

March 10, 2019
First Sunday of Lent, Sunday of Orthodoxy



SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Glory to Jesus Christ ~ Glory Forever! Slava Isusu Christu! ~ Slava Na Viki!
Propers for this Sunday: pg. 125, Tone 1 and pp. 220 - 222

Divine Services for the Week:

SUN., MAR. 10
8:00 A.M. **FIRST SUNDAY of LENT, SUNDAY of ORTHODOXY**
8:30 A.M. *Holy Rosary*
DIVINE LITURGY, Blessing of Icons
+ Anna George, offered by: Connie & Fran Hersh

At the conclusion of today's Divine Liturgy the blessing of Icons will take place.

FRI., MAR. 15
7:00 P.M. **SECOND FRIDAY OF LENT**
LITURGY of the PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS

St. Mary: Wed. March 13
7:00 P.M.
Pre-Sanctified Liturgy

SAT., MAR., 16
9:00. A.M. **SECOND ALL SOULS SATURDAY**
DIVINE LITURGY, Hramoty
(List of the departed)

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!

SUN., MAR. 17
8:00 A.M. **SECOND SUNDAY of the LENT, SAINT GREGORY PALAMAS**
8:30 A.M. *Holy Rosary*
DIVINE LITURGY
+ Pete Yanchik, offered by Yanchik family

Sunday of Orthodoxy - Each of the Sundays of Lent has a special spiritual theme of its own. The first Sunday is called the Feast of Orthodoxy or the Sunday of the Triumph of Holy Images. It is a historical feast commemorating the return of the holy icons to the churches in the year 843 AD after the heresy of iconoclasm was overcome. We focus today first of all on the victory of the True Faith. "This is the victory that overcomes the world, our faith" (1 Jn 5.4). Secondly, the icons of the saints bear witness that we, "created in the image and likeness of God" (Gen 1.26), become holy and godlike through the purification of himself as God's living image. "We shall be like him" (1 Jn 3.2).

Happy Birthday Greetings This Week:

March 10: Richard Mudron, March 11: Kenneth Futato, March 12: Betsy Mraovich,

Wedding Anniversaries This Week:

None for the Week

Please Pray For Our Sick and Shut-ins

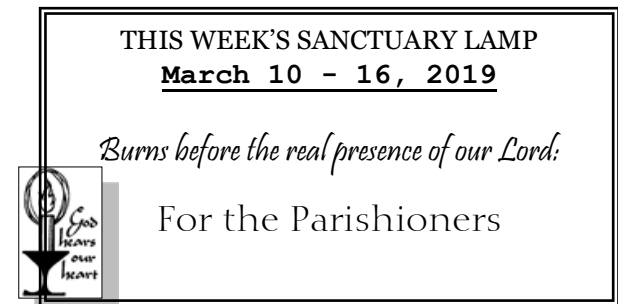
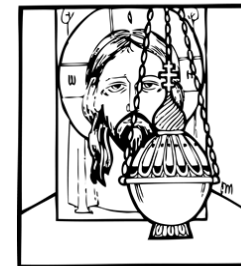
HOME – Margaret Barilla, Eileen Batcha, Natalie Jugan-Diaz, Rebecca Dickun, Marianne Dove, Alice Haber, Jean Herdt, Rebecca Hutcheon, Kevin Joray, Neil Jugan, Marion Malacknich, Josephine Maruhnich, Carole Panella, Mary Salamon

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

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

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

Epistle Readers – March 10: Reagan Cody – March 17: Louisa Hersh
Ushers – March 10: F. Hersh/M. Bobanic – March 17: F. Hersh/M. Bobanic
Troica Holders – March 10: R. Dzumba – March 17: R. Mudron



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

Bulletins are available online for your convenience at
stgeorgebyzantinecatholicchurch.org/bulletin/

Altar Servers Needed!!!

We are in need of altar servers to help out as needed. Any men of the parish of ANY age who would like to contribute are asked to speak to Erik Fetkovich or put your name in the M.A.P. Box. Let us consider this part of our Action Plan of Social Ministry. Are you looking for a way to volunteer or to extend your volunteering in our parish? Then we need you! Please consider stepping up to help in this vital ministry! **Every single person makes a difference.**

Action Plan: Education / Social Ministry / Outreach

Small steps: **Lenten Bible Study**
 Lenten Library
 M.A.P. Box* (Are you participating?) *Share your ideas!*
 Bulletins available online, updated every Sunday
 New information on our website

What is still needed? Something we can ALL do. We all have family or friends who are members of this Church who don't come for one reason or another. No matter the reason, we both want and need them back. Invite them! The Great Fast is a time for renewal and is the perfect time to invite others to Church. We are in challenging times. Every single person makes a difference.

* **M**ake comments, **A**sk questions, **P**rovide suggestions. Our Map Box is located on the bulletin table in the back of the Church. Use this box for suggestions and questions to help our Church grow and to help us grow. Find your way to improve our Parish Family.

It is never too late to participate in the Great Fast!

We are taking donations throughout the year for our annual Flea Market. Any time you have an item to donate, please leave it in the Center.

WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to our parishioners, visitors, and friends. We are glad that you have come to worship with us today and pray that your participation in our parish will be enriching to you. Following every Sunday Divine Liturgy, Fellowship Coffee and doughnuts are served! We invite everyone to join us in our café.

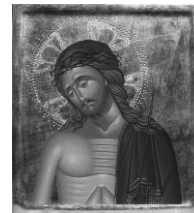


Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.

Psalm 133:1

+ Great Fast ... the Bright Sadness +

Lenten Resources:



Five-Week Bible Study for the Great Fast and Soup Supper

Beginning **TODAY**, there will be a Bible Study along with a soup supper every Sunday afternoon/evening at **5:00 P.M.** entitled **Divine Liturgy: Traveling through Scripture**, discussed by Cory Bates, Master of Theology Student at Franciscan University (studying under noted Theologian, author, and lecturer Dr. Scott Hahn). There will be time for discussion following. Join us in the café/bar area of the Center every Sunday during the Great Fast for spiritual reflection, fasting supper, and fellowship. Each participant will receive a small **Book of the Hours for the Great Fast**.

This Bible study is the ideal companion for our spiritual journey through the Great Fast.

Lenten Library

As the first week of the Great Lenten Fast is completed, we remind all parishioners that resources are available to support your individual journey. If you have fulfilled your basic Lenten obligations for fasting this past week, but are feeling that you should or could do more to prepare for Easter/Pascha, please explore our Church library after attending Divine Services. We have various books and publications that you can readily review and check out/take home with you to encourage yourself to reflect and pray during this most solemn time of the liturgical year. **These resources are available at the Church Store display in the Center.**



Church Library

On Spiritual reading: Remember that no one can simultaneously think about two subjects. If you occupy your mind with good thoughts (reading spiritual books or studying some worthwhile subject), the bad ones will not be able to linger in your mind.

- Saint Innocent of Alaska

Spiritual Reading. If you are looking for a great book for spiritual reading during the Great Fast, The Seven Last Words by Bishop Fulton Sheen is recommended and is available in our resource area. *There was never a preacher like the dying Christ; there was never a congregation like that which gathered about the pulpit of the Cross; there was never a sermon like the Seven Last Words. In the work Bishop Sheen expounds upon the Seven Last Words of Christ, elaborating on their meaning for Christians since the time of Christ to the present day.*

A sign-up sheet is now in the Center to donate altar candles for Pascha (Easter)



Do Icons Work Miracles?

To put this question in proper perspective, let’s consider a few other questions: Did the Ark of the Covenant work miracles (e.g. Joshua 3:15ff; I Samuel 4-6; II Samuel 11-12)? Did the Bronze Serpent heal those bitten by snakes (Numbers 21:9)? Did the Prophet Elisha’s bones raise a man from the dead (II Kings 13:21)? Did St. Peter’s shadow heal the sick (Acts 5:15)?

Did aprons and hand-kerchiefs that had touched St. Paul heal the sick and cast out evil spirits (Acts 19:12)? The answer to these questions is: Yes, in a manner of speaking. Nevertheless, to be precise, it was God who chose to work miracles through these things. In the case of the Ark and the

Bronze serpent, we have images used to work miracles. God worked a miracle through the relics of the Prophet Elisha, through the shadow of a Saint, and through things that had merely touched a Saint. Why? Because God honors those who honor Him (I Samuel 2:30), and thus takes delight in working miracles through his Saints, even by these indirect means. The fact that God can sanctify material things should come as no surprise to those familiar with Scripture. For example, not only was the Altar of the Temple holy, but anything that touched it was holy as well (Exodus 29:37). To reject the truth that God works through material things is to fall into Gnosticism.

So yes, loosely speaking, Icons can work miracles - but to be precise, it is God who works miracles through Icons, because He honors those who have honored Him.

- By Fr. John Whiteford

On Helping to Quench Anger

A man who is wrathful with us is a sick man; we must apply a plaster to his heart - love; we must treat him kindly, speak to him gently, lovingly. And if there is not deeply-rooted malice against us within him, but only a temporary fit of anger, you will see how his heart, or his malice, will melt away through your kindness and love - how good will conquer evil. A Christian must always be kind, gracious, and wise in order to conquer evil by good.

- St. John of Kronstadt

Lenten banks are now available in the Center

Lenten Services and Devotions



During the Great Fast, Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts will be every Friday at 7:00 P.M. We will also have a Lenten Bible study and soup supper at 5:00 P.M. every Sunday. The Holy Rosary that we pray each Sunday will be prayed with special Lenten devotions; this begins at 8:00 A.M. every Sunday before Divine Liturgy. (*Other Pre-Sanctified Liturgies will be at St. Mary in Ambridge every Wednesday at 7:00 P.M.*). Any services that are added as we go through our Lenten journey will be announced in the Sunday bulletin. **The Divine Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts takes precedence over all other Lenten devotions.**

PRAYER OF SAINT EPHREM

This famous Lenten prayer of St. Ephrem the Syrian summarizes our entire struggle during the forty day fast – that of turning from vice to virtue, sin to holiness, and self-love to love of God and neighbor. This powerful prayer is said every day of the Great Fast, except on Saturdays and Sundays. It should be part of our morning and evening prayers, but may also be said at any other time throughout the day – especially in time of temptation.

Lord and Master of my life, spare me from the spirit of indifference, despair, lust for power, and idle chatter. (Prostration)

Instead, bestow on me, your servant, the spirit of integrity, humility, patience, and love. (Prostration)

Yes, O Lord and King, let me see my own sins and not judge my brothers and sisters; for you are blessed forever and ever. Amen. (Prostration)

Another book for *Spiritual Reading*: Light for Life, the Mystery Lived. Our journey through the Great Fast toward Pascha is a time of spiritual growth. This book addresses the building blocks of Eastern Christian Spirituality, entering and growth in the spiritual life, the first steps in the spiritual journey, gaining experience in the spiritual life and spiritual maturity. Don’t miss this opportunity for a spiritual metanoia (*change in one’s way of life resulting from penitence or spiritual conversion*). Truly a spiritual masterpiece; a blessing.

Confession

With the Lenten Season upon us, it is time to remember the need for confession. With this in mind, confession will be available before and after Church services on Sundays and Fridays.

Together in the Holy Trinity ... One Faith, One Church, One Future!

SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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FAX: 724-375-8776

ST. GEORGE CENTER: 724-375-6652

PARISH WEBSITE: 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 AnointingAsk prior to surgery or serious illness
Holy Mystery of MarriageContact 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



God has entrusted St. George Church to us; its future is in our hands.