



ST. GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICES

Saturday, Mar. 20

Akathistos Saturday

Readings: Heb. 9:24-28; Mk. 8:27-31

8:30 A.M. Requiem Divine Liturgy followed by Panakhyda

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

Sunday, Mar. 21

5th Sunday of the Great Lent /St. Mary of Egypt

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

9:10 A.M. Third Hour

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Supplications will be offered for+ **Florian Kuczycki, by Mary Beth Parks**

Thursday, March 25

The Annunciation of the Theotokos

Readings: Heb. 2:11-18; Lk. 1:24-38

(North Side)

7:00 P. M. Divine Liturgy

Repose of +Antony, +Anthony, +Kateryna Fedyna

Saturday, Mar. 27

Lazarus Saturday

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

8:00 P.M. Pascha Bread Baking

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

Sunday, Mar. 28

Palm Sunday

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

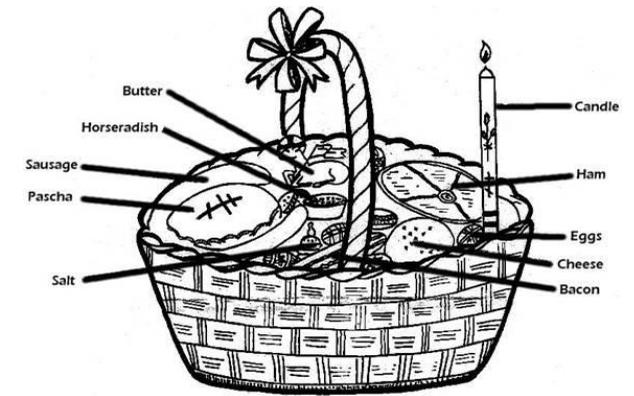
9:10 A.M. Third Hour

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy/Confession

Supplications will be offered for+ **Philip Perkun, 15th anniv. of death, by Perkun family**

What should I have in my Easter-Pascha Basket?

Paska- The Easter Bread. Symbolic of Christ Himself, who is our True Bread. Usually a round loaf of bread decorated on the top with a Cross.



Ham- This meat is popular as the main dish because of its richness and symbolic of the great joy and abundance of Pascha-Easter. Meat in the Pascha basket also symbolizes the calf sacrificed when the Prodigal Son returned home; the meat is a celebration of our return to Christ.

Sausage- A spicy, garlicky sausage of pork products, indicative of God's favor and generosity.

Cheese- Sweet cheese; mix farmer cheese with confectionary sugar, raisins, cinnamon, cloves and nutmeg. Indicative of the moderation that Christians should have in all things.

Eggs/Pysanky- Hard boiled eggs-decorated, indicative of new life and Resurrection.

Horseradish- A piece of the root or prepared horseradish with red beets. Symbolic of the Passion of Christ still in our minds but sweetened with some sugar because of the Resurrection. It is also included in the basket to remind us of the bitter drink given to Christ at his crucifixion, vinegar and gall.

Butter- Usually whipped (sometimes flavored with almond), is included in the basket to symbolize the Lamb of God, the Sacrifice made for the world. Some families use a lamb-shaped mold for their butter, which made the symbolism even stronger.

Salt- A condiment necessary for flavor; reminding the Christian of his duty towards others.

If your family has never taken a Pascha basket to be blessed, the above Easter-Pascha basket traditions may give you some ideas for starting your own. If you regularly prepare a basket for the celebration of the Resurrection, take some time to explain the deep meanings of the foods and their preparation to your children, grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Everyone will enjoy being involved: baking, decorating, eating!



The Feast of the Annunciation of Our Most Holy Lady, the Theotokos and Ever-Virgin Mary

The Feast of the Annunciation is one of the earliest Christian feasts, and was already being celebrated in the fourth century. The Greek and Slavonic names for the Feast may be translated as “good tidings.” This, of course, refers to the Incarnation of the Son of God and the salvation He brings. The background of the Annunciation is found in the Gospel of St. Luke (1:26-38).

There are two main components to the Annunciation: the message itself, and the response of the Virgin. The message fulfills God’s promise to send a Redeemer (Genesis 3:15): “I

will put enmity between you and the woman, between your seed and her seed; he shall crush your head, and you shall lie in wait for his heel.” The Fathers of the Church understand “her seed” to refer to Christ. The prophets hinted at His coming, but the Archangel Gabriel proclaimed that the promise is about to be fulfilled.

The icon of the Feast shows the Archangel with a staff in his left hand, indicating his role as a messenger. Sometimes one wing is upraised, as if to show his swift descent from heaven. His right hand is stretched toward the holy Virgin as he delivers his message. The Virgin is depicted either standing or sitting, usually holding yarn in her left hand. Sometimes she is shown holding a scroll. Her right hand may be raised to indicate her surprise at the message she is hearing. Her head is bowed, showing her consent and obedience. The descent of the Holy Spirit upon her is depicted by a ray of light issuing from a small sphere at the top of the icon, which symbolizes heaven.



Mar. 21, 2021

Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast: Our Venerable Mother, Mary of Egypt, Tone 1; our Venerable Father and Confessor James, Bishop of Catania (813-20)

Changeable Part: Page 19-21

In the Booklet of Changeable Parts (Small white book)

Announcements:

Today: 5th Sunday of the Great Fast

We celebrate the Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast on which we honor our venerable mother Mary of Egypt. As part of our Lenten journey, we focus today on the life of St. Mary of Egypt and realize that it is never too late in life, or in Lent, to repent. Christ will gladly receive all who come to him with sincere repentance.

Feast of the Annunciation

On Thursday, March 25th, we will celebrate the Feast of the Annunciation of the Most Holy Theotokos. This is a Major Holy Day in our Liturgical calendar. To celebrate the “beginning of our salvation, and the revelation of the eternal mystery,” we will have a Divine Liturgy at 7:00 p.m. Come and celebrate this feast of “good tidings’, that teaches us of our own personal annunciation, that we must accept the preludes of our salvation, which is the greatest notification in our life.

Next Sunday: Order of Confession

As part of our preparation for the Feast of the Resurrection – Pascha, we will welcome next Sunday Fr. Andrew Clark, who will be here to administer the Sacrament of Confession. If you have not availed yourself of this life-giving Sacrament, please be sure to do so next Sunday as we will celebrate the Entry of Our Lord into Jerusalem. Let us remember that as frequent communicants we should make a confession during this and all penitential periods, and whenever the conscience is burdened.

Church Mice

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Last Call: Easter Bread-Paska

On Saturday, April 13th, 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, March 28, following the Divine Liturgy.

Willow Branches

As we will celebrate next Sunday the Entrance of Our Lord into Jerusalem - Palm Sunday, we are still in need of willow branches for the blessing of palms and willow branches. If you are able to obtain willow branches, please let Fr. Igor know after the Divine Liturgy.

Scholarship

The Education Board of St. George's is happy to announce that students who are attending or are planning to attend Duquesne University should be aware of the availability of the Estina Franzak Perpetual Scholarship Fund. The Fund is intended to benefit students of Ukrainian ethnicity in their studies at Duquesne University. For more information and application forms please contact the parish office. Applications must be submitted to the Education Board of St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church by Sunday, May 2nd, 2021.

Pyrohy

Our total income from last week's sale was \$1,418.00. Thanks to all our dedicated women and men that come faithfully to be part of this parish activity. **Help is very much needed with our pyrohy activity!** The upcoming Lenten season is our busiest time of the year and with this being the busiest time we also generate income for our parish. I ask that you PLEASE consider helping with this activity. Our new day 7 time of pyrohy session is on Wednesday **at 1:00pm**.

Collection- May God bless you...

The grand total for Sunday of March 14, 2021 was **\$810.00 + Pyrohy: \$1,418.00**

(Collection: \$748.00, Loose & candles: \$20.00, Soup sale: \$42.00)

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



Our Venerable Mother Mary of Egypt

The Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast-Lent is dedicated to a most amazing young woman who became one of the most penitent Saints in our Holy Church. Her name is Mary of Egypt who lived in Alexandria (northern Egypt) during the reign of the Emperor Justinian (527-565). During her young life, Mary of Egypt was an unbeliever and spent much of her time in pursuing the pleasures of life. She was a very beautiful young lady and was much sought after by the young men of Egypt. One year she visited Jerusalem on September 14th (Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross) accompanied by several of her admirers. As she was about to enter the Church of the Holy Sepulchre (the place where Christ was buried) she suddenly discovered that it was

impossible for her to enter. An unseen power kept her from entering this Holy Church. A sudden change came over Mary of Egypt and taking this as a personal sign from God, she was cut to the heart by a profound awareness of her own sinfulness. She repented of her sins and begged the Blessed Virgin Mary to help her. Embracing the monastic life, our venerable mother Mary of Egypt remained in the desert some forty years, until she peacefully fell asleep in the Lord near the Jordan River. Her fame spread through the land as the penitent Saint of the Church, and she became known for her inner spiritual beauty. The Church dedicates this Sunday to her memory to remind us of the wonderful Christian virtue of repentance.

Daily Observance of the faithful during Holy Week

Lazarus Saturday (this year on March 27th) concludes the Great Fast-Lent. This celebration remembers Christ's raising of Lazarus from the dead and the promise of universal resurrection for all. Lazarus Saturday provides a bridge to Holy Week during which the Church services remember Christ's last week before His crucifixion and resurrection.

In the Eastern Church the last week of Christ's life is officially called Passion Week. Each day is designated in the service books as "great and holy." There are special services every day of the week which are fulfilled in all Churches. Earthly life ceases for the faithful as they "go up with the Lord to Jerusalem". (Mark 10:32)

