

March 27, 2022  
Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast



**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 3, pg. 135, Third Sunday of Lent: pp. 226 - 227  
Typica: pp. 16-17, Beattitudes: pp. 23-24, St. Basil melodies: pg. 96

Divine Services for the Week:

**SUN. MARCH 27**      **FOURTH SUNDAY of the GREAT FAST, St. John Climacus**  
**8:30 A.M.**            **DIVINE LITURGY of St. Basil**  
                              + **Philomena Rossi**, offered by Karen Progar

**4:00 P.M.**            **SUNDAY EVENING VESPERS for the GREAT FAST**

*(At St. Mary: Wednesday, March 30, 6:00 P.M., Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts)*

**FRI., APRIL 1**            **FIFTH FRIDAY of the GREAT FAST**  
**6:00 P.M.**            **LITURGY of the PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS**

**SAT. APRIL 2**            **AKATHISTOS SATURDAY**  
**9:00 A.M.**            **AKATHIST HYMN**

**SUN., APRIL 3**            **FIFTH SUNDAY of the GREAT FAST, St. Mary of Egypt**  
**8:30 A.M.**            **DIVINE LITURGY of St. Basil, Blessing of crosses**  
                              + **Lori (Dickey) Stevic**, offered by Ed & Isabel Maruhnich

*(4:00 P.M.            At St. Mary, Sunday Evening Vespers for the Great Fast)*

**Happy Birthday Greetings This Week:**

March 29: Cindy Cherico

**Wedding Anniversaries this Week:**

None for the week

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

Eileen Batcha, Rebecca Dickun, Marianne Dove, Jean Herdt, Rebecca Hutcheon, Kevin Joray, Mary Ann Jugan, Neil Jugan, Mary Salamon, John Simunick, Marian Yurosky

Ann Trombulak – **Rochester Manor:** (174 Virginia Ave., Rochester, PA 15074)

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

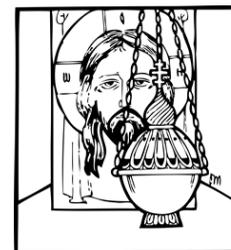
Betty Polas – **Apple Blossom Senior Living** (125 Apple Blossom Wy, #307, Moon Twp., PA 15108)

Carol Huchko – **Concordia at Villa St. Joseph** (1040 State St, Baden, PA 15005)

**Epistle Readers – March 27: Louisa Hersh – April 3: Joanne Futato**

**Ushers – Stand in as needed**

**Troica Holders – March 27: Mike Bobanic – April 3: R. Mudron**



**THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP**

March 27 – April 2, 2022

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

+ **Dorothy Murphy**

*(In Loving Memory)*

Offered By:

Eleanor Fedell, friends, & family

**Church mice**

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*Remember, it is never too late to participate in the Great Fast!*

### Women's Day of Reflection

The Archeparchial Office of Religious Education will be hosting the 17th Annual Women's Day of Reflection, entitled "A New Perspective on: Compassion-Courage-Confidence." Speakers for this event will be Dr. Regina Poletunow Boerio (Professor of Psychology at Franciscan University of Steubenville), Andrea Wedner (wounded in the 2018 attack on Tree of Life Synagogue in Pittsburgh), and Pani Alissa West (a music therapist, priest's wife, and mother of two). The Day of Reflection will be held Saturday, May 7, 2022 from 9:00 AM - 2:30 PM at St. John the Baptist Cathedral, 210 Greentree Rd., Munhall. Cost is \$40 and includes lunch. Registration forms are in the narthex.

### Pysanky Workshop in Carnegie

Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 220 Mansfield Blvd, Carnegie, will be hosting a Ukrainian Easter Egg Workshop on Saturday, April 2, 12:00-3:00 PM. Come make traditional pysanky using beeswax and dyes. Regular Workshop fee: \$20 (Open to ages 8 and above). Advanced workshop fee: \$30 (Open to ages 13 and above). For more information and to register, call Michael at 412-527-5359.

### Recycling & Clean Up Day

As Christians, we believe that the whole created order was made by God and declared "very good." And Catholic social teaching tells us that we have an obligation to care for creation, and especially for the human person who bears the image of God. One of the ways we do this is by caring for our own communities, neighborhoods and towns. The City of Aliquippa has announced two upcoming events which they've asked us to publicize. There will be a **Drive-Thru Recycling Collection** day on **April 23 from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm**. Items to be recycled (and the cost per lb.) will be: Non-video display electronics (¢35/lb); Freon containing devices (¢45/lb); Televisions & Monitors (¢50/lb.); and broken CRT Devices (¢60/lb). Registration is required at [www.nobleenviro.com](http://www.nobleenviro.com) or 412-567-6566 to schedule an appointment. Also on **April 23** there will be a **City-Wide Community Clean-Up Day**. There will be free dumpsters for residents' use located at 1499 Kennedy Blvd., Lefty Cepull Field, and the Towne Towers Parking Lot.

**Pascha Altar Candles** - A sign-up sheet is now in the Narthex to donate altar candles for Pascha.

**Liturgy Intentions:** There are many dates available if you would like to have a **Liturgy** celebrated for a particular person living or deceased. Please submit a Holy **Liturgy** request to Father Geoff or in a collection envelope if you would like to schedule an intention. Suggested donation: \$20.00

### **A Note from Father Geoff**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

This past Friday, we celebrated the Feast of the Annunciation of the Theotokos. Always falling in the midst of the Great Fast, this feast of the incarnation of our Lord reminds us that God has "broken into" our world - that the Divine Son has become one of us and is now human for all eternity. As he sits at the right hand of God the Father, interceding for us, he does so knowing our brokenness and our weakness, because he has lived a human life with us and for us.

The world is always trying to get our attention. Researchers say that today people are exposed to between 4,000 and 10,000 advertisements of various sorts every day. Every time we drive down a road, log onto our computers, check our phones, read the newspapers, or watch a TV show, people are trying to sell us their version of the "good life." Advertisers try to convince us that the latest bit of technology will finally make us efficient and effective; the latest diet fad will make us feel attractive; supporting the right political candidate will finally bring about justice in our country; the right kind of beer will make us feel popular; the latest kitchen gadget will make our meals effortless. But as Christians we know that, as St. Augustine has said, "our hearts are restless until the rest in God."

Into this world that is constantly competing for our attention, the archangel Gabriel came and made *his* Announcement - a truly groundbreaking bit of news: God is *with* us and God is *for* us. He set aside his divine privileges so that he could live and die as one of us and reconcile us to God the Father.

As the world is constantly trying to grab our attention for 1,000 different reasons, the Great Fast is given to us as a time for us to remember who we are - and *whose* we are. We are given the gift of this season so that we can keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, knowing that it is only in him that we can ever, ultimately, be satisfied and fulfilled.

By God's amazing grace, we belong to Jesus. We have been "clothed in Christ." Let us use the remainder of this Fast to draw near to him and to ask for his increased graces. The competing claims of this world will grow strangely dim as look upon him, who took our sins upon himself and has opened the kingdom of heaven to us.

Glory to Jesus Christ!

*Fr. Geoff*

**Easter Nut Roll Sale** - We are selling nut rolls for Easter. Nut rolls are **\$15.00 each**. Orders will be available for **pick-up on Sunday, April 10** following Divine Liturgy. There is an order sheet in the Narthex. Order deadline: April 3

## Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast

In today's Gospel, we hear of Christ our God's mercy and healing and their relationship to prayer and fasting. In this Gospel, we hear of a man that brings his son to our Lord for healing from demons. This man has doubt that our Lord can accomplish this healing because His disciples could not heal him. Our Lord first rebukes him and the crowd that is with him. Our Lord then asks him to believe that this healing can occur. The man says that he believes but asks Christ to heal his unbelief. The man's son is then healed. Later, the disciples ask why they could not heal this man's son. Jesus replies that this type of demon can only be removed through prayer and fasting.



Saint Peter Chrysologus of Ravenna discussed prayer and fasting in the following way: "Prayer knocks at the door, fasting obtains, mercy receives. Prayer, mercy and fasting: these three are one, and they give life to each other. Fasting is the soul of prayer; mercy is the lifeblood of fasting." Fasting is a method of quenching the passions through abstinence. Fasting is not only the abstinence from food but the abstinence from loose living. It is a self-discipline that allows us to knock at the Lord's door through prayer and receive His mercy for us that restores us into continual communion with Him. As we continue this journey of the Great Fast my prayer for us is that we may take our spiritual medicine of fasting, that we may be able to pray to restore and grow in our faith, so that we may receive the Lord's mercy and have continual communion with Him. Amen.

## What is an oath?

In the Epistle appointed for this Sunday, we learn about the "oath" which God has made with us. What is an oath? Saint Paul tells us in the epistle that it is a "promise," a "guarantee," a "sure and firm anchor of the soul," the "final settlement" of disagreements. When two people swear an oath, they are promising to be of one mind regarding the thing promised. The oath is the outward sign of the interior union of the two parties. In the case of Jesus, the oath and promise that he makes with us is that he will take us with him beyond the "veil," and make us partakers of the divine nature. In other words, Jesus promises us that He will give us His life. Today the Lord swears an oath to us that if we willingly die to our old selves through "prayer and fasting" and promise to give ourselves to him, then the demons of our former life will be cast out, that our sins will be washed away, and that we will rise with him in His resurrection on the third day. We have hope then, having promised our life to the Lord, that when the day of Pascha arrives, we who have died with him will receive a new life in him.

*I believe, help my unbelief!*

## Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast



This Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast is dedicated to Saint John of the Ladder. This venerable father was a monk of Saint Catherine's Monastery on Mount Sinai and as a monk of Sinai, he lived a very spiritual life. He captured his experience in a book with the title, "The Ladder of Divine Ascent". In this book, he describes the spiritual life and growth to God through 30 steps or rungs on a ladder. Through these 30 steps, one is transfigured into continual communion with God. The spiritual growth that is achieved by the action of these steps is only achieved through God's mercy, prayer and fasting.

*The Lord truly set you on the heights of abstinence, to be a guiding star, showing the way to the universe, O our Father and Teacher John.*

## St. George Patronal Feast Day Weekend Celebration (Save the Dates!)

There will be a Divine Liturgy on our Patronal Feast Day, **Saturday, April 23 at 9:00 A.M.** The next day, **Sunday, April 24**, we will continue our celebration here at St. George Church with a **Liturgy at 10:00 A.M. and this will be the only Liturgy that weekend for both parishes. A breakfast/luncheon will follow.** The parish family of St. Mary in Ambridge is also invited to attend Liturgy along with staying for the breakfast/luncheon. We welcome all parishioners and guests to come and honor our Patron, St. George the Great Martyr and to celebrate together as a parish family. A sign-up sheet is forth coming.

*Every family should have a room where Christ is welcome in the person of the hungry and thirsty stranger.*

St. John Chrysostom



# SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH



1001 Clinton Street- Aliquippa, PA 15001

**PASTOR: FATHER GEOFFREY MACKEY**

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

Religious: Sr. Mary Virginia O' Carm

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

OFFICE PHONE: 724-375-2742

FAX: 724-375-8776

ST. GEORGE CENTER: 724-375-6652

PARISH EMAIL: [stgbyz@gmail.com](mailto:stgbyz@gmail.com)

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



**Cantors: Jo Ann Hersh, Louisa Hersh, David Klacik      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  
St. George Ladies' Guild & Men's Club ..... Everyone welcome to participate

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