



## ST. GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICES

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

Monday, Mar. 3

First Day of the Great fast

St. Eutropius, and other Martyrs

Readings: Gen. 1:1-13; Prov. 1:1-20

6:30 P. M. Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts (McKees Rocks)

Thursday, Mar. 6

42 Martyrs of Ammorium

Readings: Gen. 2:4-19; Prov. 3:1-18

6:30 P. M. Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts (North Side, Pittsburgh)

Saturday, March 8

Commemoration of the Miracle of the Great-Martyr Theodore

Readings: Heb. 11:24-26.32-12:2; Jn. 1:43-51

NO SERVICE (McKees Rocks)

Sunday, March 9

First Sunday of the Great Fast

Readings: Heb. 11:24-26.32-12:2; Jn. 1:43-51

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Supplications will be offered for +Patricia Della Ragione, given by family

Supplications will be offered for +Orysia Barshowski, given by friends

Supplications will be offered for +Willow Fuchs, given by Mary Siwecky

Write the words from the coins on the correct lines.

“ \_\_\_\_\_ 9 \_\_\_\_\_ 3 \_\_\_\_\_ 11 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 14 \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 16 \_\_\_\_\_ 5 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 17 \_\_\_\_\_ ... \_\_\_\_\_ 12 \_\_\_\_\_ 1 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 7 \_\_\_\_\_ 19 \_\_\_\_\_ 4 \_\_\_\_\_ 16 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 15 \_\_\_\_\_ 13 \_\_\_\_\_ ... \_\_\_\_\_ 8 \_\_\_\_\_ 10 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 18 \_\_\_\_\_ 6 \_\_\_\_\_ 24 \_\_\_\_\_ 2 \_\_\_\_\_ 21 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ 22 \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_ 23 \_\_\_\_\_.” - Matthew 6:19

It was also crucial to convey the truth to the general public. I gave a series of interviews in Ukrainian, English, and Spanish—speaking with both Catholic and Protestant media.

In an interview with the CBN network, which reaches a broad Protestant audience, I emphasized that for all religious communities and denominations, Ukraine represents freedom of worship, whereas Russian occupation brings destruction, suppression, and an underground Church—just as it was under the Soviet regime.

Meetings with U.S. government institutions were also significant, particularly with the Trump administration. We were the first Ukrainian delegation to visit the White House after the president's inauguration and the first delegation to meet with the newly established Office of Faith. Our meeting with its director, Paula White-Cain, took place in the Roosevelt Room, adjacent to the Oval Office. The fact that this office was granted such a high status underscores the importance the current administration places on matters of religion and religious freedom.

During our conversation, I appealed to Ms. White-Cain on behalf of imprisoned Protestant pastors. Through the mediation of the Holy See, we had been able to secure the release of two of our priests, but Ukrainian Protestants, who are currently held captive in Russian prisons, lack such support. I proposed providing precise data on these imprisoned individuals so that the U.S. administration could exert pressure on Russia for their release. We hope this meeting will yield positive outcomes.

Our visit concluded with a family-like gathering at the Embassy of Ukraine. During three days of intense political upheaval in Washington, we offered spiritual support to our diplomats. It so happened that, in various capacities, we interacted with them daily throughout our visit. A particularly moving moment was the closing prayer at Holy Family Church on February 18, when we sang 'Lord, oh the Great and Almighty' together. I could see how this prayer strengthened Ambassador Oksana Markarova and her team.

A noteworthy event was also the launch of a diplomatic training program for Church representatives at the St. Gabriel Institute, based at St. Josaphat Seminary in Washington. I hope that as we depart, a group of well-educated young people will carry forward the momentum we initiated. They will use this increased attention to Ukraine, and particularly to our Church, to continue conveying the truth about Ukraine, defending our national interests, and helping to restrain Russian aggression—so that a just, genuine, and lasting peace may finally reign in Ukraine."

Exported from <https://ukrcatholic.org>. Learn more about His Beatitude Sviatoslav's visit on <https://ukrcatholic.org>.



**March 2, 2025**

Sunday of the Cheese Fare  
Sunday of Forgiveness

Octoechos Tone 8

The Holy Priest-Martyr  
Theodotus, Bishop of Cyrenia

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

## **Announcements:**

### **Today: Sunday of Forgiveness**

This Sunday is, in our Liturgical calendar, 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. Please make sure that you have the special booklets for this Service, which are available in the Church vestibule.

### **Next Sunday: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Great Fast**

The First Sunday of the Great Fast is also called the Sunday of Orthodoxy in commemoration of the victory of orthodoxy-true faith in controversy over Holy Icons in the year 843. As part of this commemoration, the blessing of Icons will take place at the end of the Divine Liturgy. If you have any Icons, Crosses, religious items you would like to have blessed, please place them on the Tetrapod in the center of the Church.

**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!

**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.

### **Pyrohy**

The total income from our pyrohy sale was **\$785.00**. 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.**

**We are looking for ways to be creative on selling our delicious pyrohy.** If you know of an event coming up or an organization that may be interested in purchasing our pyrohy. Do you know of any fundraisers that have worked with other organizations that we could do at St. George's? If so, **please see Debbie Label, Patti Barr or Vicki Senko.**

### **Collection- May God bless you...**

Total for Sunday, February 23, 2025 was **\$275.00 + \$785.00**  
(Collection - \$245.00, Loose & candles - \$30.00)

*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.**

### **Faith, Diplomacy, and Unity: Key Events from His Beatitude Sviatoslav's U.S. Visit**

On February 21, His Beatitude Sviatoslav Shevchuk concluded his pastoral visit to the United States, particularly to the Archeparchy of Philadelphia. Throughout the visit, which lasted from February 14 to 21, he was accompanied by the bishops of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in the U.S.: Metropolitan Borys Gudziak (Archeparchy of Philadelphia), Bishop Paul Chomnycky (Eparchy of Stamford), Bishop Bohdan Danylo (Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma), and Bishop Venedykt Aleksiychuk (Eparchy of St. Nicholas in Chicago). Before departing for Canada, the Father and Head of the UGCC shared his reflections and conclusions.



*"Our pastoral visit to America took place at an exceptionally significant moment. When planning it, we could not have foreseen its profound meaning for America, Ukraine, the entire world, and our Church. It felt as though Divine Providence had led us here at this precise time.*

One of the most spiritually moving events was the Divine Liturgy on February 16 at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia. Such a large-scale pilgrimage had not been seen in America for a long time. Many people gathered to take part in this spiritual journey. The hundreds of confessions, conversions, and spiritual healings that took place over these days testified to the deep need of our people—especially newly arrived Ukrainians—for the living touch of the Mother Church. For nearly two hours after the Liturgy, I bestowed blessings upon the faithful. How greatly they needed it! How fervently they drew near! It was a living image of the Parable of the Prodigal Son, which we read that day, meditating on the Father's embrace that heals, renews, and gives life.

Another significant event was the interfaith prayer for peace in Ukraine, held on February 16 at the Cathedral Basilica of Saints Peter and Paul in Philadelphia. This moment allowed us to step beyond the Ukrainian community and address the broader Catholic society in America. The prayer service was broadcast live on [EWTN](https://www.ewtn.com), allowing millions of people across the United States and beyond to join in prayer.

A key aspect of the visit was engaging with American intellectual circles. We held meetings at The Catholic University of America, the United States Institute of Peace—a government institution focused on peacebuilding—and the Hudson Institute, where we discussed religious freedom in Ukraine. Some of these discussions were streamed online, attracting responses from around the world—from the United States and Canada to Singapore and South Africa. Representatives of various denominations closely followed these events, especially as Ukraine once again became a focal point of global attention.