

March 2, 2025  
Cheesefare Sunday, Sunday of Forgiveness



SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

*Fighting the Good Fight with Faith*

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

Proprs for this Sunday: Resurrectional Tone 8, pg. 161, Cheesefare: Pg. 218 - 219

St. George Divine Services for the Week:

SUN., MARCH 2 ..... CHEESEFARE SUNDAY

8:30 A.M. .... DIVINE LITURGY

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

MON., MARCH 3 ... *Great Fast Begins, Clean Monday, Strict Fast*

TUE., MARCH 4 ..... Our Venerable Father Gerasimus

6:00 P.M. .... LITURGY of the PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS

FRI., MARCH 7 ..... The Holy Martyrs and Bishops of Cherson

4:45-5:45 P.M. .... Confessions

6:00 P.M. .... LITURGY of the PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS

SAT., MARCH 8 ..... The Miracle of St. Theodore

9:00A.M. .... DIVINE LITURGY of ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM

SUN., MARCH 9 ..... FIRST SUNDAY of LENT, SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY

8:30 A.M. .... DIVINE LITURGY of ST. BASIL

**Procession with Icons and Chanting of Anathemas**

+ Mary Lou Tesla, requested by Prudence Peya

**Birthdays this week:**

March 4: Pressley Roush

**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

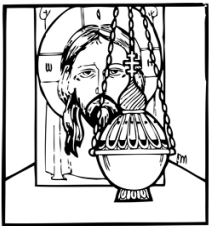
Josephine Maruhnich – **Beaver Elder Care** (616 Golf Course Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001)

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

**Epistle Readers – March 2: Dan Pinchot – March 9: JoAnn Hersh**

**Ushers – Stand in as needed**

**Troica Holders – March 2: M. Bobanic – March 9: F. Hersh**



**THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP**

March 2 - 8, 2025

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

Gretchen David

*(Health & God's Blessings)*

Offered By:

Butch & Judy Dzumba

***Lent is a gift from the Church to us for renewal. We can't reduce it to fasting and personal benefits. Lent is an opportunity to build the Church up, and a stronger parish will result in stronger parishioners and stronger families.***

**Regular Confessions Offered**

St. George ..... 4:45-5:45 P.M. on Fridays and **before** every Sunday Divine Liturgy

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

St. Nicholas ..... 4:00-4:45 P.M. before Vigil Liturgy on Saturdays

**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.**



***What is True Fasting?***

Do you fast? Give me proof of it by your works.

- If you see a poor man, be moved to pity for him.
- If you see an enemy, be reconciled to him.
- If you see a friend being honored, do not envy him.

Do not let only your mouth fast, but also the eye and the ear and the feet and the hands and all the members of your bodies.

- Let the hands fast, by being free of avarice and greed.
- Let the feet fast, by ceasing to run after sin.
- Let the eyes fast, by disciplining them not to glare at that which is sinful.
- Let the ear fast, by not listening to evil talk and gossip.
- Let the mouth fast from foul words and unjust criticism (slander, calumny, detraction).

For what good is it if we abstain from food, but bite and devour our brothers and sisters?"

*(St. John Chrysostom)*



**In Forgiving we become like God**

Nothing makes us so like God as our readiness to forgive the wicked and wrongdoer. ... Christ is seeking in every way possible to hinder our conflicts with one another. For since love is the root of all that is good, by removing from all quarters whatever mars it He brings us together and cements us to one another. For there is not one, not a single one, whether father or mother or friend, who loves us as much as the God who created us.

*(St. John Chrysostom, Commentary on Matthew)*

**St. Mary Divine Services for the Week:**

**SUN., MARCH 2 ..... FORGIVENESS SUNDAY**  
**6:00 P.M. .... FORGIVENESS VESPERS**

**MON., MARCH 3 ..... CLEAN MONDAY, *Strict Fast***  
**6:00 P.M. .... LITURGY of the PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS,**  
**with Guest Homilist Fr. Canice**

**WED., MARCH 5 ..... Holy Martyr Conon**  
**4:45-5:45 P.M. .... Confessions**  
**6:00 P.M. .... LITURGY of the PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS,**  
**ADULT EDUCATION FOLLOWING**

**THUR., MARCH 6 ..... Holy 42 Martyrs of Ammonium**  
**6:00 P.M. .... LITURGY of the PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS,**

**FRI., MARCH 7 ..... Martyrs of Cherson**  
**9:00 A.M. .... Matins with Typika**

**SUN., MARCH 9 ..... FIRST SUNDAY of LENT, SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY**  
**11:00 A.M. .... DIVINE LITURGY of ST. BASIL**  
**Procession with Icons and Chanting of Anathemas**  
**For the needs and intentions of the St. Mary Pirohi workers requested by Fr. Anthony**

**St. Nicholas Chapel Divine Services for the Week:**

**SAT., MARCH 8 ..... FIRST SUNDAY of the GREAT FAST,**  
**SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY**  
**5:00 P.M. .... DIVINE LITURGY OF St. Basil**  
**For the People of St. George, St. Mary, and St. Nicholas Chapel**



**Next Sunday: First Sunday of the Great Fast**

Next Sunday, Eastern churches commemorate the Triumph of Orthodoxy (Orthodoxy meaning True Faith), the moment in history in the year 843 when the liturgical use of icons was restored. For this commemoration, we will do a brief procession with icons around the Church. **Please bring your icons for this commemoration.**

### A Note from Fr. Anthony

Dear parishioners,

The Great Fast has begun! Please make sure to follow at least the minimum fasting requirements as required by the Archeparchy.

We welcome Fr. Canice McMullen, Pastor of Mary Queen of Saints parish as our guest homilist for a special 6:00pm Clean Monday Presanctified Divine Liturgy in order to begin our Lenten Journey.

Today is the last day to sign up for our Lenten Adult Education series. Signups are in the back of the Church.

While it is not an All-Souls Saturday, we will have a 9am Divine Liturgy this Saturday at St. George, as it is customary to celebrate Divine Liturgy on all Saturdays of the Great Fast since weekdays are aliturgical days.

St. George had a window collapse in my absence and has been having several building problems including the boiler, plaster falling, and roof damage. I had a professional take a look at our building this past Thursday to assess the types of repairs that are needed.

We are still working on getting quotes for a chairlift for St. Mary's, we appreciate your patience.

In Christ,  
*Fr. Anthony*

### ***Need an icon for Sunday of Orthodoxy? Visit the Church Store!***

The Church Store in the Center has **NEW** icons, chotkis, and other items! There will be more new merchandise in the coming weeks. Remember to shop at our store whenever you need a gift for someone or for yourself. Whether starting an icon corner or adding to your existing one in your home, we have what you need!

***Why have an icon corner?*** The Altar is to a Church what an Icon Corner is to a home. The home is our domestic Church. The Icon Corner is a reminder of who we are and serves to provide us with a place to pray. We are children of God. Just as we have photo albums full of family members we should also have icons of Jesus and the saints to remind us of who we are and who we are to become. The icon corner also provides a place where the family can come together to pray.

*“Forgive me” ... “It is God who forgives”*

### ***As we begin our Journey of the Great Fast...***

*The Lord said, “If you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly Father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive men their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses.”*

Every year in our parishes during this Holy Season of the Great Fast we are faced with the same dilemma... “What is the good of keeping a Fast for forty days without considering the meaning of it?” The answer is that there is no good in it at all. It is better not to keep the Fast than to do it thoughtlessly!

And what is the meaning of the Fast? It is to nurture the good that is in us and put to death that which is not, to increase in ourselves the likeness to God. “I aspire,” writes St. Gregory of Nazianzus, “to be purified as gold in the fire.” If that is our desire, then we must begin somewhere and there is no better place than with forgiveness. Do we wish to be purified? First we must lay aside all malice towards others. The connection in today’s Gospel reading (Mt 6:14-21) between forgiveness and fasting is clear. Remember what we read today? The movement between the admonition to forgive so that we might be forgiven and the words, “When you fast...” is seamless and intentional. Immediately after the Lord teaches His disciples to pray, He teaches them how to fast. If we are going to pray we must be ready also to fast. That is why the Church calls us all on this eve of the Great Fast to be part of the Ritual of Forgiveness that centers not only on petitions about repentance and forgiveness, but on an action in which we can all take part. “Faith without works is dead,” writes the holy apostle James. Forgiveness without action is not forgiveness.

On this Forgiveness Sunday as we stand before the journey of the Great Fast we are to remind ourselves that we have all sinned against one another whether by what we have done and even more by what we have left undone. The life of our parish family depends upon our willingness to obey the Lord and to lay down our lives for one another. So, we are invited to embrace forgiveness by giving and receiving it as we embark together on a great journey to the Cross and the Empty Tomb. This cannot be done in the privacy of our homes.

***If it is to be real, then we must embrace one another as brothers and sisters. We must look one another in the face and say, “Forgive me.”***



# ST. GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH



1001 Clinton Street- Aliquippa, PA 15001

**PRIEST: FATHER ANTHONY COSTANTINO**

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



**Holy Mystery of Reconciliation** ..... Thursdays 4:45-5:45 P.M. & before Sunday Liturgy

**Holy Mysteries of Initiation** ..... Contact the priest

**Holy Mystery of Anointing** ..... Contact 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** ..... 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month

**Opportunities for Stewardship** .....Church and grounds cleaning and maintenance: Every Saturday, Pirohi making: 2<sup>nd</sup> week of each month, October - May

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*St. Anthony the Great reminds us:*

*“Do not neglect the Fast; it constitutes an imitation of Christ’s way of life.”*