

DIVINE LITURGIES FOR THIS WEEK**2nd Sunday of the Great Fast, March 8, 2020**

9:00 AM - Lit. God's Blessings on Our Parishioners

11:30 AM - Lit. + Hutnick and Kataryniak Families

Tuesday, March 10, 2020

7:00 PM - Stations of the Cross (English)

Wednesday, March 11, 2020

8:45 AM - Lit. + Mykola Chalupa r/by Maria Lyszyk

7:00 PM - Stations of the Cross (Ukrainian)

Friday, March 13, 2020

7:00 PM - Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Saturday, March 14, 2020

9:00 AM - Divine Liturgy and Lenten Commemoration

5:00 PM - Lit. + Loretta Suto, Gerry r/by Palyla Family

3rd Sunday of the Great Fast, March 8, 2020**Veneration of the Cross**

Epistle - Heb 4:14-5:6; Gospel - Mk 8:34-9:1

9:00 AM - Lit. God's Blessings on Our Parishioners

11:30 AM - Lit. + Myron Kataryniak r/by Wife, Eleanor

St. Ann Society Gift Auction - Today

Sunday, March 8, 2020 in the school auditorium. Doors open at 12 noon, and drawing for prizes starts at 2 p.m. Admission \$10. Fabulous prizes and luxurious baskets are waiting for the winners! Cash prizes can be won in the 50-50 raffle as well as in "It's Your Lucky Day" raffle. A gift card raffle, lottery scratch-off raffle, and \$500 Visa card all add to the excitement of the day. A Caribbean Vacation for two is also waiting for a lucky winner. Stage prizes promise to be bigger and better than ever! Free cake, coffee, and tea are included in the price of admission. In addition, the kitchen has a selection of delicious food available for purchase. No outside food or beverages allowed.

Senior Citizens

The Senior Citizens Club will meet on Thursday, March 12, 2020 at 12:00 p.m. in the church hall.

St. Ann Society Meeting

The March monthly meeting will take place on Sunday, March 15, following the 11:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy.

LENT IS A TIME TO ATTEND CHURCH AN EXTRA TIME -

And just not on the weekend! It's a special time to incorporate an extra day of public worship into your busy schedule! The Penitential Season of the Great Fast is manifested in the Church's Great Fast liturgical Hours, especially the Stations of the Cross (Tuesday 7:00 pm) and Presanctified Divine Liturgy (Friday 7:00 pm). If you have never participated in a Presanctified Divine Liturgy before, you are truly missing something special! Join us on Friday evenings. Consult the schedule for these special penitential services! Place God ahead of your busy schedule, and He will bless you for it.

CONTINUING TO REMEMBER LOVED ONES AT ALL-SOULS COMMEMORATIONS

During the Great Fast Season, the Church is remembering in a special way all those who have departed in the true faith, especially through the reading of the Sorokousty (List of submitted names). You are encouraged to attend 9:00 AM Divine Liturgy on Saturday and Sorokousty for the Deceased. The list of names for Sorokousty can be found on the bulletin board downstairs.

CONGRATULATIONS

May the Almighty God bless in good health and salvation in many, happy and blessed years of life to all our parishioners, guests, visitors, your family members who celebrate their heavenly patrons feast-days/name-days and especially to everyone who celebrate their birthdays, anniversaries or any other important events this week - Mnohaya i Blahaya Lita!

The Second Sunday of the Great Lent.

In today's Gospel reading, the Church opens before us the well-known page of the Holy Gospel about the cure of a paralytic man, who was brought to Christ by his four friends. They honestly cared and asked Christ for a healing of their ill friend. This is truly and a great example for all of us at the time the Great Fast/Lent. It is that only together people can be saved, supporting each other, loving, believing, encouraging, helping and then God will help each of us when we care about others.

Why do Byzantine Catholics begin Lent two days earlier than Roman Catholics?

The answer is that the period of paschal preparation is structured very differently in the two traditions. Byzantine Catholics have two fasting periods in preparation for Pascha (Easter). The first 40-day period, called the Great Fast, begins seven Mondays before Pascha Sunday and ends the Friday before Lazarus Saturday (the day before Palm Sunday). This period includes Sundays, which explains why there is only a mitigation for wine and oil on Sundays and special feast days in the traditional fast. Byzantine Catholics then celebrate a second intense fasting period, from Holy Monday to the Divine Liturgy of Pascha Sunday. Traditionally, during the weekend between the two fasting periods, namely Lazarus Saturday and Palm Sunday, meat and dairy are allowed. By contrast, the Roman Catholic Church has a single 40-day fasting period from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday, the day before Easter. There are actually 46 days in this period, but Sundays are counted as "an island in the fast" and not included in the 40 days.

PASTOR'S CORNER: Coronavirus and Holy Communion:**Is it safe to receive in our church?**

"From a purely microbiological perspective, the sweet red wine used in Communion is typically high in alcoholic content. This means that the chances of bacteria or germs surviving in it are virtually minimal to non-existent. Although each of us communes the Body and Blood of Christ, the invisible microbes that may enter our mouths from the previous communicant are harmless. From a purely experiential perspective, every chalice on Sundays is consumed in its totality by the priest, after several mouths have communed from it. No priest, including the writer of this column, has ever become ill or incapacitated after consuming the Holy Gifts. And finally, from a purely spiritual perspective, the Holy Gifts are sacred. ... If we truly believe in God, we know quite well that God would never allow harm to come to us, most especially in the reception of Holy Communion."

This is our faith, dearly beloved, and if we lose that faith, we are in grave danger far beyond the physical danger of a virus.

On the individual level, I ask that each of us practice good hygiene. Wash your hands prior to coming to Liturgy. You will notice that we have drained the holy water in the church, until further notice. Please simply bless yourself with the sign of the cross as you enter and exit the church. Don't kiss the Icons, but bow before them. Cough or sneeze into the crook of your arm. Perhaps most importantly, there is no Sunday obligation to attend Liturgy if you are ill. Therefore please stay at home if you are sick. Missing Liturgy due to illness is not sinful; it is prudent and shows care for your brothers and sisters.

SYMPATHY:

Please remember in your prayers the soul of + JOSEPH CARO who fell asleep in the Lord this week. May Our Lord grant him rest in the bosom of Abraham, may he be numbered among the saints and may his memory be eternal. *Vichnaya pamyat.*