

*Glory to Jesus Christ!    Glory Forever!*

**Schedule of Divine Services**

Saturday, February 22      **5:00 PM Special Intentions of William & Georgiana Sabo  
on the occasion of their 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary**

Sunday, February 23      **9:00 AM +Anna Mae Harhai by Andrea Harhai**

**Pages for Sunday’s Divine Liturgy: Tone 7 pages 156 – 158 & pages 217 - 218**

Web Liturgy for Week of February 23 sponsored by  
**Lawrence & Cathy Hruska**

*Sanctuary Candle* is lit from February 23 – March 8  
**In memory of +John Richard Drobne & +Stephen Joseph Pavlo  
by Mary Louise Drobne Pavlo & Family**

**SUNDAY OF CHEESEFARE**

Saturday, March 1      **5:00 PM +John Richard Drobne & +Stephen Joseph Pavlo  
by Mary Louise Drobne Pavlo & Family**

Sunday, March 2      **9:00 AM +Leonard Stagon by Family**

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

Regular Offertory	\$3,607.00
Maintenance Fund	554.00
BCW	132.00
Candles	87.00
Loose Cash	67.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,447.00</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.*

**Please call the parish office if you would like your 2024 contribution statement.**

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

**AT HOME:** Margie Seman, Teri Phares, Raymond Petro, Jr., Luke Pasternak, Marissa Stout, Tara Seman, Patrick Singer, Mary Ann Urban, Carole Srsic, Pauline Johnson, Aaron Spang, Suzie (Wargo) Bodziach, Patty Schneider, Jeannie Pasternak, Janet Myers, Ethel Wahal, Paul Cherep, Andrew & Linda Deskevich, William Sabo, Nick & Marion Mamula, Gus Matta

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

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

Betty Martin

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

- 26 Gregory Chekan
- 26 Steven Kovatch
- 26 David Wincko
- 27 William & Georgiana Sabo (Anniversary)

**In person Attendance:** *Saturday, February 15: 41; Sunday, February 16: 64*

**Live Stream Viewing:** *Saturday, February 15: 35; Sunday, February 16: 61*

**Special Donation:** \$100 in honor of William & Georgiana Sabo on the occasion of their 60<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary by their sons.

## **ETERNAL MEMORY**

+Elsie Urban passed from this life to the next on February 18, 2025. May she 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 servant Elsie in His Kingdom forever!* Her funeral will be celebrated on Monday, February 24, 2025 at 10 AM in the Cathedral.

## **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 16, 2025.**

## **UPCOMING CATHEDRAL EVENTS**

- April 26 Craftshow
- May 1 Steel Valley Awards Banquet
- May 30 & 31 Rummage Sale

## **SARRIS EASTER CANDY ORDERS**

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 16, 2025**.

## **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 16, 2025.**

## **"CATHEDRAL KITCHEN"**

The "Kathedral Kitchen" has been restocked. We have quarts of *Halushki, Chili & Wedding, Chicken Noodle, Wedding, Chicken Gnocchi, Mushroom, Pasta Fagioli, Stuffed Cabbage, Tomato Basil, Stuffed Pepper soups* for \$7; Stuffed Cabbage: ½ dozen for \$18 and 1 dozen for \$30. If you would like to buy any please see Patty Bovee, Diane Pochron or Fr. Andrew.

## **RUMMAGE SALE ITEMS**

We will be holding another Rummage Sale on May 30 & 31, 2025. 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.

## **PYSANKY CLASS**

Our parish will sponsor a pysanky class on **Saturday, March 15, 2025**. More details will be forthcoming.

## **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.

## **PUSSYWILLOWS NEEDED**

Even though we are still very much in the midst of winter, I thought I would place this reminder now for when the weather turns warmer (hopefully soon!). When the weather turns better and the tree begin to bud, 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.**



# Attentive to the Word

*Meatfare Sunday*

*1 Corinthians 8:8 - 9:2*

*Matthew 25: 31-46*

This Sunday is known in the Church as the Sunday of the Judgment because on this day the Gospel passage about the judgment is read to us. We know that immediately before this day comes the Saturday designated for the dead. This is because on the last day, when all the dead rise from the ends of the earth, the Bible says that all people, living and dead, will be gathered together for judgment, for the accounting that is at the very same time the resurrection! This is why Soul Saturday is an image of the Saturday of Light and so the Sunday of the Judgment is also an image of Easter because, as the dead are in the graves, so too was Christ in the tomb on the Saturday of Light before the resurrection was proclaimed on the day of Easter.

What does the Gospel teach us today? It teaches us something basic, that after our sojourn on this earth we will be judged in particular about our love for others, especially the people in need who are around us. As one of the fathers says, the fast is nothing other than abstinence for the sake of love. That is, we deny ourselves in order to give to others this true love that the Lord Jesus revealed to us when He came into the world. We pray in order to purify ourselves and become united to the Lord Jesus. We fast from material things and not only from fatty foods. Indeed, we fast from superfluous luxuries that are not necessary in our life! The person who is faithful in the fast abandons everything external in order to focus on himself and especially if he has sins he should attempt to be freed of them, to cleanse himself, just as when someone cleans their house, they clean everything so that the house will be "clean." What is more important, a house or a person's interior soul, which is much more important than material, external things?

This is the time in which the Church has arranged for us to purify, to cleanse our hearts. Let every person who has jealousy, envy, or any idle quality, try during the fast to become free of it, or at the very least to combat them and control them in order to become someone who is pure, loving, generous, open-minded, and with a heart for all people. This is Christianity. If we are not like this, we are not Christians and we are lying to God and to the people. We ask God to open our hearts and for this fast to be an opportunity for us to glorify God and to live with Him

### **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:

<b>March 2</b>	<b>St. John the Baptist Cathedral</b>	<b>Forgiveness Vespers</b>
March 9	St. John the Baptist Cathedral	Fr. David Bosnich
March 16	Ss. Peter & Paul, Tarentum	Fr. Radko Blicher
March 23	St. Gregory, Upper St. Clair	Fr. Tyler Wisniewski
March 30	Ss. Peter & Paul, Duquesne	Fr. Frank Firko
April 6	St. Andrew the Apostle, Gibsonia	Fr. Michael Kunitz

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.

### **YOUNG ADULTS GREAT FAST BIBLE STUDY**

*The Youth and Young Adult Ministry Office* invites all **YOUNG ADULTS** (19-39 y.o.; single, married) to join us **on Mondays** during **The GREAT FAST** for **BIBLE STUDY “NO GREATER LOVE”**. We begin **on March 10, 2025, at 7:00 pm** (for about 2 hours) at the **St. John the Baptist Cathedral**. To learn more about the Bible Study, visit [No Greater Love: A Biblical Walk Through Christ's Passion – Ascension](#). To register, fill out the form online here: <https://forms.gle/uYf6dJA2wkxQnD3T8> or fill out the paper form and email it to [youth@archpitt.org](mailto:youth@archpitt.org) by **February 26, 2025**. If you have any questions, contact Viktoria Zolnova at [youth@archpitt.org](mailto:youth@archpitt.org). After you register, you will receive a confirmation email with further details. Looking forward to walking this journey with you!

## 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.