



***ST. GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICES FOR THE WEEK***

- Monday, February 22      *Uncovering of the relics of the Martyrs of Eugenia*  
**9:00 A.M. First and Third Lenten Hours**
- Tuesday, February 23      *The holy hieromartyr Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna*  
**9:00 A.M. The Office of Matins during the Great Fast**
- Wednesday, February 24      *First and Second finding of the Head of John the Baptist*  
**7:00 P.M. Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**
- Thursday, February 25      *Our holy father Tarasius, Archbishop*  
**6:30 P.M. Chant Rehearsal**
- Friday, February 26      *Our holy father Porphyrius, Bishop of Gaza*  
**7:00 P.M. Akathist Hymn to the Passion of Christ**
- Saturday, February 27      *Second All Souls Saturday*  
**9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy, Sorokousty-Hramoty**  
**5:00 P.M. Great Vespers**
- Sunday, February 28      **Second Sunday of the Great Fast/St. Gregory Palamas**  
**9:40 A.M. Third Hour**  
**10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy**

The Epistle Reading will be Heb 1:10-2:3 and the Gospel will be Mk 2:1-12. Supplications will be offered for the soul of +Joseph Romah Sr., given by Debbie Label.

What did Philip tell his friend?

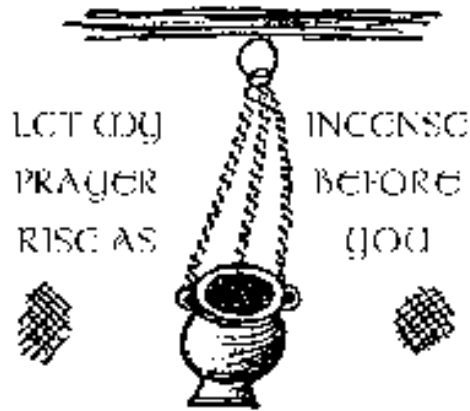


Write the letter of the alphabet that follows the one given.

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V	D	G	Z	U	D	E	N	T	M	C		
S	G	D	N	M	D	L	N	R	D	R		
V	Q	N	S	D		Z	A	N	T	S		
H	M	S	G	D		K	Z	V	Z	M	C	
Z	A	N	T	S		V	G	N	L	S	G	D
O	Q	N	O	G	D	S	R	Z	K	R	N	
V	Q	N	S	D		I	D	R	T	R		
N	E	M	Z	Y	Z	Q	D	S	G			
S	G	D	R	N	M	N	E					
I	N	R	D	O	G							

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***We celebrate during the Great Fast-Lent  
the Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts.***

***Have you ever experienced it?***

As you know from previous homilies and bulletin articles, in the Eastern Church the Eucharistic Divine Liturgy is not celebrated on Lenten weekdays. In order for the faithful to sustain their Lenten effort by participation in Holy Communion, the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is served. This Divine Service is an ancient one in

the Eastern Church. We officially hear about it in the canons of the seventh century, which obviously indicates its development at a much earlier date.

This Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is an evening service. It is the solemn Lenten Vespers with the administration of Holy Communion added to it. There is no consecration of the Eucharistic gifts at this Liturgy. Holy Communion is given from the Eucharistic gifts sanctified on the previous Sunday at the celebration of the Divine Liturgy, unless, of course, the feast of the Annunciation should intervene; hence its name of "Presanctified." The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is served on Wednesday and Friday evenings, although some Churches may celebrate it only on one of these days. It comes in the evening after a day of spiritual preparation and abstinence.

The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is traditionally considered to be the work of the sixth-century pope, Saint Gregory of Rome. It is one of the great masterpieces of piety and Liturgical creativity. It reveals the central Christian doctrine and experience in its form and content; namely that our life must be spent in prayer and fasting in order to be in communion with Christ. Please come and experience this Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts which is one of the most beautiful and meaningful Liturgies in our Holy Church.

*On all days of the holy fast of Lent, except on the Sabbath (Saturday), the Lord's Day (Sunday), and the holy day of the Annunciation (March 25), the Liturgy of the Presanctified is to be served.*

-From Canon 52 of the Quinisext Council (692 AD)

**Announcements**

**Today: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Great Fast**

We celebrate today the First Sunday of the Great Fast which is also called the Sunday of Orthodoxy in commemoration of the victory of orthodoxy-true faith in controversy over Holy Icons in the year 843. As part of this commemoration, the blessing of Icons will take place at the end of the Divine Liturgy. If you have any Icons, Crosses, religious items you would like to have blessed, please place them on the Tetrapod in the center of the Church.

**Today: National Collection**

On this Sunday we will also have the 2010 Collection to Aid the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. The theme for this year's collection is "Great needs remain-Give faith to the future". Remember that proceeds from this collection very much help our Ukrainian Catholic Church in Ukraine. For this collection please use the special envelopes which are available in the Church vestibule.

**Spaghetti Dinner in Carnegie**

Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church in Carnegie (726 Washington Avenue) will be having "All You Can Eat Spaghetti Dinner" today from 12:00 noon – 5:00 p.m. The cost is \$8 for adults, \$4 for children 12-6., 5 and under are free. Take out will also be available.

**Sunday Vespers at the Seminary**

The Byzantine Catholic Seminary welcomes the faithful to participate in Sunday Vespers during the Great Fast, beginning today at 5:00 p.m. in the seminary's chapel at 3605 Perrysville Avenue. A guest celebrant and homilist each week will offer a homily to help one focus on preparation for Pascha. The schedule for these Sunday Vespers is posted on the bulletin board in the Church vestibule.

**Pyrohy are back!**

Even though we still have lots and lots of snow we are back with our pyrohy production. Especially now during this Lenten season we are very busy making our delicious pyrohy which are part of many Lenten meals. If you can, please give us a hand on Wednesday morning with the preparation of the fillings or on Thursday morning with the pyrohy production itself. Our total income from the previous sale was \$827.75. Thanks to all our dedicated women and men that come faithfully to be part of this parish activity.



### Flowers for the Cross

On Sunday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, we will celebrate the Third Sunday of the Great Fast on which we honor the Holy and Life-giving Cross of Our Savior. According to our Liturgical tradition the Cross is carried from the altar on a tray of flowers and placed in the midst of the congregation so that we may pay homage to the symbol of our salvation. The beautiful flowers surrounding the Cross signify the fragrance, sweetness and beauty that it has added to life. If you wish to sponsor flowers for the Holy Cross on this upcoming Third Sunday of the Great Fast, you may do so in honor or memory of a loved one. We ask that you use the special envelopes that are available for this purpose in the Church vestibule. Please print the names of your loved ones on this envelope and circle the

proper prayer intention. Your prayerful intentions will then be published on that Sunday in our parish bulletin. *"Shine, Cross of the Lord, shine with the light of your grace upon the hearts of those that honor you!"*

### Collection- May God bless you...

The total for Sunday, February 14, 2010 was \$1669.00. *Sincere thanks to all for your kindness and generosity to our Holy Church!*

### The Pittsburgh Lenten Mission 2010

Please plan to be here for our upcoming Pittsburgh Lenten Mission 2010 that will take place take Sunday, March 14 – Friday, March 19, 2010. It is a blessing that this year we will welcome into our community of faithful Fr. Reginald Russo, OFM-Capuchin. Father Reginald is well known as a retreat master and has given many Parochial Lenten Missions in our area. The parishes participating in this prayerful event are St. John UCC in Southside Pittsburgh, St. George UCC in Northside Pittsburgh, and St. John UCC in McKees Rocks.

**As a parish family we will welcome the faithful from our local parishes to St. George's on Wednesday & Thursday, March 17-18.** Mark your calendar for this event that brings us together for the renewal of our souls and bodies in preparation for the Great Feast of the Resurrection-Pascha. Stay tuned for more info on this prayerful event...

### *First Sunday of the Great Fast Sunday of Orthodoxy*

*We venerate Your most pure image, O Good One, and ask forgiveness of our transgressions, O Christ God.*

We are keeping today, as every year at the end of the first week of the Great Fast-Lent, the Feast of the Triumph of Orthodoxy. The occasion of this feast was the recognition of the legitimacy of venerating icons. By doing this we proclaim that God - invisible, ineffable, the God whom we cannot comprehend, has truly become man, that God has taken flesh, that He has lived in our midst full of humility, of simplicity, but of glory also. And proclaiming this we venerate the icons not as idols, but as a declaration of the Truth of the Incarnation.



By doing this we must not forget that it is not the icons of wood and of paint, but God who reveals Himself in the world. Each of us was created in the image of God. We are all living icons, and this lays upon us a great responsibility because an icon may be defaced, an icon may be turned into a caricature and into a blasphemy. And we must think of ourselves and ask ourselves: are we worthy; are we capable of being called "icons", images of God?

As long as we are not capable of being such a vision to those who surround us, we fail in our duty, we do not proclaim this "Triumph of Orthodoxy" through our life, and we give a lie to what we proclaim. And therefore each of us, and all of us collectively, bear every responsibility for the fact that the world meeting Christians by the million is not converted by the vision of God's presence in their midst, carried indeed in earthen vessels, but glorious, saintly, transfiguring the world.

Therefore, as we continue our Lenten journey let us learn to live according to the Gospel which is the Truth and the Life, not only individually but collectively, and build societies of Christians that are a revelation of it, so that the world looking at us may say: Let us re-shape our institutions, re-shape our relationships, renew all that has gone or remains old and become a new society in which the Law of God, the Life of God can prosper and triumph. Amen.

