



ST. GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICES

Saturday, Dec. 14

St. Thyrus and Others Martrs

Readings: Col. 3:4-11; Lk. 14:16-24

6:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (McKees Rocks)

Sunday, Dec. 15

Sunday of the Forefathers

Readings: Col. 3:4-11; Lk. 14:16-24

9:10 A.M. Third Hour;

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Supplications will be offered for **+Natalia, +Anna, +Olexandr & +Vasilisa**
(By Iryna Yehorova)

Supplications will be offered for **+Denny Cirrincione-40 days after death**
(By Char Rumsky)

God's blessing upon **Michael Hohosha** on his birthday

Thursday, Dec. 19

St. Boniface, Martyr

Readings: James. 1:19-27; Mk. 10:17-27

6:30 P. M. Moleben to Emmanuel-Advent Prayer Service

Saturday, Dec. 21

Saturday before Christmas

Readings: Heb. 11:9-10 & 32-40; Mt. 1:1-25

6:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (McKees Rocks)

Sunday, Dec. 22

Sunday before Christmas/Sunday of the Ancestors

Readings: Heb. 11:9-10 & 32-40; Mt. 1:1-25

9:10 A.M. Third Hour;

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy/Confession

Supplications will be offered for **+Yustyna Czelepis (By Pyptyk's)**

Supplications will be offered for **+Philip Perkun (By children)**

Guide to the Mystery-Sacrament of Confession

The following are instructions for the penitent approaching the Mystery of Confession:

Cross yourself twice; kiss the Gospel Book and the Cross; cross yourself a third time. Then, facing the Gospel Book and the Cross, say:

I confess to the Lord my God before you, reverend father, all my sins which I have committed up to the present day and hour, in deed, word and thought. Every day and every hour I sin through ingratitude to God for His great and numberless blessings to me and His most gracious providence and care for me, a sinner. I have sinned through...

(Here one should mention specifically all the sins which may be burdening the soul.) At the end say:

I have sinned with all my senses, both spiritual and physical, wherefore I repent to the Lord and ask forgiveness. Absolve all my sins, reverend father, and bless me to partake of the Mysteries of Christ. (kneel)

After the priest has spoken to you and given absolution, get up and cross yourself twice; kiss the Gospel Book and Cross; cross yourself a third time and bow. Then turn towards the priest, bow to him, saying "Thank you, father," kiss the end of the epitachelion which he is wearing, and go to your place. There, stand or kneel down, say your penance, and thank God for His great mercy.

St. John says that if we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness (1 John 1:9).



Next Sunday: Our Parish Renewal for Christmas

Next Sunday, December 22nd, we will welcome Fr. Fr. Andrew Clarke, our Father Confessor in preparation for the Feast of the Nativity of Christ. It will be a Sunday for all of us to cleanse our souls and bodies in preparation for this “*most wonderful time of the year*”. Let’s make it even more wonderful by having a clean, pure soul to receive Christ, born in Bethlem for our salvation.

One way of preparing ourselves worthily to welcome the King of ALL is going to Holy Confession. What is Confession basically? A public acknowledgement of one’s sinfulness and need of forgiveness. A tangible sign of God’s forgiveness in His Son, Jesus Christ. A reconciliation of man to God through forgiveness of sins that separate us from God. A sincere effort to examine our life, goals, values, priorities, and characteristics. Sincere prayer, asking God for His forgiveness and thanking Him for all the things He has given us, accompanied by a firm desire to live a renewed and changed Christian life.

Confession can be tremendously uplifting and is a real foundation for spiritual growth and renewal (See Jn. 20:21-23, James 5:16). Many ask: What shall I say in Confession? Confession is the most neglected Sacrament, simply because many do not understand it. Each of us is tempted to commit sins - to displease God and violate His commandments. What types of sins are there?

SINS AGAINST GOD: If I lose confidence, trust or hope in God. If I blaspheme, curse Him, mock Him, poke fun at Him. If I absent myself from the Divine Liturgy on Sunday without good reason. If I do not receive Holy Confession and Holy Communion periodically.

SINS AGAINST MY FELLOW MAN: If I am jealous, envious, hateful, malicious, slanderous, vindictive, revengeful, or mean. If I criticize unjustly, ridicule, poke fun, take advantage of, insult, hurt, inflict harm, or gossip in any way.

SINS AGAINST MYSELF: If I lie, cheat, steal, or deceive. If I am unethical in my practices at home, school, or work. If I have impure thoughts in my mind. Acts of fornication and adultery, pornography, profanity, pride and conceit.

Remember that the Sacrament of Holy Confession is a “second Baptism”. It washes away our sins. It gives us God’s grace. It enables our souls to become pure and holy as He wants them to be.



December 15, 2024

Thirtieth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday of the Forefathers

The Holy Priest-Martyr Euletherius; Our venerable Father Paul of Latra

***Changeable Parts** See the special insert available in the church vestibule.*

Announcements:

Christmas Fast Project

As a parish family we have a wonderful tradition of reaching out to those who are needed most during the penitential season. This year, as we continue our journey of the Christmas Fast we will begin with our parish project during which we will reach out and help Ukrainian Soldiers to survive this winter. I received a request from the military chaplain Fr. Oleh Zabolotnyj for a power generator. Total goal is \$1,500. Please, donate as much as you can. Thank you.

Last Call: Nut Rolls

In preparation for the Feast of the Nativity of Christ, we are offering delicious Nut Rolls that have been prepared by our dedicated parishioners. The price per Nut Roll is \$12.00. Following the Divine Liturgy you may come into the Church hall and pick up your Nut Rolls for Christmas. Sincere thanks to our parishioners who have dedicated their time and hard labor towards this parish fundraiser. Thank you!

Thursday: Last Moleben of this season: Moleben-Advent Prayer Service

We continue during this Christmas Lent-Advent with the celebration of the beautiful Moleben to Emmanuel-Advent Prayer Service. Plan to come on Thursday, December 19th at 6:30 p.m. for that service.

Prayers for the Living & Deceased

As we slowly come to the beginning of the year 2025, I ask that if you have any special dates throughout the year on which you would like to have prayers offered for the living or for the blessed repose of your loved ones, you please contact the parish office now to reserve that day. Remember that during the Great Fast and Holy Week (March 5 - April 17, 2025) the Divine Liturgy is not celebrated on weekdays due to the fact that these are aliturgical (without Divine Liturgy) days.

Pyrohy

As we come closer to Christmas, our pyrohy workers are very, very busy with our pyrohy production. Next week will be our busiest week. We will really need your help on Wednesday morning at 8:00 a.m. with scooping, and again on the same, we will need your help with the production itself. Please come and give us a hand with this important parish fundraiser. The more of us come together, the easier it will be for all of us. Our total from last week's sale was **\$1,404.00**. Thank you!

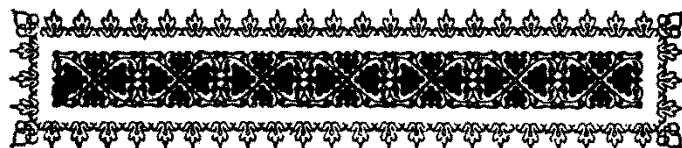
Prayer List:

Make a point of praying for everyone on the prayer list. If you don't have one, contact the office and we'll send you one. In a special way, at this time, remember the following members of our parish family: **Barbara Fedora, Thomas Kunsak, Orysia Barshowski, Kathee Shabla and Rose Shedno.**

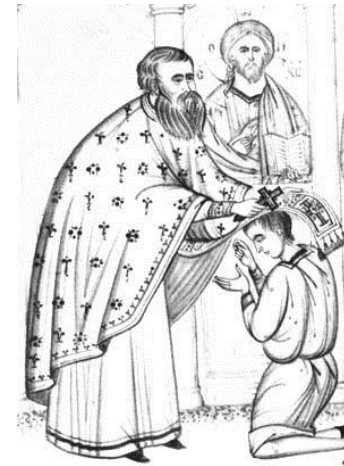
Collection- May God bless you...

The total for Sunday of December 8, 2024 was **\$984.00 + \$1,404.00**
(Collection: \$920.00, Loose & other: \$14.00,
Christmas flowers: \$20.00, St. Nick donation: \$30.00)

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



***Holy Mystery of Reconciliation-Confession:
Sunday, December 22nd***



On Sunday, December 22nd, Father Andrew Clarke, will be with us to administer the Mystery of Reconciliation as part of our Christmas Lent journey. I encourage everyone to come and receive this Mystery-Sacrament of Repentance in preparation for Christmas.

God forgives our sins and cleanses us from our trespasses, when we confess to God in the presence of the priest, with humility and contrite hearts. St. Athanasius the Great said, "As the Baptized is enlightened by the grace of the Holy Spirit, by means of the priest, the repentant is granted forgiveness of his sins by the grace of Christ, also through the priest."



**Divine Services for the Feast of the Nativity of Our Lord
Jesus Christ**

Tuesday, December 24, 2024: Eve of the Nativity of Christ (Christmas Eve)

8:00 P.M. Vespereal Divine Liturgy, Anointing with Holy Oil (**St. George**)

***Wednesday, December 25, 2024: Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ
(Christmas Day)***

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy, Anointing with Holy Oil (**St. George**)

11:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy, Anointing with Holy Oil (**St. John**)

