

**DIVINE LITURGIES FOR THIS WEEK****Sunday of Meat Fare, February 19, 2017**

9:00 AM Lit. + Petro Stachiw

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

**Monday, February 20, 2017**

No Liturgy Scheduled

**Tuesday, February 21, 2017**7:30 AM Lit. + Charles Kopcho Sr.; Charles Kopcho Jr.  
- Legate**Wednesday, February 22, 2017**

7:30 AM Lit. + Msgr. Victor Pospishil

**Thursday, February 23, 2017**

7:30 AM Lit. + Lynn Kopi - Legate

**Friday, February 24, 2017**

8:45 AM Lit. + Marta Shevchuk r/by ACS Faculty

**Saturday, February 25, 2017**8:00 AM Lit. + Anastasia ( 1<sup>st</sup> Anniv.) r/by Victoria

5:00 PM Lit. + Mary Makar r/by Daughter, Mary Ann

**Sunday of Cheesefare, February 26, 2017***Epistle - Rom 13:11-14:4; Gospel - Mt 6:14-21*9:00 AM Lit. + Iwan, Stephanie Ciolko; Joseph Telecky  
r/by Irene & Andrew Laschuk

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

**Sorokousty Memorial Services**

As in the past, we will honor the memory of our beloved deceased with Sorokousty Memorial Services at 9 a.m. on all Saturdays of Lent beginning March 4, 2017. If you would like your deceased family members commemorated during these services, please submit your envelope with the names clearly listed, by Feb. 26.

**Relic and Icon of Blessed Martyr Mykola Charnetsky**

Starting February 24th and running through March 10th, our Parish will have an opportunity to venerate a relic and icon of Blessed Bishop Martyr Mykola Charnetsky. Blessed Bishop-Martyr Charnetsky, known as "the healer of souls" was beatified by St. John Paul II on June 27, 2001 in Lviv, Ukraine. Many personal testimonies are recorded of miraculous healings through his intercession. All the faithful are invited and encouraged to attend this service and to bring their intentions for healing through the intercession of Blessed Bishop Mykola.

**The Rite of Forgiveness - Sunday, Feb. 26**

The day before the start of the Great Fast is called Forgiveness Sunday, for on this day we ask each other's forgiveness, remembering that there can be no true fast, no genuine repentance, no reconciliation with God, unless we are at the same time reconciled with one another. Don't miss it. After the Liturgy, we are going to have a "Forgiveness Rite". Later that day at 5:00 p.m., all faithful of the NJ Deanery are welcome to gather for Forgiveness Vespers at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Passaic, NJ.

**Donation to Church**

\$100.00 - Baidy Family, In Memory of  
+ EDWARD BAIDY

**Sincere Sympathies**

Our most sincere sympathies are extended to the family and friends of + SOPHIE SLAWINSKI who was recently called to her eternal reward.

**Concerning Children in Church**

As a reminder, children are a blessing of the Lord, and parents who bring their children to church do a great service to their own families and to our parish community. If from time to time, our youngsters get a little rambunctious in church - and this is normal and should be expected - let us see this as a sign that our parish is healthy and growing. No one should be discouraged from bringing their children to church, even if they get a little "excited" when praising the Lord; remember, what Christ tells us: "Let the little children to come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of Heaven." (Matt. 19:14)

**TODAY: Sunday of the Last Judgement, Meat Fare Sunday**

Today's Gospel reading is Matthew 25:31-46, the parable of the Last Judgment. It reminds us that while trusting in Christ's love and mercy, we must not forget His righteous judgment when He comes again in glory. If our hearts remain hardened and unrepentant, we should not expect the Lord to overlook our transgressions simply because He is a good and loving God. When Christ comes to judge the world, His criterion for judgment will be love. Christian love entails seeing Christ in other people, our family, our friends and everyone else we may encounter in our lives. We shall be judged on whether we have loved, or not loved, our neighbor. We show Christian love when we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit those who are sick or in prison. If we did such things for the least of Christ's brethren, then we also did them for Christ (Mt. 25:40). If we did not do such things for the least of the brethren, neither did we do them for Christ (Mt. 25:45). Today is the last day for eating meat and meat products until Pascha, though eggs and dairy products are permitted every day during the coming week. This limited fasting prepares us gradually for the more intense fasting of Great Lent.

**ASK THE PASTOR**

*Father, I've heard that after a loved one dies, that for 40 days we are not to celebrate anything (no Christmas trees, no dancing, no listening to music, wear black.) How about food... what types are allowed and not allowed? Also, does this apply to all members of the family, i.e., if my grandmother or uncle dies do I practice this as well or just the "immediate" family, such as my mother and father?*

It is a practice among the many Eastern Catholics that the mourning period of a close relative can extend from 40 days to one year. As Christians, we belong to the Church of the Cross and Resurrection. Unfortunately, the cult of the dead often overshadows the resurrection. As Christians we cannot allow the reality of death to supersede the reality of new life in Christ. Therefore mourning in its various manifestations i.e. dress, diet, social intercourse etc. should not become separated from the Church's joyous proclamation that "through the cross joy has come to all the world." The cross and resurrection cannot be veiled by uncontrollable grief and hopelessness. Mourning for the dead is a communal and personal process that requires Christ's cross and resurrection to be its foundation. The reality of death, especially that of a loved one, causes great pain and sorrow. Even our Lord wept at the grave of his beloved friend Lazarus. But, as we mourn we must always keep in mind that our Lord has already destroyed death by his own death on the cross. The Lord's cross is our victory over death. Therefore our mourning for the deceased must be tempered with the joyous and life giving events of Christ's death, burial and resurrection.

*I know of St Anthony who can be prayed to when searching for lost items. Is there a saint who specializes in giving patience, especially when dealing with elderly relations?*

Anthony of Padua is the person to whom Catholics pray to find lost objects. For patience in general, pray to St Job (and indeed read his book in the Old Testament). You can also pray to the Forty Martyrs of Sebaste. There is no specific saint for patience with elderly relatives, however. I would certainly use the Jesus Prayer in such cases

**Did You Know?**

Geese fly in the V-formation because when each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird immediately following. By flying in the V-formation, the whole flock can fly at least 71% further than if each bird flew on its own. Christians who share a common direction and sense of community can also get where they are going quicker and easier because they are traveling on the thrust and uplift of one another. What a great image for Great Lent that is coming in a few weeks.