

## DIVINE LITURGIES FOR THIS WEEK

**Sunday of the Prodigal Son, February 13, 2022**

9:00 AM - Lit. + Teodor Worobel r/by Bobbie &amp; Family

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

**Monday, February 14, 2022**

7:30 AM - Lit. + Michael &amp; Olga Raab r/by Sons

**Tuesday, February 15, 2022**

7:30 PM - Lit. + Petro Stachiw - Legate

**Wednesday, February 16, 2022**

7:30 AM - Lit. + Msgr. Victor Pospishil - Legate

**Thursday, February 17, 2022**

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

**Friday, February 18, 2022**

8:45 AM - Lit. + Maria Espinal

r/by Fr. Ivan, Sisters, Mrs. Shumny

**Saturday, February 19, 2022**

8:00 AM - Lit. God's blessings for Michele and Yuriy

r/by Iryna Kuzychyn

5:00 PM - Lit. + Ed Bishop (1<sup>st</sup> Anniv.) r/by Family**Sunday of Meatfare, February 20, 2022***Epistle - 1 Cor 8:8-9:2; Gospel - Mt25:31-46*

9:00 AM - Lit. + Roman &amp; Irene Ambrozewycz

r/by Roman &amp; Cathy

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 Saturday, March 5, 2022. This is a time to remember our departed family and friends. If you would like your deceased family members commemorated during these services, **please submit your envelope with the names clearly listed, by Feb. 20.**

Envelopes are included in your box of donation envelopes. Please clearly PRINT the first names of the deceased on the front. It is a pale grey envelope with your name and envelope number printed on the back. If there is no change from last year, please check "same as last year" on the envelope.

**St. Ann Society Meeting**

St. Ann Society will meet today, February 13, following the 11:30 Divine Liturgy. This organization is open to all women of the parish, and anyone who is considering working with us is welcome to stop by and have coffee with us. Please consider serving your parish with our group. You will find a warm welcome as well as an opportunity to grow in faith and fellowship with us.

**Reminder.**

Our faithful are reminded that as you leave the church, to do so reverently and quietly. Depart and then greet neighbors and friends at the church vestibule or at fellowship hour. We must never lose reverence for our church sanctuary as the house of God simply because services have ended. Also, please take the Sunday bulletins with you or return them from where you took them rather than leaving them in the pews. If you use the bathrooms downstairs, please turn off lights after yourself. Also, out of respect to your fellow parishioners and to God, please turn off all electronic devices such as cell phones before entering the church so as to not interrupt the solemnity of our prayers. Thank you.

**Donations to Church**

\$1,000.00 - Kernitsky Family Fund

\$250.00 - Stelle Gadek

**Orchid Flower Donations**

The lovely orchid flowers we see this week on the side altars were recently donated by:

- friends - for God's blessings of Jaroslawa Dnistrian.

Many people have special days in the year which they commemorate. Flowers on the side altars of Assumption Church can fittingly mark the anniversary of a birth, baptism, confirmation, marriage or death, or may be used as an expression of joy of thanksgiving at any time. Throughout the year, please buy orchids, bring them to our church as a donation and place them before the side altar. Your donation will be listed in the church bulletin.

**Today: The Sunday of the Prodigal Son.**

This parable of the Prodigal Son/Father has the power to change us because it names human relationships so perfectly. We see ourselves in both sons: As the younger son we try to live our life apart and autonomously, and yet that leads to an eventual alienation and unhappiness. We are also capable of being the older son who prides himself on his dedication and hard work. At the end of the parable we never learn whether the older son comes to the banquet, but we do know that the Father continues hoping that his son will come and not live in resentment or superiority toward the brother who has done it all wrong. It is an invitation to all of us who have perhaps been good Catholics, "older sons," but may also lack compassion and forgiveness.

**Perth Amboy Police and Firefighters were honored at Assumption Catholic School.**

Last week, students welcomed members of the Perth Amboy Fire and Police Departments who joined them for a special celebration of Catholic Schools Week. The students and staff wanted to show their appreciation for first responders and provided officers with binders full of appreciation and thank you letters from the students. These heroic men and women also played games with students and were treated with a special lunch from Assumption Family. Assumption school is very honored that some of officers' children already attend ACS.

**School's Open House Success.**

Our 2022 Catholic Schools Week Open House was a success! We gave tours to 9 new families and answered many questions and showed our ACS pride! We are glad that so many people are as excited and sure about Assumption Catholic School in Perth Amboy, NJ as we are. The Principal Mrs. Shumny, Fr. Ivan, Mrs. Palhais, the FSA President, Sisters Veronika and Maria, Teachers were delighted to share information about our school programs and host interested families and prospective parents. Also, a big thank you goes to 8th graders who gave tours of the school and many visitors were thoroughly impressed! If you missed the Open House today and would like to arrange a tour or school visit, please call 732-826-0721 or stop by any time for a visit!

**ASK QUESTION ABOUT OUR FAITH**

- *Do priests remember what we say in confession?*

So often, people will ask if I remember people's sins from Confession. As a priest, I rarely remember sins from the confessional. That might seem impossible, but the truth is, sins aren't all that impressive. They aren't like memorable sunsets or meteor showers or super-intriguing movies... they are more like the garbage.

- *In the cherubic hymn sung at every liturgy we sing "Let us who mystically represent the cherubim." What does it mean for us to mystically represent the cherubim? Does "us" refer to all of us assembled together at the liturgy? or those ministering at the altar only?*

To mystically represent the Cherubim refers to our "putting aside all earthly cares so we may receive the King of all,..." Representing the Cherubim points to those who concelebrate the Divine Liturgy (i.e. all the faithful) and who are to maintain vigilance while awaiting the Second Coming of the Lord. Thus, every celebration of the Liturgy is a celebration of the Kingdom which is to come. In the Chrysostom anaphora we give thanks to our heavenly Father "who has endowed us with [his] kingdom which is to come." Being like the Cherubim ranks us with those who now anticipate and participate in the new creation.

- *What does "prodigal" mean?*

It's basic meaning is "wasteful"--particularly with regard to money. It comes from Latin roots that mean "forth" (pro-) and "to drive" (agere). It indicates the quality of a person who drives forth his money--who wastes it by spending with reckless abandon. That's what the prodigal son does in this story.