

**DIVINE LITURGIES FOR THIS WEEK****Sunday of Meat-Fare, February 4, 2024**

9:00 AM - Lit. + Teodor Worobel

r/by Daughter, Bobbie, and Family

11:30 AM - Lit. + Ihor Sytar r/by Ivan and Natalia Sytar

**Tuesday, February 6, 2024**

7:30 AM Lit. + Irene &amp; Roman Ambrozewycz

r/by Roman &amp; Cathy

**Wednesday, February 7, 2024**

7:30 AM - Lit. + Ihor Potapchuk r/by Mother, Iryna

**Thursday, February 8, 2024**

7:30 AM - Lit Health Halyna Selyukova r/by Oksana Tabaka

**Friday, February 9, 2024**

8:45 AM - Lit. for the souls in the purgatory

**Saturday, February 10, 2024**

8:00 AM - Lit Special Intention

5:00 PM - Lit. Health of Steve Dzioba r/by Anna &amp; Dn. Paul

**Sunday of Cheese-Fare, February 11, 2024***Epistle - Rom 13:11-14:4; Gospel - Mt 6:14-21*

9:00 AM - Lit. + Msgr. Victor Pospishil Leg.

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

**Welcome Special Guests**

On Friday's Feast of the Presentation of the Lord our parish had the honor of meeting and praying at the 8:45 AM Divine Liturgy with two Bishops from Ukraine: Archbishop Emeritus Ihor Isichenko of Kharkiv and Bishop Andriy Khimyak, Auxiliary Bishop of the Kyiv Archeparchy.

**Gift Auction**

St. Ann Society is happy to announce the upcoming TRICKY TRAY/GIFT AUCTION on Sunday, March 3, 2024. This year's theme is "Around the World" and will feature 100's of beautiful prizes and specialty baskets. There will be a 50-50, "It's Your Lucky Day" raffle, super stage prizes, gift card raffle, and many other opportunities to win. Free cake, coffee or tea, and one sheet of tickets for the level I prizes are included in the cost of admission which is \$20. Doors will open at 11:30 AM, and drawings will begin at 2 PM.

Donations of items for the gift auction will be gratefully accepted. Items from parishioners or members can be dropped off at the bingo hall on Wednesday evenings after 7:30 PM. Items can also be left in the church hall but should be clearly marked "for St. Ann's Gift Auction." Items can also be dropped off at the rectory, also marked for St. Ann Gift Auction. Your donations of new items, gift cards, bottles of wine, etc. are a great help to the success of the gift auction.

**Donations for Aid to Ukraine**

\$11,000.00 - Jasinski Family (Medical Career Institute)

Funds for two drones.

\$500.00 - Mary Malarkey Dzioba

**Donation to Church**

\$1,000.00 - Anne &amp; Gil Eckert

**Sorokousty Memorial Services**

Soon the holy season of the Great Fast (Lent) will once again be upon us. 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. This is the service where Fr. Ivan reads aloud in church the names of the deceased. Please take a moment to update the commemoration of you deceased love ones.

**Blessed Candles**

Forty days after Christmas the infant Jesus was presented in the temple of Jerusalem and placed in the arms of the old man Simeon. It is customary on the Feast of the Presentation to bless candles, the candles that will be used throughout the liturgical year, and candles that are given to the congregation to take home. The candles are available up front in the church for a small donation.

**TODAY: Sunday of the Last Judgement**

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. At the Second Coming, Christ will appear as the righteous Judge, Who will render to every man according to his deeds. (Rom. 2:6).

**THE GREAT FAST IS COMING****Pastor's Corner.**

February is one of my favorite months, not because it is the month of my birthday, but it is the beginning of the holy season of Lent (Monday, February 12), which moves us towards the glory of Easter.

Lent has always been one of my favorite holy seasons. It offers us a time of repentance, a time of renewal, and a time of peace. It is the time of year for us to ponder our relationship with God. Often people look to feel closer to God during this time. After all, unlike Christmas Season, Lent has no such distractions, allowing us more time to grow closer to God.

No one ever saw God more clearly or more often than Jesus. He saw the saving work of God in a shepherd searching for lost sheep. He saw the grace of God in a father embracing a prodigal son. He saw the love and mercy of God in the good Samaritan. For Jesus, ordinary events and ordinary people were windows to Heaven: He could look through and see God.

You and I can do the same. Our failure to see God does not mean that He is absent. God is with us all the time. We know this because why else would He take simple bread and wine and say, "This is My Body, this is My Blood, given for you. Do this in memory of Me."

Don't let the gloominess of winter hide the light of God that is always with us. Let this most holy season bring the gifts of hope and peace. Because of our baptism, we are called to bless, and Lent is a time to recall both how we are blessed and how we bless others.

Let this glorious season of Lent keep us strong in our faith and help us feel closer to God.

**Aid to Ukraine**

Dear parishioners, as I look back on 2023, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all who showed their unwavering support of our help for the Ukrainian people! Thank you for your time organizing fundraisers, thank you for the generous donations, thank you for keeping Ukraine and Ukrainians at the forefront, as the world kept turning - *your donations made all the difference in over a million lives - thank you for being the Light!*

This year, our parish already provided the following help:

- \$8,000 - This year our church carolers that included our parish Sisters, the choir "Boyan" members and parish youth visited about 20 homes and collected enough funds to purchase a DJI Matrice 300RTK drone.
- \$4,500 - Last week the Jasinski Family (Medical Career Institute) made a substantial donation for the purchase of two drones. The first DJI Mavic 3T Thermal Drone was purchased in Canada and shipped to Ukraine.
- \$500 - We purchased a Starlink satellite system that is being used by Ukrainian forces on all front lines in the war with Russia.

**School's Open House Success.**

Our 2024 Catholic Schools Week Open House last Sunday was a success! We gave many tours, answered parent questions and showed our ACS pride! Over 14 registration packets were handed out. If you didn't make the Open House please call 732-826-8721 or just stop by to take a tour and receive a welcoming packet.