



## ST. GEORGE'S & ST. JOHN'S SERVICES

**Sunday, March 29** Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast/St. Mary of Egypt

Readings: Heb. 9:11-14; Mk. 10:32-45

**St. John's** 10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy (Privately)

Supplications will be offered for **+Maria Tkacz (by Ann & John Iurlano)** Supplications will be offered for **+Josephine Jossette (by Jenny Jeglinski)** Supplications will be offered for **+Yuri Hohosha (by Michael & Victoria Senko)**

\* This Divine Service will be posted on our St. George's Facebook Page\*

11:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon Church OPEN for Private Prayer

**Thursday, April 2** St. Titus, Venerable-Wonderworker

Readings: Gen. 46:1-7; Lk. 1:24-38

(North Side) 7:00 P. M. Liturgy of Presentified Gifts (Privately)

\* This Divine Service will be posted on our St. George's Facebook Page\*

**Sunday, April 5** Palm Sunday

Readings: Phil. 4:4-9; Jn. 12:1-18

**St. George** 10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy (Privately)

Supplications will be offered for Philip Perkun (by wife Maria Perkun)  
Supplications will be offered for baby **+Willow Fuchs (by grandaunt Mary)**  
Supplications will be offered for **+Maria Tkacz (by Devlin Funeral Home)**

**Blessed Palms and willows branches will be available at the top of front steps of St. George & St. John parish all day long**

\* This Divine Service will be posted on our St. George's Facebook Page\*

11:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon Church OPEN for Private Prayer

## The Request of James and John

James and John were brothers. They were also disciples. They asked Jesus to grant them a request.

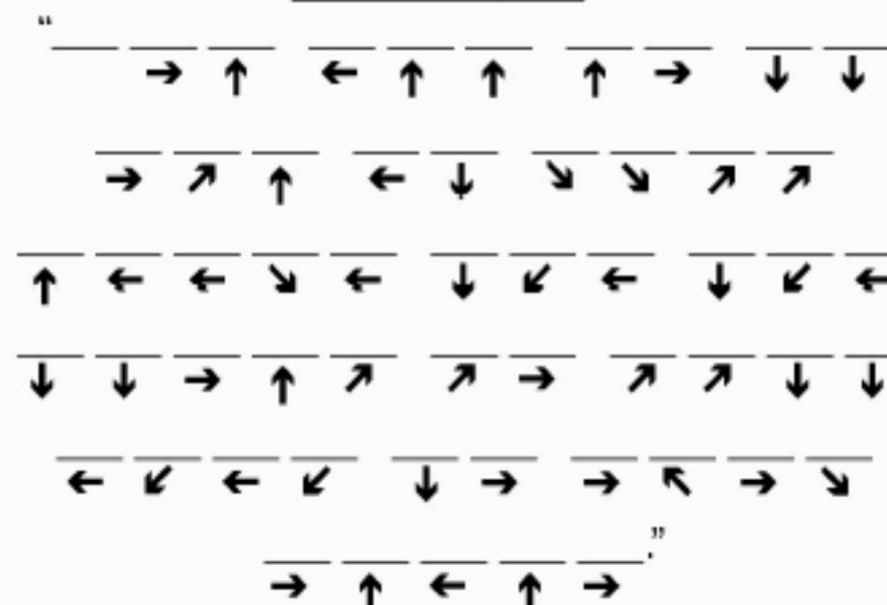


Follow the arrows to fill the blanks.

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Begin

End





### ***Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast- Mary of Egypt***

Every year on the Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast we remember our venerable mother Mary of Egypt. She is known in our Holy Church as the “Penitent Saint” and her story of life has been called “an icon in words of the theological truth of repentance”. As part of our Lenten journey, Saint Mary of Egypt can teach us something very great. As our venerable father Seraphim of Sarov repeated more than once to those who came to see him, the difference between a sinner who is lost and a sinner who finds his way to salvation, lies in nothing but determination. The grace of God is always there; but our response is not. But Mary of Egypt responded; through the

horror of her new perception of herself she responded to the holiness, the grace, the wholeness and sanctity of the Mother of God, and nothing, nothing was too much for her to change her life.

This example of hers is presented to us as a crowning moment of this spring of life, which is the Great Fast-Lent. The Church commemorates St. Mary for her recognition of her own sins as an example of how one can free oneself from the slavery and burden of wrongdoings. A week before we heard the teaching and call of Saint John of the Ladder, the one who has established a whole ladder of perfection for us to overcome evil and come to right. And today we see one who from the very depth of evil was brought to the heights of saintliness, and as the Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete says: “Be sure that God Who could heal the leprous could heal the leprosy which is yours.”

Her example of repentance should be an inspiration to all of us. We have a wonderful opportunity through the sacramental mystery of Penance to obtain forgiveness. The same Jesus who cured the leper with a touch and forgave sins with a word now uses a priest as His instrument to heal and forgive, to teach and console, to correct and encourage. As we near the final days of Lent, the Church gives us the example of Mary of Egypt so that we might not lose hope and to teach us that no sin is too great to be forgiven.

In Scripture we read: “though your sins be red as scarlet, I shall make them white as snow.” We still have time to make a good confession...May the example of Saint Mary of Egypt draw attention to our own need for repentance so that we, too, nourished by Holy Communion, may rededicate our lives to the service of God.



### **March 29, 2020**

**Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast  
– Mary of Egypt, Tone 1; Our  
Venerable Father Mark,  
Bishop of Arethusa, the  
Deacon Cyril and Others  
Martyred During the Reign of  
Julian the Apostate (360-63)**

***Changeable Part: Pages 22-24  
in the Booklet of Changeable Parts (Small white  
book)***



### **Prayer of Protection from the Coronavirus**

O God Almighty, Lord of heaven and earth, and of all creation visible and invisible, in Your ineffable goodness, look down upon Your people gathered in Your Name. Be our helper and defender in this day of affliction. You know our weakness. You hear our cry in repentance and contrition of heart.

O Lord Who loves mankind deliver us from the impending threat of the coronavirus. Sent Your Angel to watch over us and protect us. Grant health and recovery to those suffering from this virus. Guide the hands of physicians, and preserve those who are healthy that we may continue to serve You in peace and glorify Your Most Honorable and Majestic Name, of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, now and forever and to the ages of ages. Amen.

## Announcements:

### Help your parish during COVID 19 - DONATE.

In addition to caring for your neighbor and taking care of yourself, one of the most practical ways to help the Church is to continue to do what you have always done: support our parish with your financial resources. Please, continue to contribute to your parish, even during the period you are unable to attend the Liturgy, with your gifts of alms during this Great Fast. Parishioners' weekly contributions are the main source of financial support for our parishes, and while some expenses may be a little lower during this time, parishes have many fixed costs that need to be attended to. **You may send your donations to the office of St. George/St. John, or we just added an option to make online donation on our Saint George's web page.** <http://saintgeorgepittsburgh.org/donate.htm> **May God Bless you for your generosity!**

### Easter Bread-Paska (CANCELED)

On Saturday, April 4th, we will prepare Easter Bread (Paska) in our Church hall. The price per a loaf is \$10.00. In the Church vestibule we have a sign-up sheet for placing your orders. I ask you to write down your name and amount of Paska Bread (plain or raisin) you wish to order. You may pick-up your order on Palm Sunday, April 5th, following the Divine Liturgy.

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

The grand total for Sunday of March 22, 2020 was **\$3,325.00**

(Collection: \$2,325.00, Pyrohy: \$100.00, Donation to reimbursement for the lost income for Pascha baking: \$1,000.00)

*Sincere thanks to all of you for your kindness and generosity!*



### **Prayer for Doctors and Nurses**

O merciful Father, who have wonderfully fashioned man in your own image, and have made his body to be a temple of the Holy Spirit, sanctify, we pray you, our doctors and nurses and all those whom you have called to study and practice the arts of healing the sick and the prevention of disease and pain.

Strengthen them in body and soul, and bless their work, that they may give comfort to those for whose salvation your Son became Man, lived on this earth, healed the sick, and suffered and died on the Cross. Amen.

**Glory to Jesus Christ! Dear beloved brothers and sisters, my dear spiritual children!**

Accordance with the memorandum, all public attendance of the Sunday and daily liturgical services both at St. George and St. John Churches has been temporarily canceled until further notice with the proper dispensation given. The bishops are asking us, the priests, to continue to celebrate them privately, which I will do (all services will take place at St. George Rectory Chapel)

As for the requests for the Holy Sacraments of Confession, Anointing of the Sick or with any questions and/or concerns feel free to call me at my cell at 412-478-5685 or e-mail me at [revingvar@yahoo.com](mailto:revingvar@yahoo.com) or [saintgeorgepghs@yahoo.com](mailto:saintgeorgepghs@yahoo.com)

It looks like everything is canceled, but not a life. We have to live and survive. The most important thing we need to do is to "stay calm and carry on", because this helps us to respond rationally rather than emotionally.

Our world is changing, our lives will be changed, but God is still the same. "Lord and Master of my life."

We certainly are praying during this difficult time. Here is a good link for on-line or streaming services for Eastern Catholics, Eastern Orthodox [http://liveliturgy.com/?fbclid=IwAR3Y0osLGL5cC6m6w\\_ng7yO9FwTd\\_O7VBjpJq6WnEAe3awruGyFflCmf\\_UQ](http://liveliturgy.com/?fbclid=IwAR3Y0osLGL5cC6m6w_ng7yO9FwTd_O7VBjpJq6WnEAe3awruGyFflCmf_UQ)

or visit our St. George Ukrainian Catholic on Facebook:

or visit our neighbor parish: St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church on Facebook;

<https://www.facebook.com/St-John-the-Baptist-Ukrainian-Catholic-Church-181095781918666/>

This may seem difficult, but find the hidden blessings in all of this! Spend more time with your families. Read more spiritual writings this year during Great Lent. Do a deep cleaning of your home. Work on a project around the house that has been on the to-do list. Create a new "routine" over the next few days.

Also, please, remember to support our parish financially in the coming weeks, if it all possible. Please, call to our older parishioners and check how they are doing.

The most important thing to remember is to treat this time as an opportunity to grow closer to the Lord. We need to be sure that we are not just an accident, here today and gone tomorrow through some freak virus. We are God's children, put here for a purpose, to receive God's love and to love God back, while we love each other.

Please be assured of my daily prayers for you and your loved ones during this time. Also, keep me and my family in your prayers, as well.

**May God grant us all strength! God with us!**

**Fr. Igor Hohosha**