



ST. GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICES

Saturday, March 22

Third All Souls Saturday

Readings: Heb. 10:32-38; Mk. 2:14-17

10:00 A. M. Divine Liturgy/Sorokousty-Hramoty

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

Sunday, March 23

Third Sunday of the Great Fast/Veneration of The Cross

Readings: Heb. 4:14-5:6; Mk. 8:34-9:1

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Supplications will be offered for **+Mihajlo & Anastasia Kozak**, given by friends

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

Tuesday, Mar. 25

Annunciation of the Theotokos

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

6:30 P. M. Vespertal Divine Liturgy

Supplications will be offered for **+Bohdan & Anastasia Melody**, given by friends

Saturday, March 29

Fourth All Souls Saturday

Readings: Heb. 6:9-12; Mk. 7:31-37

10:00 A. M. Divine Liturgy/Sorokousty-Hramoty

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

Sunday, March 30

Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast/St. John Climacus, Venerable (Children's Liturgy)

Readings: Heb. 6:13-20; Mk. 9:17-31

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy (Coffee Social after liturgy)

Supplications will be offered for **+Sophia Hodowanec**, given by Motria & Oleh

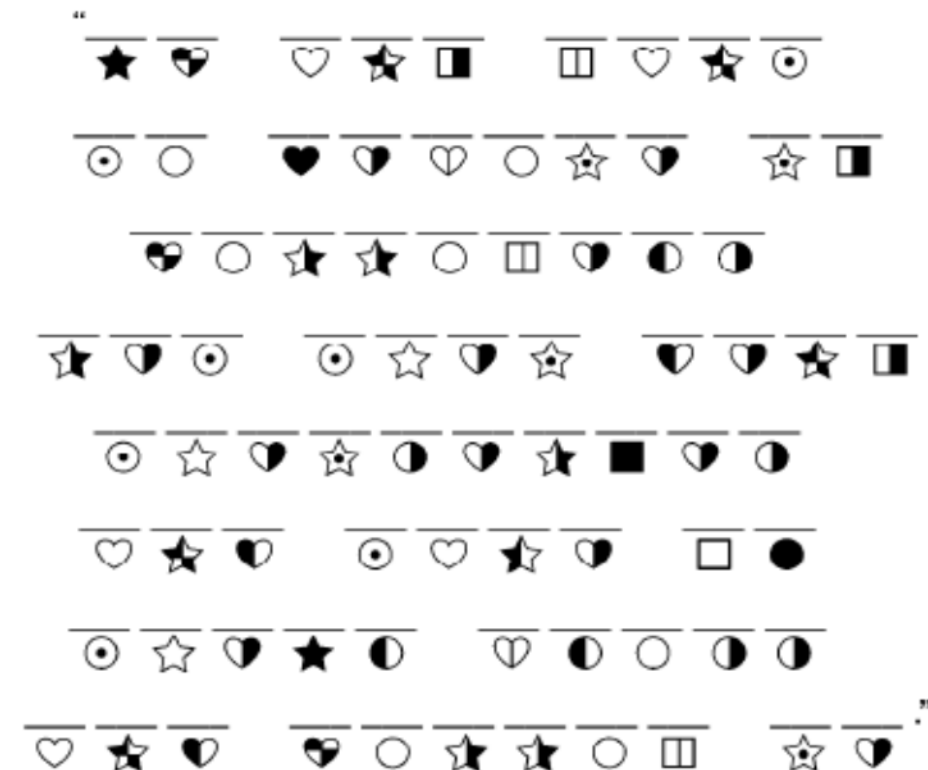
Supplications offered for **+Ukrainian soldiers & civilians**, given by anonymous

Then Jesus called the crowd to Him along with His disciples. What did Jesus say?



Use this code to find out.

♡ = A	♥ = E	★ = I	☆ = M	⊙ = Q	□ = U	▣ = Y
♥ = B	♥ = F	☆ = J	★ = N	◐ = R	■ = V	◻ = Z
♡ = C	♡ = G	★ = K	○ = O	◑ = S	▢ = W	
♥ = D	☆ = H	★ = L	● = P	⊙ = T	▣ = X	



Many people in Ukraine told me: the wound itself does not hurt so much as the fact that I do not understand its meaning. That is why Ukraine today needs so much to find the meaning of personal struggle, its crying, its suffering. And it is the true and life-giving Cross of the Lord that gives us these meanings that make us an indomitable and invincible, albeit crucified, people.

From now on, for each of us, the Cross of the Lord becomes our personal key to understanding the meaning of our own suffering, pain, wounds, and exhaustion. From now on the Cross heals and does not oppress, it protects and does not frighten, it is no longer an instrument that causes death but is a tree that revives. That is why our Tradition calls it the Glorious and Life-giving Cross! We worship the true and life-giving Cross of the Lord, which turns into a true Tree of Life, which is the secret of Christian resilience and a symbol of our faith in the resurrection. That is why the Book of Revelation gives us a description of the very special role of this Tree of Life in the Heavenly Jerusalem: “In the middle of the street... the tree of life, which bears twelve fruits, gives its fruit every month, and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations” (Rev. 22:2).

Glory to Jesus Christ!

His Beatitude Sviatoslav also spoke about the origin of the “Cross of Heroes”

Last week, remembering February 24, the sad anniversary of the beginning of the full-scale invasion in Ukraine, we experienced a unique event. Near Kyiv is the ancient princely city of Vyshhorod. The city of Princess Olha and the martyrs Borys and Hlib, the city of the venerable icon of the Virgin of Vyshhorod. When the war began, the outskirts of this city became the line where the Russian troops approaching Kyiv from the north were stopped. It was there, next to the dam of the Kyiv reservoir, at the crowded intersection, there, where the invisible border between the zone of occupation and death and the zone of life and freedom was. In that place, we opened a unique memorial dedicated to thousands of fallen defenders of Ukraine called “Cross of Heroes”. The impetus for its construction was the spiritual longings of one of the soldiers who defended Vyshhorod. He often came to our church, stood in prayer for a long time in front of the Lord’s Cross. And then one day he told me: “the cross is the only place where I can bring all my pain!” When I go to visit the graves of my comrades in arms and see their wives and children crying, my pain increases. But here I can bring it, leave it and return with new energy to fight. And then we decided together: let’s do it, let’s establish a powerful healing Cross of the Lord for everyone! And so, this memorial was not hidden inside the church, but placed in the middle of the street! And today, we, the bishops of the Permanent Synod who have come to you, want to testify here in Washington that on our Ukrainian land, this Tree of Life bears its fruit every day, and worshiping and touching it in fact serves as the genuine leaves of the heavenly Tree of Life that heal the wounds of Ukraine! This memorial is built so that one can enter inside the Cross, not just stand outside and watch. And from the inside it shines with stars that symbolize the souls of our fallen Heroes. The cross, as a life-giving, healing tree of God, heals the wounds of Ukraine.



March 23, 2025

Third Sunday of Great Fast
Sunday of the Holy and Life
Giving Cross

Octoechos Tone 3

**The Holy Venerable Martyr
Nicon**

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

Announcements:

Today: 3rd Sunday of the Great Fast

We celebrate the Third Sunday of the Great Fast on which we honor and venerate the Holy and Life-giving Cross of Christ Our Savior. This Sunday’s theme is that in the Cross of Christ crucified lies both “the power of God and the wisdom of God” for those being saved (1 Cor 1:24). On this Sunday in the middle of the Lenten season, the Cross stands in the middle of our Church, not merely to remind the faithful of Christ’s redemption and for them to keep the goal of their Lenten efforts, but also as a reminder: “He who does not take up his cross and follow me is not worthy of me” (Mt 10:38).

Feast of the Annunciation

On Tuesday, 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 Vespertal Divine Liturgy which is prescribed on this day at 6:30 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.

Lenten Project: support Ukrainian people

During this time of Great Lent, our church is seeking opportunities to serve those in need. We are all witnesses to the devastating war in Ukraine, and many people there require our support. We stand with them because every human life is precious, for which Jesus sacrificed Himself on the cross.

Our church has decided to collect medical supplies that can help save lives in Ukraine. We will collect Hemostatic Wound sprays: [BC3 Technologies 2.5oz SEAL Aerosolized Hemostatic Wound Spray – Rapid Bleeding Control - Emergency Preparedness Product - Perfect for Hotels, Emergency Workers, Military & Law Enforcement](#) These items have been specifically requested, and you can purchase them at any time if you would like to contribute to our Easter church project.

The items will be sent to St. George address (3455 California Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15212), and we will ensure they reach those in need. Thank you for your support.

Next coffee social will be 3/30/2025. If you wish to sponsor, please see Vicki Senko.



We had **Serra Catholic students visit St. George** to meet with Fr. Igor and learn about our Eastern Catholic Tradition. It was a great group of kids. Since it was pyrohy day, kids to sample our delicious pyrohy. This visit was coordinated by Victoria Fedora who teaches religion at Serra Catholic.

Pyrohy

The total income from our pyrohy sale was **\$2,444.00**. 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!

Collection- May God bless you...

Total for Sunday, March 16, 2025 was **\$3,786.00 + \$2,444.00**
(Collection - \$3,765.00, Loose & candles - \$21.00)

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

Our Instagram page is official. Please check it out and follow - **SaintGeorgeUGCC**

Special thanks to **Victoria Fedora** for developing this page.

We hope this will help us to attract more pyrohy customers and maybe even more parishioners.

His Beatitude Sviatoslav's Sermon on Third Sunday Of Lent in Washington, DC - March 4, 2024



From now on, for each of us, the Cross of the Lord becomes our personal key to understanding the meaning of our own suffering, pain, wounds, and exhaustion. From now on the Cross heals and does not oppress, it protects and does not frighten, it is no longer an instrument that causes death but is a tree that revives. That is why our Tradition calls it the Glorious and Life-giving Cross!

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Today, according to the liturgical cycle of the Gregorian Paschal calendar, the Church of Christ centers our spiritual focus on the Glorious and Lifegiving Cross of Our Lord! According to our spiritual tradition, we are called to discover the Mystery of the Cross of our Lord from a new, and for some, an entirely unexpected perspective. We understand the Great Fast as a period of spiritual pilgrimage to the Resurrection. The path goes through a desert full of invisible spiritual struggles. In this kind of struggle (those who truly fast know it) at the midpoint of this journey, we feel tiredness, often even exhaustion and thirst, as it was during the forty-year journey of Israel in the Old Testament. We feel “burnt out” when we really fight against evil — whether in our personal spiritual life or even during the current war in Ukraine. Fatigue grows, and this is natural. And so when despair and fatigue, exhaustion and thirst come — the Church leads us to the shadow of the Life-Giving Tree as a wise caravan guide in the desert knows a place where you can rest in the time of the greatest deadly heat, he knows the way to an oasis where you can find a source of water, a place of coolness and rest, that is, the place of life in the midst of the death of a desert! This oasis for a Christian is the Life-Giving Tree from which the Living Water of the Holy Spirit flows. It flows from the open and pierced side of the crucified Savior. This place of spiritual renewal, replenishment of strength for further struggle is the True and Lifegiving Cross of the Lord!

The crucified Savior, whom we worship today, is the Source of our renewal and healing. Pointing to Him, the prophet Isaiah tells us: “He was wounded for our sins, crushed for our iniquities. The punishment, that saves us, was upon him, and by his wounds we are healed” (Is 53:5). Worshiping the Crucified One, we sometimes experience a spiritual shock. We suddenly realize that Someone took our pains and sufferings, our torments, and disappointments and transferred them from a purely horizontal, human dimension to a vertical dimension. The Savior took them upon Himself, gave them a new, eternal meaning, took them to the height of God — the height of the Lord’s Cross!