

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory to Him Forever!

Schedule of Divine Services

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

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

Web Liturgy Intention for Week of March 6, 2022 sponsored by
Mike and Dottie Kavcsak

Sanctuary Candle is lit from March 13 – March 26
In Memory of +Clifford Martin by Elizabeth Martin & Family

Wednesday, March 16	7:00 PM	Liturgy of the Pre-sanctified Gifts
Friday, March 18	7:00 PM	Liturgy of the Pre-sanctified Gifts
Saturday, March 19	9:00 AM	3 rd All Souls Remembrance

3rd SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST

Saturday, March 19	5:00 PM	+Helen Smykla by Marjorie Zakrzewski
Sunday, March 20	9:00 AM	+George Kenhart by Beverly Tima

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

Regular Offertory	\$2,698.00
Maintenance Fund	953.00
Holy Day	35.00
Candles	80.47
BCW	14.00
Live Stream	25.00
Loose Cash	42.00
TOTAL	\$3,847.47

Parish Lenten Almsgiving:	\$955.00
Aid to Ukraine:	\$11,301.00
Parking Lot:	\$40.00

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 Havrilscak*, 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

13 Amy Myers
15 Carol Lawson
16 Arlene Martin
16 Stephen Pavasko
16 Sydney Banks
18 Joseph Onoffrey
18 Michelle Glaid
19 Judy Snyder

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

GREAT FAST VESPERS

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

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.

UPCOMING CATHEDRAL EVENTS

February – April	Soup Sales
April 23	Spring Craft Show
April 30	Wedding Reception

“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.

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.

EASTER KOLBASI SALE

Saints Peter & Paul, Duquesne parish Men's Club is once again selling kolbasi. Cost is **\$6/lb.** Sign-up sheets are at the entrances. **Please order by April 3, 2022.** DELIVERY IS PALM SUNDAY WEEKEND April 9 & 10, 2022. Thank you.



Attentive to the Word

Second Sunday of the Great Fast

Hebrews 1:10 - 2:3

Mark 2: 1-12

The Epistle for the Second Sunday of Lent begins by quoting words addressed to God in Psalm 102:25-27: "They will be changed, but you are the same and your years will not fail" (Hebrews 1:12). God alone is unchangeable. Every created thing comes into existence at a certain time, lasts for a certain time, and will finally be destroyed. Except human beings. God has offered us an opportunity for eternal life. It is a gift that only He can give.

That offer of a share in God's own life is what the Epistle to the Hebrews calls "salvation": "How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord and was confirmed to us by those who heard him" (Hebrews 2:3). It is what telemarketers call a "limited time offer," and the limit is our lifespan. We have to respond to God's offer now. We may not have tomorrow.

Sharing in God's own life isn't something we can just add on to our current lifestyle. Accepting God's offer requires us to change. Jesus said it: "The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe the Good News" (Mark 1:15). John the Baptist said it even earlier (Matthew 3:1-2).

We tend to resist change. We find a comfortable zone for ourselves, a typical pattern for how we spend our time and resources, a limited circle of people that matter, a limited field of interests, a few activities that we will engage in, a few commitments that we will agree to keep. Most people, most of the time, would prefer for things to stay exactly the way they are. We may even pray for God to make sure things stay just as they are, or at least don't get any worse.

We may say we don't need to change, that we are fine just the way we are. But when think we are not changing, we may well be going backwards, getting narrower, more self-centered, less open to God and to others. The Epistle warns us: "We must give the more earnest heed to the things we have heard, lest we drift away" (Hebrews 2:1). We may be holding steady, but God's plan is passing us by. Like it or not, we're changing, for better or for worse. It's a law of human nature.

Since growth is hard-wired into our nature, we get irritated by the ruts we put ourselves in. We get bored. We long for a change of pace, a change of scenery, a few new faces, a little variety, something different. But we tend to look for these changes only in superficial, "safe" places. People who want to sell us things tell us that the change we need is more gratification for ourselves. So we take trips, we try new foods, we buy new gadgets, we get new pets, we try new clothes and different hairstyles. All harmless enough, but none of these consumer items can satisfy the desire for real growth that has been built into us by the God who wants us to grow into relationship with Him.

This is why the Great Fast begins with giving up food and drink and entertainment. By choosing not to rely on the very temporary relief these consumer goods provide, we can finally allow ourselves to experience the urge for real change in our lives on a deeper, more meaningful level. The Fast is an invitation to choose renewal over novelty, repentance over ruts, life over stagnation. But this is a limited time offer. "Now is the acceptable time. Now is the hour of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2; Isaiah 49:8).

By Fr. Jack Custer

PYSANKY CLASS

Our parish will sponsor a pysanky class on Saturday, April 2, 2022 from Noon – 4 PM. The day will begin with a Lenten lunch followed by the pysanky class. Each participant will take home a finished egg. All supplies will be provided. A donation of \$10 is asked from each participant. Class size will be limited. Sign-up sheets are located in the vestibules.

FLEA MARKET

We will hold a Flea Market in early June. Details to follow.

In person Attendance: Saturday, March 5: **49**; Sunday, March 6: **63**
Pre-sanctified March 2: 34
Pre-sanctified March 4: 36

Live Stream Viewing: *Saturday, March 5: 37 (WS); 62 (FB)*
Sunday, March 6: 95 (WS); 104 (FB)
Pre-sanctified March 2: 41 (WS); 74 (FB)
Pre-sanctified March 4: 34 (WS); 48 (FB)

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.