# DIVINE LITURGIES FOR THIS WEEK

4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Great Fast, March 19, 2023
9:00 AM - Lit. + Dmytro and Anna r/by Mariya Derevenska
11:30 AM - Lit. For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners
Tuesday, March 21, 2023
6:30 PM - Stations of the Cross (English)
Wednesday, March 22, 2023
8:45 AM - Lit. + Ronald Liteplo (40 <sup>th</sup> day) r/by Lojko Family
6:30 PM - Stations of the Cross (Ukrainian)
Friday, March 24, 2023
6:30 PM - Presanctified Liturgy
Saturday, March 25, 2023
Annunciation of the Theotokos
9:00 AM - Divine Liturgy and Lenten Commemoration
5:00 PM - Lit. + Joseph, Dorothy, Mary, Steve, Joseph
Andrews-Andrewshetsko - Legate
5th Sunday of the Great Fast, March 26, 2023
Epistle - Heb 9:11-14; Gospel - Mk 10:32-45
9:00 AM - Lit. For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners
11:30 AM - Lit. + Joseph Kopi - Legate

#### Lenten Mission-Confession

This year's Lenten Parish Mission will take place on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Lent (March 24-26). The mission will be conducted by Fr. Ihor Kolisnyk, C.Ss.R., a Redemptorist Father and an assistant pastor of St. John Ukrainian Catholic Church in Newark NJ. There will be a spiritual talk at each service( starting with Presanctified Liturgy on Friday evening) and all other services scheduled during the Lenten mission. Please make every effort during the Lenten Mission to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation in preparation for Easter Sunday. The confession will be available an hour before all Lenten Services.

### <u>Thank You.</u>

Thank you my dear parishioners for financially helping the family of Irina Tomynets who was hit by the car while crossing the street with her son.

 In two weeks we collected and had given to her husband Ivan \$ 6,255 from our parish and \$2,200 from the Assumption Catholic School.

Thanks everyone for keeping Irina and her family in your prayers, for your generous donations. Irina's condition is stable. Hematoma in her brain is still present. This past week Irina had sudden cardiac arrest, which is causing the doctors to adjust her treatments. She also had an ankle surgery - which went well. The next on the list is to do a hip surgery, which lasts 8 hours, but because of cardiac arrest, the surgery cannot happen at least until hematoma in her brain is gone and she is out of coma. Irina's right eye is reacting to light, while the left eye is not. Her internal organs are working well, and there is no more internal bleeding. Now, the doctors are waiting for Irina to wake up from coma. But when that will happen, no one knows! Please continue to pray for a miracle.

### Bread Sale

St Ann Society will sponsor a Paska Sale on Thursday April 6th. Please sign up on the order sheet in the vestibule or call the rectory at 732-826-0767. Pickup between 5pm and 8 pm on the 6<sup>th</sup> and Good Friday after Vespers. <u>Paska \$15, Small braided loaf \$7</u>. Pre-orders only, last day to order is Sunday April 2nd. Any questions please email Colette at <u>Ketrn@comcast.net</u>

### School Open House

Assumption Catholic School in will host an Open House on Sunday, March 25 from 9:30 p.m. to 12 noon.

To receive more information, please stopby at 380 Meredith St, Perth Amboy, NJ, call 732-826-8721 or visit www.assumptioncatholicschool.net

### Want to support ACS?

\$1 chocolates are for sale in back of the church with different delicious favors. If you want to help us sell a whole box at your work place - it is \$60 a box with 60 chocolates. Thank you!

### Adult Faith Formation for Women.

Please join our Sisters at the convent for another faith formation class on Wednesday, March 22 following Stations of the Cross (Ukrainian).

# **TODAY: Fourth Sunday**

# Commemoration Of St. John Of The Ladder.

In the sixth century, a monk of Mount Sinai named 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 Christian monastics and 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.

### Pastor's Corner

Dear Parishioners, as one year passed of an unprovoked war against the sovereign and peaceloving nation of Ukraine, her people continue to suffer and die in unprecedented numbers. As the Russians wreak havoc on the countryside, demolishing churches, businesses, historic monuments, and homes, leaving destruction and desolation behind, the people of Ukraine fight on, stalwartly trying to hold on to their lives, their identity, and their land.

As Simon of Cyrene helped Christ carry His Cross, our parish Church has stepped up and is helping the refugees and those suffering due to the military aggression against them, by aiding in any way possible to ease their suffering and strengthen their hope God.

Even in this seemingly dire situation, God works through His people, and shines a light in the darkness. Last week, after i informed the parish about the recent purchased of an ambulance for Ukrainian people, i was approached by a family of Bogdan and Halyna Jasinski (owners of Medical Career Institute, NY) who presented me a check for \$ 15, 000 to purchase another ambulance.

Through their generous donation, we already looking to purchase an ambulance in Italy, to be used in the wartorn areas in Easter Ukraine to help save the lives of those who are injured and need immediate medical care.

## Sviachene - Easter Dinner

We are happy to announce that our annual Parish Easter Dinner/Sviachene will be held in the school hall on Sunday, April 23, 2023 following a 10:00 AM Divine Liturgy. As in the past, only one liturgy will be held that Sunday. The dinner will consist of traditional Easter food, such as ham, kobasa, eggs, paska, cold salads, beets with horseradish, etc. Tickets will be available for the next couple of weeks in the church vestibule and at coffee hour. The cost is minimal, \$15 per adult, children \$10, complementary under 5 years old.

### Eternal Memory

Sister Martin Rodko, MSMG, died peacefully on Friday, March 10, 2023. Sister Martin taught in our parish school for 25 years, 1965 to 1990. We extend our sincere sympathies to the Missionary Sisters of Mother of God and Sr. Martin's family and friends. May she rest in peace.

#### Annunciation Feast Day (March 25)

Saint Pio from Pietrelcina often told this story: The Lord walks through Paradise, and meets many faces of sinners worthy of hell and not Heaven. Calls Saint Peter and advises him to be careful to not let into Heaven those who do not deserve it. St. Peter promises increased surveillance & tries to be more careful.

The very next day the Lord walks again, and he meets more sinners. Phones Saint Peter, and this time strongly admonishes him. Saint Peter feels humiliated, and promises maximum surveillance. But the next day, the same thing: the Lord meets new sinners in Heaven. This time he calls Saint Peter, determined to punish him, taking away the keys to Heaven. But Saint Peter knows how to defend himself, because he discovered how those sinners enter Heaven.

He reports to the Lord that, in the middle of the night, while everyone is sleeping, the Holy Virgin opens the doors of Heaven and lets those sinners in. "Orbene - concludes Saint Peter - with your Mother, I can't help it"; and the Lord replied: "Neither I!"