



ST. GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICES

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**

Thursday, Mar. 13 Translation of Relics of Nicephorus-Patriarch

Readings: Gen. 5:1-24; Prov. 6:3-20

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

Saturday, March 15 Second All Souls Saturday

Readings: Heb. 1:10-2:3; Mk. 2:1-12

11:00 A. M. Divine Liturgy/Sorokousty-Hramoty

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

Sunday, March 16 Second Sunday of the Great Fast

Readings: Heb. 1:10-2:3; Mk. 2:1-12

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Supplications will be offered for **+Robert Novak, given by family**

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

Philip found Nathanael. What did Philip say?

Fit the words into the puzzle. Fill the blanks with the words.

so the see good Jesus being prophets
of one not sure wrote Moses Nazareth
we any from have found someone Nathanael
and was said come about

11 15 8 1 12 ... 16
4 10 6 Down 9 6 Across 3
12 17 5 Across 10 24 14
! Philip , " !"
13 7 20 2 11 21

2025 Lenten Regulations

Although our Church traditionally prescribed abstinence from meat and dairy products in days gone by for the entire duration of Lent, the following minimal Lenten regulations are in force in our Eparchy of St. Josaphat.

1. **Abstinence from meat and all dairy products on the First Day of Lent (March 3, 2025) and on Good Friday (April 18, 2025).**
2. **Abstinence from meat only on all Fridays of Lent as well as Holy Saturday (April 19, 2025). We also recommend voluntary abstinence from meat on all Wednesdays of Lent.**
3. **Reception of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist during the Paschal Season (from the onset of Lent, March 3, 2025 to the Wednesday before Ascension Thursday, May 29, 2025)**



Fasting and Abstinence regulations are not binding on persons 60 or older, the very poor, sick, nursing or pregnant women, children below the age of 14, and those who engage in very hard physical labor. Prayer and almsgiving oblige all!

In the authentic tradition of the Church, we also fast from the glorious celebration of the Divine Liturgy on the weekdays of the Great Fast. Only the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is to be celebrated in all our Churches on the Wednesdays and Fridays of Lent, and on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Great and Holy Week.

Let us set out with joy upon the season of the Fast, and prepare ourselves for spiritual combat. Let us purify our soul and cleanse our flesh; and as we fast from food, let us abstain also from every passion. Rejoicing in the virtues of the Spirit may we persevere with love, and so be counted worthy to see the solemn Passion of Christ Our God, and with great spiritual gladness to behold His Holy Passover.

(Forgiveness Vespers)



March 9, 2025

First Sunday of Great Fast

Octoechos Tone 1

Forty Martyrs of Sebaste

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

Announcements:

Dear Parishioners,

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.

Sincerely,
Fr. Igor Hohosha

Today: 1st Sunday of the Great Fast

We celebrate today the First Sunday of the Great Fast which is also called the Sunday of Orthodoxy, in commemoration of the victory of orthodoxy-true faith in the 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, and 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.

Our Lenten project started last week. We want to continue our tradition of having soups and haluski for sale. There is 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 **\$880.00**. 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!

Nut roll Sale:

Our delicious nut rolls are now available for sale. They are \$10 each while the supplies last. We hope you enjoy, and we appreciate your support.

Collection- May God bless you...

Total for Sunday, February 23, 2025 was **\$2,115.00 + \$880.00**
(Collection - \$2,080.00, Loose & candles - \$35.00)

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

March Birthdays:	
Jenna Parks	3/8
Helen Pyptyk	3/15
Belinda Spak	3/20
John Alston	3/25
Happy Anniversary: 1Q	
Darrell and Carol Chulack	2/12
Doug and Shannon McElrath	3/5

The Theotokos – Holy Mother of God



Therefore the Lord himself shall give you a sign: A young woman is with child, and she will bear a son, and will call him Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14).

One of the most ancient icons is of the Mother of God of the Sign. Mary is in the classical posture of prayer, standing with upraised hands, totally open and willing to surrender to the Will of God.

Within her, in a heaven-like circle, we see Christ revealed, shown not as an unborn child curled up in his mother's womb, but as Christ Immanuel, "God with Us," vested in golden robes and looking outward while His right hand offers a blessing to the entire cosmos.

Through Mary the prophecies of redemption are fulfilled. Mary, the daughter of Israel, is the virgin when Isaiah saw in the distance of time. The icon is one of circles, symbols of wholeness and perfection. Mary's torso has a circular quality, as do the heads of both figures. There is a circle around Christ. The two halos are circular. Mary's hands are arched as if holding a still larger circle. Wholeness and meaning in our lives comes only in and through Christ.

The icon reminds us of the words of St. Paul: "It is no longer I who live but Christ who lives in me" (Gal 2:20). While Mary is uniquely the Savior's mother, it is as His faithful disciple that she serves as the primary model of a Christ centered life. The Mother of God helps us to discover our true worth in discovering Christ at the center of our lives. In the Gospel of St. Luke (11:28) we hear Mary praised for

having given birth to Jesus and for having nursed Him. Christ responds rather: "Happy are those who hear the word of God and keep it." No one listened to the word of God better than did Mary — and the Word took flesh within her. She is truly the first Christian and the greatest example of how we are to live as Christians. The last words the Mother of God speaks in the Gospels are at the wedding feast at Cana when she says: "Do whatever He tells you" (Jn 2:5).

If we seriously listen to the Word of God as Mary did, and act according to the word we hear, Christ will be at the center of our lives, and joy and peace will reign in our world.