

MEATFARE SUNDAY -- JUDGMENT SUNDAY



Icon of the Last Judgment

Feb. 16, 2020: Sunday of Meat Fare

Epistle: 1 Cor. 8:8 - 9:2

Gospel: Mt. 25: 31-46

Mon., Feb. 17

to

No Divine Liturgies

Fri., Feb. 21

Sat., Feb. 22

No Confessions Today

4:00 pm + Douglas Kanuik (Cheryl & Richard Sestili)

Sun., Feb. 23

9:00 For Our Parishioners

11:30 + Michael Hermanovich, Sr. (Wife, Irene)

GREAT FAST PASTORAL OF THE UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC HIERARCHY OF THE U.S.A.

“Open to me the doors of repentance,
O Giver of Life. As we worship in
Your temple this morning, teach us
how to purify the temple of our bod-
ies, and in Your compassion, purify
me by the goodness of your mercies.”

*Matins, Sunday of Publican and
Pharisee*

With these words, we are invited to embark on the Lenten pilgrimage. The doors of repentance are opening! Great Lent is beginning! Every year Great Lent is repeated, and each time it brings us great benefit if we as individuals, our families and church community entrust ourselves to start this journey. It is a preparation for the life to come and, more immediately,

a preparation for the Bright Resurrection. Repentance for us as individuals is the conscious transformation of our hearts, our minds, and the very essence of our lives. This is at the heart of the Great Lent.

Through this Lenten pilgrimage, we begin our preparation for the glorious feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord. Daily we acknowledge our need to repent as we recite the Lenten prayer of Saint Ephrem of Syria. “Yes, O Lord and King, let me see my own sins and not judge my brothers and sisters for you are blessed for ever and ever. Amen.” We pray acknowledging that it is only when we enter the “wilderness of the desert of our heart” and focus inward that we take the first step

on the road to repentance and the journey to and beyond the empty tomb on the day of Pascha.

During the Lenten days, we are offered the opportunity to seek release from those things we have allowed, often unconsciously, to hold us captive, yet which in and of themselves have no real power over us. Now, during the forty days, we are challenged to do away with our passions, our preoccupations, our pride, our jealousy and anger. Now, we are assured that the doors of repentance are opened to those who knock.

Now, during the Lenten journey our prayer, fasting and almsgiving have the power to transform our lives and the lives of those around us. Repentance, however, must never be regarded as our spiritual activities that prepare us only for the feast of Pascha. Repentance stands at the very heart of our spiritual lives. Repentance is our ongoing, continuing and daily pursuit.

We enter this Lenten journey as individuals, but we are not alone, at the same time we enter this pilgrimage with our families and our church community. Together we stand at the doors of repentance. Together, we knock and implore the Giver of Life to lead us from the desert of our life into the joy

of being with God.

On this journey with our eyes opened, and our hearts free to follow Christ, we will be able to see in the new light people around us. We will be able to listen attentively to those in need, those who are less fortunate than us in our community. We will be able to live our Christian vocation to preach the Good News of Christ, to be missionaries and missionary community, a welcoming and hospitable community both for its faithful and for strangers. We can manifest this spirit of service toward those who are closest to us - our brothers and sisters, mothers and fathers, fellow parishioners, and even to total strangers, whom we meet for the first time. We should remember that in our midst there are many, who have left the Church for a variety of reasons, or they do not attend simply because no one has ever said to them: "Come and see!" (John 1:46).

Great Lent is a perfect time to strive to live for our church community in unity, a community that is resplendent with evangelical joy and godly life. Our spiritual life will be a sign of God's presence in the world, through our prayer and our service to others, we will proclaim the Good News. This Lenten journey allows us to touch all

aspects of our inner life, our church community and in a broader sense encompasses the fullness of Christian life. Let us be not afraid with joy to enter this Lenten pilgrimage, so on the Great Monday of Holy Week we can with a renewed spirit and sincere heart sing: “I see your bridal chamber completely engulfed with light, O my Savior, and I do

not have a wedding garment to enter and enjoy Your brightness, fill the garment of my soul with light, and save me, O Lord, save me.” *Exapostilarion, Matins of Great Monday.*

May God bless our Lenten pilgrimage toward the glorious Feast of the Resurrection!

+Borys Gudziak

Archbishop of Philadelphia for Ukrainians
Metropolitan of Ukrainian Catholics in the United States

+Paul Chomnycky, OSBM (Eparch of Stamford)

+Benedict Aleksiychuk (Eparch of St. Nicholas in Chicago)

+Bohdan J. Danylo (author & Eparch of St. Josaphat in Parma)

+Andriy Rabiw (Auxiliary Bishop of Philadelphia)

TODAY IS THE SUNDAY OF THE LAST JUDGMENT

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. Because He is a good and loving God who does not desire the death of a sinner, He calls us to turn from our wickedness and live (Ezek. 33:11). The time for repentance and forgiveness is now.

As Father +Alexander Schmemmann reminds us in his book GREAT LENT

(Ch. 1:4) that sin is the absence of love, it is separation and isolation. We shall be judged on whether we have loved, or not loved, our neighbor. We show Christian love when we feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, visit those who are sick or in prison. If we did such things for the least of Christ’s brethren, then we also did them for Christ (Mt. 25:40).

Today is also known as the Sunday of Meat-Fare... That means that Great Lent begins next Sunday afternoon. In

this final week of preparation for the Great Lent, the traditional discipline suggests that we bid farewell to meat in our diet after today until Pascha, though eggs and dairy products are permitted every day during the coming week. This limited fasting prepares us gradually for

the more intense fasting of Great Lent. The way we decide to adapt this discipline to our own situation is a matter of individual choice. Of greater importance is the need to formulate a spiritual plan for the coming Holy Season.

PRE-LENTEN PORK AND SAUERKRAUT DINNER

Father Myron and his Parish Family of Scranton's St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church cordially invite you to join them for their annual Pre-Lenten pork and sauerkraut/kapusta dinner on Sunday, February 16, 2020 beginning at 12:15 pm at St. Vladimir Parish Center, 428 N. Seventh Ave. - between West

Lackawanna Ave. and West Linden St.

Menu: slow roasted pork loin, gravy, Ukrainian kapusta (sweet and sour cabbage), mashed potatoes, vegetable, bread and rolls, dessert, coffee, tea, beverages.

Adults: \$13.00; Students: \$8.00 (age 6-12); Age 5 and under free.

MYASOPUSNA PRE-LENTEN DINNER IN NANTICOKE

Transfiguration of Our Lord Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church is pleased to announce that dinner tickets are now available for their Annual Myasopusna Festival, to be held at the church's banquet hall at 240 Center Street, Nanticoke, on Sunday, February 16, from noon to 4 pm. The Myasopusna (Meatfare) Festival is the parish's pre-lenten celebration, preceding the Great Fast. Dinner (a platter of holuptsi,

kobasi, pyrohy, borscht, black bread and butter, and a homemade dessert) will be served from 12:30 to 2:00 pm, followed by live Ukrainian dance performances by Saint Mary's Ukrainian Dancers. A variety of Ukrainian crafts will be on display and for sale. Dinner tickets are \$13 if purchased by February 9th (\$15 at the door). Tickets can be purchased by calling Helen (735-4654) or Geri (824-3880).

DEANERY FORGIVENESS VESPERS IN BERWICK

Everyone is invited to participate in our Deanery Vespers on the Eve of the First Day of the Great Fast. This service will

take place on Sunday, February 23rd, 3 pm at Ss. Cyril and Methodius Parish, N. Warren St in Berwick, PA.

PIGGIE /HOLUBTSI DINNER

“Saints Peter & Paul Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church, Wilkes-Barre will hold a take-out Piggie / Holubtsi Dinner on Sunday, February 23rd, 2020. Dinners may be picked up between 11:30 am and 2:00 pm at the Parish School Hall, corner of North River and West Chestnut Streets,

Wilkes-Barre. Dinner includes Piggies (meat stuffed cabbage), mashed potatoes, vegetable, bread and butter and dessert. Dinners will be \$12.00 for adults and \$7.00 for children (12 and under). Walk-Ins Welcome but Reservations are encouraged, call (570)829-3051.”

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 1, 15, & 22, 2020, 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).

2020 L.U.C. LENTEN RETREAT

The League of Ukrainian Catholics of America has sponsored and held their Annual Lenten Retreat at Sloatsburg’s St. Mary’s Villa Educational and Retreat Center the week-end before Palm Sunday for 42 years, providing all faithful attending the opportunity to spend time in prayer and to have the chance to satisfy their Easter confession obligations.

This year’s Lenten Retreat might be the last retreat held at The Villa as the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate are selling this property.

For the past forty-two years we have been so fortunate to be able to come on Retreat to Sloatsburg’s St. Mary’s; have been fortunate to enjoy the quiet and comfort of

St. Mary’s, away from our everyday cares and chores to leave all behind and spend a few days in prayer and in friendship.

We have been blessed with the many graces received while on retreat and are thankful for the many clergy who have given their time to enrich our spiritual life year after year.

For this year celebrating our Retreat at St. Mary’s, Msgr. Martin Canavan has accepted the position of Retreat Director. The theme for this year’s retreat is “Standing at the Cross with the Mother of God”. As we come to the close of the Great Lent and the beginning of the Great and Holy Week, we pause, gathered together in Jesus’ name to reflect on Mary’s (the first disciple) place

at the Cross. In the light of her “Let it be done to me according to your word” at the Annunciation for Jesus’s word from the Cross, “It is accomplished!” we attempt to better understand our place in the Love and Mercy of God poured out on us each

and every day.

The dates for year’s retreat are March 27, 28 and 29th. The Lenten Retreat is scheduled for beginning Friday evening at 7:30 pm. The retreat is open to all faithful of all Eparchies.

SPRINGTIME BUS TRIP

The North Anthracite Council of the League of Ukrainian Catholics is sponsoring a bus trip to New York City on Saturday, May 16, 2020. The itinerary includes the 44th Annual Ukrainian Street Festival sponsored by New York’s St. George Ukrainian Greek Catholic parish and the 14th Annual Multi-Ethnic Parade and Dance Festival both on the Lower East Side plus a ride on the Staten Island Ferry. Participants are free to do their own thing in the City for all or part of the day if they so wish. Bus will pick up at Edwardsville’s

St. Vladimir Church, 70 Zerby Avenue at 8:00 am and at Scranton’s St. Vladimir Church, 428 North Seventh Avenue at 8:45 am. Departure for home will be at 8:00 pm. Cost is \$45.00 per person. Full nonrefundable advance payment reserves a seat. For further information and reservations call Paul at 570 563-2275 or Dorothy at 570 822-5354. Early reservations are recommended as this is a very popular trip and the 55 passenger bus is expected to fill quickly.

COLLECTION PROCESSING TEAM

The Collection Processing Team for the month of February 2020 is Team #2:

Eugene Zinsky, John Turko, Jr. Leonard Mitchko, and Michael Shumek.

Sunday Collection for February 8 & 9, 2020: \$1,675.00

Altar Boy and Lector Schedule for February 22 & 23, 2020

	Altar Boys	Lectors
4:00 pm	Nathan Dennis -- Samuel Sczesniak	Bill Vervan
9:00 am	Brennin Marcinko -- Cole Marcinko	Pat Marcinko
11:30 am	Brian Radle -- Thomas Radle	Frank Lesnefsky

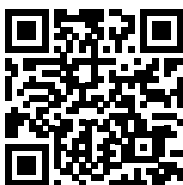
Ss. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church

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Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

He Will Separate Them

“And he will separate them one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.” So then, people on earth are intermingled, and not only intermingled in that the righteous live side by side with the wicked, but they are also indistinguishable. Between the righteous and the wicked there is no apparent difference. Even as in wintertime you cannot tell the healthy trees apart from the withered trees but in beautiful springtime you can tell the difference, so too each person according to his faith and his works will be exposed.

The wicked will not have any leaves or show any fruit, but the righteous will be clothed

with the leaves of eternal life and adorned with the fruit of glory. In this way they will be separated by the heavenly shepherd and Lord. The earthly shepherd separates animals by their type of body, whereas Christ separates people by their type of soul. The sheep signify righteous people by reason of their gentleness, because they harm no one, and by reason of their patience, because when they are harmed by others, they bear it without resistance. He refers to sinners as goats, however, because these vices characterize goats: capriciousness toward other animals, pride and belligerence.

*From a Homily,
Incomplete Work on Matthew*