

DIVINE LITURGIES FOR THIS WEEK

**1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Great Fast, February 14, 2016**

9:00 AM Lit. + Michael & Olga Raab r/by Sons  
11:30 AM Lit. For God’s Blessings on Our Parishioners

**Monday, February 15, 2016**

No Liturgy Scheduled

**Tuesday, February 16, 2016**

7:30 AM - Lit. + Msgr. Victor Pospishil - Legate  
6:30 PM - Stations of the Cross (English)

**Wednesday, February 17, 2016**

8:45 AM - Lit. + Petro Stachiw - Legate  
6:30 PM - Stations of the Cross (Ukrainian)

**Thursday, February 18, 2016**

7:30 AM - Lit. +Charles Kopcho Sr.; Charles Kopcho Jr.

**Friday, February 19, 2016**

6:30 PM - Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

**Saturday, February 20, 2016**

9:00 AM Divine Liturgy and Lenten Commemoration  
5:00 PM Lit. + Mary Makar r/by Daughter

**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Great Fast, February 21, 2016**

*Epistle - Heb 1:10-2:3; Gospel - Mk 2:1-12*

9:00 AM Lit. + Dr. Stephen Banach; Anna Markevych  
r/by Melania Banach

11:30 AM Lit. For God’s Blessings on Our Parishioners

**1st Sunday of the Great Fast**

Today we celebrate 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, religious items you would like to have blessed, please place them on the table in the center of the Church.

**Gift Auction in Perth Amboy, NJ.**

St. Ann’s Society is sponsoring a “Bunny Hop Tricky Tray” Gift Auction on Sunday, March 6, 2016 at Assumption Catholic School Auditorium, 370 Meredith St., Perth Amboy, NJ. Doors open at 12:00 p.m. and auction starts at 2:00 p.m. Admission is \$8. Cruise through our rows of TABLE PRIZES while listening to tunes from the 50’s and 60’s; rock on over to our STAGE PRIZES, 50/50 MONEY RAFFLE, CALENDAR RAFFLE, BASKET RAFFLES and more.

Free Cake, Coffee and Tea. The kitchen will be open for lunch (No outside food please). For info or tickets call the church rectory (732) 826-0767. Tickets are also available at the door.

**ASK THE PASTOR -**

**What is the meaning of VICHNAJA PAMJAT?**

Eternal Memory - *Vichnaja pamjat*, memory eternal, is the short prayer that closes our memorial services, which call for laying to rest or remembering the deceased of our community. People may think that this prayer refers only to memory in this world, but the eternal memory is indeed eternal, for what gain would there be if one’s name were remembered until the end of time but forgotten in heaven? Thus, it is correct to believe that in prayer we are commending those who have fallen asleep to eternal life in the Kingdom of God. That is the real meaning of Eternal Memory - *vichnaja pamjat*. The Bible tells us how the names of the righteous will be inscribed in the Book of Life, while the names of the unrighteous will be forgotten. In the story of the Rich Man and Lazarus, found in the Gospel of Luke, we see that the Lord pronounces the name of Lazarus, who enters the Kingdom of Heaven, but that the name of the rich man, prohibited from entering Heaven, is omitted.

Thus we see that the Church teaches and practices the eternal remembrance of our deceased faithful. We might bear in mind that countless numbers of people have passed through this life without noise or notice, but have received an eternal name in Heaven where neither death nor change exist. We are advised to bear this understanding in mind whenever we sing or hear this short but meaningful prayer.

**Lenten Devotions**

Stations of the Cross are offered on Tues. and Weds. at 6:30 pm and Presanctified Liturgy is offered every Friday evening of Great Lent at 6:30 pm. Make an effort to make use of the Lenten Season for the sake of your own salvation. Please don’t ignore Lent.

**Lenten Mission**

This year’s Lenten Parish Mission will take place on Palm Sunday weekend, March 19-20. The mission will be conducted by the Redemptorist Fathers from St. John The Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Newark NJ. There will be a spiritual talk at each service scheduled during the Lenten mission and time for the Sacrament of Repentance. Please mark these dates on your calendars and plan to attend.

**Celebrate the Rite of Opening of the Door of Mercy at Assumption Church, Perth Amboy, NJ**

Just as Pope Francis opened the Holy Door at St. Peter’s Basilica at the Vatican and at St. John Lateran, Rome, so too local bishops around the world chose certain church doors in their dioceses as Holy Doors to mark the Holy Year. Pilgrims can receive special graces by walking through the Holy Door, receiving Communion, going to confession and praying for the intentions of the Holy Father. His Holiness has asked that Diocesan Archbishops and Bishops throughout the world designate cathedrals and certain local parish churches as special pilgrimage sites so that the faithful can take part in the celebration and receive special graces and blessings during the Jubilee Year.

Archbishop Stefan Soroka designated the following parishes to make special opportunities for faithful to receive the grace of God’s mercy: the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia; the Ukrainian National Catholic Shrine of the Holy Family in Washington, D.C.; St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Newark, NJ; St. Anne Ukrainian Catholic Church in Warrington, PA; Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church in Centralia, PA.; and Ss. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church in Olyphant, PA. The three parishes with schools are also designated as special Churches to visit and to pass through their ‘Door of Mercy’, namely St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Passaic, NJ; Assumption of Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church in Perth Amboy, NJ; and St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Minersville, PA

As you can see from this list, our parish was designated as a special pilgrimage site for the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy declared by Pope Francis. This honor and blessing for our parish will take place on Sunday, February 28, 2016 at 5:00 pm with celebration of “Akathist to The Divine Passion of Christ.” The main celebrant and homilist will be Rev. Taras Lonchyna, Dean for the New Jersey parishes and pastor of St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church, Trenton, NJ. There will be a priest hearing confessions.

The clergy will gather at the rectory for a procession to the church. At 4:50 p.m. I am asking faithful of our parish and guests to assemble at the main entrance of the church, where we will bless the designated Door of Mercy, read our Holy Father’s Prayer for the Beginning of the Holy Year, and then proceed into the church for the celebration of Akathist. Refreshments will be served following the service in our church hall.

Let us all come together as a Catholic family for our spiritual renewal; to seek the possibility of obtaining plenary indulgences; to pray the Prayer of the Holy Father for the Jubilee; and to seek special blessings during the Jubilee Year of Mercy by walking through the main door of Assumption Church - our Door of Mercy, and praying with us. All the faithful are welcome to attend!