

March 22, 2020  
Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast  
St. John Climacus



**SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

*Fighting the Good Fight with Faith*

*Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever! ~ Slava Isusu Christu! Slava Na Viki!*

Propers for this Sunday: Resurrectional Tone: 8, pg. 161, Fourth Sunday of the Fast, pp. 223 - 225, and St. Basil melodies pg. 96

Divine Services:

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| SUN., MAR. 22     | <b>FOURTH SUNDAY of LENT, St. John Climacus</b><br><b>DIVINE LITURGY of St. Basil</b><br><b>On behalf of all and for all</b><br><b>+ Frank Polas</b> , offered by daughter Betty<br>Confession     |
| 9:30 – 10:00 A.M. |  |
| WED., MAR. 25     | <b>FEAST of the ANNUNCIATION</b>   |
| SUN., MAR. 29     | <b>FIFTH SUNDAY of LENT, St. MARY of EGYPT</b><br><b>DIVINE LITURGY of St. Basil</b><br><b>On behalf of all and for all</b><br><b>+ Sr. Rose Elizabeth</b> , offered by James Mudron<br>Confession |
| 9:30 – 10:00 A.M. |  |

*We fly to your patronage, O Virgin Mother of God. Despise not our prayers in our necessities, but you, who alone are pure and blessed, deliver us from all danger.*



**Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast**

We celebrate the Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast on which we honor our venerable father John of the Ladder (Climacus), the author of the work, The Ladder of Divine Ascent. This Sunday's theme is St. John's witness to the real spiritual struggle needed for entrance into God's Kingdom. It also is encouragement for the faithful to keep the goal of their Lenten efforts, for according to the Lord, only "he who endures to the end will be saved" (Mt 24:13).

**Happy Birthday Greetings this Week:**

March 22: Carolyn Gural

**Wedding Anniversaries this Week:**

None for the week

**Let us remember in our prayers all of our friends and parish family members who are sick at home or in a nursing facility and for all those who are in need of our prayers:**

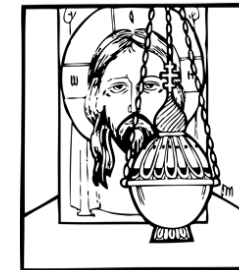
**HOME** – Eileen Batcha, Natalie Jugan-Diaz, Rebecca Dickun, Marianne Dove, Jean Herdt, Rebecca Hutcheon, Kevin Joray, Mary Ann Jugan, Neil Jugan, Josephine Maruhnich, Mary Salamon, John Simunick, Bonnie Taylor

**Hunter's Care Home** (1916 Main St, Aliquippa, PA 15001) – Mary Poiarkoff

**West Hills Health & Rehab Center** (951 Brodhead Road, Coraopolis, PA 15108) – Alice Haber, Margaret Klacik

**Beaver Meadows** (5130 Tuscarawas Rd, Beaver, PA 15009) - Angie Yuhasz

**Brighton Rehabilitation and Wellness Center** (246 Friendship Cir, Beaver, PA 15009) - Carole Panella



**THE SANCTUARY LAMP**

March 22 - 28, 2020

*Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:*

+ Frank Polas  
*(in Loving Memory)*

Offered By:  
Daughter, Betty

**Order of Confession**

During suspension of Church services, the life-giving Sacrament of Confession will be available on Sundays from 9:30 - 10:00 A.M. in the Church, as we remember our spiritual preparation for Pascha-Easter.

**Lenten Study Group and Soup Supper: Suspended**

In lieu of Bible Study and Soup Suppers: **Soup, bread and a spiritual reflection will be available for drive through pick-up on Sundays from 9:30-10:00 A.M. Please drive up the "crescent drive" in front of the Center.**

"Everyone must give according to whatever he has inwardly decided;  
not sadly, not grudgingly, for God loves a cheerful giver."

(2 Cor 9:7)



Pray for those who are affected by this virus and those who will be. Pray especially for the aged and infirm. Pray for those whose livelihoods are being threatened by loss of work. And pray that our God, the lover of humankind, will quickly bring about an end to this pandemic.

*“For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

*(Romans 8.38-39)*

## Sunday of St. John Climacus Gospel Reading



**Mark 9:17-31** - And one of the crowd [said to Jesus], "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a dumb spirit; and wherever it seizes him, it dashes him down; and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid; and I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." And they brought the boy to him; and when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. And Jesus asked his father, "How long has he had this?" And he said, "From childhood. And it has often cast him into the fire and into the water, to destroy him; but if you can do

anything, have pity on us and help us." And Jesus said to him, "If you can! All things are possible to him who believes." Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You dumb and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him, and never enter him again." And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse; so that most of them said, "He is dead." But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer."

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he would not have any one know it; for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of man will be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him; and when he is killed, after three days he will rise."

**The Power of Prayer and Fasting** – The Lord himself consecrated his baptism by a forty-day fast and taught us that the more violent devils cannot be overcome except by prayer and fasting. (*St. Jerome*)

During the period of Great Lent reading books to enhance our spiritual development and learn more about our faith is encouraged. During our seclusion, you are encouraged to read more, pray more and reach out to the shut-ins who are alone and many afraid during this time. After all, we are all shut-ins at this time. **If you wish to borrow a book from our Library, email us at [stgbyz@gmail.com](mailto:stgbyz@gmail.com) with the title you want and you can pick it up at the drive through in front of the Center on Sundays from 9:30 – 10:00 A.M.** A library inventory is attached.

This is truly a time for all of our churches to stay together as a church family. God bless you. Keep safe and healthy.

## Parish Lenten Prayer Project



Please remember to pray for those who have fallen away from the Catholic Church **now more than ever** and for their return to the fullness of the faith through the intercession of the *Mother of God, Searcher for the Lost*.

### Prayer For Those Who Are Ill

O Lord our God, Who by a word alone did heal all diseases, who did cure the kinswoman of Peter, You who chastise with pity and heal according to Your goodness; Who are able to put aside every sickness and infirmity, do You Yourself, the same Lord, grant aid to Your servants and handmaids and cure them of every sickness of which they are grieved; and send down upon them Your great mercy, and if it be Your will, give to them health and a complete recovery; for You are the Physician of our souls and bodies, and to You do we send up glory: to the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, both now and ever and forever. Amen.

### A Prayer for the Protection of the Mother of God:

O most pure Mother of God, \* you are a mighty defender for those in sorrow. \* You are a ready help to those in trouble. \* You are the salvation and confirmation of the world. \* You are the depth of mercy, the fount of God's wisdom \* and the protectress of the world. \* O faithful, let us sing and praise her glorious protection, saying: \* Rejoice, O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you, \* and through you He grants great mercy to the world. [From Vespers for Oct. 1]

### **Prayer to the Mother of God, Searcher for the Lost**

O Mother of God,  
through your virginal conception and birth-giving,  
your Son, Jesus Christ, Our God,  
took flesh to redeem the likeness that had fallen.  
We now beg of your compassion,  
seek those who bear the likeness of your Son  
through the grace of baptism,  
and unite them once more  
to your holy, catholic, and apostolic Church.  
Render those who bear your Son's image  
not unto the prince of this world,  
but unto their Heavenly Father  
for Whom they were created.  
Make them to know the beauty  
of our Father's house,  
that they may recognize  
that better is one day in his courts  
than a thousand elsewhere.  
Quicken their repentance that they, like David,  
fashion praise with their lips  
and offer their contrite spirit  
upon the altar of mercy.  
For you, who sought your Son  
tenderly in the temple  
and who made ministers like servants  
His servants of the miracle at Cana, seek the lost.  
Stay with them in their temporal sufferings,  
as you did with your Son at His crucifixion,  
that they may know that death is certain,  
life is short, and merely a prelude  
to the inexhaustible joy of eternal life  
with your Son, prepared for those  
who seek Him in this life.  
In this, may your Son be glorified,  
together with the Father and the Holy Spirit,  
now and ever and forever, Amen.

*O Lord, Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy on us!*



## ***The Annunciation of the Most Holy Theotokos***

Think, for a moment, about the icons you see at the front of an Eastern Church. Facing the Holy Altar, you will see the icon of the Archangel Michael at the left, and the icon of the Archangel Gabriel at the right. The Archangel Michael was sent by God to have Adam and Eve leave Paradise. And it was the Archangel Gabriel who was sent by God to the Blessed Virgin Mary to announce that she would give Birth to the Christ Child, Who would save the world.

This second event, known as the Annunciation (announcement) took place over 2000 years ago. The Angel found the Blessed Virgin Mary and told her she was going to have a child. Naturally, she was alarmed at first and asked many questions. “Do not be afraid,” said the Angel Gabriel, “the Lord is with you because God has chosen you among all the women in the world and in history.” Mary could have said “no,” or given a whole list of reasons why she did not wish to accept God’s invitation. But instead, she said, “Let it be according to the will of God.” She allowed herself to be an instrument of God. She did not change nor did she become a robot or a puppet. She let the Holy Spirit come within her and her life. She let God bless her and guide her. She let the baby Jesus be born of her. The Feast Day of the Annunciation is a very important holiday for all Christians, because the Blessed Virgin Mary said “YES” all of humanity had a chance to be saved.

*Today is the summit of our salvation, and what was hidden from before all ages is revealed: the Son of God becomes a virgin's son, and Gabriel announces the good news of grace. Therefore, let us exclaim with him to the Theotokos: Rejoice, O Full of Grace, the Lord is with you.*

### **Pray to Our Lady of Perpetual Help to end the Coronavirus Pandemic**

*Virgin Mother of God, your honor we glorify your aid we constantly implore, your miraculous icon we venerate, you who are the hope of the world, despise not our petitions in our necessities but deliver us from all harm.*

*Our Mother, our aid in difficulties, comforter in affliction, consoler of the sorrowful, encourage us ever onwards and grant unity to all Christians, renew fervor, obtain forgiveness for sinners, perseverance for the just, salvation for the dying, and grant eternal glory to the souls in purgatory!*

*Our Lady of Perpetual Help, pray for us!*



SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Fr. Geoffrey's Direct Line: (412) 356-3698

OFFICE PHONE: 724-375-2742

FAX: 724-375-8776

ST. GEORGE CENTER: 724-375-6652

PARISH WEBSITE: [www.stgeorgebyzantinecatholicchurch.org](http://www.stgeorgebyzantinecatholicchurch.org)



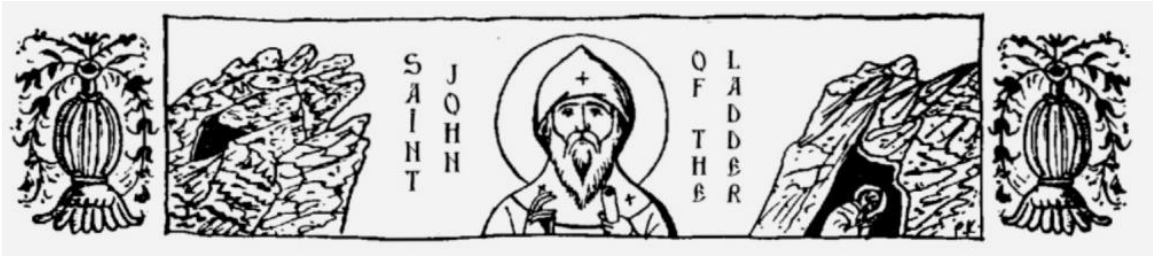
Cantors: Jo Ann Hersh, David Klacik,  
Louisa Hersh

E.C.F. coordinator: Jo Ann Hersh  
Facilities Supervisor: John Poiarkoff

Holy Mystery of Reconciliation ..... Before and after Liturgies  
Holy Mysteries of Initiation ..... Contact the church office  
Holy Mystery of Anointing ..... Ask prior to surgery or serious illness  
Holy Mystery of Marriage ..... Contact the church office eight months prior to wedding  
Religious Education Classes ..... September through May, following Sunday Divine Liturgy  
Pirohi Sales ..... 2nd Friday of each month, Sept. through May  
St. George Ladies' Guild & Men's Club ..... Everyone welcome to participate

*"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."*

(John 14.27)



| Library Inventory  |                               |          |                                      |
|--|-------------------------------|----------|--------------------------------------|
| Book Title   | Author                        | Quantity | Category                             |
| 100 Natural Ways to Grow a Church  | Adam Lowell Roberts           | 2        | Church Growth                        |
| 101 Questions & Answers on Eastern Catholic Churches                                   | Edward Faulk                  | 1        | The Church                           |
| Acceptance   | Vincent P. Collins            | 10       | Christian Living                     |
| The Adam Complex<br>The Passions of Adam & Eve   | Dee Margaret Pennock          | 1        | Christian Living                     |
| The Anti-Mary Exposed  | Carrie Gress                  | 1        | Contemporary Issues,<br>Marian Books |
| The Apostolic Writings,<br>A Byzantine Perspective                                     | John S. Custer                | 5        | Scriptural Study                     |
| Ascetic Strugglers of Piety<br>Volume 1  | Eldress Matrona               | 1        | Spiritual                            |
| Barstool Theology  | Trevor Gundlach               | 2        | Contemporary<br>Theology             |
| Be a Man<br>Becoming the Man God Created You to be                                     | Fr. Larry Richards            | 1        | Christian Living                     |
| The Biblical Names for Jesus   | Paul Thigpen                  | 1        | Catholic, Theology                   |
| The Biggest Lie in the History of Christianity   | Matthew Kelly                 | 6        | Christian Living                     |
| Bishop Alexander Chira<br>Prisoner of Christ   | A. Pekar, OSBM                | 1        | Biography                            |
| The Bishops of Mukachevo   | A. Pekar, OSBM                | 1        | Biography                            |
| The Blessed Surgeon, the Life of St. Luke, Archbishop of Simferopol                    | Archdeacon Vasiliy Marushchak | 1        | Biography                            |
| The Boy Who Came Back from Heaven  | Kevin & Alex Malarkey         | 1        | Inspirational                        |
| The Byzantine Catholics  | Basil Shereghy                | 1        | Byzantine Catholic Church            |
| The Catholic Guide to Depression   | Aaron Kheriaty                |          | Psychology,<br>Spirituality          |
| Counsels for Life  | Father Epiphanius             | 1        | Christian Living                     |
| Crossing the Threshold of Hope   | John Paul II                  | 1        | Religion, Catholic, Theology         |
| Dear Parents, A Gift of Love for Families  | Cathrine de Hueck Doherty     | 1        | Christian Living                     |
| The Eastern Catholic Churches  | Joan L. Roccasalvo            | 1        | The Church                           |
| Facing East<br>A Pilgrim’s Journey into the Mysteries of Orthodoxy                     | Frederica Mathewes-Green      | 1        | Inspirational                        |
| Falling Upward   | Richard Rohr                  | 1        | Christian Living                     |
| The Feast Days of the Church   |                               | 1        | Religion                             |
| The First Christians   | Marigold Hunt                 | 1        | Biblical                             |
| First Fruits of Prayer   | Frederica Mathewes-Green      | 1        | Lent                                 |
| The Flame of Love  | Elizabeth Kindelmann          | 5        | Spiritual                            |
| Flames of Wisdom   | David Beck                    | 1        | Spiritual                            |
| The Friendship of Women  | Joan Chittister               | 1        | Inspirational                        |
| The Forgotten Dessert<br>Mothers: Sayings, Lives, and Stories of Early Christian Women | Laura Swan                    | 1        | Spiritual                            |
| Gift and Mystery   | Pope John Paul II             | 1        | Religion, Catholic, Theology         |
| Guardian Angel Children’s Prayer Book  | Fr. T. Lozynsky               | 2        | Children                             |

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| The Heavenly Garden  | St. Nicholas Orthodox Educational Society | 1  | Children                 |
| Heaven is for Real   | Todd Burpo                                | 1  | Inspirational            |
| The Holy Gospel<br>A Byzantine Perspective                                   | John S. Custer                            | 5  | Scriptural Study         |
| The Holy Monks of Mt. Athos  | Patrikia                                  | 1  | Children                 |
| Immortal Diamond   | Richard Rohr                              | 1  | Christian Living         |
| Inexhaustible Delights   | God with Us Publications                  | 5  | Living Faith and Worship |
| The Jesus Prayer in Eastern Spirituality                                     | Gabriele Winkler                          | 1  | Spiritual                |
| Journey Through the Great Fast<br>Daily Meditations and Reflection Questions | Archeparchy of Pittsburgh                 | 1  | Lent                     |
| A Journey through Great Lent   | Very Rev. Stephen Belonick                | 1  | Lent                     |
| Journey to God   | Daniel Burke                              | 6  | Spirituality             |
| Kiss of Christ   | Catherine de Hueck Doherty                | 1  | Sacraments               |
| Little Flowers of St. Francis of Assisi                                      | St. Anthony Guild Press                   | 1  | Saints                   |
| The Last Battle  | C.S. Lewis                                | 1  | Fiction/Young Adults     |
| The Last Seven Words   | Fulton J. Sheen                           | 3  | Lent                     |
| A Layman in the Desert   | Danielle Oppewall                         | 1  | Christian Living         |
| The Lenten Spring  | Thomas Hopko                              | 1  | Lent                     |
| Life after Death   | Metropolitan of Nafaktos Hierotheos       | 1  | Spiritual                |
| Life and Worship: The Mystery of Christ Among Us                             | God with Us Publications                  | 5  | Worship                  |
| Life – Miracles – Prophecies of Saint Seraphim of Virista                    |   | 1  | Spiritual                |
| Light for Life, The Mystery Believed, Part One                               | God With Us Publications                  | 1  | Faith                    |
| Light for Life, The Mystery Celebrated, Part Two                             | God With Us Publications                  | 5  | Worship                  |
| Light for Life, The Mystery Lived, Part Three                                | God With Us Publications                  | 15 | Lent                     |
| The Lion, the Witch, and The Wardrobe  | C.S. Lewis                                | 1  | Fiction, Young Adults    |
| Liturgical Catechism of the Sacrifice of the Divine Liturgy                  |   | 1  | Catechetical             |
| Mary, Mother of God  | St. George VBS                            | 1  | Children                 |
| Mere Christianity  | C.S. Lewis                                | 1  | Christian Theology       |
| Mother of God  | Cunningham and Sapieha                    | 1  | Mother of God            |
| New Testament  | Dynamic Catholic Version                  | 6  | Bible                    |
| On Living Simply   | St. John Chrysostom                       | 1  | Cristian Living          |
| Open Mind, Open Heart<br>The Contemplative Dimension of the Gospel           | Thomas Keating                            | 1  | Scriptural Study         |
| Partnership  | Vincent P. Collins                        | 10 | Christian Living         |
| The Plainchant tradition of Southwestern Rus’                                | Joan Roccasalvo                           | 1  | Church Tradition         |
| The Praises, Psalm 148   | Niko Chocheli                             | 1  | Children                 |
| Reclaiming the Republic  | Robert G. Marshall                        | 1  | Politics/Christian       |
| The Screwtape Letters  | C.S. Lewis                                | 1  | Fiction/Christianity     |
| Seven Lies about Catholic History  | Diane Moczar                              | 1  | Catholic/History         |

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