



We prepare ourselves for the journey of the Great Fast-Lent

The Season of the Great and Holy Fast will begin on Sunday evening, February 14th with the celebration of Forgiveness Vespers. As we know, during this “season of repentance” we are called to much more than a mere dietary change; we are called to change our entire way of life so that it conforms to the ways of God. And for this reason we not only cease those things which are spiritually harmful (arguing, gossiping, overeating, judging others, etc.), but we also limit those things which bring no spiritual benefit (television, radio, magazines,

etc.). In their stead we apply ourselves to prayer, fasting, and almsgiving: attending more church services, helping to those in need, spending more time in spiritual reading and reflection, and reforming bad habits.

Here at St. George’s we will celebrate the beautiful Lenten Services that enhance our journey of “bright sadness”: Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts, Akathist Hymn to the Cross and to the Passion of Christ, Penitential Canon of St. Andrew...these Divine Services are to help us seek the Lord Our Savior during this special time of the year.



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. Send 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



February 7, 2021

Sunday of Meatfare - Sunday of the Fearful Judgement, Tone 3; Our Venerable Father Parthenius, Bishop of Lampsacus (312-37)

Changeable Part: Pages 6-8

In the Booklet of Changeable Parts (Small white book)

Announcements:

Next Sunday: Forgiveness Sunday

Next Sunday, February 14, in our Liturgical calendar is the last Sunday before the Great Fast called Cheesefare Sunday. This Sunday is also called “Forgiveness Sunday” from the pious Eastern Christian custom of asking each other’s forgiveness for discourtesy and disrespect before we begin together our journey through the Great Fast-Lent. At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy we will have the Rite of Forgiveness during which we will ask each other for forgiveness.

PAC Meeting

On Thursday, February 11th, the meeting of the Parish Advisory Council will take place at the church hall at 7:00 p.m. I ask all members of the PAC to please be present for this important meeting.

St. George Kitchen News

Soup Sale

Again, this year we will have a weekly Soup Sale. Each week we will have one kind of soup and the soup will be available for purchase on Thursdays and Fridays as well as after Liturgy on Sundays. To be successful, we need volunteers to prepare the soup. These should be Lenten soups, i.e., Borscht, Barley, Vegetable, etc. Here's your chance to show your talents as well as help with fundraising!

The start of Soup Sale will be on Sunday, February 14. A sign-up sheet will be available for this important fundraiser in the Church vestibule.

Pyrohi

Pyrohi will be available for sale every Thursday and Friday. We have jalapeno and loaded baked potato as well as potato/cheese this week.

For February 18 and 19, there will be potato/cheese and farmer's cheese.

To guarantee that you get your order, please call the church hall and leave a message with your preferred flavor and quantity.

Pyrohy

Our total income from last week's sale was \$551.00. Thanks to all our dedicated women and men that come faithfully to be part of this parish activity.

Collection- May God bless you...

The grand total for Sunday of January 17, 2021 was **\$1,115.66**

(Collection: \$990.00, loose & candles: \$5.00, Nut rolls: \$70.00, Rebate: \$50.66)

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



Values

On April 14, 1912, 10:00 p.m. the Titanic crashed into an iceberg in the mid-Atlantic and four hours later sank. One woman in a life boat asked if she could go back to her room. She was given only three minutes to do so. She hurried down the corridors, already tilting dangerously, through the gambling room piled ankle-deep in money. In her room were her treasures waiting to be taken, but instead, she snatched up three oranges and hurried back to the boat. One hour before she would have naturally chosen diamonds over oranges, but in the face of death, values are seen more clearly.

The Sunday of the Last Judgment

The Lord said, "When the Son of Man comes in His glory and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on His glorious throne. Before Him will be gathered all the nations, and He will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and He will place the sheep at his right hand, but the goats at the left."

The past two Sundays spoke to us of God's patience and limitless compassion, of His readiness to accept every sinner who returns to Him. On this third Sunday, we are powerfully reminded of a complementary truth: no one is so patient and so merciful as God, but even He does not forgive those who do not repent. The God of love is also a God of righteousness, and when Christ comes again in glory, He will come as our judge. "Behold the goodness and severity of God" (Romans 11:22). Such is the message of Lent to each of us: turn back while there is still time, repent before the End comes.

In the words of the Great Canon: *The end draws near, my soul, the end draws near; yet you do not care or make ready. The time grows short, rise up: the Judge is at the door. The days of our life pass swiftly, as a dream, as a flower.*

This Sunday sets before us the "eschatological" dimension of Lent: the Great Fast is a preparation for the Second Coming of the Savior, for the eternal Passover in the Age to Come. (This is a theme that will be taken up in the first three days of Holy Week.) Nor is the judgment merely in the future. Here and now, each day and each hour, in hardening our hearts towards others and in failing to respond to the opportunities we are given to help them, we are already passing judgment on ourselves.



- Metropolitan Kallistos (Ware)

The trumpet shall sound, and the graves shall be opened; all mankind will arise in trembling; the righteous will rejoice, as they receive their reward, but the wicked will depart to eternal fire with wailing and horror. O Lord of Glory, have mercy on us! Number us with those who love You, for You alone are good, O Master!