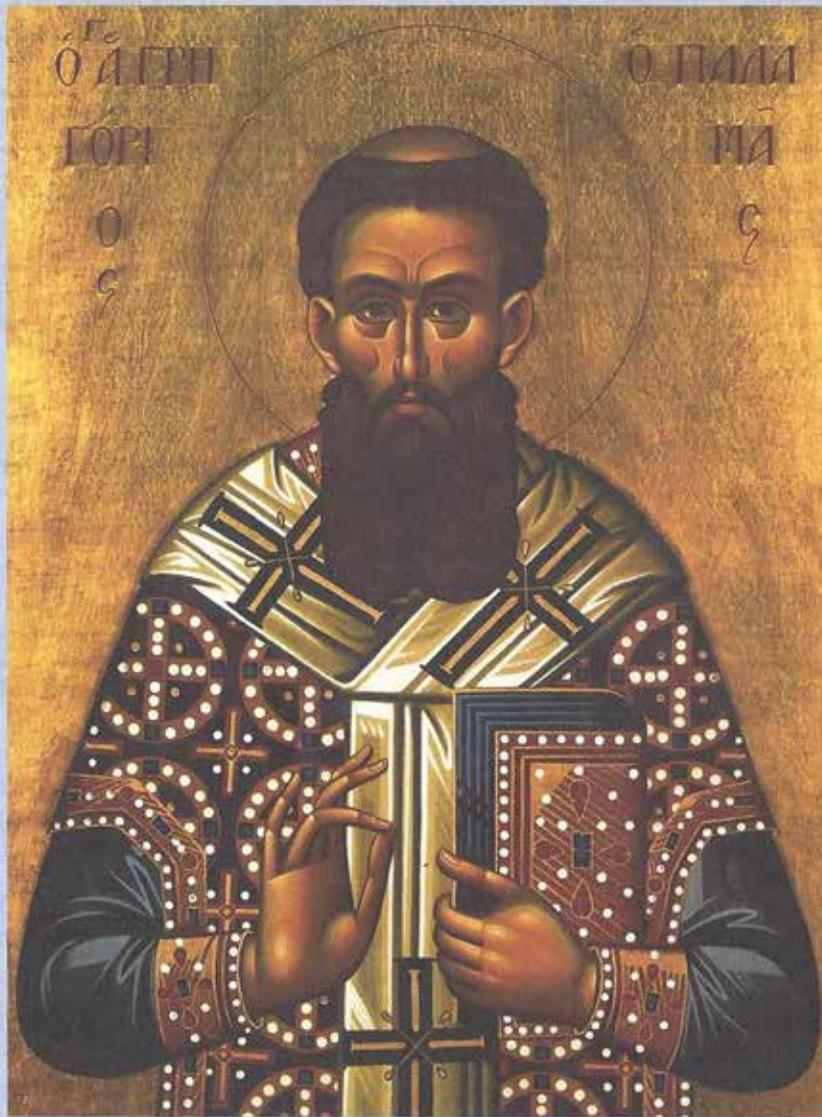


SECOND SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST
SUNDAY OF SAINT GREGORY PALAMAS



Icon of Saint Gregory Palamas

March 12, 2017: Second Sunday of the Great Fast

Epistle: Heb. 1:10 - 2:3

Gospel: Mk. 2: 1-12

Mon., March 13 8:00 + Ann Murty (Cecile Bordlemay)

Tues., March 14 8:00 + Michael Stanko (Sister Elaine & Bob)

Wed., March 15 **No Services Today.**

Thurs. March 16 **No Services Today.**

Fri. March 17 6:30 pm Presanctified Liturgy

Sat., March 18 **No Morning Divine Liturgy**

10:30 Confessions

2:00 pm Confessions

4:00 pm +Harry & Olga Pish & Mildred Polacek (Jean Howarth)

Sun., March 19 9:00 + Andrew & Anna Smagula (Son Joseph)

11:30 For Our Parishioners

3:00 pm Sorokousty

Metropolitan Stefan's Great Fast Meditation For The Second Sunday Of Lent

A meaningful journey through Lent ought to unsettle our comfort zones. One of these comfort zones might be an attitude of living with an attitude of entitlement. Recall how some of the apostles were arguing among themselves as to who was the most important. Jesus sat them down and said, "If anyone wishes to rank first, he must remain the last one of all and the servant of all" (Mk. 9:36). How do you and I approach Jesus?

Recall how the Gospels tell of us people jeering, insulting and mocking Jesus on the cross. When you and I judge others, laugh or bully others for what we perceive as different in the way they do things or present themselves, are we not like those unpleasant persons at the foot of the cross? Are we setting ourselves as more important than others just as the apostles did? The friends of the paralytic in today's Gospel reveal to us how we ought to

witness to Jesus Christ. They were so motivated that they even made a hole in someone's roof to get their friend to Jesus for healing. Jesus tells them that the paralytic is healed because of the faith of these friends. They vividly reveal what being a servant to one another calls us to do. Others around us

are thirsting to hear the healing words of Jesus Christ, and not demeaning, critical or bullying words. Dare to be a servant of others, presenting them to Jesus Christ for healing in our prayers, with our words of love and encouragement, and forgiveness. Take the challenge!

Spiritual Regulations for the Great Fast

Although our Church traditionally prescribed abstention from meat and dairy products in days gone by for the entire duration of the Great Fast, the following are the minimal Lenten regulations today:

- Abstinance from meat and all dairy products on the First Day of the Great Fast and on Good Friday.
- Abstinance from meat only on all Fridays of the Great Fast as well as Holy Saturday. It is also traditional to abstain from meat on Wednesdays during the Great Fast.
- Reception of the Holy Mysteries of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist during the period from the onset of Great Fast to the Wednesday before Ascension Thursday.
- The Fasting and Abstinance regu-

lations are not binding on persons 60 or older, the very poor, sick, nursing or pregnant women, children below the age of 14, and those who engage in physically very hard labor. However, all are urged, if able to do so, to observe the fasting and abstinance regulations.

- All the faithful are urged to attend the Lenten services such as the Presanctified Liturgy and the Commemoration of the Deceased (Sorokousty).
- Such good deeds as almsgiving, visitation of the sick, Bible reading and praying for vocations to the priesthood and religious life are most earnestly recommended to all the Faithful.

Great Fast Liturgical Guidelines

On Wednesdays and Fridays of the Great Fast, the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is to be celebrated. Typika may be used the other days. The Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great is to be celebrated for Sunday Liturgies during this time.

During Holy Week, the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is to be celebrat-

ed Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. There is no Divine Liturgy celebrated on Good Friday and Holy Saturday. On Holy Thursday evening, Vespers with Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great should be celebrated. On Holy Saturday evening, Vespers with the Divine Liturgy of St. Basil the Great is to be celebrated.

Our Condolences

We would like to express our sincere condolences to Augustine Family on the occasion of falling asleep of + Michael Augustine. His funeral was held at St. Cyril's on Saturday, March 4, 2017. May the Lord God help and bless

grieving Family at this difficult time and may He accept the departed servant of God Michael into the Heavenly Kingdom. Everlasting Memory! Vichnaya Pam'yat'!

Church Community Project for 2017

Now is the time for our parishioners to get involved in our Community Project for 2017. The Community supports our church for the Dinners, Bake Sales and the Rummage Sale. Now is the time "to pay it forward." We will be accepting non-perishable food and clothes for all season's and accessories (shoes, hats, gloves, socks) of all sizes for men's, ladies, kids, and babies. Clean and wearable!!! You can leave the clothes on hangers or bring the items in bags. If everyone in the parish

gave 2-3 items of non-perishable food, it will be greatly appreciated by the Jessup food pantry. Money donations for food will be accepted and we will then purchase food.

The collection will take place on Saturday, March 25 from 3:15 p.m. - 5:30 p.m., before and after the Divine Liturgy. On Sunday, March 26th, the collection will start at 10:15 a.m -1:15 p.m., before and after each Divine Liturgy. Items can be dropped off at the School Gym, 133 River Street, Oly-

phant.

The Food and Clothes Collection for the Church Community Project was very successful when we did this in March 2016. The food will be delivered to the Jessup Food Pantry at St. Michael's Church, 316 First Ave., Jessup, the old Convent building. 570-489-9963. The Jessup Bread Basket of NEPA for the Mid-Valley area and The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP). Food can be accepted in Jessup, every Wednesday from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. all year round at the Jessup Food Pantry. In 2016 one truck load of food was delivered to Jessup from our Church.

Clothes will be delivered to the United Neighborhood Centers (UNC) of Northeastern Penna. 410 Olive Street, (off of N. Washington Ave., one block after Meshko Glass) Scranton, Pa. 570-343-8835. They accept clothes, household items every day from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. throughout

the year at the UNC. In March 2016, we delivered 3 carloads and one truck of clothes.

VOLUNTEERS are needed during the collection on Saturday and Sunday and then for the deliveries. The clothes will be delivered on Monday, March 27th to Scranton, and the food will be delivered on Wednesday, March 29th to Jessup. Volunteers and cars/truck will start loading the vehicles at noon from the BACK of the School gym on Monday and Wednesday. We need your help for the Church's Community Project.

Contact Lauren Telep at 570-383-0319 or Father Nestor at 570-489-2271 for any further information about donating or volunteering at the School Gym. If anyone in the parish needs help regarding clothes or food, in private please contact Father Nestor, only. Also, if you are associated with any other organization that may need the donated items, please contact Lauren.

Easter Pirohi Project

ST. JOHN'S AUXILIARY, 310 Broadway, Scranton, Pa. 18505 will have an Easter Pirohi Project. Orders will be taken until March 24th. Price

is \$8.25 per dozen. Pick up will be on Thursday, April 6th at the Church Hall from 10am till 2pm. Please call 570-343-8820 or 570-587-2738.

LUC Meeting

North Anthracite Council - League of Ukrainian Catholics will meet on Tuesday, March 28, 2017 at 5:00pm at Grotto Pizza, 36 Gateway Shopping Center, Edwardsville, PA. Discussion will focus on hosting Convention 2017

which will be held the weekend of October 6, 7 and 8 in Wilkes-Barre. For additional information contact Dorothy Jamula, President at 570 822-5354 or any LUC member of the parish.

Special Deanery Lenten Service

The annual penitential Lenten service called "The Canon of Saint Andrew of Crete" will take place on Thursday, March 30, 2017, 11 a.m., at our Saints

Peter & Paul Parish, 20 Nottingham Street, Plymouth. Everyone is invited to attend and participate.

Ham Bingo

ST. NICHOLAS BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH HAMBINGO, 140 Church St., Old Forge, Pa. will be on April 2, 2017 in the Church Hall.

The kitchen will open at 11:00am, with games starting at 1:00pm. Many Door prizes will be awarded. Donation is \$3.00. All proceeds benefit the Church.

Baked Fish Dinner

Our Parish will once again be sponsoring a "BAKED HADDOCK" FISH DINNER on FRIDAY APRIL 7, 2017 from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. at the REGAL ROOM (Ballroom/side entrance), 216 Lackawanna Avenue. Sit Down or Take Out!! Tickets are:

\$13.00 per ticket/dinner: Baked haddock, potato, vegetable, cole slaw, roll and dessert. Call 570-383-9487 for Reservations. *LIMITED amount of Dinners will be available a the Door \$15.00.

Marriage Preparation Workshop

The Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic

Church is pleased to present a marriage preparation workshop, "**Enter-**

ing the Holy Mystery of Marriage, to take place on **Saturday, April 29, 2017** with a follow up session on **Saturday, May 6, 2017**. The program focuses on various aspects of marriage, both spiritual and practical, and provides each person an opportunity for greater understanding of one's partner and a means to strengthen one's relationship.

In addition to various presentations and exercises, each couple will be given the opportunity to take the Catholic version of a premarital questionnaire called F.A.C.E.T. (Foundations Applied Conversation and Education Tool). The F.A.C.E.T. inventory provides participants with a computer-generated profile of unique couple issues, challenges, strengths and reali-

ties to be discussed prior to marriage. The F.A.C.E.T. results for each couple involved will be presented to them by a Pastoral Counselor trained in the use of this tool in a subsequent 40 minute private session on May 6, 2017.

Each attending couple must commit to participating in all the sessions on April 29, 2017 as well as the 40 minute private meeting on May 6, 2017.

The workshop will be held at: Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, 1204 Valley Road, Melrose Park, PA 19027

The total cost per couple will be \$160 which includes materials, lunch and refreshments. April 22, 2017 - Registration and payment due Date!!! No registration will be accepted after 4/22/ 2017.

Collection Processing Team...

The Collection Processing Team for the month of March 2017 is Team #3:

Helen Pagnotti, Marlene Zelno, Dorothy Zinsky and Cheryl Matuszewski.

Sunday Collection for March 4 & 5, 2017: \$

Altar Boy and Lector Schedule for March 18 & 19, 2017

	Altar Boys	Lectors
4:00 pm	Nicholas Borowski -- Brett Lowe	John Sakson
9:00 am	John Nasevich -- Joseph Skirpan	Pat Marcinko
11:30 am	David Slachtish -- Thomas Radle	Frank Lesnefsky

Ss. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church

135 River St., Olyphant, PA 18447-1435

Telephone: 570-489-2271 Fax: 570-489-6918

Web Site: stcyrils.weconnect.com

E-Mail: sscyrilandmethodius@comcast.net



Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

Wisdom from St. Gregory Palamas

“If, then, the time of this life is for repentance, the very fact that a sinner still lives is a pledge that God will accept whoever desires to return to Him. Free will is always part and parcel of this present life. And it lies within the power of free will to choose or to reject the road of life or the road of death ... for it can pursue whichever it wishes. Where, then, are the grounds for despair, since all of us can at all times lay hold of eternal life whenever we want to?”

“The passion for popularity brings such injury upon those it masters that it shipwrecks faith itself.”

“Natural things are not indictable; for they were created by God who is good, so that through them we can act in ways that are also good. Hence in themselves they do not indi-

cate sickness of soul, but they become evidence of such sickness when we misuse them. When we coddle the flesh in order to foster its desires, then the passion becomes evil and self-indulgence gives rise to the carnal passions and renders the soul diseased.”

“We start the imitation of Christ with Holy Baptism, which symbolizes the Lord’s Burial and Resurrection. Virtuous living and conduct in accord with the Gospel are its intermediate stage, and its perfection is victory through spiritual struggles against the passions, which procures painless, indestructible, heavenly life.”

“It is pointless for someone to say that he has faith in God if he does not have the works which go with faith ... namely, deeds of love and compassion.”

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