

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

Saturday, April 1 5:00 PM +Michael Totin, Jr. by Christine Petro Cuniak  
 Sunday, April 2 9:00 AM +Michael Stofko by Linda Stofko & Kovatch Family

Pages for Sunday's Divine Liturgy: Pages 235 - 241

Web Liturgy for Week of April 2 2023 sponsored in  
**Honor & memory of the hard working volunteers of St. John Cathedral.**

*Sanctuary Candle* is lit from March 26 – April 8  
**In Memory of +Michele Kacik by Patricia Madden**

Monday,	April 3	<i>Great and Holy Monday.</i>
	7:00 PM	<b>Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts</b>
Tuesday,	April 4	<i>Great and Holy Tuesday .</i>
	7:00 PM	<b>Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts</b>
Wednesday,	April 5	<i>Great and Holy Wednesday.</i>
	7:00 PM	<b>Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts followed by Anointing of the Sick</b>
Thursday,	April 6	<i>Great and Holy Thursday .</i>
	7:00 PM	<b>Vespers with Divine Liturgy of St. Basil</b>
Friday,	April 7	<i>Great and Holy Friday</i>
	9:00 AM	<b>Royal Hours</b>
	7:00 PM	<b>Entombment Vespers</b>
Saturday	April 8	<i>Great and Holy Saturday.</i>
	7:00 PM	<b>Resurrection Matins with Divine Liturgy</b>

***SUNDAY OF THE RADIANT RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD, JESUS CHRIST***

Sunday, April 4 9:00 AM Intention of the Parish Family

## **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.*

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

## **NURSING HOMES/REHABILITATION CENTERS/ASSISTED LIVING**

Elsie Urban, Eleanor Chekan, Sue Goda

## **APRIL BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK**

- 2 Justin Cosgrove
- 2 Nathan Simko
- 2 Joshua Wincko
- 4 Gabriel Bovee
- 6 Michael & Dorothy Moyta (Anniversary)
- 7 Timothy Erney

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

Regular Offertory	\$1,914.00
Maintenance Fund	509.00
Holy Day	354.00
Flowers	420.00
Candles	140.29
Loose Cash	20.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,357.29</b>

*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!*

## **Special Donations in Memory of +Leonard Stagon**

**\$100 Nancy Andres; \$40 Diane Lang; \$100 Ruth Morris**

**In person Attendance:** *Saturday, March 25: 52; Sunday, March 26: 56*  
*Friday Presanctified Liturgy: 26*  
*Annunciation: 13*  
*Wednesday Presanctified Liturgy: 40*

**Live Stream Viewing:** *Saturday, March 25: 33 (WS); 29 (FB)*  
*Sunday, March 26: 59 (WS); 51 (FB)*  
*Friday Presanctified Liturgy: 38 (WS); 26 (FB)*  
*Annunciation: 19 (WS); 17 (FB)*  
*Wednesday Presanctified Liturgy: 25 (WS); 14 (FB)*

## ARCHEPARCHIAL ASSEMBLY 2023

The Office of Religious Education will be sponsoring the Archeparchial Assembly on “Synodal Synthesis” **Saturday, April 29, 2023** at our Cathedral Center from 9 AM – 3 PM. Registration forms are available in the church vestibules.

## EASTER KOLBASI SALE

**DELIVERY IS PALM SUNDAY WEEKEND April 1 & 2, 2023. Thank you.**

## “KATHEDRAL KITCHEN”

We have Stuffed Cabbage: ½ dozen for \$18 and 1 dozen for \$30; quarts of *Halushki, Chili & Wedding, Beef Vegetable, Beef Noodle, Chicken noodle, Pasta Fagioli (Ham & Bean), Turkey, Stuffed Cabbage, Meatless: Mushroom, Creamy Potato, Potato/Green Bean, Vegetarian Vegetable soups for \$7. *Chicken Paprikash* for \$12. *Seafood Creole* for \$13. If you would like to buy any please see Patty Bovee, Diane Pochron or Fr. Andrew. **Bold denotes meatless.***

## PIROHI SALE

We have homemade pirohi available for \$10/dozen. We have potato/cheese, potato/sauerkraut and lekvar. Limited quantities are available, first come first serve.

## 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.

## CATHEDRAL COOKBOOK

It has been suggested, and people have volunteered to organize, another Cathedral Cookbook. We are looking for submission of recipes to publish in our cookbook. Please consider sharing some of your favorite recipes. We would prefer electronic submissions, but paper copies will also be accepted and formatted. If you would like to be a part of this project, please inform Fr. Andrew.

## FATHER DANSAK’S 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

Fr. Tom Dansak will celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of his ordination this year. I have invited him to celebrate the Divine Liturgy on Sunday, May 7, 2023 at 9 AM for his anniversary Liturgy. Following the Liturgy we will host him at a brunch at our Cathedral Center. If you plan on attending the brunch, please sign the sign-up sheet in the vestibule. **Fr. Tom has asked, “please no gifts. Just your prayers are appreciated.”**

## UPCOMING CATHEDRAL EVENTS

April 15	Toy Show Kitchen
April 22	Spring Craft Show
April 29	Archeparchial Assembly
May 20/21	Breaded Chicken Dinner



# Attentive to the Word

*Palm (Flowery) Sunday*

*Philippians 4: 4-9*

*John 12: 1-18*

The Byzantine Church concludes the forty days of Lenten fasting on Lazarus Saturday as to emerge from the tomb with Lazarus. The Scriptural texts for Palm Sunday ring an insistent note of joy. Yesterday, we celebrated the raising of Lazarus as a sign and a promise of Christ's life giving power. Today the Church celebrates Christ's arrival in Jerusalem as Messiah and King of Israel. In this moment, we recognize that God has kept and even surpassed His ancient promises.

In Genesis 49,1-11, we hear one of the Old Testament texts which nourished Israel's hopes for a Messiah. The Patriarch Jacob's dying prophecy for his son Judah, from whom King David and Jesus both descend, promises eternal kingship in mysterious symbolic language. With hindsight, the Church can say: "he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes" (Genesis 49,11) as a foreshadowing of His Passion and death, and can hear in "he lies down as a lion, as a lion who shall rouse him?" (Genesis 49,9) the paradox of the all-powerful God surrendering to death and rising from the dead.

Hints of the saving death and Resurrection are also found in Zephaniah 3, 14-19. Here the prophet speaks to Jerusalem, reassuring her that "the Lord has removed the judgment against you, he has turned away your enemies. The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst, you have no further misfortune to fear." The prophet Zechariah likewise invites Jerusalem to rejoice: "See, your king shall come to you; a just savior is he, meek and riding on an ass, on a colt, the foal of an ass" (Zechariah 9,9). The donkey, a rather unregal beast who also makes an appearance in Genesis 49,11 and the Gospel accounts of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem (John 12, 1-17), is explained by Zechariah 9,10. The Messiah will not be like other earthly kings: horse-riding, chariot-driving, sword-wielding, power-mongering; rather, the Messiah "will proclaim peace to the nations." Here too, we find a hint of Christ's descent into Hades to raise up fallen human nature: "As for you, for the blood of your covenant with me, I will bring up your prisoners from the dungeon" (Zechariah 9,11). In Zephaniah 3,19, the same gentle king promises, "I will deal with all who oppress you: I will save the lame and the outcast."

The arrival of such a King, whose hallmarks are peace and gentleness and healing, is indeed a cause for rejoicing. These themes are repeated in St. Paul's Epistle to the Philippians (4,4-9) but the emphasis changes: we must imitate what we see in Christ our King: "Let your gentleness be known to all...and the peace of Christ which surpasses all understanding will

guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus..Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me. Then the peace of God will be with you.

The Gospels of the Entry into Jerusalem (Matthew 21 at Matins, John 12 at the Divine Liturgy), remind us that not everyone rejoiced when Jesus entered Jerusalem. While the children waved their palm branches and spread out their cloaks and cried "Hosanna to the Son of David!" the scribes and Pharisees fumed indignantly on the sidelines. This was not the Messiah they wanted and they were in no hurry to surrender their own power to the healer of the poor riding on His donkey. So blinded by their own interests were they that they even plotted to kill Lazarus (John 12,10) as if they could take back the gift of life Christ had given His beloved friend!

Even though every Scripture reading for Palm Sunday commands us to "rejoice;" a darker thread is woven through these texts as well. The humble Prince of Peace on the donkey still comes as King and Lord and Judge and every other claim to authority and power must surrender to Him.

*Rev. John S. Custer, SSL, STD*

## **MYSTERY OF DIVINE FORGIVENESS AND RECONCILIATION**

This Lenten season gives us the opportunity to look into ourselves to make a complete change of heart and repent of our sins. Let us make every effort to prepare ourselves to celebrate the Resurrection of Christ by coming before Him and asking forgiveness of our sins. Fr. Andrew is available before and after every Pre-sanctified Liturgy, Monday-Wednesday this week.

## **SHARING IN THE JOY OF PASCHA**

As we did last year, once again we will plan for this year, that following the blessing of the baskets on Holy Saturday evening you are invited and encouraged to stay and partake of the blessed food from your basket at the Cathedral Center. Tables will be set with plates and utensils for you. In addition, the Cathedral will provide wine and beverages. Sign-up sheets are located in the vestibules to indicate how many people plan on staying so that we can have enough tables set. We encourage you to stay after for some fellowship and share in the joy of Pascha.

## **CHOIR CONCERT**

The Pittsburgh Byzantine Catholic Archeparchial Choir returns to Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church at 4815 Fifth Avenue Oakland, Pa. on April 16, 2023 – Thomas Sunday – for a program of readings and hymns celebrating the glorious Resurrection of our Lord. The program will begin at 2:00 p.m. with the Choir's joyful presentation "Sing the Hymn of Victory!" featuring many beloved and seldom-heard renditions of the Paschal greeting, "Christ is Risen! Christos Voskrese!" A hospitality reception will follow the program in the lower level of the church.

## 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.