

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory to Him Forever!

Schedule of Divine Services

Saturday, February 19 **5:00 PM** +Michael Fedoris by Mary Fedoris

Sunday, February 20 **9:00 AM** +Margaret Tima by Steve, Janine, Sam, Rachel, Allison

Pages for Sunday's Divine Liturgy: Tone 6 page 152 - 148 & pages 217-218

Web Liturgy Intention for Week of February 20, 2022 sponsored by
In Memory of +John J. Urban, +Julia Haluska & +Betty Lyons by Lori Urban Lyons

Sanctuary Candle is lit from February 13 – February 26
In Memory of +George & Catherine Onoffrey by Son, Joe

SUNDAY OF CHEESEFARE

Saturday, February 26 **5:00 PM**

+Robert Wargo by Anna Marie Wargo & Family

Sunday, February 27 **9:00 AM**

+Keith Cosgrove by Debbie & Justin Cosgrove

4:00 PM

FORGIVENESS VESPERS

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

Regular Offertory	\$2,814.00
Maintenance Fund	726.00
Holy Day	200.00
BCW	298.00
Candles	63.25
Loose Cash	15.00
Live Stream	\$450.00
TOTAL	\$4,566.25

Parking Lot: \$57

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

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

20 Gerald Rihn
22 Georgiana Sabo
22 Bernard & Josephine Zadrowski
24 Martha Wincko
26 Gregory Chekan
26 David Wincko
26 Stephen Kovatch

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

In person Attendance: Saturday, February 12: **57**; Sunday, February 13: **55**

Live Stream Viewing: *Saturday, February 12:* **N/A** (WS); **N/A**(FB)
Sunday, February 13: **92** (WS); **106** (FB)

Please call the parish office if you would like your 2021 contribution statement.

Special Offering

\$50 In Memory of +Carole Collins by Anna Marie Wargo

Live Stream

\$300 Kathy Zavada
\$50 John & Barbara Danscak
\$50 Beverly Vatral
\$25 Arlene Martin
\$25 Leonard & Felicia Simko

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. 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 March 6, 2022.

“Our love for God and neighbor is our passport to heaven. Our earthly possessions are dust that scatters, but the love we share – in our families, at work, in the Church, and in the world – will save us, for it will endure forever.”

Tweet of Pope Francis – February 18, 2022



Attentive to the Word

Meatfare Sunday

1 Corinthians 8:8 - 9:2

Matthew 25: 31-46

A few years ago, life dictated that I do something that I have not done in a very long time: traverse vast distances of the United States via public transportation. I am glad that my wayward youth of idolizing Jack- Kerouac and traveling all over the country has given me practical skills that I am able to use in my adult life. Whenever I am traveling in such a manner, headed westward with the setting sun as the farmland of Pennsylvania gives way to the rolling mountains of its Western borders, I cannot help but think of the great American folk legends of modern time: Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger, and-the-like. These true heroes of the people traveled the same routes in the same exact manner no more than one hundred years ago. One of these champions of justice and freedom, the 1960's-era folk singer Phil Ochs, described America as 'A land full of power and glory' - Beauty that words cannot recall." Having seen a great deal of this nation myself, I would have no choice but to agree with Ochs; however, he follows this sentiment with a challenge to this' natural-beauty "But it's only as rich as the poorest of the poor"

Having recently spent hours upon hours in the NYC Port Authority Bus Terminal, I can assure you there are some very poor people in this country. Not necessarily only monetarily poor, but morally and spiritually poor as well. A very dear friend of mine qualified my hours spent in Port Authority as a wonderful opportunity to spend time with God's people and he could not have been more right! As all the passengers were boarding the bus bound for Pittsburgh, I found myself selfishly hoping to be left alone for six hours, without incident, and that would be that. As fate would have it, a woman who was talking to every single person in the terminal found it necessary to choose the seat directly adjacent to mine on a virtually empty bus. Lo and behold, almost immediately she struck up a conversation with me. I was less than pleased, but I politely listened anyway. Two and a half hours later, after we talked all about her extremely personal family issues and reasons for taking the bus, it came out that I was studying to become a priest. My new travel partner was then convinced that I was sent to her by God to ease her worries and get her faith back on track. It was at that moment I realized that this woman did not need me, I needed her.

This was a humbling lesson in compassion. The person whom I initially viewed as a nuisance was no different from me, just a strange face on a bus. She was a mother, attempting to make her way to her rather sick daughter in her early twenties who lived nearly three hundred miles away, and all I was concerned about was my six hours of peace. My lack of

compassion in my travel-weary state made me feel rather spiritually poor. Echoing Ochs' sentiment, I am in no way richer than the poorest of the poor around me if I have no compassion for them.

As Christians, we really do not need a folk singer to tell us how to treat those cast away by society. Nor do we need cable news pundits or economic policy to dictate how we support those who cannot support themselves. Christ teaches that on the Day of Judgment, "The King will answer and say to them 'Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you do it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me'" (Mt 25:40). We are to find Christ in every person we pass. Next time you see a person on a street corner begging, give them something, anything. A dollar. An apple. If you have nothing to give or fear that the money may be used for some illicit activity, at least acknowledge their existence and affirm that yes, they are indeed human. Say hello or simply nod and smile. Compassion costs nothing, yet it might be worth the world to the person sitting there suffering from addiction or untreated mental illness. Human interaction may simply lift the spirit of someone dealing with the bad hand that life has dealt, even if for a brief moment. Our riches in this life, and the next, cannot be calculated by dollars and cents or social status. Rather, it is the heartfelt compassion that is sent forth into the world that makes a beggar as rich as a king. Reach out in sincerity to the hand that is reaching out to you, that our compassion for one another may help us to better serve The Lord and His Creation.

By Fr. Paul Varchola West

GREAT FAST VESPERS

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

February 27 St. John the Baptist Cathedral

March 6 St. John the Baptist Church, Lyndora
March 13 Ss. Peter & Paul Church, Duquesne
March 20 Holy Ghost Church, McKees Rocks
March 27 St. John Chrysostom Church, Greenfield
April 3 St. Gregory Church, Upper St. Clair

Forgiveness Vespers

Homilist, Fr. Valerian Michlik
Homilist, Fr. Michael Huszti
Homilist, Fr. Will Rupp
Homilist, Fr. Vasyl Polyak
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.

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.