February 23, 2025 Meatfare Sunday, Sunday of Last Judgment



SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fighting the Good Fight with Faith

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever! - Slava Isusu Christu! Slava Na Viki! Слава Исусу Христу! Слава на вики!

Propers for this Sunday: Resurrectional Tone 7, pp. 156, Meatfare: Pg. 217 - 218

St. George Divine Services for the Week:

SUN., FEB. 23	. MEATFARE SUNDAY
8:30 A.M	DIVINE LITURGY
	+ John Dzumba, requested by Richard Mudron

TUE., FEB. 25	Holy Father Tarasius
6:00 P.M	DIVINE LITURGY

+ Charles Oliver, requested by Todd and Ann Wilson

THUR., FEB. 27	Venerable Father Procopius the Decapolite
4:45-5:45 P.M	Confessions
6:00 P.M	DIVINE LITURGY

The upcoming marriage of Eric Umile and Megan Mastro, requested by Fr. Anthony

SUN., MARCH 2 CHEESEFARE SUNDAY 8:30 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY

+Joseph Olack, requested by wife, Mary E. Olack

Fr. Anthony will be away until February 24th. Please call Mary Queen of Saints Parish at 724-775-6363 in the case of a sacramental emergency.

Birthdays this week:

February 26: Christine Cody

Wedding Anniversaries this Week:

None for the week

Please Pray for Our Sick, Shut-ins, and those in need of prayer

Eileen Batcha, Rebecca Dickun, Marianne Dove, Joanne Futato, Jean Herdt, Rebecca Hutcheon, Kevin Joray, Mary Ann Jugan, Neil Jugan

Josephine Maruhnich – **Beaver Elder Care** (616 Golf Course Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001)

Betty Polas – Apple Blossom Senior Living (125 Apple Blossom Way, #307, Moon Twp., PA 15108)

Epistle Readers – February 23: Johnathan Dohanich – March 2: Dan Pinchot Ushers – Stand in as needed

Troica Holders – February 23: R. Mudron – March 2: M. Bobanic



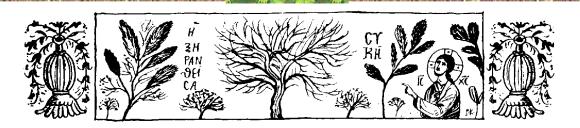


THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP

February 23 – March 1, 2025

Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:

The Parishioners



Regular Confessions Offered

- St. George 4:45-5:45 P.M. on Thursdays and **before** every Sunday Divine Liturgy St. Mary 4:45-5:45 P.M. on Wednesdays and **following** every Sunday Divine Liturgy

Great Fast Traditional Guidelines:

No meat or dairy for all of the fast. Fish with a backbone permitted only on Annunciation, Lazarus Saturday and Palm Sunday (shellfish allowed). Wine and Olive Oil allowed only on Weekends and Feast Days.

Great Fast Minimum Requirements from the Archeparchy:

Simple Abstinence

The law of simple abstinence forbids the use of meat but permits the use of eggs and dairy products. All faithful of the Archeparchy who receive the Eucharist are obliged to observe simple abstinence when prescribed. Abstinence is obligatory on all Wednesdays and Fridays of the Great Fast.

Strict Abstinence

The law of strict abstinence (fast) forbids the use and consumption of all meat, eggs and dairy products. All faithful of the Archeparchy who receive the Eucharist are obliged to observe strict abstinence when prescribed. Strict abstinence (fast) is to be observed in 2025 on Pure Mon., March 3 (the first day of the Great Fast), and on Great and Holy Fri., April 18.

The Judge is at the Door

A Liturgical Hymn

Alas, black soul!

How long will you continue in evil?

How long will you lie in idleness?

Why do you not think of the fearful hour of death?

Why do you not tremble at the fearsome judgment-seat of the Savior?

What defense, then, will you make, or what will you answer?

Your works will be there to accuse you;

Your actions will reproach you and condemn you.

O my soul, the time is near at hand!

Make haste before it is too late!

Cry aloud in faith: I have sinned, O Lord, I have sinned against You!

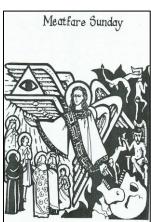
But I know your love for man and Your compassion.

O Good Shepherd, in Your mercy deprive me not of a place at Your right hand.

(From the Vespers of the Sunday of the Last Judgment)

We are accepting donations throughout the year for our annual Flea Market. Any time you have items to donate, please leave them in the Center marked as for the Flea Market.

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St. Mary Divine Services for the Week:

WED., FEB. 26	Holy Father Porphyry, Bishop of Gaza
4:45-5:45 P.M	.Confessions
6:00 P.M	Typika
FRI., FEB. 28	. Venerable Father & Confessor Basil, Fellow Ascetic of Procopius Matins with Typika
SUN., MARCH 2	CHEESEFARE SUNDAY
11:00 A.M	DIVINE LITURGY
	For the People of St. George, St. Mary, and St. Nicholas Chapel
6:00 P.M	FORGIVENESS VESPERS

St. Nicholas Chapel Divine Services for the Week:

SAT., MARCH 1 CHEESEFARE SUNDAY 5:00 P.M. DIVINE LITURGY For the needs and intentions of Jordan Sonnett and his students, requested by Samantha Sonnett

St. George, Lenten Schedule

Tuesdays:

6:00 P.M. Pre-Sanctified Divine Liturgy

Fridays,:

4:45 P.M. Confessions

6:00 P.M. Pre-Sanctified Divine Liturgy

Saturdays:

9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy (All Souls, Sat. of Akathist, etc.), announced weekly

St. Mary, Lenten Schedule

Wednesdays:

4:45 P.M. Confessions

6:00 P.M. Pre-Sanctified Divine Liturgy 7:15-8:15 P.M. Adult Education (See Ad)

Thursdays:

6:00 P.M. Pre-Sanctified Divine Liturgy

Fridays:

9:00 A.M. Matins or 3rd/6th Hour with Typika, announced weekly

We have such a law: If you forgive, it means that God has forgiven you; but if you do not forgive your brother, it means that your sin remains with you.

A Note from Fr. Anthony

Dear parishioners,

The Great Fast is approaching! This Sunday, Meatfare Sunday, is traditionally the last day meat consumed until Easter. I encourage all of you to pray about you intend to enter this penitential season through increased prayer and fasting. I have included the traditional guidelines for the Great Fast as well as the Minimum Requirements. If the minimum requirements are a problem for you due to health, please speak to me and I will give you a dispensation.

This week, Typika (psalms, readings, and Holy Communion) is celebrated instead of Divine Liturgy on Wednesday and Friday as they are aliturgical days, as are all weekdays of the Great Fast. Because of the focus on the Resurrection at the Divine Liturgy, it is not permitted to be celebrated on certain penitential days, including the Wednesday and Friday of this week.

The 2nd through 5th All Souls Saturdays will be observed at St. George. Parishioners from St. Mary's and St. Nicholas are also welcome to submit names to be included in the prayers for the deceased. There are envelopes marked "All Souls" in your packets (if you don't have envelopes just write them down). Please write the names you want included on them and drop them in the collection basket. A monetary donation, while accepted, is not required.

Forgiveness Vespers will be celebrated at 6:00pm next Sunday at St. Mary's to inaugurate the Great Fast. All are welcome to attend. There is a young adult gathering afterwards. There will be a 40 and over gathering in the near future!

Please sign up in the back of the Church for our Adult Education Course on Great Lent if you are interested, so I can get the books ordered.

In Christ, *Fr. Anthony*

The Cross Brings Life

The Lord does not say that the coming kingdom is compared to this or that, as He has been speaking previously, but now openly shows Himself to be the Son of man, who "shall come in his glory." If He has up to now appeared in a condition of dishonor, now he appears in a different role. He reproaches. He confronts. He sits upon his throne of glory. And he continually mentions glory. For his cross was drawing near, a thing that seemed to be a matter of reproach. So he lifts his hearers up and brings before their sight the judgment seat, with all the world gathered around him. (*St. John Chrysostom*)

Sunday of the Last Judgment

The Following is an excerpt from <u>Great Lent*</u> by Alexander Schmemann, from Chapter 2: Preparation for Lent

It is *love* again that constitutes the theme of "Meat-Fare Sunday." The Gospel lesson for the day is Christ's parable of the Last Judgement (Matt. 25:31-46). When Christ comes to judge us, what will be the criterion of His judgement? The parable answers: *love--* not a mere humanitarian concern for abstract justice and the anonymous "poor," but concrete and personal love for the human person, any human person, that God makes me encounter in my life....



Christian love is the "possible impossibility" to see Christ in another man, whoever he is, and whom God, in His eternal and mysterious plan, has decided to introduce into my life, be it only for a few moments, not as an occasion for a "good deed" or an exercise in philanthropy, but as the beginning of an eternal companionship in God Himself. For, indeed, what is love if not that mysterious power which transcends the accidental and the external in the "other"-- his physical appearance, social rank, ethnic origin, intellectual capacity-- and reaches the *soul*, the unique and uniquely personal "root" of a human being, truly the part of God in him? If God loves every man it is because He alone knows the priceless and absolutely unique treasure, the "soul" or "person" He gave every man. Christian love then is the participation in that divine knowledge and the gift of that divine love. There is no "impersonal" love because love *is* the wonderful discovery of the "person" in "man," of the personal and unique in the common and general. It is the discovery in each man of that which is "lovable" in him, of that which is from God.

The parable of the Last Judgement is about Christian love. Not all of us are called to work for "humanity," yet each one of us has received the gift and the grace of Christ's love. We know that all men ultimately need this *personal love*— the recognition in them of their unique soul in which the beauty of the whole creation is reflected in a unique way. We also know that men are in prison and are sick and thirsty and hungry because that personal love has been denied them. And, finally, we know that however narrow and limited the framework of our personal existence, each one of us has been made responsible for a tiny part of the Kingdom of God, made responsible by that very gift of Christ's love. Thus, on whether or not we have accepted this responsibility, on whether we have loved or refused to love, shall we be judged.

For ''inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these My brethren, you have done it unto Me...''

men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you.

forgive

you

^{*} Available in our Church Library

ST. GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

1001 Clinton Street- Aliquippa, PA 15001 PRIEST: FATHER ANTHONY COSTANTINO

Fr. Anthony's Cell #: (878) 226-0878 OFFICE PHONE: 724-375-2742 ST. GEORGE CENTER: 724-375-6652 PARISH EMAIL: stgbyz@gmail.com



PARISH WEBSITE: www.stgeorgebyzantinecatholicchurch.org Religious: Sr. Mary Virginia O' Carm

Holy Protection Convent, 1000 Clinton St. 724-378-0238

Cantors: Jo Ann Hersh, Louisa Hersh, David Klacik, Dan Pinchot Grounds Keepers: Rich Mudron, Rob Dzumba, Francis Hersh

Grounds Acepers. Rich Mudron, Rob Dzumba, Francis Ficish		
Holy Mystery of Reconciliation	Thursdays 4:45-5:45 P.M. & before Sunday Liturgy	
Holy Mysteries of Initiation		
Holy Mystery of Anointing Co.	ntact the priest prior to surgery or in the event of illness	
Holy Mystery of Marriage	Contact the pastor six months prior to wedding	
Pirohi Sales		
Opportunities for StewardshipChur	ch and grounds cleaning and maintenance: Every	
Saturday, Pirohi making: 2 nd week of each month, October - May		

[&]quot;When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory"



ST. MARY BYZANTINE

Cheese Party!

PLEASE BRING CHEESE OR ANOTHER DAIRY PRODUCT TO SHARE! NO MEAT PERMITTED.

Surrounded by friends, faith, and food, we invite you to join us the final day before lent celebrating God and His delicious creation.

Cheesefare Sunday is quickly approaching, (also known as Forgiveness Sunday) the last day before Lent begins. This was traditionally the last day in which dairy products could be consumed until Easter.

Forgiveness Vespers is also celebrated this day, in which we ask our brothers and sisters in Christ for forgiveness for the ways in which we sinned against them over the last year. We reconcile with one another so we can enter into the Great Fast in a spirit of mutual charity and repentance.

SUNDAY

MAR. 2ND

FORGIVENESS VESPERS

6:00 PM

YOUNG ADULT EVENT

7:00 PM

AGES

18-39

SAINT MARY BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH 624 PARK ROAD AMBRIDGE, PA. 15003

2025 | Ambridge, PA

ST. MARY BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH PRESENTS:

CATHOLIC CONVERSATIONS ON GREAT A DINA

Join us for Catholic Conversations, an adult education series taught by Fr. Anthony at St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church for six consecutive Wednesdays, reading and discussing 'Great Lent: Journey to Pascha' by Fr. Alexander Schmemann.

WEDNESDAYS

MAR. 5TH - APR. 9TH [SIX WEEKS]

7:15PM - 8:15PM

AFTER 6:00PM PRESANCTIFIED DIVINE LITURGY

ST. MARY BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

624 PARK RD, AMBRIDGE, PA 15003

Sign up for free (by Mar. 2nd) in the back of church or email stmaryambridge@protonmail.com

All materials provided by the church but registration is required.

This class will be aimed at helping us understand the meaning of Lent in our Byzantine Catholic Tradition. We will discuss the spiritual and ascetic practices of the Great Fast, as well as the liturgical calendar in order to aid our preparation for Easter.