

*Glory to Jesus Christ!      Glory to Him Forever!*

**Schedule of Divine Services**

Saturday, February 12 **5:00 PM** In Honor of Rita Hilla's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday by Children,  
Grandchildren and Great Grandchildren

Sunday, February 13 **9:00 AM** +Deborah Pangratz by Vickie Pangratz

**Pages for Sunday's Divine Liturgy: Tone 5 page 146 - 148 & page 216**

Web Liturgy Intention for Week of February 13, 2022 sponsored by  
**Paul & Doris Pangratz in Memory of Daughter, Deborah**

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

**Saturday, February 19 9:00 AM 1<sup>st</sup> All Souls Remembrance**

**SUNDAY OF MEATFARE**

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

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

Regular Offertory	\$3272.00
Maintenance Fund	707.00
Holy Day	118.00
BCW	167.00
Candles	171.15
Loose Cash	80.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,515.15</b>

*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  
*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**

16 Lou Bajus

16 Madelyn Hilzendeger

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

**In person Attendance:** Saturday, February 5: **33**; Sunday, February 6: **73**

**Live Stream Viewing:** Feast of the Encounter: **26** (WS); **48** (FB)  
*Saturday, February 5:* **43** (WS); **62**(FB)  
*Sunday, February 6:* **105** (WS); **49** (FB)

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

### **Special Offering**

\$500 Anonymous

“The crisis of faith, in our lives and in our societies, has to do with the eclipse of desire for God, with the habit of being content to live from day to day, without ever asking what God really wants from us. We have forgotten to lift our eyes to heaven.”

*Tweet of Pope Francis, February 7, 2022*

“Let us continue to implore the God of peace that tensions and threats of war be overcome through serious dialogue. Let’s not forget: war is madness!”

*Tweet of Pope Francis, February 9, 2022*

## ALL SOULS SATURDAYS

**The first All Souls Divine Liturgy is Saturday, February 19, 2022 at 9:00 AM.**

We come together to pray for our deceased loved ones. They are by no means forgotten nor a nameless mass of people, for by name we mention them, we perpetuate their memory and we pray that our loving and merciful God will be pleased to bring them into His saving presence.

**PLEASE USE THE ALL SOULS ENVELOPE AND ATTEND THE DIVINE LITURGIES FOR YOUR DECEASED LOVED ONES.**

## UPCOMING CATHEDRAL EVENTS

February – April	Soup Sales
March 12	Too Groovy Toy Show Kitchen
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 & Chicken & Dumpling, Stuffed Cabbage, Potato/Green Bean, Chicken Gnocchi, 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.

## **World Peace Prayer**

Lead me from death to life, from falsehood to truth.  
Lead me from despair to hope, from fear to trust.  
Lead me from hate to love, from war to peace.  
Let peace fill our heart, our world, our universe.



# Attentive to the Word

*Sunday of the Prodigal Son*

*1 Corinthians 6: 12-20*

*Luke 15: 11-32*

During the several weeks which immediately precede the beginning of Lent, the Church helps us prepare for the great period of repentance which will eventually lead us to the brilliance and joy of Pascha, the Mystery of the Resurrection. For several consecutive Sundays before Lent, the gospel readings at the Divine Liturgy point out several aspects of our spiritual journey toward the beginning of Lent. We hear of Zacchaeus who was so anxious to see what Christ was like, that he climbed to the top of a sycamore tree in order just to catch a glimpse of Jesus as he moved through the crowd. As the words of the gospel story etch themselves in our hearts, we are called to reflect upon our own desire to see what Christ is really like, and to examine our ways of trying to catch a glimpse of Jesus. Likewise, on following Sundays, we hear stories which point toward humility, love, justice and forgiveness, all of which sum up the attitude of repentance and expectation with which we approach Lent. We are asked to be attentive to the gospel as it is proclaimed to us, and to let the Word, as relayed through the parables and teaching of Christ, form our hearts and minds appropriately in order that being spiritualized, we may eventually share in the victory of Christ's resurrection. The parables and stories we hear during these weeks are helps along the way. By them, we are given the grace to understand the parable of our own lives, and the story of others around us, as we all try to catch a glimpse of Christ moving among us, remembering the many times he has called to us as he did to Zacchaeus, and helped us on our way.

The third Sunday preceding Lent is the Sunday of the Prodigal Son. This is the parable telling the story of a young man who, upon receiving his father's inheritance early, decides to leave home, live a life disconnected from those who love him as well as from morality, squandering all of his inheritance on whimsical fancies. After having been reduced to a state beneath the dignity of a beggar through his own choices, he remembers

that his father's household still offers him the possibility of a home. But because of his deeds, he is ashamed to return home. Finally, he does decide to return home as a beggar, repenting before his father for having squandered his inheritance. Much to his surprise (as well as to his brother's surprise), his father is waiting for his return with open arms. The father, instead of disowning him, throws his arms around him and the two are reconciled. A great celebration then occurs in the household.

The parable of the prodigal son illustrates a position in which we often find ourselves. Often, through the choices we make, we become alienated from God, the Church, those we love and ourselves. We find ourselves in exile from our home; that place where the Lord, ourselves, and our loved ones dwell. It is often difficult for us to return to that home because of fear and shame. Yet, the point of the parable is that the Father's mercy always welcomes us back, and in as much as we are to take the risks involved in returning home in a spirit of humble repentance, so are we also to practice the mercy of the Father in welcoming home those who have offended us. To be forgiven we must lift our hearts and minds from whatever oppresses us and direct them to the Father, who waits for us with open arms. We must be willing to take the first steps home. We must be willing to climb the sycamore tree to catch a glimpse of Jesus.

So as Lent approaches, we may listen to the gospel readings during these preceding weeks and allow the words to relate to our lives, as Joe did to his. In one way or another, we find our exiled selves in need of the Father's warm embrace. May we search the Word of God for the grace and consolation to take advantage of the Lenten journey, making it our journey home. May we be delightfully surprised to find that, no matter how far we have strayed, the Lord awaits us with open arms. And, like Joe and the prodigal son, may we experience the joy of reunion with the Lord, with each other as family, and with the entire Church so that at the end of Lent, we may celebrate the Victory of Life over the defeat of darkness, sadness, and despair. Amen.

*By Fr. John Yasenchak*

## 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.