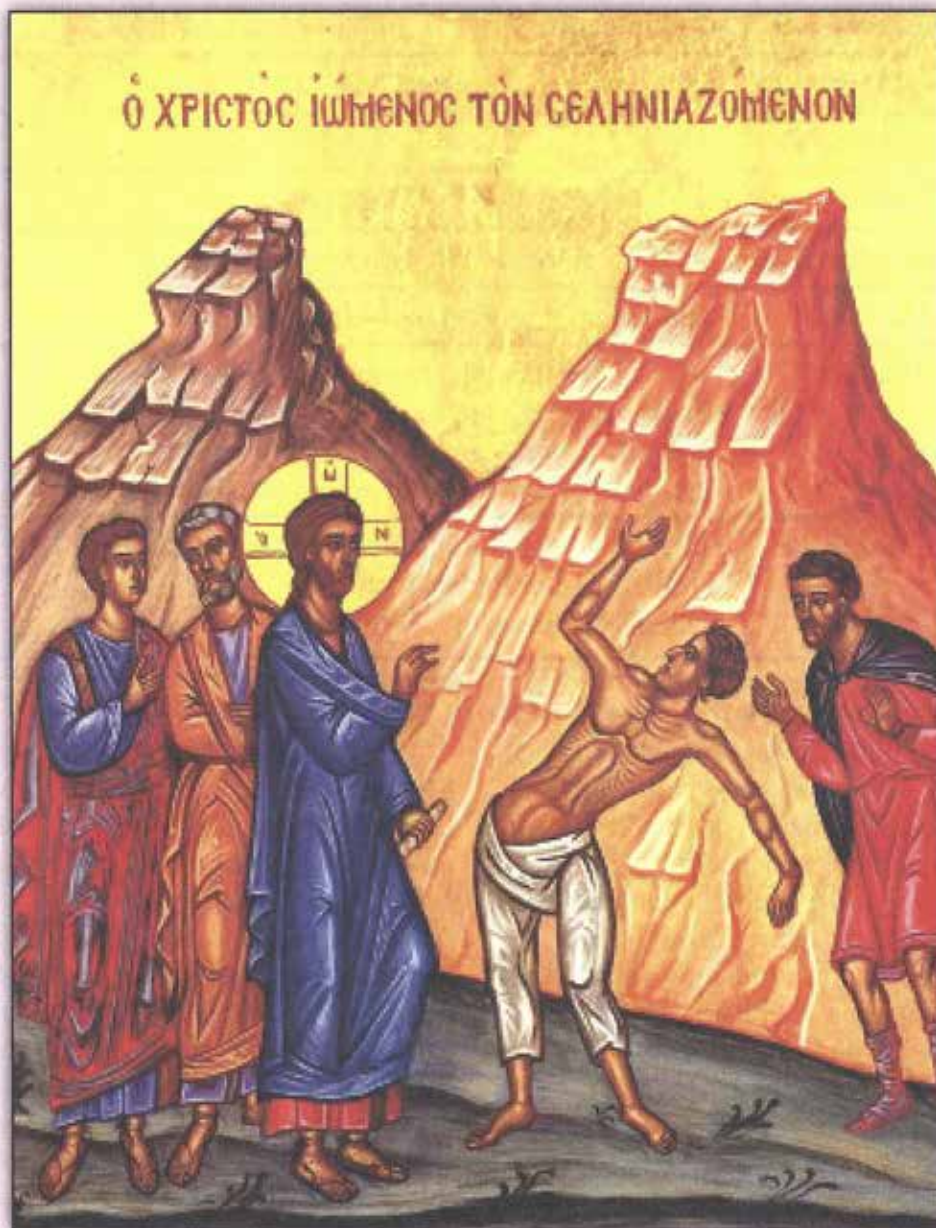


FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST
SUNDAY OF ST. JOHN CLIMACUS



Icon of Healing the Boy with a Demon

March 11, 2018: Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast		
	Epistle: Heb. 6: 13-20	Gospel: Mk. 9: 17-31
Mon., March 12	8:00	+ Gerri Repchak (Mary Repchak)
Tues., March 13	8:00	+ Mary Repchak (Paula Barone)
Wed., March 14	6:30 pm	Presanctified Liturgy
Thurs., March 15	8:00	+ Hector & Gladys Davis (Michaelene Davis)
Fri., March 16	6:30 pm	Presanctified Liturgy
Sat., March 17	No Morning Divine Liturgy 10:30 Confessions 2:00 pm Confessions 4:00 pm + Emmett & Zenia Hooper (Family)	
Sun., March 18	9:00	+ Michael Augustine (St. Cyril's Choir) 11:30 For Our Parishioners) 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 Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast

Jesus cures a sick boy telling his father, "Everything is possible to one who has faith" (Mk. 9:23). Jesus observed that this type of cure could only come about through prayer. The disciples were men of faith but could not cure the boy. Jesus seems to become impatient with them when he says, "How long will I endure you?" (Mk. 9:19). Even Jesus' closest apostles needed to be reminded of the power of prayer, and the need to nurture it. The Great Fast invites you and me to nurture the power of faith with stead-

fast and honest prayer with Jesus. It involves our reflecting on our priorities in life as we stand before Jesus. Recall the parables which speak of the Kingdom of God as a treasure found in a field, or as a pearl of great value. Those who find it sell all that they have in order to possess it. Are we zealous in nurturing the value of our precious faith? Do we do and give what we can to see that the faith is valued, taught and shared? The journey of Great Fast leads you and me to nurture our faith in steadfast prayer

and with acts of charity with the hope that Jesus Christ will not ask “How long must I endure you”, but rather rejoice in

the powerfully living of our faith. Join with others in the parish to nurture your faith as a family of God.

Pussy-Willow Watch

Flowery (Palm) Sunday is just two weeks away! Once again this year, we turn to our Parishioners for help in procuring our pussy-willows. If you have any bushes, please share them

with us. You can either bring them in or arrangements can be made to have them picked up. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Church Community Project for 2018

St. Cyril's Church Community Project for 2018 is the collection of clothes and food for the local area. It will be held on Saturday, March 24th, before the 4:00 p.m. Divine Liturgy and after, until 5:30 p.m. On March 25th, Sunday, the collection will take place from 10:15 a.m until 1:00 p.m. (After the 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy, and before and after the 11:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy.) Items can be dropped off at the school gym (133 River Street) during this time. The side door will also be open for easy access along with the front door of the school.

Get a jump on Spring cleaning out your closet! All clothes should be clean and wearable and can be on hangers or in bags. We will be accepting all clothes, accessories, shoes for Ladies and Gentleman and including all sizes for children, starting with infants to teenagers. (Clothes of any size and all

season are accepted!!!)

If everyone in the church, dropped off 1-2 items of food it would be a great food collection. We accept boxes, cans, bottles etc, in bags or boxes of food that are non-perishable. A container to hold food donations will also be in the vestibule of the Church for your convenience before the drop-off dates in the school gym.

Items will be delivered on Monday March 26th and Wednesday March 28th starting at 9:15 a.m. Volunteers will be needed to help load the cars/suv's and drive to the destination. (yet to be determined) If you have any group, organization who needs help, contact Lauren Telep 570-383-0319. If any individual or family can be assisted with our collection, please contact Father Nestor in private. We will be glad to help in time for Easter 2018.

This project is a great way to “Pass it On” as we are always so thankful to the community for the donations and

support of our fund raisers, especially the Rummage sales.

Easter is Around the Corner!

We thank everyone who helped and volunteered in setting up and taking down of the Christmas 2017 decorations. The additional five Christmas trees donated from the Rummage Sale were indeed added plus to the Church. We received numerous comments on how beautiful the Church looked with

all the added trees and lights for the Holy Season.

Easter is April 1, 2018 and we will need volunteers to decorate. Setting up the Lord’s Grave and decorating it will take place Holy Thursday following the service at 6:30 Vespers Divine Liturgy.

Ukrainian Easter Egg Workshop

Ss. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church in Olyphant will again be offering Pysanky Classes. At this time there two dates left: March 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 will be renting a bus for this event. It would leave from Olyphant at 7:30 am and stop in Edwardsville at 8:30 am. It will 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 Catho-

lic 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 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.

“Barvinok” Ukrainian Dance Ensemble

Scranton’s St. Vladimir Ukrainian Greek Catholic parish is sponsoring a performance by the Ukrainian Folk-dance group “Barvinok” [Periwinkle in Ukrainian] on Sunday, May 6, 2018 at 4:00pm at its parish center 428 North Seventh Avenue. The highly acclaimed dance group which hails from the Metropolitan New Jersey/New York City area has appeared in numerous venues on the East Coast and in Ukraine where they took first place in an international folk dance competition. Under the direction of Mr. Gregory Momot,

the troupe performs traditional dances from various regions of Ukraine while attired in colorful embroidered costumes. Mr. Momot was trained at the Kyiv Cultural University and danced with the world renowned Virsky Ukrainian National Dance Company. His energetic and intricate choreography along with beautiful regional costumes bring alive the electrifying spirit of Ukrainian dance. Tickets are \$10.00 in advance - \$12.00 at the door and can be purchased by contacting Kristen Waznak at 570 241-1223.

Collection Processing Team...

The Collection Processing Team for the month of March 2018 is Team #3:

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

Sunday Collection for March 3 & 4, 2018:

Altar Boy and Lector Schedule for March 17 & 18, 2018

	Altar Boys	Lectors
4:00 pm	Samuel Sczesniak -- Nicholas Chylak	John Sakson
9:00 am	John Nasevich -- Cole Marcinko	Pat Marcinko
11:30 am	Brian Radle -- Jordan 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

Journeying to Pascha

Jesus continues today his work of healing and exorcism, and that is appropriate for this time of Lent, because Lent is a time for healing and exorcism. It is a time for us to heal the wounds of our souls – self-inflicted wounds due to our complacency and laziness and self-indulgence. It is time to get rid of those demons of our own sinful habits and anything that keeps us away from God and from living that abundant life that Christ came to give us.

We start to make our way toward Jerusalem. At the end of today's Gospel already there is the prediction of the passion, the death and the resurrection of Christ, giving a little hint in the Gospel that the course of Lent is moving now towards Jerusalem. We have gone through several weeks now of spiritual preparations, Scripture texts, prayers and activities. Now our focus

is starting to turn towards Jerusalem. That will be made more explicit in next Sunday's Gospel, but we are already getting a hint of it now.

There are only three weeks now until Easter, two weeks until Palm Sunday, when we are really liturgically accompanying Christ into the mystery of His Passion.

So it is coming soon, and we have to start turning towards Jerusalem. We have to get focused, we have to get recollected, we have to really revive our Lenten prayer and fasting so that we can make the rest of this journey and be fruitful and overcome the demons and find healing for the wounds of our souls – and go with Christ to his Passion and, through the mystery of His Cross, come to that great, transfiguring, glorious celebration of His Resurrection.