



ST. GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICES

Saturday, Dec. 24: Vigil of Christmas/Christmas Eve
(St. John) 8:00 P.M. Paramon Vesperal Divine Liturgy

After consultation with PAC, it was decided to have Christmas Eve services at one place for both parishes. This year, it will be St. John's at McKees Rocks.

Sunday, Dec. 25 Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ (Christmas Day)
(St. George) 9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy
(St. John) 11:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Monday, Dec. 26 Synaxis of the Theotokos
(St. George) Readings: Gal. 1:11-19; Mt. 2:13-23
10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy
Repose of Olga Petruska, by Mary Ann Hirt

Saturday, Dec. 31 St. Melany, Venerable
Readings: Gal. 1:11-19; Mk. 1:1-8
6:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (McKees Rocks)

Sunday, Jan. 1 Sunday before Theophany
Readings: 2 Tim. 4:5-8; Mt. 2:13-23
9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Supplications will be offered for +**Dolores Dedig**, given by Char Rumsky & Bella
Supplications will be offered for +**Fred Bilyk**, given by Magdalena Cheresnowsky



Jesus was called by many names and titles. One of them was "Immanuel," which means "God with us."

Find these names and titles of Jesus in the puzzle below.
They may be found ↑ ↓ → ← ↖ ↗ ↘ ↙ .

Immanuel	Beloved	Lamb	Redeemer
Messiah	King	Rock	Son
Master	Way	Jesus	Lord
Word	Christ	Shepherd	Prince
Savior	Bread	Light	Cornerstone



Sviata Vechera-Holy Supper on Christmas Eve



The Holy Supper brings families together to observe ancient customs and traditions, and to eat unique foods, prepared specifically for the occasion. The meal itself is comprised of twelve courses, in honor of Christ's Apostles. The courses are meatless and dairy free because the Church requires a period of fasting until Christmas Day.

Dinner tables are typically covered with two embroidered tablecloths, one for ancestors, and the other for living family members. A few wisps of hay may be placed between the tablecloths or underneath the table as a reminder that Christ was born in a manger. An extra place setting is always included at the table for deceased family members. A kolach (Christmas bread) is placed in the center of the table. Three loaves, each braided in a ring, are placed on top of each other, with a candle placed in the center of the topmost bread. The three rings symbolize the Trinity, and the circular form represents Eternity.

Traditionally, dinner begins when children see the first star (the star of Bethlehem) followed by prayer. The special first course is called kutia, also known as God's Food. This dish is boiled wheat kernels sweetened with honey and flavored with poppy seeds or nuts. All family members are required to partake in the kutia, which symbolizes prosperity in the coming year. The second course is borsch, a beet soup. Honoring tradition, the soup for this meal is made without meat or meat stock. The meal's main portion consists of various fish and vegetable dishes. Of course, no special Ukrainian meal would be complete without pyrohy/varenyky. Prior to dessert, a compote of dried fruits is served. This dish is cooked with honey and may include prunes, apricots, apples, or figs. Dessert is usually an assortment of small, deep-fried pastries known as pampushky, containing various fillings such as poppy seeds or dried fruit.

Since the dinner is a link to centuries of tradition, after the meal, people typically remain seated at the table singing Christmas carols-Kolyadi. Following this sacred meal the faithful gather in their Holy Churches to praise the Newborn King born in Bethlehem.



December 25, 2022



**Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ
(Christmas Day)**

Festal Tone

Changeable Parts – Pages 4-6
in the Booklet of Changeable Parts
(Small white book)



Христос Рождается! Christ is Born!

As we will gather to celebrate the great feast of the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, we pray that the blessings of the new-born Christ the Savior will remain with all of you at all times unto the ages of ages.

In His abundant Love and with great Joy,

Fr. Igor, Inna, Nick, Mike & Marta



Announcements:

Today: Christmas Confession

On this Sunday we welcome to our parish family Fr. Andrew Clarke, retired priest of our eparchy and residence of Sheptytsky Arms. Fr. Andrew is here to be our Father Confessor in. As part of our preparation to worthily celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, I ask that you all receive this Sacrament of Healing-Confession.

Welcome Visitors!

We warmly welcome all those who are visiting us today to celebrate the Nativity of Our Lord. It is good to have you all with us! We greet you and welcome you with the love, joy and hope that is so graciously granted to us with the Incarnation of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Thank You!

Together with my family we want to thank you for all the beautiful Christmas cards we have received during this Holy Season. Thank you all for your prayers, best wishes and generous gifts. May Our Lord reward you with many happy and blessed years!

Envelopes 2023-Calendar 2023

We start the distribution of the Church offering envelopes for the year 2023 and the Church Calendar for 2022. They are available in the hallway off the Church vestibule. Sincere thanks to Thomas P. Kunsak Funeral Home for sponsoring the calendars for 2023. Should you not see your envelopes (or a mistake, or address change), please let Father Igor or Ms. Olga Perkun know, following the Divine Liturgy. Thank you all for your support and generosity throughout the year 2022. *Многая Літа!*

Pyrohy

This past week was one of the busiest week in our pyrohy activity. From the previous week our total income was \$8,586. An enormous THANK YOU to all our dedicated pyrohy workers. We will reopen on Thursday, January 25th, 2023. Enjoy your well-deserved Christmas vacation!

Collection (St. George) - May God bless you...

The total for Sunday of Dec. 18, 2022, was **\$1,252.00 + \$8,576.00**

(Regular: \$1182.00.00, Loose & candles: \$70.00, Aid for Ukraine: \$185.00)

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

The Icon of the Nativity of Christ

One of the most famous icons in our Holy Churches is that of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Its symbolism is that of the Creator of the Universe entering history as a newborn babe. The little helpless figure in swaddling clothes represents the complete submission of Christ in the physical conditions governing the human race. Yet He remains Lord of Creation. The angels sing praises. The Magi and the shepherds bring their gifts. The sky salutes Him with a star. The earth provides Him with a cave. The animals watch Him in silent wonder and we humans offer Him one of us, the Virgin Mother.



The lower scenes underline the scandal of the Incarnation. The right-hand scene shows the washing of the infant by the mid-wife and her assistant. It tells that Christ was born like any other child. The scene in the left portrays the righteous Joseph, who, having observed the washing of the infant, is once again assailed by doubts as to the virginity of his spouse.

He is tempted by the devil, who suggests that if the infant were truly divine He would not have been born in the human way. The Mother Mary is in the center, and from her reclining position looks at Joseph as if trying to overcome his doubts and temptations.

When the Lord Jesus was born of the Virgin, the whole creation lit up. Behold: shepherds keep watch, the Magi adore, angels sing hymns of praise, and Herod trembles, for the Savior of our souls has appeared in the flesh!

Today the Virgin gives birth to the One who surpasses all essences, and the earth offers a cave to God, the Inaccessible One. Angels sing His glory together with the shepherds, for unto us is born a Child who is God from all eternity.

