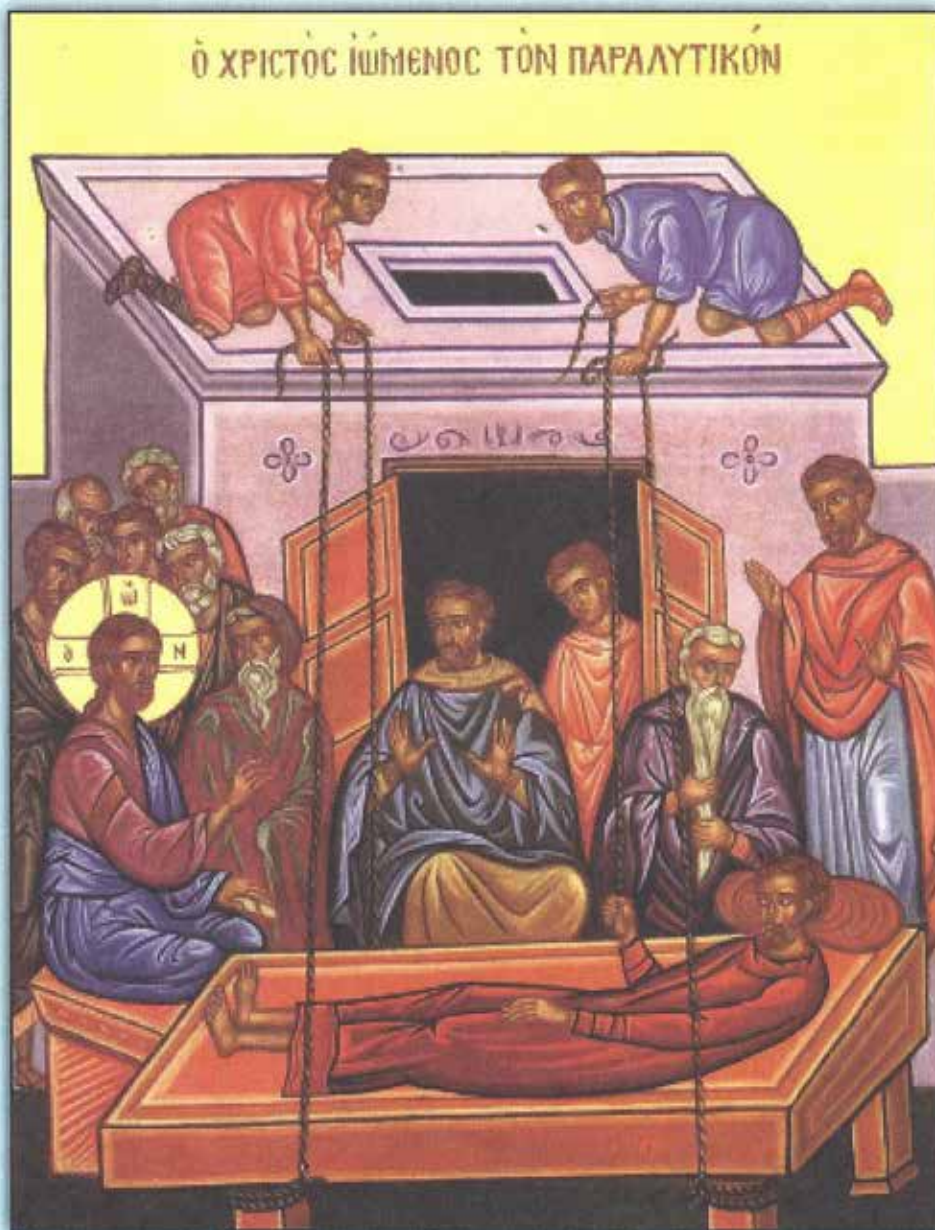


SECOND SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST
SUNDAY OF ST. GREGORY PALAMAS



Icon of Healing the Paralytic

February 25, 2018: Second Sunday of the Great Fast

Epistle: Heb. 1:10 - 2:3

Gospel: Mk. 2: 1-12

Mon., Feb. 26 8:00 + Evelyn Augustinsky (Terry & Barbara Chmil)

Tues., Feb. 27 8:00 + Christine Danylak (Son Leo)

Wed., Feb. 28 6:30 pm Presanctified Liturgy

Thurs., March 1 8:00 + Michael Augustine (John & Shirlee Onda)

Fri., March 2 6:30 pm Presanctified Liturgy

Sat., March 3 **No Morning Divine Liturgy**

10:30 Confessions

2:00 pm Confessions

4:00 pm For Our Parishioners

Sun., March 4 9:00 + Dora & John Withka (Micky Klapatch)

11:30 + John Yeck, Sr. (Bob & Joan Yeck)

3:00 pm Sorokousty

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:

Abstinence from meat and all dairy products on the First Day of the Great Fast and on Good Friday.

Abstinence 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.

Everyone should receive 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 Abstinence regulations 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 abstinence regulations.

All the faithful are urged to attend the Lenten services such as the Presanctified Liturgy, Akafist of the Passion 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. This year, families are especially urged to pray together in the mornings and evenings.

Great Fast Liturgical Guidelines

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

Flowery (Palm) Sunday, March 25 is also the Feast of the Annunciation this year and the liturgical propers and scriptural readings for both feasts are to be taken at the Divine Liturgies.

During Holy Week, the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is to be celebrated 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.

Meditation for the Second Sunday of the Great Fast

The recent school shooting in Parkland, Florida caused much hurt and anguish, and the precious loss of life for seventeen innocent people. We are gradually coming to learn more about the troubled mind and personality of the shooter. His unusual and bizarre behaviors, and his anger and bitterness shown to others, were often observed by many far in advance of the tragic event. This is characteristic of many

such persons who choose to hurt others in violent ways. Such people are often loners, existing on the periphery of day-to-day life. Perhaps we may even foster their isolation because of our fears and our lack of understanding of such people.

In the Gospel, we hear of four friends tearing a hole in the roof of a place where Jesus was preaching, so that they could bring their paralyzed

friend on a stretcher before Jesus for healing. Jesus heals the man because of the faith of his friends. One of the most healing forces in the world is another human being who can listen with patience and with love, and who responds with what his faith tells him at that time. The Church is called to be a society of true friends who care. The tragedy in Florida awakens us to be more attentive and to take more initia-

tive to reach out to the 'loners' amidst us. May our Great Fast journey assist you and me to engage with others who may be needed to be brought closer to Jesus Christ for healing. May each of us have the courage to be a true Christian friend, setting aside our own pressing needs and fears as we see and respond to the needs of those we encounter on life's journey.

From the Archbishop...

Please Help Us Improve Accessibility To Our Chancery: You will recall that our Chancery moved into the former Cathedral school building, allowing for leasing out our former building to earn revenue for the archeparchy. The original plan envisioned an addition to accommodate an elevator. The cost was prohibitive – well in excess of \$ 400,000 or more. We proceeded to adapt the school building and to transfer the Chancery without providing for an elevator. So as to provide for those who need assistance to visit our offices, we are installing two chair lifts at a total cost of \$ 25,000. One will provide for access to the main floor at the front entrance from the parking lot. The second will provide access to the top floor offices via the wide stairway on the 8th

Street side of the building. This will assist in providing for persons who need assistance ascending between the floors. It is important that everyone feels welcome and able to visit our Chancery offices. We humbly ask your help in meeting this cost. Your contribution will assist in meeting the cost while at the same time, indicate your support for ensuring that physically challenged people are welcomed equally in the Chancery. God bless you for your concern, and for your anticipated understanding and generous assistance. Your donation can be sent to the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Philadelphia, 810 N Franklin Street, Philadelphia, PA 19123. Thank-you!

Holy Name Raffle

The Holy Name Society THANKS everyone who helped make their annual raffle a success. The raffle winners were: First Prize (\$200.00): Sue Ann

Lasky; Second Prize (\$100.00): Gary J. Zawislak; and Third Prize (\$50.00): Kathy Fawcett.

Spaghetti Dinner

The Annual "All You Eat Spaghetti Dinner" sponsored by Eureka Hose Co. No. 4 will be held Saturday March 3rd at the Fire Station #717 East Grant St. Olyphant. Dinner includes pasta, salad, bread and butter, dessert and

beverage. Take will be from 3:00 to 5:00 pm and sit down dinners from 5:00 to 8:00 pm. Tickets can be obtained from any member or at the door. Donation is \$10.00.

Ukrainian Easter Egg Workshop

Ss. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church in Olyphant will again be offering Pysanky Classes. At this time there will be three dates, March 4, 11, & 18, 2018, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The beginner class is approximately two hours long. The

cost will be \$20 and includes the supplies needed to make your egg. For more information or to sign up for the class, please call Sonia Maslar at 570-489-9608 or Tammy Budnovitch at 570-766-1919 (after 5 pm).

Baked Fish Dinner

Our Parish will once again be sponsoring a "BAKED HADDOCK" FISH DINNER on FRIDAY MARCH 23, 2018 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, roll and dessert. Call 570-383-9487 for Reservations. *LIMITED amount of Dinners will be available at the Door \$15.00.

Archieparchial Holy Thursday Services

Holy Thursday Services including the Traditional Washing of the Feet of

Twelve Priests by the Bishop will be held March 29, at 10:30 AM in Saints

Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church, Mount Carmel, Pa.; All the Faithful from the Archeparchy are Invited to Attend.

On Holy Thursday March 29, the traditional foot washing of twelve priests by the bishop will be part of the Holy Thursday services that will be held beginning at 10:30 a.m. in Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church, 131 North Beech Street, Mt. Carmel (Northumberland County) Pa. This custom commemorates Our Lord washing the feet of his disciples as recounted in

the Gospel of John. This Divine Liturgy also commemorates the institution of the Holy Eucharist and the Priesthood. All the faithful from throughout the archeparchy are invited and encouraged to attend this Divine Liturgy on Holy Thursday in Mt. Carmel, Pa.

Our Deanery is looking into renting a bus for this event. It would leave from Olyphant, stop in Edwardsville, and then continue on to Mount Carmel. There will be more information in the future Bulletins.

Entering the Holy Mystery of Marriage

The Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church is pleased to present a marriage preparation workshop, "Entering the Holy Mystery of Marriage", to take place on Saturday, April 14, 2018 with a follow up session on Saturday, April 21, 2018. 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 pro-

file of unique couple issues, challenges, strengths and realities 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 April 21, 2018.

Each attending couple must commit to participating in all the sessions on April 14, 2018 as well as the 40 minute private meeting on April 21, 2018.

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 \$170 which includes materials, lunch and refreshments. For more information, or to register, please call: 215-635-1627.

Bus Trip

Scranton's St. Vladimir Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church is sponsoring a springtime bus trip to New York City on Saturday, May 19, 2018. There will be two stops in Manhattan: the 911 Memorial Museum at Ground Zero and the 42nd annual St. George Ukrainian Street Festival on the Lower East Side. Adults \$70.00; Seniors 65+ \$64.00; Youth 7 to 17 yrs. \$62.00. Participants can follow the above two-stop itinerary or are free to do their own thing for part or all of the day. For those not visiting the Museum, the cost is \$44.00. Departure from

St. Vladimir Church, 428 North Seventh Avenue will be at 8:00 am and departure from New York City for home will be at 8:30 pm. For additional details and to make reservations contact Dave Pietryka at 570 954-8517 or Paul Ewasko at 570 563-2275. Due to the large number of visitors, Museum staff strongly recommends early confirmation of number of tickets to be ordered, therefore we ask that reservations and nonrefundable payment be made preferably before April 1. Check should be made out to St. Vladimir Church.

Collection Processing Team...

The Collection Processing Team for the month of February 2018 is Team #2: Eugene Zinsky, John Turko,

Jr., Leonard Mitchko, and Michael Shumek.

Sunday Collection for February 17 & 18, 2018: \$1,668.00

Due to the bad weather last weekend, Church attendance was down. While there are fewer people coming to Church when the weather is bad, our expenses increase due to snow and ice removal. If you can't make it to Church, please remember to make up your donation for the Sunday that you missed. We thank you for your support of our Parish.

Altar Boy and Lector Schedule for March 3 & 4, 2018

	Altar Boys	Lectors
4:00 pm	Nicholas Chylak -- Samuel Sczesniak	John Sakson
9:00 am	Cole Marcinko -- John Nasevich	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

You are Forgiven and Healed

In Capernaum Jesus is surrounded by great numbers of people. As He preaches to the crowd, four friends of a paralyzed man lower him on his mat through the roof so that he can be close enough for Jesus to see him and cure him. Jesus responds to this act of faith, not by healing the man immediately, but by touching off the first of a series of controversial dialogues with the Scribes and Pharisees. When Jesus says, "Child, your sins are forgiven," He is as much as saying, "It is God whom you approach." In the Old Testament, only God is capable of forgiving sins; and it was expected that He would do so only at the end of time. It becomes clear why the Scribes murmur "he is blaspheming" and why Jesus brings it all out in the open. His claim to be able to forgive sins better reveals His identity as Son of God than do the miracles He performs.

Aware of the silent censure His forgiving word has caused in the crowd, Jesus proceeds to prove that "the Son of Man has authority to forgive sins on earth" by commanding the man to rise and walk in the sight of everyone. In concluding this miracle, Mark asks his readers to praise God for His presence in their midst as the forgiver-healer, just as the crowd did, even in the face of those who did not believe.

It is significant that Mark has chosen to present this miracle and teaching about Jesus' power to forgive sins so early in his Gospel drama. It shows that the need for the experience of God's forgiveness was as important to first-century Christians as it is today. Mark's readers praise God for saying clearly, and even today, "My sons, my daughters, I absolve you from your sins."