

*Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!*

Schedule of Divine Services

Saturday, February 3 **5:00 PM +Jack Karadus by Anna Marie Wargo**

Sunday, February 4 **9:00 AM +Julia & Michael Suray by Carol Beavers & Michael A. Suray**  
**40<sup>th</sup> Day Remembrance of +Mary Pavasko**

**Pages for Sunday’s Divine Liturgy: Tone 3 pages 135 – 136 & pages 217 - 218**

Web Liturgy for Week of February 4, 2024 sponsored  
*In honor of Andrew and Linda Deskevich*  
*on the occasion of their 58<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.*

*Sanctuary Candle* is lit from January 28 – February 10  
**In memory of +Anna Mae Harhai by Daughter, Andrea**

**SUNDAY OF CHEESE-FARE**

Saturday, February 10 **5:00 PM +Robert Wargo by Anna Marie Wargo & Family**

Sunday, February 11 **9:00 AM +Debbie Pangratz by Paul & Doris Pangratz**

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

Regular Offertory	\$2,870.00
Maintenance Fund	907.00
Holy Day	189.00
Loose Cash	25.00
Candles	95.55
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,086.55</b>

**Special Donation: \$1,000 in memory of +Julia & +Michael Suray by Carol Beavers**

*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 call the parish office if you would like your 2023 contribution statement.**

## **PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND SHUT-INS**

**AT HOME:** *Arletta Lutka*, Margie Seman, Teri Phares, Raymond Petro, Jr., Luke Pasternak, Marissa Stout, Tara Seman, Patrick Singer, Mary Ann Urban, Carole Srsic, Pauline Johnson, *Ann Havrilscak*, Aaron Spang, Suzie (Wargo) Bodziach, *Betty Martin*, Patty Schneider, Jeannie Pasternak, Janet Myers, Ethel Wahal, Paul Cherep

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

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

Elsie Urban, Patty Matus

## **FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK**

4 Jonelle Bovee

4 Peter & Darlene Minydzak (Anniversary)

8 David & Betty Banyas (Anniversary)

**In person Attendance:** *Saturday, January 27: 42 ; Sunday, January 28: 70*

**Live Stream Viewing:** *Saturday, January 27: 24 ; Sunday, January 28: 55 (WS)*

## **GREAT FAST VESPERS**

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

### **February 11 St. John the Baptist Cathedral**

February 18 Holy Spirit Church, Oakland

February 25 Holy Ghost Church, McKees Rocks

March 3 Ss. Peter & Paul Church, Braddock

March 10 St. John Chrysostom Church, Pittsburgh

March 17 St. John the Baptist Church, Lyndora

### **Forgiveness Vespers**

Homilist, Fr. Andrew Deskevich

Homilist, Fr. Vasyl Polyak

Homilist, Fr. Michael Kunitz

Homilist, Fr. David Abernethy

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.

## **BREADED PORK CHOP DINNER**

Our parish will serve a take-out only Breaded Pork Chop dinner on **Saturday, February 10 from 3 – 6 PM and on Sunday, February 11 from 10 AM – 1 PM. Price is \$13.00 per dinner.** The dinner includes: Breaded Pork chop, stuffing, vegetable, bread and butter. In addition we will be selling quarts of haluski, quarts of soup, our kolache, and various baked goods.

## **“CATHEDRAL KITCHEN”**

The “Kathedral Kitchen” has been restocked. We have quarts of *Halushki & Chili, Beef Vegetable, Chicken Noodle, Chicken Gnocchi, Mushroom, Pasta Fagioli, Potato/Green Bean, Stuffed Cabbage, Stuffed Pepper, Tomato Basil, Vegetarian Vegetable and Wedding soups* for \$7. If you would like to buy any please see Patty Bovee or Fr. Andrew.

## **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 **February 25, 2024.**

## **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 3, 2024.**

## **RUMMAGE SALE ITEMS**

We will be holding another Rummage Sale on June 1, 2024. Please put aside any items you no longer want or need for our rummage sale.

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

## **PUSSYWILLOWS NEEDED**

Since Pascha is early this year, 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.**

## **PYSANKY CLASS**

Our parish will sponsor a pysanky class on Saturday, March 16, 2024. More details will be in next weekend’s bulletin.



# Attentive to the Word

*Sunday of Meat-fare*

*1 Corinthians 8:8 - 9:2*

*Matthew 25: 31 - 46*

The third festal Sunday we call Meatfare or the Sunday of the Last Judgment. This Sunday reminds us that we cannot take the forgiveness of God for granted, that the time that we have is for repentance. The time that we have is limited and there is an urgency to begin repentance today. Nor should we delay in doing works of mercy and pursuing virtue because we will be called to give an account of what we have done with our lives. Remember that all the achievements that the Pharisee listed in the parable are not even mentioned in the parable of the Last Judgment. The Lord does not look for tithes or prayers, an exact keeping of the ceremonial law or any of the usual religious duties. When the Lord comes again he will be looking to see if he can recognize in us, His image. The Lord who is merciful and compassionate came to make us merciful and compassionate. We fast and pray, live a life obedient to the Gospel commands in order to soften our hearts and make us open to receive mercy and active to give mercy. "All the trees of the forest will exult before the face of the Lord, for He has come. He has come to judge the earth. " He has come the first time, and He will come again. At His first coming, His own voice declared in the Gospel: Hereafter you shall see the Son of Man coming upon the clouds. What does He mean by hereafter? Does He not mean that the Lord will come at a future time when all the nations of the earth will be striking their breasts in grief? Previously He came through his preachers, and He filled the whole world. Let us not resist His first coming, so that we may not dread the second. What then should the Christian do? He ought to use the world, not become its slave. He will judge the world with equity and the peoples in His truth" What are equity and truth? He will gather

together with Him for the judgment His chosen ones, but the others He will set apart; for He will place some on His right, others on His left. What is more equitable, what more true than that they should not themselves expect mercy from the Judge, who themselves were unwilling to show mercy before the Judge 's coming. Those, however, who were willing to show mercy, will be judged with mercy. For it will be said to those placed on His right, "Come, blessed of My Father, take possession of the Kingdom which has been prepared for you from the beginning of the world" And He reckons to their account their works of mercy; "For I was hungry and you gave Me to eat; I was thirsty and you gave Me to drink" (from a homily by St. Augustine of Hippo). Thus having been led and taught by the Holy Fathers during these weeks prior to the Great Fast we will focus on what we know to be the sure path. We approach God with humility knowing that our sins are many and that the prayer of the Publican "Lord, be gracious to me a sinner" is the prayer that rises to heaven. This knowledge of our condition does not leave us in the dust of the pigpen. We forsake our former behavior and pleasures that do not satisfy. We make the long journey back to God through prayer and fasting, with tears and contrition and in the knowledge that we have a merciful Heavenly Father and a place in His kingdom. On this return we remember that there is urgency because the time is short. Along the way, we who hope to receive mercy do not neglect to show mercy. It is our prayer that your tears will be turned to joy and that your hearts be filled with hope as we make our journey from death to life and from earth to heaven. May God give you a good repentance and open to you the gates of Paradise.

*Author unknown*

## 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 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM. Father Andrew is available on other days and times by appointment.