



Christ is risen! Truly He is risen!

Sunday of the Myrrh-bearing Women
[Reader Service](#)

Calendar and Announcements

Calendar:

- The following services will be prayed, with clergy, servers, and chanters only. Please do not come to the church building for these services. **Also, please note that this schedule is subject to change:**
 - Sunday 5/3 – Orthros and Liturgy, 9:30am
- The above services will be livestreamed via St. George's [website](#) and [official Facebook page](#). In addition, links to the texts will be included on the home page of the parish website above the livestream video for those who would like to follow along.
- Bible study on the Gospel of John: begins this Wednesday 4/29, 6:30pm
 - Join the meeting:
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75171452841?pwd=L29OOTNHafJhRVpvYmVIRDBCVXpndz09>
 - Meeting ID: 751 7145 2841; Password: 0zbpui
- Organization meetings:
 - Ministry Team: Sunday 5/3; contact Ed Donahue for virtual meeting details at edjdonahue@gmail.com

Announcements:

- Based on Metropolitan JOSEPH'S latest encyclical (dated 3/17/2020), all non-liturgical events are **cancelled**.
- For the time being, the church building remains closed and appointments for confession and communion are suspended.
- Dn. Joseph is leading Akathist on Tuesday evenings via Skype. To participate, please email Dn. Joseph at dnjosephclark@gmail.com to receive the link.
- The Ministry Team is organizing small group (less than 10 people) Typika services that meet in local parks. If interested in attending, please contact Ed Donahue at Edjdonahue@gmail.com.
- Several members of the ministry team will be contacting parishioners to identify any special needs and to ensure our church family is taken care of during this time. If you or someone you know has a particular need during this time, please contact the church office so we can coordinate with the ministry team.

General notes:

- If you are able to still tithe / contribute to the church during this time, please consider giving online [via PayPal on the church's website](#).
- All communication about services and other updates during this time will be sent via parish email from Fr. Joel (or the office) or posted on the [website](#) or [official church Facebook page](#). All questions can be directed to the office (office@saintgeorgeupperdarby.org).

From Fr. Joel and Renee:

Fr. Joel and Renee would like to thank everyone for their prayers for Renee's parents and family during this time. They are happy to report that Charlie has been discharged from the hospital and is at home, and it seems as though he has made a full recovery. The family is grateful for your support, encouragement, and prayers.

Troparion of St. George

○ liberator and deliverer of captives, helper of the poor and needy, a healing physician of the sick, a contender for kings,
○ great among Martyrs, the victory-clad George; intercede with Christ our God for the salvation of our souls.

Church History

This week we continue a series on the Essentials of Faith. The hope is that we can all learn and be edified, and come to a “knowledge of the Truth” (1 Tim. 2:4), and to witness to the things of faith that were “delivered to the saints” (Jud. 1:3) in the Church, which is the “pillar and ground of Truth”. (1 Tim. 3:15) May God bless the labor. These lessons are taken from Fr. Thomas Hopko’s series The Orthodox Faith.

The Great Schism in the Papacy, and the Conciliar Movement

The West in the early decades of the 15th century was in turmoil over the relationship between the Papacy and Church councils. Some held that the Papacy was supreme. Others held that the authority of the Church councils superseded that of the Pope of Rome.

We have already mentioned the beginning of the Papal Schism in 1378, with two men claiming to be the legitimate Pope. In 1409, in order to settle the issue, the Council of Pisa met. This council deposed the two papal claimants and elected a new man, Alexander V, to be the true Pope. However, the two claimants, Gregory XII and Benedict XIII, refused to abandon their claims, so now there were three men claiming to be the real Pope.

This state of affairs convinced the supporters of the Conciliar Movement all the more that another council had to be called to bring an end to this confusion and furor surrounding the Papacy. As a result, in 1414 the Council of Constance met, which would become the pinnacle of the Conciliar Movement. This council, held in southern Germany, deposed all three claimants and then elected Martin V (r. 1417–1431) to be the one and only Pope.

This council, the 16th in the listing of ecumenical councils of the Roman Church, also asserted that even the Pope is to be subject to the dictates of an ecumenical council:

This Ecumenical Council has received immediate authority from our Lord Jesus Christ; and every member of the Church, not excepting the Pope, must obey the Council in all matters pertaining to faith, the putting down of schism, and ecclesiastical reform. If, contrary to this canon, the Pope or anyone else refuses to receive this, or any other Ecumenical Council, he shall be sentenced to penance, and when necessary even be visited with legal punishment.

And to further assert the authority of the council over that of the Papacy, the Council of Constance mandated that future councils would be held according to a regular schedule, rather than relying on the good will of the Pope to call one whenever he so desired.

In 1431, shortly before he died, Pope Martin V called a council to meet in Basel, Switzerland, according to the timetable set by the Council of Constance. But his successor, Pope Eugenius IV (r. 1431–1447), was determined to resist the authority of this council and to reassert Papal supremacy in the Roman Church.

Wisdom of the Holy Fathers

If you begin to guard wealth, it will not be yours. But if you begin to distribute it, you will not lose it.

+ St. Basil the Great