

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Schedule of Divine Services

Saturday, February 18 5:00 PM +Patricia M. Kumpf by Sandy Hornak

Sunday, February 19 9:00 AM +Fr. Robert Karl by Andrew Regalla

4:00 PM FORGIVENESS VESPERS

Pages for Sunday's Divine Liturgy: Tone 4 page 141 & Pages 218 - 219

Web Liturgy for Week of February 19, 2023 sponsored by

John and Beverly Woessner

Sanctuary Candle is lit from February 12 - 25

In Memory of +John & +Kathryn Chernotowich by Michele May

First Day of the Great Lenten Fast – A day of Strict Fast

Monday, February 20 7:00 PM Liturgy of the Pre-sanctified Gifts

Wednesday, February 22 7:00 PM Liturgy of the Pre-sanctified Gifts

Friday, February 24 7:00 PM Liturgy of the Pre-sanctified Gifts

1st SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST

Saturday, February 25 5:00 PM +Keith Cosgrove by Debbie & Justin Cosgrove

Sunday, February 26 9:00 AM +Margaret Kostovny by Dolores Zoretich

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

Regular Offertory \$3,407.00

Maintenance Fund 500.00

Christmas 100.00

Holy Day 5.00

Candles 94.81

Loose Cash 54.00

Cemetery 50.00

TOTAL \$4,210.81

During these challenging times we thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Please consider remembering St. John Cathedral in your will

as a lasting legacy for future generations!

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND SHUT-INS

AT HOME: Richard Lesko, *Ronald & Arletta Lutka*, Margie Seman, 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, Patty Schneider, Jeannie Pasternak, Janet Myers, Ethel Wahal, Joanne Smoley, Rich Scott

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

NURSING HOMES/REHABILITATION CENTERS/ASSISTED LIVING

Elsie Urban, Len Stagon, Eleanor Chekan, Sue Goda

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

7 Stephen Modrak
20 Gerald Rihn
22 Georgiana Sabo
22 Bernard & Josephine Zadrowski
24 Martha Wincko

In person Attendance: 1st All Souls Remembrance: **21**
Saturday, February 11: 37; Sunday, February 11: 75

Live Stream Viewing: 1st All Souls Remembrance: **13** (WS); **42** (FB)
Saturday, February 11: 36 (WS); *47* (FB)
Sunday, February 12: 63 (WS); *77* (FB)

Parking Lot: \$50

Special Donation: \$25 in Honor of Rita Hilla on the occasion of her 91st Birthday
By Dr.'s' Randall & Rhonda Brand

ETERNAL MEMORY

On February 12, 2023, +**Rt. Rev. Mitred Archbishop John Kachuba**, a retired priest of the Eparchy of Parma, passed from this life to the next, following the celebration of the Divine Liturgy. May he rest in the bosom of Abraham, in the abode of the saints, where there is no pain, sorrow, nor mourning. *May the Lord God remember his departed priest servant +John in His Kingdom forever.*

Please call the parish office if you would like your 2022 contribution statement.

KOLACHE AND PASKA ORDERS

We are now taking orders for Easter kolache and paskas. Order sheets are located in the vestibules. **DEADLINE FOR EASTER ORDERS IS MARCH 5, 2023.**

“KATHEDRAL KITCHEN”

We have quarts of *Halushki, Chili & Wedding, Mushroom, Beef Vegetable, Beef Noodle, Chicken Gnocchi, Chicken noodle, Pasta Fagioli (Ham & Bean), Turkey, Creamy Potato and Stuffed Cabbage soups* for \$7. *Chicken Paprikash* for \$12. If you would like to buy any please see Patty Bovee or Fr. Andrew.

PIROHI SALE

We have homemade pirohi available for \$10/dozen. Currently we only have potato/cheese. We are expecting to get potato/sauerkraut and lekvar in the next few weeks. Limited quantities are available, first come first serve.

RUMMAGE SALE ITEMS

We will be holding another Rummage Sale on June 3 & 4, 2023. Please put aside any items you no longer want or need for our flea market.

As in the past, we cannot accept TV's, computers, shoes and clothes. Small boxes may be left in the church vestibules. Arrangements can be made to pick up larger items. Please consider also helping to mark and sell the items in May/June. Thanks for your donations.

SARRIS CANDY ORDER FORMS

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 5, 2023.**

PUSSYWILLOWS NEEDED

If anyone has access to pussywillow trees, keep your eyes open for the budding of the pussywillows. With the way our weather has been, budding can happen earlier than expected. Please cut them when they bud (before they turn yellow), and bring them to church. We will store them here until Palm Sunday. **Do not put them in water.**

GIFT CARDS AND LOTTERY TICKETS

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

LENTEN ALMSGIVING

This year, for our Parish Lenten Almsgiving, we will be supporting the Rainbow Kitchen Community Services, here in the Steel Valley. We are accepting the following items to donate to the Rainbow Kitchen. **DEADLINE FOR THIS COLLECTION IS MARCH 5** so that we can deliver the items for distribution.

Non-perishable food items:

Soups, preferably “hearty” or “chunky”

Stew & chili

Spaghetti sauce

Fruits & juices

Vegetables

Meat & fish

Peanut butter

Cereal, pasta, rice, noodles

Stuffing mix, instant potatoes

Meal-starters or side dishes

Special dietary needs:

low-salt

low-sugar

sugar free

infant formula

Non-food items are also needed:

Just about any kind of toiletry, paper product, or household product is appreciated. These items are not covered by food stamps, making it hard for low-income people to get basic necessities.

Household paper products, toilet paper

Dish & laundry detergent

Household cleaning products

Personal care items – soap, shampoo, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes

Feminine hygiene products

Diapers – infant, toddler, adult

Children’s school supplies



Attentive to the Word

Cheesefare Sunday

Romans 13:11 - 14:4

Matthew 6: 14-21

How can we come to know Jesus more fully? This is a question that we often ask ourselves at the beginning of the Great Fast. I want to become more like Christ and a better Christian, but I do not know where to start. The Holy Scriptures, especially in the Gospels, is where we meet Christ face-to-face. The Scriptures can offer us a way of understanding our Christian beliefs and the mandate of Christ to baptize all nations. Before we can go out to baptize and preach the good news, there are a few things we must do. One important item we must do before we become a follower of Christ is to repent. Christ says, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent, and believe in the gospel. (Mark 1:15) He says this just after His baptism, and again, after Him forty days in the desert. We, as Byzantine Catholics, are baptized, and are purified. We have also been through more than one Great Fast. Now as followers of Christ, we are encouraged to repent for our sins that we have committed after baptism.

Repentance for our own sins can be a daunting and scary task, especially if we have been away from the Sacrament of Penance for any length of time. The Sacrament of Penance is one of the most rarely used Sacraments by the Christian Faithful in the Church today. I think that has a lot to do with our misunderstanding of Confession. Confession is something that is supposed to be liberating instead of burdensome. However, our sins become burdensome to us, like a weight that we are unable to carry but do nevertheless.

We hear countless times in the Holy Scriptures that the Lord's ways are the best ways and His yoke is easy and His burden light. Yet, we have a hard time listening to that because we realize how much our sins are holding us down. Our sins will continue to hold us down until we allow Jesus to come, remove the weight, and pick us up again. The Sacrament of Penance allows us to own up to our faults and allows Jesus to save us.

If all of this is true, which it is, then why is there never a long line to go to confession? I ask myself this same question, especially when I know I need to go to confession. Even after having said that, sometimes I, too, find it hard to motivate myself to go. Yet, every time I leave confession, I know that it was the right decision, nevertheless I still have a hesitation to go back there are countless reasons why we do not receive confession as often as we should. I do believe that the hesitation to go to confession seems to reside inside all of us. This hesitation could be a consequence of a fallen world. We see this in the story of Adam and Eve. After their sin, they hid from God

because they were afraid. Our hesitation to go to confession is our way of trying to hide from God. We know it is not really possible to hide from Him but it does not stop us from trying.

The Great Fast is upon us once again and we begin to look at ourselves and our relationship with God. One question that I want you to pray and think about is how God sees you and your relationship with Him. What steps have you taken to grow closer to Him? Jesus desires us to have a relationship with Him, and this is not possible if we do not know Him. We can read about Him in the Scriptures, and this is one way to know Him. However, if we do not follow His words and teachings, then how can we really get to know Him in a personal way. The words in the Scriptures are just words if they do not become a part of our lives. Jesus commands us to repent for the wrongs we have done. It is through the Sacrament of Penance that we are able to see Jesus face to face. Hopefully through this opportunity of the Great Fast, we can choose to live our lives for Christ and allow Him to pick us up after we have fallen.

By Fr. Steven Galuschik

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:

February 19

St. John the Baptist Cathedral

Forgiveness Vespers

February 26 St. Pius X Church, Carrick
March 5 **St. John the Baptist Cathedral**
March 12 St. Andrew Church, Gibsonia
March 19 Ss. Peter & Paul Church, Duquesne
March 26 Ss. Peter & Paul Church, Tarentum

Homilist, Fr. Andrew Deskevich
Homilist, Fr. Valerian Michlik
Homilist, Fr. Miron Kerul-Kmec
Homilist, Fr. Michael Kunitz
Homilist, Fr. Frank Firko

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.