Myrrh-bearers

At the moment of the Crucifixion all the Apostles had fled save one, [when] Everyone else had abandoned Christ, only a small group of women stood at a short distance from the Cross, and when He had died, they came to anoint His Body which Joseph of Arimathea had sought from Pilate, unafraid of being recognised as a disciple, because in life and in death love and faithfulness had conquered. Let us reflect on this. It is easy to be Christ's disciples when we are on the crest of the wave, in the security of countries where no persecution, no rejection is endured, no betrayal can lead us to martyrdom, or simply to becoming the victims of mockery and rejection... Let us ask ourselves how we behave when someone is rejected, mocked, ostracised, condemned by public opinion or by the opinion of those who mean something to us, whether at that moment our heart remains faithful, whether at that moment we find courage to say, 'He was, and he remains my friend whether you accept or reject him'. There is no greater measure of faithfulness than that faithfulness which is made manifest in defeat. Let us consider this, because we all are defeated, we are defeated in so many ways. We all strive, with whatever energy we have - a little or much, to be what we should be, and we are defeated at every moment. Should we not look at one another not only with compassion, but with the faithfulness of friends who are prepared to stand by a person who falls, falls away from grace, falls away from his own ideal, frustrates all hopes and expectations which we have set on him or her. At that time let us stand by, at that time let us be faithful and prove that our love was not conditioned by the hope of victory but was a wholehearted gift, gratuitous, joyful, wonderful. Amen.

*“Let us Attend!”*



**“He is Not Here. He is Risen as He Said...”**

A PARISH BULLETIN OF  
ALL SAINTS ORTHODOX CHURCH

Olyphant, Pennsylvania

Rev. Paul J. Witek, Ph.D., Rector

201.315.5722

26 April 2026

**Sunday of the Holy Myrrh-bearers**

## Announcements

### Bulletin, Sunday, 26 April 2026

**3rd SUNDAY OF PASCHA — Tone 2. Myrrhbearing Women.** Hieromartyr Basil, Bishop of Amasea (ca. 322). St. Stephen, Bishop of Perm (1396). Righteous Virgin Glaphyra (322). St. Joannicius of Devich, Serbia (13th c.).

**Epistle:** Acts 6:1–7

**Gospel:** Mark 15:43–16:8

*Our souls and minds are strengthened and fortified by the regular reading of the Holy Scriptures. Daily readings can be found on the parish's wall calendar, or online by visiting the OCA's daily reading page <https://www.oca.org/readings>.*

### Schedule

- **Wednesday, 29 April 2026. 9AM Akathist to the Resurrection.**
- **Saturday, 2 May 2026. 5–5:45PM Fr. Paul available for Confession. 6PM Great Vespers.**
- **Sunday 3 May 2026, Sunday of the Paralytic. 9:30AM Divine Liturgy, Followed by Agape Coffee Hour Fellowship.**

~ We welcome all those who join us today. Please come downstairs and enjoy fellowship together. We have place waiting for you.

~ We ask God blessings upon Jacob Lopatofsky as he celebrates his 92<sup>nd</sup> Birthday. May God bless Him and grant Him many blessed years.

~ The parish will have a educational three part educational series in May entitled: “Being and Making Disciples”. The dates for the series will be Wednesday 6, 13, and 27 May at 6PM. We will discuss such questions as “What does it mean to be a disciple?”, “How can I be a good disciple of Christ?”, “How possibly can I be a disciple maker? The Fall and winter series were very successful, and we hope to that you will come and the continued success of our educational programming with this series.

~ A festive Liturgy for St. Alexis of Wilkes-Barre will be held on his feast day, Thursday, 7 May 2026 at 9AM at Holy Trinity Church in Wilkes-Barre. All St. Tikhon's Seminary students who took part in parish placement throughout the year will come together to help celebrate the Liturgy. Please joins us in this celebration of St. Alexis.