

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Schedule of Divine Services

Saturday, March 16 **5:00 PM +Joseph Rusnak by Audrey Hinkle**
 Sunday, March 17 **9:00 AM +Joan Bodnar by Arlene Saulsbury**

Pages for Sunday's Divine Liturgy: Tone 1 pages 125-126 & pages 230-232

Web Liturgy for Week of March 17, 2024 sponsored by
Michael and Mary Novak

Sanctuary Candle is lit from March 10 – March 23
In memory of +Richard Fialkovich by +Helen Fialkovich

Wednesday, March 20 7:00 PM Liturgy of the Pre-sanctified Gifts

Friday, March 22 7:00 PM Liturgy of the Pre-sanctified Gifts

PALM SUNDAY

Saturday, March 23 **5:00 PM +Joanne Smoley & Alex Scripp by Anna Marie Wargo**
 Sunday, March 24 **9:00 AM +Mary & Joseph Novak by Daughter, Pat**
40th Day Remembrance of +Patricia Matus

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

Regular Offertory	\$3,067.00
Maintenance Fund	777.00
Holy Day	10.00
Easter Flowers	685.00
Easter	50.00
BCW	28.00
Loose Cash	25.00
Candles	114.55
TOTAL	\$4,756.55

Live Stream: \$50 by John & Barbara Havrilla

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

MARCH BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

- 16 Sydney Banks
- 16 Stephen Pavasko
- 16 Charles & Teri Phares (Anniversary)
- 18 Michelle Glaid
- 18 Joseph Onoffrey
- 19 Melissa Neri
- 19 Judy Snyder
- 20 Teresa Sekel Shrum
- 21 Linda Gilgovan
- 23 Barbara Sowko

In person Attendance: *Saturday, March 9: 57; Sunday, March 10: 61*
Friday, March 8 Presanctified: **35**
Wednesday, March 13 Presanctified: **35**

Live Stream Viewing: *Saturday, March 9: 33 ; Sunday, March 10: 52*
Wednesday, March 6 Presanctified: **29**
Friday, March 8 Presanctified: **32**

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. ***Confessions will be head on Saturday, March 16 & Sunday, March 17 following the Divine Liturgy.*** Fr. Andrew is available every Saturday from 4 – 4:30 pm and before every Pre-sanctified Liturgy.



KOLACHE AND PASKAS PICK-UP

Your orders for kolache and paskas may be picked up following the Divine Liturgies on **Saturday, March 16 & Sunday March 17.**

BUTTER LAMBS AND BEETS & HORSERADISH

We will have butter lambs and jars of beets & horseradish for purchase when you pick up your kolache and paska orders, first come, first served.

PIROHI SALE

We have homemade potato/cheese pirohi available for \$10/dozen. First come first serve.

EASTER BASKET OF CASH RAFFLE

Don't forget to return the Easter Basket of Cash Raffle tickets by next weekend. If you are unable to sell or buy them, please return them, because we have people asking for tickets.

EASTER KOLBASI PICK-UP

DELIVERY IS PALM SUNDAY WEEKEND March 23 & 24, 2024. Thank you.

“CATHEDRAL KITCHEN”

The “Kathedral Kitchen” has been restocked. We have quarts of *Halushki & Chili, Wedding, Beef Onion, Chicken Noodle, Chicken Gnocchi, Pasta Fagioli, Stuffed Cabbage, Stuffed Pepper, Mushroom, Potato/Green Bean, Tomato Basil, Vegetarian Vegetable, Spinach Orzo, Cheddar Broccoli and Vegan Onion soups* for \$7; *Seafood Creole* for \$13/quart. If you would like to buy any please see Patty Bovee, Diane Pochron or Fr. Andrew. ***Bold denotes meatless.***

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.

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.



Attentive to the Word

Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast - Saint Mary of Egypt

Hebrews 9: 11-14

Mark 10: 32-45

ARE YOU HEARING THE MESSAGE?

I love the story of the young man a number of years back who was seeking a job as a Morse Code operator. He found an ad in the paper and went to the office address that was listed. When he got there it was a large busy office and there was a certain amount of hustle and bustle and noise, including the chatter of a telegraph key in the background. There was a sign that instructed applicants to take a seat and wait until they were summoned to come in to the inner office. And there were more than a half a dozen applicants sitting there waiting ahead of him. This was discouraging, but he figured he had nothing to lose so he sat down along with the others to wait. After about two or three minutes the young man stood back up, walked over to the door where the sign was hanging and walked right on through. Naturally all of the other applicants perked up and started looking at each other and muttering. Within about three minutes the young man came back out the door with the employer who said, "You gentlemen may go now. The position has been filled."

At this, several of them grumbled and one spoke up and said, "I don't understand. He was the last to come in, and we never even got a chance to get interviewed and yet he got the job. That's not fair."

The employer said, "I'm sorry, but all the time you've been sitting here the telegraph key has been ticking out the message in Morse Code, "If you understand this message in Morse Code, come right in. The job is yours." None of you heard it. He did. The job is his."

That's a marvelous paradigm of what's going on in this world. There are lots of people who are so deafened by the selfish and self-aggrandizing messages of this world they are not hearing the message of God that has been coming through the splendor of the created universe, through the prophets, through the Scriptures, and lastly through Jesus Christ, that they are missing out on the message which says "The last will be first . . . Humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God. . . Become as a child . . . Trust in my son. Hear him."

SAINT MARY OF EGYPT

On the fifth Sunday, the Church encourages and strengthens the faithful with the reminder that they have already passed the greater part of Lent. The end is at hand. Let us persevere until the end. Let us work now, "while it is day." Procrastination is the thief of time. Let us use our time well for the benefit of our soul. Let us occupy ourselves with love and with a humble attention to our own self and our tasks, conscious of God and our difficulties.

Let us do this not feverishly but diligently. Fever and excitement harass, but diligence comforts us.

On this Sunday, the Church recalls the example of a great penitent, Mary of Egypt (c. 450 A.D.). An Egyptian by birth, Mary was a frivolous actress and lived in Alexandria, leading a sinful life. After her conversion she went into the desert near the river Jordan where she spent the remainder of her life doing penance for her past sins. She reached a high degree of perfection and became a model for all penitent sinners.

The Church singles her out as an example, showing that we too can become saints in spite of our past sins and human weaknesses. The troparion expressed this very thought: "In you, O Mother, was accurately preserved the divine image. Accepting the cross and following Christ, you have taught us by your life to despise the flesh because it is mortal and to take care of the soul, which is immortal."

By Fr. Basil Shereghy

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.

CHURCH CLEANING

Saturday, March 23, 2024 has been set aside to give our church a good cleaning before the Feast of the Resurrection. The day will begin at **9 AM**. We could use as many hands as possible to clean all areas in preparation for Pascha. No matter what time or for how long your help will be greatly appreciated.

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:

March 17

St. John the Baptist Church, Lyndora

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