

February 22, 2026  
 First Sunday of the Great Fast, Sunday of Orthodoxy



**SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
*Fighting the Good Fight with Faith*

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

See Handout for Propers, Typical Psalms: pp. 16-17, Beatitudes: pp. 23-24, St. Basil melodies: pg. 96

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

SUN., FEB. 22 ..... **FIRST SUNDAY of LENT, SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY**

8:15 A.M. .... **FIRST HOUR**

8:30 A.M. .... **DIVINE LITURGY of St. Basil**

*Intention: + Mary Elizabeth Olack, requested by Martha Seech*

TUE., FEB. 24 ..... **First and Second Findings of the Head of John the Baptist**

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

WED., FEB. 25 ..... **Tarasius Patriarch**

7:00 A.M. .... **FIRST & THIRD HOURS**

FRI., FEB. 27 ..... **Procopius Venerable-Confessor**

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

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

SAT., FEB. 28 ..... **SECOND ALL SOULS SATURDAY**

9:00 A.M. .... **DIVINE LITURGY of St. John Chrysostom, Panachida, Hramoty**

SUN., MARCH 1 ..... **SECOND SUNDAY of the GREAT FAST**

8:15 A.M. .... **FIRST HOUR**

8:30 A.M. .... **DIVINE LITURGY of St. Basil**

*Intention: + Mary Elizabeth Olack, requested by Martha Seech*

**Happy Birthday Greetings This Week:**  
 February 22: Reagan Cody, February 26: Christine Cody

**Wedding Anniversaries this Week:**  
 None for the week

**Please Pray For Our Sick and Shut-ins**

**HOME** – Eileen Batcha, Mary Dickey, Marianne Dove, Jean Herdt, Rebecca Hutcheon, Kevin Joray, Mary Ann Jugan, Neil Jugan

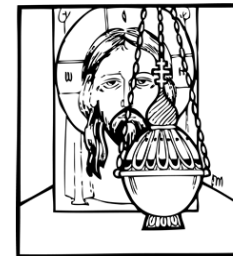
Josephine Maruhnich – **Beaver Elder Care** (616 Golf Course Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001)

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

**Epistle Readers – Feb. 22: JoAnn Hersh – March 1: JoAnn Hersh**

**Ushers – Stand in as needed**

**Troica Holders – Feb. 22: R. Mudron – March 1: M. Bobanic**



THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP  
 February 22 - 28, 2026  
*Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:*  
**+ Mary Popovich**  
*(In loving memory)*  
 Offered By:  
 Daughters, Diane & Mary Anne

**Parish Offerings for February 15, 2026**

God bless your generosity! "Everyone must give according to whatever he has inwardly decided; not sadly, not grudgingly, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Cor 9:7)

Offertory .....	\$585.00
Candles .....	\$104.00
Children .....	\$6.00
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$695.00</b>

**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

## Happenings...

### St. George Fellowship Hour

We extend a warm welcome to our parishioners, visitors, and friends. We are thankful that you have come to worship with us today. We invite you to join us following the Sunday Divine Liturgy for Fellowship coffee and doughnuts TODAY and every Sunday! **We also have fast worthy options during The Great Fast!**



We invite EVERYONE to STAY and join us.

### All-Souls Saturday Divine Liturgy, Hramoty (February 28)

This venerable custom was transmitted to us by our ancestors as a part of our beautiful spiritual heritage. Every year the families give the lists of their departed loved ones (Hramoty) to the pastor with the request that they be mentioned at the services held for the deceased on the All-Souls Saturday. Members of the family are **encouraged** to attend these services on the All-Souls Saturdays for by their presence and by their personal prayers and receiving Holy Communion they strengthen the bond of love with their departed loved ones and indeed keep their memory everlasting! And St. John Chrysostom assures us that: **“It is a great honor to be worthy of mention, while the celebration of the Holy Mysteries is going on.”**

(Homily on the Acts 21, 4)

**“The Holy Fathers were convinced that the commemoration of the departed by alms and sacrifices (Divine Liturgies) brings great comfort and benefit to them.”**

***Eternal Memory! Vičnaja Pamjat’!***

***We accept donations throughout the year for our annual Flea Market. Any time you have items to donate, please leave it in the Center marked as for the Flea Market. Thank you!***

Address to send  
letters only to  
Daniel Foister:

AB Foister, Daniel  
3231 TRS/FLT 218  
1320 Truemper St. Unit 364061  
JBSA Lackland AFB, TX 78236-6432

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

**WED., FEB. 25** ..... Tarasius Patriarch  
**6:00 P.M.** ..... LITURGY of the PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS  
**7:15 P.M.** ..... Adult Education, Byzantine Lent 101

**THUR., FEB. 26** ..... Porphyry of Gaza, Bishop  
**4:45-5:45 P.M.** ..... Confessions  
**6:00 P.M.** ..... LITURGY of the PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS

**FRI., FEB. 28** ..... Procopius Venerable-Confessor  
**9:00 A.M.** ..... SIXTH & NINTH HOUR

**SUN., MARCH 1** ..... SECOND SUNDAY of the GREAT FAST  
**10:45 A.M.** ..... THIRD HOUR  
**11:00 A.M.** ..... DIVINE LITURGY of St. Basil the Great

*Intention: +William Plumb (16<sup>th</sup> anniversary of passing), requested by Greg Plumb*

### St. Nicholas: Divine Services for the Week:

**SAT., FEB. 28** ..... SECOND SUNDAY of the GREAT FAST  
**5:00 P.M.** ..... DIVINE LITURGY of St. Basil the Great

*Intention: For the People of St. George, St. Mary, and St. Nicholas Chapel*

### ***Are you Following the Lord?***

“To every thoughtful man there is a benefit” (Proverbs 14:23 LXX) ... and Christ implied more than this when He said, “He that seeks finds.” (Matthew 7:8) This is why I no longer wonder how it was that Philip followed Christ. Andrew was persuaded when he heard from John, and Peter was persuaded when heard from Andrew. But Philip, not having learned anything from anyone but Christ who said to him only this, “Follow me,” immediately obeyed and did not go back. In fact, he even became a preacher to others. For he ran to Nathaniel and said to him, “We have found him of whom Moses in the Laws and the Prophets wrote.” Do you see what a thoughtful mind he had, how assiduously he meditated on the writings of Moses, expecting the advent? For the expression “we have found” belongs always to those who are in some way seeking.

*(St. John Chrysostom, Homilies on the Gospel of John)*

### A Note from Fr. Anthony

Dear Parishioners,

We continue our time of prayer and preparation for Pascha with the 2nd Week of the Great Fast. Don't get discouraged if you didn't get off to a great start to Lent during Clean Week, we still have six weeks to go!

Please note that Tuesday is a noteworthy feast in our calendar, the First and Second Findings of the Head of St. John the Baptist.

Our Lenten Adult Education series begins Wednesday at 7:15pm at St. Mary's.

Note that this Saturday is the 2nd All Souls Saturday. We will have a 9am Divine Liturgy followed by Panachida and Hramoty (praying the names written in our book of the deceased) at St. George

In Christ,  
*Fr. Anthony*

***“We bow before your sacred image, O gracious Lord, and beg forgiveness for our offenses, O Christ our God.”***

As we celebrate this Sunday of “Restoration of Holy Images”, let us remember that during this Lenten journey we are called to recover within us the image of what it means to be an authentic human being, a genuine person created in the image and likeness of God. This season of Lent is the opportunity of repentance, recreation, and restoration of that image.



### ***What is Kutia?***

**Kutia** is traditionally prepared for the All-Souls Saturdays. It is made of boiled wheat mixed with sugar and spices to be blessed during the All-Souls Liturgy and distributed to the congregation. The offering of Kutia is an ancient custom. It symbolizes the eternal cycle. People, like wheat, must be buried to grow and have new life. We make it for memorial services in remembrance of those who have fallen asleep.

### ***First Sunday of the Great Fast***

In today's Gospel (John 1:43-51) we hear Jesus call Philip, who then eagerly invites Nathanael to “Come and see”. Nathanael approaches with skepticism, yet the Lord receives him with a gaze that sees into the depths of his heart: “Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you” (John 1:48). This moment of divine recognition transforms Nathanael's doubt into a bold confession: “Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the King of Israel!” (John 1:49).



On the First Sunday of the Great Fast, we celebrate the victory of true worship over distortion, the restoration of holy images, and the affirmation that God truly became man. The Gospel today resonates with this commemoration: Christ reveals that He is the One who bridges heaven and earth. “You will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man” (John 1:51).

This is an image-rich revelation, one fitting for a Sunday that proclaims that the invisible God has become visible. Just as icons make God's presence perceptible to our senses, Jesus makes the Father known in His very person. The disciples see in Christ the “true icon” of the Father, and through Him the heavens are opened to us.

Great Lent invites us to the same transformation offered to Nathanael: to move from doubt or indifference into deeper discipleship by encountering the living Christ. The Lord sees us before we come to Him. He knows our struggles, our sins, our fears. And still He calls us: Follow Me. Come and see.

### **Living the Gospel as Missionary Disciples**

1. Respond to Christ's Call with Simplicity. Take a few minutes each morning to quietly say: “Here I am, Lord. I desire to follow You today.”
2. Let Yourself Be Seen by God. Spend time in an honest, unhurried examination of conscience. Allow Christ's loving gaze to reveal—not condemn—what needs healing.
3. Invite Someone to “Come and See”. Like Philip, gently encourage someone in your life to encounter Christ: invite them to Lenten services, share a Scripture verse, or offer to pray for them.
4. Keep an Icon Before You. Set an icon in a place where you will notice it during the day. Let it remind you that Christ opens heaven to us and walks with us through the fast.

# SAINT 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](mailto:stgbyz@gmail.com)

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** ..... Fridays during Lent 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** ..... 2nd Friday of each month

**St. George Ladies' Guild & Men's Club**.... All men & women are members and welcome to participate

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

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*Faith + prayer and fasting = power to overcome even the greatest sin*

