

*Glory to Jesus Christ!**Glory to Him Forever!***Schedule of Divine Services**

Saturday, March 5	5:00 PM +Richard Fialkovich by Helen Fialkovich & Family
Sunday, March 6	9:00 AM +Margaret Tima by Beverly Tima

Pages for Sunday's Divine Liturgy: Tone 8 page 161 & pages 220 - 222

Web Liturgy Intention for Week of March 6, 2022 sponsored by
Trudy Chingwa in memory of +Sr. Mary Grace

Sanctuary Candle is lit from February 27 – March 12**In Memory of +Richard Fialkovich by Helen Fialkovich & Family**

Wednesday, March 9	7:00 PM	Liturgy of the Pre-sanctified Gifts
Friday, March 11	7:00 PM	Liturgy of the Pre-sanctified Gifts
Saturday, March 12	9:00 AM	2nd All Souls Remembrance

2nd SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST

Saturday, March 12	5:00 PM +Leona Bodnar by Patti & Bob Workman
Sunday, March 13	9:00 AM 40th Day Remembrance +Carole Collins by Elaine Bogda

OUR RETURN TO THE LORD FOR ALL HE HAS GIVEN ME:

Regular Offertory	\$1,827.00
Maintenance Fund	773.00
BCW	42.00
Candles	66.27
Loose Cash	24.00
Live Stream	50.00
TOTAL	\$2,782.27

Live Stream

- \$25** Michael & Mary Novak
\$25 Leonard & Felicia Simko

Parking Lot: \$40*During these challenging times we thank you for your kindness and generosity.*

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND SHUT-INS

AT HOME: Richard Lesko, *Ronald & Arletta Lutka*, Margie Seman, *Elizabeth Pristas*, Teri Phares, Raymond Petro, Jr., Luke Pasternak, Marissa Stout, Tara Seman, Michael Matus, Patrick Singer, Joan Bodnar, Mary Ann Urban, Carole Srsic, Pauline Johnson, *Ann Havrilsca*k, Aaron Spang, Janet Ducar, Mary Pavasko, Suzie (Wargo) Bodziach, Betty Martin, Teresa Sekel.

Italicized names indicate Parish Shut-ins. Other names are submitted prayer requests.

NURSING HOMES/REHABILITATION CENTERS/ASSISTED LIVING

Elsie Urban, Len Stagon, Dorothy Hritz, Eleanor Chekan, Sue Goda, Steve Kish

MARCH BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

- 6 Darrin Ducar
- 6 Peter Giglione
- 7 Addison Giglione
- 10 Magdalene Semego
- 12 David Banks

May God grant to His servant peace, health and happiness for many years!

In person Attendance: Saturday, February 26: **46**; Sunday, February 27: **63**

Live Stream Viewing: Saturday, February 26: **39** (WS); **57** (FB)
Sunday, February 27: **86** (WS); **51** (FB)
Forgiveness Vespers: **20** (WS); **51** (FB)

GREAT FAST VESPERS

The parishes of the Pittsburgh Protoperbyteral District will celebrate the Great Fast Vespers on the Sundays of the Great Fast this year at the following Churches:

March 6	St. John the Baptist Church, Lyndora	Homilist, Fr. Valerian Michlik
March 13	Ss. Peter & Paul Church, Duquesne	Homilist, Fr. Michael Huszti
March 20	Holy Ghost Church, McKees Rocks	Homilist, Fr. Will Rupp
March 27	St. John Chrysostom Church, Greenfield	Homilist, Fr. Vasyl Polyak
April 3	St. Gregory Church, Upper St. Clair	Homilist, Fr. Andrew Deskevich

You will have the opportunity to celebrate the Mystery of Reconciliation (Confessions) from 3:30 to 4:00 p.m. and the Vespers at 4:00 p.m. After the Vespers we will gather in the Social Hall of the church for a Lenten Soup, Bread and Beverage.



MARCH 13TH - DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS!
TURN YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR!

UPCOMING CATHEDRAL EVENTS

February – April	Soup Sales
March 12	Too Groovy Toy Show Kitchen
April 23	Spring Craft Show
April 30	Wedding Reception

GCU LODGE MEETING

GCU Lodge 602 will hold its first quarter meeting on *Sunday, March 6, 2022, Noon* at St. John Cathedral.

“CATHEDRAL KITCHEN”

We have *stuffed cabbage*, packaged in ½ dozen for \$18 or 1 dozen for \$30 and quarts of *Halushki & Wedding, Chicken & Dumpling, Stuffed Cabbage, Potato/Green Bean, Vegetarian Vegetable, Mushroom and Pasta Fagioli soups and Chili* for \$7; *Seafood Creole and Goulash* for \$10. If you would like to buy any please see Patty Bovee or Fr. Andrew.

KOLACHE AND PASKA ORDERS

We are now taking orders for Easter kolache and paskas. Order sheets are located in the vestibules. Effective January 2022, kolache will be \$14. If you would like to purchase any, please see Fr. Andrew or Patty Bovee. **DEADLINE FOR EASTER ORDERS IS MARCH 20, 2022.**

EASTER RAFFLE

It was decided to conduct another raffle ticket. This time the raffle ticket will be \$10. There will be multiple winners determined by the PA Lottery beginning on April 17, 2022. If you would like to purchase and/or sell tickets, they can be obtained from Patty Bovee. Thank you for your continued support of our parish fund-raisers which help make much needed repairs around our parish complex.

SARRIS EASTER CANDY ORDERS

Order forms for Sarris Candy are located in the vestibules of the church. If you would like to order candy for Easter, please return by **TODAY**.

CHOCOLATE BYZANTINE CROSSES

Our Parish is selling Sarris' chocolate Byzantine Cross for Pascha. They will be available on Palm Sunday weekend. Orders need to be prepaid and envelopes are available in the vestibules of the church. **Deadline to order is March 27, 2022.**

GIFT CARDS AND LOTTERY TICKETS

If anyone is able to donate gift cards or lottery tickets for our raffle tree at the Craft Show, please put them in an envelope in the collection basket and mark it “Craft Show.” Thank you in advance for any help you may be able to give.



Attentive to the Word

First Sunday of the Great Fast

Hebrews 11: 24-26, 32 - 12:2

John 1: 43-51

Our lives seem to be all about connections. Our homes need utilities – water, gas, electric. Ever been home when the utilities are out? Nothing can happen without them. And to have them, you have to be connected. Our phones used to be black boxes that hung on the wall. Now they are small as a deck of cards, and travel with us everywhere. Why? Because we want to be connected. We want our phone with us. We're the one who takes it along. It doesn't come on its own. You know this if you've ever forgotten your phone and left it behind. And the phone has to be connected to the network in order to function.

Connection is essential. If you travel by airplane, you need to make your connection. If not, you won't be going where you thought you were, or at least, not when you thought you were. In the Gospel today, John shows us the connection we have in and through Christ.

John the Baptist, saw Christ, and said, "Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world." Two of John's disciples heard this: Andrew and John. Jesus says come and follow Me. They do. Andrew went and found his brother, Peter, and brought him to see Jesus.

The next day Jesus goes on into Galilee. Now he meets Philip. Philip lived in Bethsaida, the same town where Andrew and Peter lived. Philip runs to find his brother Nathaniel. He tells him, we have found the Messiah prophesied in the Scripture. It's Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus says, that can't be, nothing good ever comes from Nazareth. Philip tells him, Come and see. So he does.

Jesus sees Nathaniel as he was coming to him. He says, "Behold an Israel in whom there is no deceit." Now this was something, as Nathaniel had not met Jesus, nor Jesus Nathaniel. "How do you know?" "Before Philip got you, I saw you under the fig tree." Now Nathaniel believes. He exclaims, "You are the Son of God and King of Israel." "Is it only because I said I saw you, that you now believe in Me" replied Jesus. And he tells Him, "You will see greater things, for you will see heaven opened and angels ascending and descending on the Son of Man."

Now we must ask ourselves, Church, What is the greater thing that Nathaniel will see? Remember Jacob. He was the son of Isaac. It was Jacob who tricked Esau out of his birthright. He put lamb's skin on his arms, and Isaac who was blind, felt the wool, and thought it was Esau, and gave him the blessing.

Jacob ran away so his brother would not kill him. He was out in the country. Out under the stars. It was night, and he laid on the ground to sleep, and put his head on a rock for a pillow. And what did Jacob see in a dream?

He saw a ladder, a staircase, from the earth to the throne of God. And on the stairway there were angels ascending and descending. God spoke, and said to Jacob that He would bless him and give him the land, even as God had promised to Abraham.

Jacob saw a stairway to heaven, with angels on it going up and going down. What will Nathaniel see? He will see angels going up and going down, but not on a stairway, but on Jesus, the Son of Man. Jesus is the highway uniting earth and heaven. He is the connection.

Angels are the messengers of God. Jacob sees them coming and going. Nathaniel will see them coming and going, too. How? In times past, God sent his words by his messengers – by prophet and by angels. But now, in Christ, He sends His message by His Son. (Hebrews 1:1-2) Christ brings the Word of God; Christ is the Son of God.

God connected Himself to the young Samuel. Christ connected himself to Nathaniel. And he has connected us – us and me – with the kingdom of heaven. Even as He told Nathan he would see the heaven opened, we have seen the heavens opened, as He was crucified on Calvary. We have seen the heavens opened when He ascended to His throne on high. And we shall see the heavens opened when He returns again, with His eternal kingdom.

We see the angels descending bearing the message from God. In the Church his Word has come down to us. The Word has come down on us with water in baptism. The Word has come down to us in the Bible. And we know the Bible is true because Jesus is true. And the Word has come down to us in the bread of heaven and cup of salvation, the Eucharist, the Body and Blood of Christ.

We see the angels ascending in Christ, carrying the messages of our prayers. For it is Christ who presents our prayers to the Father. Yes, these things are greater than being seen under a fig tree.

Jesus is the highway uniting earth and heaven. He is the connection. Our cell phones, without a connection are dead. Without a connection to God in Christ, we were dead. If you miss your connection at the airport, you end up in a different place, and not where you intended to go. Without a connection to God in Christ, we would end up where we did not intend to go.

When our lives feel disconnected, we know that there is still hope. For whatever may be happening to us, near us, beside us, or around us, the power is still on, our hearts are filled with His light. He is bringing us His eternal and life giving Word, and hearing and receiving our prayers. We have received the Word, and believed the testimony of Him. In Him, we have seen heaven opened. And greater things yet shall we see. For Jesus is the highway uniting earth and heaven.

Mission Statement

Saint John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Cathedral is a member of the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Church of Pittsburgh who through the Holy Spirit is called to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As a community and family, we grow in faith and in the image and likeness of God by dedicating ourselves to welcoming, celebrating and caring for all of God's people.

Mysteries of Initiation (Baptism, Chrismation & Eucharist): Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the parish family. Pre-baptism instructions are required. Contact Fr. Andrew to schedule.

Mystery of Crowning: Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the parish family. Must meet with Fr. Andrew before setting date and reserving your banquet hall. Pre-Cana program is required and three sessions with Fr. Andrew. The ceremony will be celebrated according to the prescription of the liturgical book of the Byzantine rite.

Mystery of Reconciliation: Celebrated Saturdays, 4:00 PM - 4:30 PM and upon request.

Mystery of Anointing: Celebrated upon request. Ideally celebrated in Church the Sunday before undergoing any surgical or other medical procedure.

Visitation of the Sick: The parishioners confined to their homes or nursing homes due to health reasons are visited monthly. Also, persons who are hospitalized are visited when Fr. Andrew is notified. It especially is important that a family member contact Fr. Andrew whenever a loved-one is hospitalized.

Funerals: Families of the deceased or the funeral director must contact Fr. Andrew before setting and publishing the day and time of the funeral.

Parish Membership: We welcome anyone to become a parishioner of St. John the Baptist Cathedral Parish. Only those who are registered are considered members of the Parish. When one registers to become a parish member they assume the responsibility of rendering stewardship of time, talent and treasure to this parish family. Worship at this parish is always expected. Registration is done only through the pastor by appointment. The Parish Office should be notified as soon as possible of any change of address within the Parish as well as one's leaving.

Godparent/Sponsor Letters: Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the parish.

Rectory Office Hours: Judy is in the parish office Monday – Friday from 9:00 AM – 2 PM. Father Andrew is available on other days and times by appointment.