



ST. GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICES

Saturday, Mar. 25

Annunciation of the Theotokos

Readings: Heb 2:11-18; Lk: 1:24-38

9:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Supplications will be offered for **+Antony, Anthony, Kateryna Fedyna**

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

Sunday, March 26

Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast

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

9:40 A.M. Third Hour;

10:00 A.M. Divine Liturgy for both parishes and Reception at St. John's hall

Supplications will be offered for **+Walter Dziadyk (by wife Kateryna Dziadyk)**

Supplications will be offered for **+Stella Shedno (by Myron & Patty Rodzay)**

Wednesday, March 29

Ss. Mark, Cyri and Other Martyrs

Readings: Gen. 17:1-9; Prov. 15:20-16:9

7:00 P. M. Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts (North side, Pittsburgh)

Thursday, March 30

Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete

Readings: Gen. 22:1-18; Prov. 17:17-18:5

7:00 P. M. Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts (McKees Rocks)

Saturday, Apr. 1

Akathistos Saturday

Readings: Heb. 9:24-28; Mk: 8:27-31

9:30 A. M. - 4:00 P. M. Workshop "Christ our Pascha" (Ambridge)

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

Sunday, Apr.2

Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast/St. Mary of Egypt, venerable

Readings: Heb. 9:11-14; Mk: 10:32-45

9:10 A.M. Third Hour;

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

Supplications will be offered for **+Philip Perkun, 11th anniv. of death (by wife Maria)**

As they walked along, the disciples were arguing about who was the greatest.

Use this code to read Jesus' words to them.

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1

"
18 21 26 13 2 12 13 22

4 26 13 7 8

7 12 25 22

21 18 9 8 7 19 22

14 6 8 7 25 22

7 19 22 5 22 9 2 15 26 8 7

26 13 23 7 19 22

8 22 9 5 26 13 7

12 21 26 15 15"



Why is St. John called “of the Ladder”...What is this Ladder?



Being a monk at the monastery of St. Catherine on Mount Sinai, our venerable father John wrote a book outlining the stages of the spiritual life. He based his entire work on the image of a ladder of thirty rungs, stretching from earth to heaven. Each rung described a step in the pursuit of virtue and the spiritual life. Since it was first written, *The Ladder of Divine Ascent* has been an essential part of the formation of monastics, and a mainstay of ascetic spirituality. However, *The Ladder* is not just for monks and nuns because all Christians are called to make an ascent to the heights of heaven. For this reason the Church places the commemoration of Saint John and his Ladder on the Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast, as the

faithful continue their ascent with the Lord to Golgotha and through Golgotha to His Heavenly Kingdom.

The 30 Steps of the Ladder of Divine Ascent:

- Steps 1–4: renouncement of the world and obedience to a spiritual father
- Steps 5–7: penitence and affliction as paths to true joy
- Steps 8–17: the defeat of vices and acquisition of virtue
- Steps 18–26: avoidance of the traps of asceticism (laziness, pride, mental stagnation)
- Steps 27–29: acquisition of stillness or peace of the soul, of prayer, and of dispassion
- Step 30: the union of faith, hope, and love

ON CONFESSION – “DO NOT LOOK BACK”

Through the forgiveness of sins in confession, the past is no longer an intolerable burden but rather an encouragement for what lies ahead. Life acquires an attitude of expectation, not of despondency; and confession becomes the way out of the impasse caused by sin. In this respect, repentance is also an eschatological act, realizing in our very midst, here and now, the promises of the age to come. Looking backwards would seem to imply the fate of Lot’s wife (Genesis 19:26); “No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God” (Luke 9:62). God Himself is revealed before us and walks in front of us. “One thing I do, forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead” (Phil. 3:13)



March 26,
2017

Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast, Leave-taking of the Annunciation; Synaxis of the Holy Archangel Gabriel

Octoechos Tone 4;

Changeable Part: Pages 14-16
in the Booklet of Changeable Parts (Small white book)

Announcements:

Today: 4th Sunday of the Great Fast

We celebrate the Forth Sunday of the Great Fast on which we honor our venerable father John of the Ladder (Climacus), the author of the work, *The Ladder of Divine Ascent*. This Sunday’s theme is St. John’s witness to the real spiritual struggle needed for entrance into God’s Heavenly Kingdom.

Thank You! Soup Sale

Last Sunday, following the Divine Liturgy we had in the Church hall Soup Sale. It was a great success. Thank you to all who donated food and made this fundraiser possible. Profit from Soup Sale: **\$290.00**. All proceeds go towards St. George’s Church Parish to help to pay a winter gas bill. Thank you for support of our parish.

Easter Bread-Paska

On Saturday, April 8th, we will prepare Easter Bread (Paska) in our Church hall. The price per a loaf is \$10.00. In the Church vestibule we have a sign-up sheet for placing your orders. I ask you to write down your name and amount of Paska Bread (plain or raisin) you wish to order. You may pick-up your order on Palm Sunday, April 9st, following the Divine Liturgy.

Our Svyachene-Easter Dinner

This year our Svyachene-Easter Dinner will take place on Sunday, April 23rd, starting at 11:00 a.m. As part of this celebration the children of our Church school will have their annual Easter Egg Hunt on the parish grounds. We will also have a raffle of different gift baskets and prizes. We also ask you to consider making a donation for the Chinese auction. Tickets for this Easter Dinner are \$10.00 per adult, children (12 and younger) \$5.00. You can obtain tickets for this event before and after the Divine Liturgy in our Church vestibule from our usual ticket sellers. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend this happy event.

Christ Our Pascha, English Edition Price Reduction to \$24.95!!! It is back in stock on our eparchial web site. Follow the link to purchase: <http://stiosaphateparchy.com/product/christ-our-pascha/>

Christ –Our Pascha Workshop will take place Saturday, **March 25th** at Pokrova Church (6790 Broadview Road) in Parma Ohio, beginning at 9:30am and ending at 4pm with a Divine Liturgy. **For information and registration** call or email Sr. Ann Laszok 412-260-1607 or srannl@aol.com. **There will be another Workshop** on Saturday, **April 1st** at Sts. Peter and Paul Church (404 Sixth Street, Ambridge) same times. Everyone is Welcome!

Willow Branches

As we come closer to Palm Sunday, please remember that we will be in need of willow branches for the blessing of palms and willow branches on Palm Sunday (April 9). With the weather being warmer we should prepare them now and store them downstairs in the Church hall. If you are able to obtain willow branches, please let Fr. Ihor know after the Divine Liturgy.

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: **Alice Hooge, Eva Hlovchiec, Barbara Fedora, Thomas Orr, Patricia Della-Regione, Alice Mcilwane, Meghan Fossaceca, Bryan Madeya, George Syweckyj, Arlene Grzybowski, Marlyn Piffer and Bill Onyshko.**

Pyrohy Production During this Lenten Season we are very-very busy with our pyrohy production. Help is very much needed on Wednesday morning at 7:00 a.m. with scooping and again on Thursday morning starting at 7:00 a.m. we will need your help with the production itself. Please come and give us a hand during the Great Fast with this important parish fundraiser.

St George Easter Kielbasy Sale – This Year it will be local Kielbasy .

We are asking that parishioners buy kiellbasy for their own use and also sell some of this fine product to friends, neighbors, and colleagues. The price is \$5.00 per pound and order forms are available in the Church vestibule for placing orders. You must place your order in advance in order to purchase this kolbasa. Payment must accompany your order.

The kolbasa will be available for pickup on Sunday, April 9th (Palm Sunday) after the Divine Liturgy. Thanks to all our parishioners for the continued support of this important parish fundraiser.

“Rediscovering Your Family Stories” Spring 2017 Genealogy Workshop will take place at the Ukrainian American Citizen’s Club in Carnegie on May 6th from 8am – 4:30pm. If you register by March 31st, the cost is \$45, which includes the workshop, breakfast and lunch. (\$55 after March 31st). Register online: <https://www.ukrhec.org/workshop/family-history-group>.

Collection- May God bless you...

The grand total for Sunday of March 19, 2017 was **\$3,068.00**

(Collection: \$1165.30, Loose & candles: \$138.00, Pyrohy: \$1475.00, Soup sale: \$290.00)

Sincere thanks to all of you for your kindness and generosity!



March Birthdays

Rebecca Mikovitz – 3

Linda Smith (Kerelitch) - 12

Jenna Parks – 8,

Donald Hall – 18

Faith Kelly - 21