



ST. GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICES

Saturday, Dec. 16

The Holy Prophet Haggai

Readings: Eph. 5:9-19; Lk. 18:18-27

4:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (South Side)

6:30 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (McKees Rocks)

Sunday, Dec. 17

Sunday of the Forefathers

Readings: Col. 3:4-11; Lk. 14:16-24

9:10 A.M. Third Hour;

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Supplications will be offered for **+Philip Perkun on his 98th birthday, given by Maria Perkun.**

God's blessing and health on Kathleen Shabla.

Wednesday, Dec. 20

St. Ignatius, Bishop-Martyr

Readings: Heb. 5:11-6:8; Mk. 10:11-16

9:30 A. M. Service of Holy Eucharist- Mass (Latin rite)

Repose of the members of Faryna & Laszok families

**Sheptytsky Arms
Social Hall**

Thursday, Dec. 21

St. Juliana, Martyr

Readings: Heb. 7:1-6; Mk. 10:17-27

7:00 P. M. Moleben to Emmanuel

Saturday, Dec. 23

Saturday before Christmas

Readings: Heb. 11:19-10 & 32-40; Mt. 1:1-25

4:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (South Side)

6:30 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (McKees Rocks)

Sunday, Dec. 24

Sunday before Christmas – of the Ancestors

Readings: Heb. 11:19-10 & 32-40; Mt. 1:1-25

9:10 A.M. Third Hour;

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Supplications will be offered for **+Stella Shedno, given by Rose Shedno.**

Supplications will be offered for **+Justin Winghart Olga Siweckyj, given by Mary Siweckyj.**

Holy Sacrament of Confession



One way of preparing ourselves worthily to welcome the King of ALL is going to Holy Confession. What is Confession basically? A public acknowledgement of one's sinfulness and need of forgiveness. A tangible sign of God's forgiveness in His Son, Jesus Christ. A reconciliation of man to God through forgiveness of sins that separate us from God. A sincere effort to examine our life, goals, values, priorities, and characteristics. Sincere prayer, asking God for His forgiveness and thanking Him for all the things He has given us, accompanied by a firm desire to live a renewed and

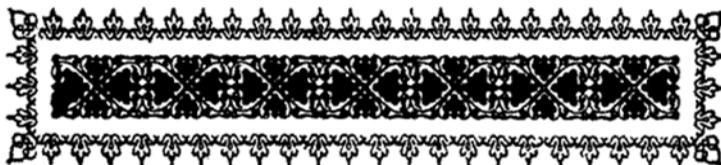
changed Christian life.

Confession can be tremendously uplifting and is a real foundation for spiritual growth and renewal (See Jn. 20:21-23, James 5:16). Many ask: What shall I say in Confession? Confession is the most neglected Sacrament, simply because many do not understand it. Each of us is tempted to commit sins - to displease God and violate His commandments. What types of sins are there?

SINS AGAINST GOD: If I lose confidence, trust or hope in God. If I blaspheme, curse Him, mock Him, poke fun at Him. If I absent myself from the Divine Liturgy on Sunday without good reason. If I do not receive Holy Confession and Holy Communion periodically.

SINS AGAINST MY FELLOW MAN: If I am jealous, envious, hateful, malicious, slanderous, vindictive, revengeful, or mean. If I criticize unjustly, ridicule, poke fun, take advantage of, insult, hurt, inflict harm, or gossip in any way.

SINS AGAINST MYSELF: If I lie, cheat, steal, or deceive. If I am unethical in my practices at home, school, or work. If I have impure thoughts in my mind. Acts of fornication and adultery. Pornography. Profanity. Pride and conceit. Remember that the Sacrament of Holy Confession is a "second Baptism". It washes away our sins. It gives us God's grace. It enables our souls to become pure and holy as He wants them to be.

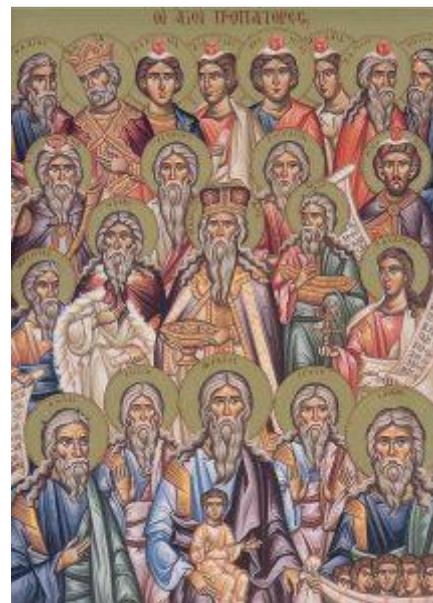


Sunday of the Holy Ancestors

On this Sunday the Church commemorates the Holy Forefathers; the earthly ancestors of our Lord Jesus Christ, beginning with the first man, Adam, and on through Seth, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, King David, and others. These ancient people, separated from us by millennia, nevertheless have a direct and close bearing upon us, contemporary Christians.

What connection is there between them and us? In general, the Church brings them to our attention now, right before Christmas, largely because of their faith – their belief in the promise given by God to Adam during his expulsion from the Garden of Eden that in the end a Savior will come into the world and will redeem mankind from original sin. All the forefathers – who lived on earth long before the birth of Christ – lived and burned with this faith, never allowing it to be extinguished. They are a shining example to us, who are living on earth after the incarnation of our Lord. Just like those ancient people we, too, have never actually seen Christ: they only knew that He would come into the world, while we know that He did come into the world. But they firmly believed in His coming and their faith was justified. But apart from faith there is something else that binds us closely with the ancient forefathers – and that is their faithfulness to the awaited Messiah. They lived surrounded by a pagan world – a world which did not yet know Christ, but which had already rejected God. We too, live in a similar and even worse situation. For nineteen centuries after the birth of Christ the world lived with Christ and the Christian culture, but we see now an abrupt change that took place. We now live in a post-Christian era, in a world that has once again become totally immersed in paganism. We often hear mention of the arrival of a “new age.” However, there is nothing new in this “new age” except for its more modern form. It is the same old rejection of God, a complete rejection of Christ and profanation of Christ.

What can I learn on this Sunday of the Holy Ancestors? Let us remember not only the faith of the Holy Ancestors-Forefathers, but also their faithfulness to Christ the Savior; and as we prepare very soon to celebrate His Nativity, let us turn away from the paganism, secularism, materialism that surrounds us, and let us witness our total devotion and loyalty to the One Who said: “I am with you always, even to the end of the age.” Amen.



Dec. 17, 2017

Sunday of the Holy Ancestors;
Octoechos Tone 3; The Holy Prophet
Daniel, the Three Holy Youths
Ananiah (Ananias), Azariah (Azarias)
and Mishael (Misael) (6th century
BC)

Changeable Part: Page 17

In the Booklet of Changeable Parts (Small white book)

Announcements:

Welcome Fr. Innocent

On this Sunday we welcome Fr. Innocent, student of Dequenne University. Father Innocent is here to administer the Mystery of Reconciliation for those who wish to receive it before the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ. May this Sunday truly be a parish family renewal so that we can together receive the King of All, Christ Our Savior born in Bethlehem.

Ticket Sale: Christmas Dinner

We start with the ticket sale for our Parish Christmas Dinner “Προσφορά” which will take place on Sunday, January 14th, starting at 11:00 a.m. Tickets for this parish event are \$10.00 per adult, children (12 and younger) \$4.00, and will be available from our tickets sellers following the Divine Liturgy in the Church vestibule. Please mark your calendars for this happy event.

Parish Registration

In preparation for our 100th Anniversary we will continue with our new parish registration forms. It is necessary for our parish office to have an up to date record of our parish families. Also collected information will be inserted in to the anniversary book. Please take a registration form, complete it and return to the office.

Thursday: Last Moleben-Advent Prayer Service

We continue during this Christmas Lent-Advent with the celebration of the beautiful Moleben to Emmanuel-Advent Prayer Service. Plan to come on Thursday, December 21st at 7:00 p.m. for our last Moleben Service as we continue together our journey to Bethlehem.

Prayers for the Living & Deceased

As we slowly come to the beginning of the year 2018, I ask that if you have any special dates throughout the year on which you would like to have prayers offered for the living or for the blessed repose of your loved ones, you please contact the parish office now to reserve that day. Remember that during the Great Fast and Holy Week) the Divine Liturgy is not celebrated on weekdays due to the fact that these are aliturgical (without Divine Liturgy) days.

Pyrohy

This month of December is one of our busiest months of the year. Therefore we ask that you please place your orders by this **Sunday, December 17th**. Sincere thanks to all our dedicated pyrohy workers for their hard work and dedication to this ongoing activity. In order to fulfill all orders we need to add a **Wednesday evening as extra day for pyrohy production**.

Please come down and give us a hand with this important fundraiser.
Thank you!

Prayer List:

Make a point of praying for everyone on the prayer list. If you don't have one, contact the office and we'll send you one. In a special way, at this time, remember the following members of our parish family: **Alice Hooge, Eva Hlovchiec, Barbara Fedora, Thomas Orr, Patricia Della-Regione, Rose Shedno, Alice Mcilwane, Meghan Fossaceca, Bryan Madeya, George Syweckyj, Arlene Grzybowski, Alexandra, and Sophi Kozak.**

Collection- May God bless you...

The grand total for Sunday of December 10, 2017 was **\$2,491.00**
(Collection: \$1085.00, loose & candles: \$40.00, Pyrohy: \$1,366.00)

Sincere thanks to all for your kindness and generosity to our Holy Church!



Divine Services for the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord **Jesus Christ**

Sunday, December 24, 2017: Eve of the Nativity of Christ (Christmas Eve)

*After consultation with PAC, it was decided to have Christmas Eve services at one place for both parishes. This year, it will be **St. George, Pittsburgh, PA.***

8:00 P.M. Paramon Vespersal Divine Liturgy, Anointing with Holy Oil
(Mirovanya)

Monday, December 25, 2017: Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ **(Christmas Day)**

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy, Mirovanya (St. George, North Side of Pittsburgh)
11:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy, Mirovanya (St. John, McKees Rocks Bottom)

Tuesday, December 26, 2017: Synaxis of the Theotokos (2nd Day of **Christmas)**

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy (St. John, McKees Rocks)

Wednesday, December 27, 2017: St. Stephen Protomartyr (3^d **Day of Christmas)**

9:30 A. M. Service of Holy Eucharist- Mass (Latin rite)

