



ST. GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICES

Saturday, Feb. 22

1st All Souls Saturday

Readings: 1 Cor. 8:8-9:2; Mt. 25:31-46

11:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy with Panachyda/Sorokousty (North Side)

4:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy with Panachyda/Sorokousty (Rocks)

Sunday, Feb. 23

Sunday of the Meat Fare

Readings: 1 Cor. 8:8-9:2; Mt. 25:31-46

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Supplications will be offered for **+Blanche Burgess, given by family**

Supplications will be offered for **+Yuriy Hordynskyj, given by mother Marta**

Wednesday, Feb. 27

St. Procopius, Venerable-Confessor

Readings: 1 Jn. 1:8-2:6; Mk. 13:31-14:2

Pyrohy session – Starts at 9 am

Saturday, March 1

All Holy Ascetical fathers and Mothers

Readings: Rom. 13:11-14:4; Mt. 6:14-21

4:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (McKees Rocks)

Sunday, March 2

Sunday of the Cheese Fare/ Forgiveness Sunday

Readings: Rom. 13:11-14:4; Mt. 6:14-21

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy & Rite of Forgiveness

Supplications will be offered for **+Bohdan Hubar, given by Inna Hohosha**

Supplications will be offered for **+Ivan Salo, given by Andrew Salo**



The righteous people didn't know when they had done the good things Jesus said they did. How did Jesus explain it?

Use the code to find Jesus' reply.

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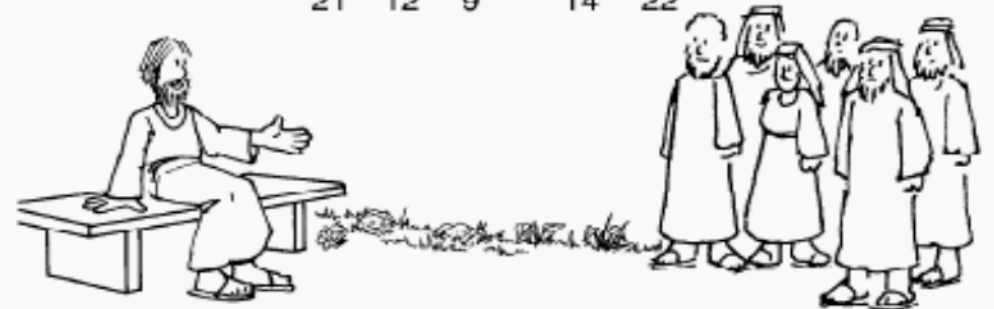
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Advancing into the Great Fast-Lent



Why is this upcoming season called the “Great Fast-Lent?” In the Eastern Church this season is called “GREAT” Fast-Lent to distinguish it from the other three Lenten seasons: the Fast of the Nativity (Advent), the Fast of the Theotokos in August (Spasiwka) and the Fast of the Apostles in June (Petrivka).

It is called “Great” because it is more intense than the other fasting periods. For Christians, the Great Fast-Lent is a season to be taken seriously. The time of repentance should

effect all aspects of our life: our diet, our prayer life, our daily schedule, our daily attitude.

Regardless of how strictly we choose to fast, every Christian’s eating habits should be remarkably different during this season. The message is to simplify our life-style, to get away from being creatures of habit, always “giving in” to our cravings, to consider those in our midst who have no choice but who need to fast on a constant basis due to poverty, etc.

Our Holy Church challenges us to be more than “Sunday Catholics”: to turn to prayer - hence the many opportunities offered to us during the Lenten season: Lenten Matins, the Eucharist received at Presanctified Liturgy, the different Akathist Hymns (Theotokos, Passion of Christ or to the Holy Cross) and the Moleben to the Cross.

Here is another tip I would like to offer to all our faithful during this Lenten season and that is to find a spiritually edifying book and undertake to read it during the Great Fast as a part of your Lenten struggle. Sometimes, we simply keep the Great Fast-Lent, if we do at all, by just adhering to the fasting regulation. This year plan to attend more the Lenten services that we celebrate in our parish during this important season. Remember, if we just do the minimal requirements,... then we will feel left un nourished.

Spiritual reading, which is something that we should do at all times of the year, is particularly important during the period of the Great Fast and is something which can deepen and broaden our spiritual lives. The Catholic bookstores and the Byzantine Seminary Press here in Pittsburgh offer a variety of great books for this time of the year. As we prepare to enter the forty day journey of the Great Fast-Lent let us make use of this golden opportunity to enrich ourselves!



Feb. 23, 2025

Sunday of the Last Judgment (Meatfare),

Octoechos Tone 7

Holy Priest-Martyr Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna

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

Announcements:

Next Sunday: Forgiveness

Next Sunday, March 2nd, 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 our journey through the Great Fast-Lent together. At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy we will have the *Rite of Forgiveness* during which we will ask each other for forgiveness.

Mark your calendar: The next Adult Religious education classes are scheduled on Thursdays at 6:30 pm on: March 13, April 10 and May 15, 2025. We hope you can attend. A special thank you to Don Fontana for leading these classes.

We welcome **Blaise Fontana** as part of our altar servers!

This Sunday Coffee Social is sponsored by Motria Hodowanec. We hope you can attend.

SINGCON 2025 will be in October 23-26, 2025 hosted at Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church in Perth Amboy, NJ. More information forthcoming.

Sarris Easter Candy – It's time to place your orders for Easter candy. Order sheets are in the vestibule and are due back by March 8, 2025. Delivery date is April 12, 2025

Our Lenten project will be starting the week of March 3rd. We want to continue our tradition of having soups and haluski for sale. There will be a sign-up sheet if you wish to make some Lenten soups to support this mission.

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, Kathee Shabla, Dorothy Waslo and Msgr. George Appleyard** (The Willows, 1215 Hulton Rd, Oakmont, PA 15139).

Pyrohy

The total income from our pyrohy sale was **\$814.00**. Sincere thanks to all our dedicated pyrohy workers for their hard work and dedication to this ongoing activity. Please come down and give us a hand with this important fundraiser. Thank you!

Fresh and frozen pyrohy are available for sale after divine liturgy. This week's fresh flavors are: Potato/cheese and sauerkraut. Loaded baked potato and jalapeno (frozen) are available as well.

Collection- May God bless you...

Total for Sunday, February 16, 2025 was **\$654.00 + \$814.00**
(Collection - \$635.00, Loose & candles - \$19.00)

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



We now have a suggestion box in the vestibule. Suggestion forms are available on the table. Please place your comments, ideas and suggestions in the "Suggestion Box" as marked. Your feedback is truly appreciated.

Meatfare Sunday-Sunday of the Last Judgment

Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world...'

Today's Gospel reading is the parable of the Last Judgment. It reminds us that while trusting in Christ's love and mercy, we must not forget His righteous judgment when He comes again in glory. If our hearts remain hardened and unrepentant, we should not expect the Lord to overlook our transgressions simply because He is a good and loving God. Although He does not desire the death of a sinner, He also expects us to turn from our wickedness and live (Ezek. 33:11). This same idea is expressed in the prayer read by the priest after the penitent has confessed his or her sins.

The time for repentance and forgiveness is now, in the present life. At the Second Coming, Christ will appear as the righteous Judge, "Who will render to every man according to his deeds" (Rom. 2:6). Then the time for entreating God's mercy and forgiveness will have passed.

As the late Fr. Alexander Schmemmann reminds us in his book Great Lent (Ch. 1:4), sin is the absence of love, it is separation and isolation. When Christ comes to judge the world, His criterion for judgment will be LOVE. Christian love entails seeing Christ in other people, our family, our friends, and everyone else we may encounter in our lives. We shall be judged on whether we have loved, or not loved, our neighbor. We show Christian love when we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit those who are sick or in prison. If we did such things for the least of Christ's brethren, then we also did them for Christ (Mt.25:40). If we did not do such things for the least of the brethren, neither did we do them for Christ (Mt.25:45).

According to the authentic Lenten custom, today is the last day for eating meat and meat products until the Feast of the Resurrection-Pascha, though eggs and dairy products are permitted every day during the coming week. This limited fasting prepares us gradually for the more intense fasting of the Great Fast-Lent.

