

April 3, 2022
Fifth 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 4, pg. 141, Fifth Sunday of Lent: pp. 230 - 232
Typica: pp. 16-17, Beattitudes: pp. 23-24, St. Basil melodies: pg. 96

Divine Services for the Week:

SUN., APRIL 3 **FIFTH SUNDAY of the GREAT FAST, St. Mary of Egypt**
8:30 A.M. **DIVINE LITURGY of St. Basil**

+ **Lori (Dickey) Stevic**, offered by Ed & Isabel Maruhnich

(4:00 P.M.)

At St. Mary, Sunday Evening Vespers for the Great Fast)

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

FRI., APRIL 8 **SIXTH FRIDAY of the GREAT FAST**
6:00 P.M. **LITURGY of the PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS**

SAT., APRIL 9 **LAZARUS SATURDAY**
9:00 A.M. **DIVINE LITURGY**

SUN., APRIL 10 **PALM SUNDAY, Blessing of palms and pussy willows**
8:30 A.M. **DIVINE LITURGY**

+ **Marge Raychevich**, offered by Sr. Mary Virginia

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

Happy Birthday Greetings This Week:

April 6: John Chabala, April 9: Erin Mackey

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)

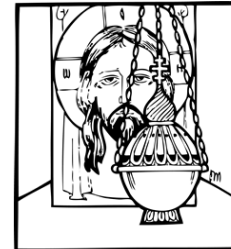
Betty Polas – **Apple Blossom Senior Living** (125 Apple Blossom Wy, #307, Moon Twp., PA 15108)

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

Epistle Readers – April 3: Joanne Futato – April 10: JoAnn Hersh

Ushers – Stand in as needed

Troica Holders – April 3: R. Mudron – April 10: F. Hersh



THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP

April 3 - 9, 2022

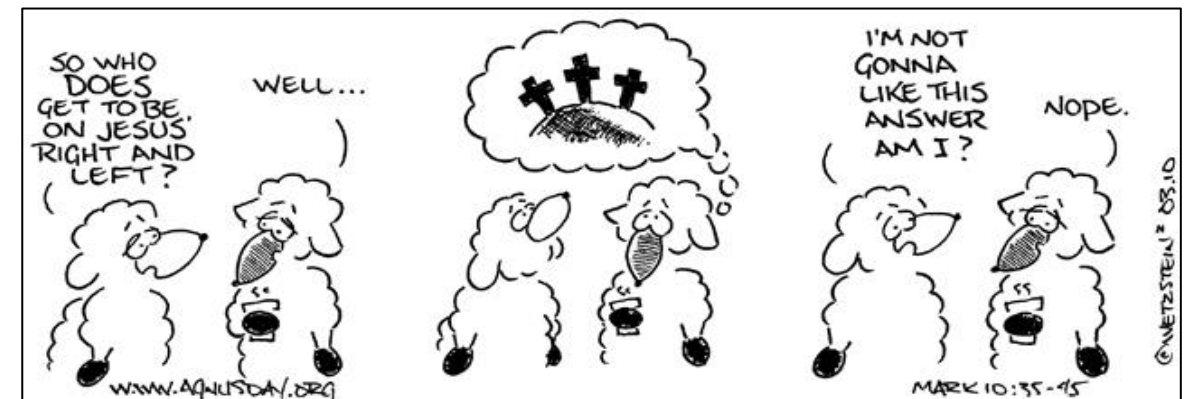
Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:

+ **Joseph Olack**

(In Loving Memory)

Offered By:

Wife, Mary Elizabeth Olack





Pirohi Sale This Week

Our next Pirohi sale will be this **Friday, April 8**. Orders should be called in by **Thursday at noon at (724) 375-6652**. *Thank you!*

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 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 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

New Resources Today, April 3

We again have *CATECHETICAL RESOURCES* to share with you for the renewal of our Eastern Churches! Today we have a reflection for April: **Lazarus Arise!** available for your personal formation. Kindly bring this resource and your Church bulletin home with you weekly for **deeper review** and family discussion. *Many thanks!*

I live here clinging to my God, Who saves all who turn to Him from faint-heartedness and storms.

- Holy Mother Mary of Egypt to St. Zosimas

Dear Father, Please help me to give thanks in all circumstances, trusting in Your will. Prompt me by Your loving Spirit to pray without ceasing. Teach me Your ways, show me Your paths. Increase my faith. Grant me the strength to keep a tight watch over my mouth. Amen.

A Note from Father Geoff

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

On the final Sunday of the Great Fast (as well as on April 1), the Byzantine Church always commemorates our Venerable Mother, Saint Mary of Egypt. She is one of the Church's great models of Penitence and the "fruit of repentance."

Penitence - that is, acts of repentance - are what we have been focusing on throughout the Great Fast. To "repent" is, literally, to "change one's mind." As sinful human beings, we find that to grow in Christ is to be changing our minds frequently. St. Mary of Egypt shows us this in a very significant way.

Mary lived an extremely licentious and dissolute life in the 4th century in Alexandria, Egypt. She eventually traveled to Jerusalem with sinful intent, to tempt pilgrims away from their pious intentions and into sins of the flesh. But when she arrived at the Church of the Resurrection - the site of Christ's crucifixion and burial - she was prevented from entering by an unseen hand. By the grace of God, she realized in that moment the great depth of her sin and shame. She came upon an icon of the holy Mother of God and prayed a prayer of repentance before it. She promised to give up the things of this world and follow Christ. And immediately she was permitted to enter the Church and venerate the Holy Cross of Christ. A voice then told her: "If you cross the Jordan you will find glorious rest." After receiving absolution from a priest and the sacrament of the eucharist, she crossed the Jordan River, and lived the rest of her life in the desert as a hermit, devoting all her attention to prayer and the conversion of her heart.

In the Gospel of Matthew, St. John the Baptist tells the Pharisees and Sadducees, "Produce fruit in keeping with repentance." (Mt. 3.8) As we near the close of this holy Fast, let us continue to pray that God would grant us the grace of true repentance; that we would always be "changing our minds" from the things of earth to the things of heaven; living a life of conversion. Let us open ourselves up to his mercy that, little by little, our lives may become more loving, gracious, and merciful, in his grace and for his glory.

In the Grace of God,

Fr. Geoff

Last Day to Order Easter Nut Rolls

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

Holy Week Schedule Published

The Holy Week schedule is published in today's bulletin. Fr. Geoff has generously scheduled multiple services and opportunities during Holy Week. During this time, we are called to make every effort to "lay aside all earthly cares", to devote ourselves to contemplate the central Mysteries of our Faith which are revealed in the liturgical services of Passion Week: the Cross, the Tomb and the Resurrection of Christ. So significant is Holy Week that "time seems to stand still and earthly life ceases for the faithful, as they go up with the Lord to Jerusalem" (*Fr. Thomas Hopko*). May we all look upon the days ahead as sacred and dedicated to our Lord. **Don't Wait Until It Is Too Late.** Start arranging your schedule today so that you can be present for the Divine Services for Holy Friday through Pascha-Resurrection of Christ. Absolutely no one should miss these Divine Services. Put God first and stand by the Cross of Christ.

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 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 for the luncheon is in the Narthex.**

Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast

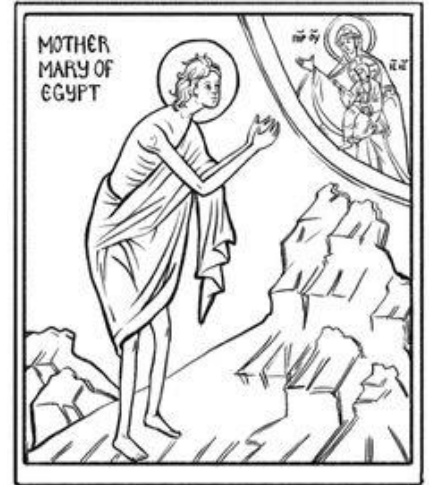
In both the Gospel and Epistle today we learn about one of the hallmarks of Christianity – servant leadership. "Cleanse your conscience from dead works," Saint Paul teaches us, "to serve the living God." And again, in the Gospel, Jesus explains that he did "not come to be served but to serve." In this way of service, Jesus shows us that we are called to "give" our life to God through the gift of service to each other. During the Lenten season the Church invites us to intensify our calling as servant leaders and to live out this calling in real tangible ways.

CHALLENGE QUESTIONS:

1. What are some practical examples of servant leadership?
2. What are some ways that we can serve others?
3. Why is service to one another a way in which we serve God?
4. If service is a good work, what are some examples of "dead works" which are not unto salvation?

Our Venerable Mother Mary of Egypt

The story of Mary of Egypt is remembered and cherished throughout Christendom, east and west. In our Holy Church, however, we remember her twice each year. The first time, her feast day on April 1st, is our gift to her: we remember what she did, who she was, and who she became. The second time, today on the Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast-Lent, is her gift to us: the gift of her story at the moment when we ourselves must enter the inner desert of our hearts. For what does Lent mean for us? It is that time when we must face ourselves, and face ourselves in the presence of God. Who are we? What do we live for? We fast, pray, repent, and confess. It is hard and we get lost in the wilderness. And we cannot escape the truth of who we are. At this point in Lent, we prepare for Holy Week. And before we can rejoice, we must complete our full sojourn in the desert.



The Life of St. Mary teaches us that the values of the Church are quite different from those of the world. She went out into the desert and had nothing, no friends, no home, no possessions, no clothes and hardly any food and drink. The world looked for pleasure; the satisfaction of the senses, money and power, but St. Mary was moneyless and powerless in the world. Today's Gospel reading confirms the choice of Mary of Egypt, for it says that those who wish to be great must be servants. This is upside down from all the ways of this world. But our Lord preached this and like Him our venerable mother Mary lived this.

Indeed, as we have already said, the Church calls our venerable mother Mary "the greatest of saints". The use of this word "great" may surprise us. In everyday life, we use "great" in other meanings. The world speaks of "great politicians", "a great car", "and a great amount of money". But the Church calls Mary of Egypt "GREAT" and a thousand and a half years after she lived we ask for her prayers, but not for those of any politician or film-star or sportsman. Let us think more carefully before next we utter this word "great".

And as this last week of the Great Fast - Lent begins; let us also ponder on the words of the Mother of God, which led Mary of Egypt to her salvation through repentance and her greatness: "If you cross the Jordan, you will find true peace". These mysterious words are today also addressed to each of us; the interpretation of their mystery is open to the souls of each of us, but only if we ask the Mother of God and our venerable mother Mary of Egypt to guide us. And then we shall find our own "entry into Jerusalem".

...for the Son of Man also has not come to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many

SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH



1001 Clinton Street- Aliquippa, PA 15001

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Religious: Sr. Mary Virginia O' Carm

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

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FAX: 724-375-8776

ST. GEORGE CENTER: 724-375-6652

PARISH EMAIL: stgbyz@gmail.com

PARISH WEBSITE: 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



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

St. George, Aliquippa

Monday, April 11: *Great and Holy Monday*

No Service

Tuesday, April 12: *Great and Holy Tuesday*

No Service

Wednesday, April 13: *Great and Holy Wednesday*

6:00 P.M. Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts & Holy Mystery of Anointing

* During the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts we celebrate the Holy Mystery of Anointing during which the priest anoints us with Holy Oil that we may be healed physically and spiritually.

After Liturgy: Confessions

Thursday, April 14: *Great and Holy Thursday*

7:00 P.M. Vespers and the Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

* “Accept me this day, O Son of God, as a partaker of Your Mystical Supper” is the predominate message of this Service, which commemorates the Mystical Supper and the institution of the Holy Eucharist.

Friday, April 15: *Great and Holy Friday-Good Friday* *Strict Fast*

7:00 P.M. The Office of the Burial of Our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ

* During this Service we sing hymns that tell of Christ’s Saving Passion, of His Mother’s grief as she and her friends watch His agony, and the meaning of the Cross for all Creation.

Saturday, April 16: *Great and Holy Saturday*

9:00 A.M. Jerusalem Matins

**7:00 P.M. Resurrection Matins with Paschal Divine Liturgy
& Blessing and partaking of Paschal-Easter Foods in the Center**

* In the darkened Church, the faithful receive the Resurrection Light from the priest and form a procession out of the Church. The joyous hymn of Christ’s Resurrection is triumphantly chanted- “Christ is Risen!-Christos Voskrese!” We sing “Christ is Risen!-Christos Voskrese!” repeatedly during the Divine Liturgy. As we receive the Holy Eucharist, we share in the mystical communion with the Risen Christ, who has conquered death once and for all. Following the blessing of the Paschal foods we will “break the fast” together by partaking of our Paschal foods.

Sunday, April 17: *Great and Holy Pascha-Easter Sunday*

No Service

Monday, April 18: *Bright Monday*

9:00 A.M. Paschal Divine Liturgy with Procession

*At the end of the liturgy there will be the procession with the Icon of the Resurrection and reading of the Gospel at the four corners of the church.

St. Mary, Ambridge

Monday, April 11: *Great and Holy Monday*

6:00 P.M. Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts & Holy Mystery of Anointing

* During the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts we celebrate the Holy Mystery of Anointing during which the priest anoints us with Holy Oil that we may be healed physically and spiritually.

After Liturgy: Confessions

Tuesday, April 12: *Great and Holy Tuesday*

No Service

Wednesday, April 13: *Great and Holy Wednesday*

No Service

Thursday, April 14: *Great and Holy Thursday*

4:30 P.M. Vespers and the Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

* “Accept me this day, O Son of God, as a partaker of Your Mystical Supper” is the predominate message of this Service, which commemorates the Mystical Supper and the institution of the Holy Eucharist.

Friday, April 15: *Great and Holy Friday-Good Friday* *Strict Fast*

5:00 P.M. The Office of the Burial of Our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ

* During this Service we sing hymns that tell of Christ’s Saving Passion, of His Mother’s grief as she and her friends watch His agony, and the meaning of the Cross for all Creation.

Saturday, April 16: *Great and Holy Saturday*

Saturday, April 16 Paschal Vigil begins....

5:00 P.M. Resurrection Matins & Blessing of Paschal-Easter Food

* In the darkened Church, the faithful receive the Resurrection Light from the priest and form a procession out of the Church. The joyous hymn of Christ’s Resurrection is triumphantly chanted- “Christ is Risen!-Christos Voskrese!”

Sunday, April 17: *Great and Holy Pascha-Easter Sunday*

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy & Blessing of Paschal-Easter Food

* We sing “Christ is Risen!-Christos Voskrese!” repeatedly. As we receive the Holy Eucharist, we share in the mystical communion with the Risen Christ, who has conquered death once and for all.

Monday, April 18: *Bright Monday*

No Service

Tuesday, April 19: *Bright Tuesday*

9:00 A.M. Paschal Divine Liturgy

*At the end of the liturgy there will be the procession with the Icon of the Resurrection and reading of the Gospel at the four corners of the church.

What should I have in my Easter-Pascha Basket?

Paska- The Easter Bread. Symbolic of Christ Himself, who is our True Bread. Usually a round loaf of bread decorated on the top with a Cross.

Ham/Sunka- This meat is popular as the main dish because of its richness and symbolic of the great joy and abundance of Pascha-Easter. Meat in the Pascha basket also symbolizes the calf sacrificed when the Prodigal Son returned home; the meat is a celebration of our return to Christ.

Sausage/Kielbassa- A spicy, garlicky sausage of pork products, indicative of God's favor and generosity.

Cheese/Hrutka- Sweet cheese; mix farmer cheese with confectionary sugar, raisins, cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg. Indicative of the moderation that Christians should have in all things.

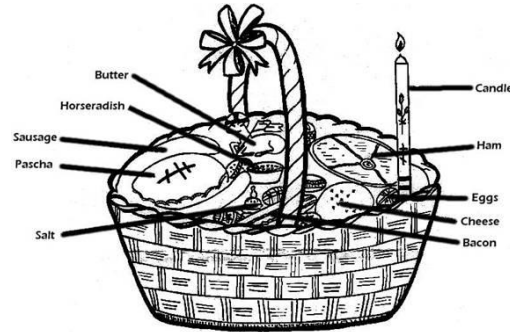
Eggs/Pysanky- Hard boiled eggs-decorated, indicative of new life and Resurrection.

Horseradish/Hrin- A piece of the root or prepared horseradish with red beets. Symbolic of the Passion of Christ still in our minds but sweetened with some sugar because of the Resurrection. It is also included in the basket to remind us of the bitter drink given to Christ at his crucifixion, vinegar and gall.

Butter/Maslo- Usually whipped (sometimes flavored with almond), is included in the basket to symbolize the Lamb of God, the Sacrifice made for the world. Some families use a lamb-shaped mold for their butter, which makes the symbolism even stronger.

Salt/Sol- A condiment necessary for flavor; reminding the Christian of his duty towards others.

If your family has never taken a Pascha basket to be blessed, the above Easter-Pascha basket traditions may give you some ideas for starting your own. If you regularly prepare a basket for the celebration of the Resurrection, take some time to explain the deep meanings of the foods and their preparation to your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Everyone will enjoy being involved: baking, decorating, eating!



Holy Week and Pascha

