

SUNDAY OF CHEESEFARE  
SUNDAY OF FORGIVENESS



*Icon of the the Ladder of Divine Ascent*

## February 19, 2023: Sunday of Cheese-Fare

Epistle: Rom. 13:11 - 14:4

Gospel: Mt. 6: 14-21

<b>Mon., Feb. 20</b>	9:00	+ Leonard Mitchko, Jr. (Father, Leonard Mitchko)
<b>Tues., Feb. 21</b>	9:00	+ Daniel Telep, Sr. (Daughter, Lauren)
<b>Wed., Feb. 22</b>	6:00	Stations
<b>Thurs., Feb. 23</b>	9:00	Rev. John Wysochansky (Legate)
<b>Fri. Feb. 24</b>	6:00	Presanctified Liturgy
<b>Sat., Feb. 25</b>	<b>No Morning Divine Liturgy</b>	
	2:00	Confessions
	4:00	+ Michael Hermanovich (Wife, Irene)
<b>Sun., Feb. 26</b>	10:30	For Our Parishioners; Sorokousty

### THE FORGIVENESS SERVICE

**Priest:** My brothers and sisters, at this time let us try to remember all of our sins which we have committed throughout the course of our life, and with which we have offended God.

**All:** Lord, we have sinned against You in thought, word and action. We have been wrong and we have done wrong. Forgive us.

**Priest:** Let us try to remember if we harbor any ill-feelings towards God for anything that happened in our life.

**All:** Lord, help us to accept your will in our lives, to try to understand

your ways, and not to feel angry with You or blame You for anything that might happen to us or go wrong for us in our lives.

**Priest:** Let us try to remember all of those people who have offended us, hurt us, angered us; all those people against whom, for whatever reason, we bear grudges, feel hatred, and whom we find hard to forgive.

**All:** From the bottom of my heart, I truly and sincerely forgive those who hate me, who have offended or hurt me, and against whom I carry a grudge or nourish ill-feelings.

**Priest:** Let us try to remember all of

those people whom we ourselves have hurt or offended, knowingly or unknowingly, in word or in deed; and all those whom we, for whatever reason, hate and who bear grudges against us.

**All:** From the bottom of my heart, I truly and sincerely ask forgiveness and pardon of all those whom I hate, whom I have offended and hurt, and who hold a grudge against me because of this.

**Priest:** My brothers and sisters, if I have sinned against you, hurt you, or offended you in thought, word or action, knowingly or unknowingly, in any possible way, please forgive me,

a sinner, and pray to God for me.

**All:** May God Himself forgive you and pardon your sins and transgressions, and we also forgive and pardon you. Father, bless us and forgive us our sins and offenses and transgressions, committed voluntarily or perhaps unwittingly, against you.

**Priest:** May the Lord God, through His grace and loving kindness, forgive you. And I also pardon and forgive you. And now, let us ask forgiveness of one another by saying: Forgive me my brother/sister. And let the other answer: May God forgive you, and I also forgive you.

## A HAPPY LENT

Have you ever done something nice for a friend? Well, of course you have! Maybe you picked out a present for him or her, or sent a card, or helped your friend with something. But did you grumble about it? Did you complain? Probably not. When we do something for a friend, we are happy. We want to help, don't we?

In today's Gospel reading, we hear about how we should act when we fast. That's because tomorrow we start Great Lent, the time when we get ready for Easter, for Pascha! We get

ready by eating not-so-fancy foods, by helping the poor more, by going to church more, by forgiving others, and helping people who need our help. Sometimes people might complain about Lent. YOU might even start to complain. You won't get to have a big ice cream sundae when you want it. You might not get to watch a TV show you wanted to watch, because your family is off to church. Or you might miss out on something else you want.

But always remember, when we do these things, we are remembering

a friend, our Lord, Jesus Christ. And when we remember Him, we are happy too. Let's see if we can go through Great Lent without complaining about

it. Instead, we can remember why we're doing it! Can you have a happy Lent?

## **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, 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.

## **DID YOU KNOW - FOUR LITURGIES**

There are four different liturgies in the Eastern Catholic Church:

- The Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom which is the most common liturgy celebrated on Sundays and

weekdays.

- The Liturgy of St. Basil the Great which is celebrated only ten times a year, mainly during the Sundays of Lent. St. Basil's liturgy is

very much like that of St. John Chrysostom with the exception of the prayers offered privately by the priest. These are much longer.

- The Liturgy of St. James, which is celebrated only once a year on the Feast Day of St. James, October 23, and only in certain places such as Jerusalem.
- The Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts which is used only on Wednesdays and Fridays of Lent.

It is called pre-sanctified because no consecration takes place. The communion elements distributed are reserved from the Eucharist of the previous Sunday. Thus, the Pre-Sanctified is not a Eucharistic liturgy but rather an evening Vesper Service that includes the distribution of preconsecrated elements of Holy Communion. Its purpose is to offer its more frequent opportunity during Lent to receive Holy Communion.

## IDENTITY - PART 4

How do we become a baptized Priest? We become a baptized Priest because of our anointing at Baptism.

So meaningful and rich is the rite of anointing at the Mystery (sacrament) of Baptism that, since along with a Prophet only a Priest and a king in the Bible were anointed, we can, therefore, say that at the most meaningful rite of anointing at Baptism we become not only a baptized Prophet, but also a baptized Priest. St. John Chrysostom, the great Father in the early Church said, "You were made a Priest at Baptism." and St. Augustine, another great Father in the early Church states, "All Christians are Priests."

If that is the case, then, how do we

live out our baptismal priesthood? We do so, above all by active participation in the offering of the Divine Liturgy in union with the community and with the ordained ministerial Priest. We display our baptismal priesthood by giving an example of personal prayer, devotional prayer, family prayer before an icon corner in the home, by making our home a domestic church, by living out the liturgical year with all of its Feast days. Living out our lives in such a way we can truly say with St. John Chrysostom that we were made a Priest at baptism.

*WJW - Part 4 of 5*

## **CHURCH IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE**

Our Ukrainian Catholic Church in the United States participates in a Special Collection which supports the Church in Central and Eastern Europe. Communism in this region fell more than 30 years ago, but the Church still struggles to rebuild after decades of oppressive rule. Under communism, religion and religious practices were openly persecuted, and atheism was actively propagated and

enforced. Your support of this collection aids those affected by the war in Ukraine and renews vital aspects of Church life throughout the region. You support Seminary programs, promote ministries and education for children and families, rebuild Churches, and renew community life. Please be generous and prayerfully consider how you can support this collection.

## **CLOTHING AND FOOD DRIVE: MARCH 2023**

In October 2022, we reinstituted the Clothing and Food drive as a Church Community Project. It was a fast turnaround due to the emergency need for clothes for the “United Neighborhood - Angels Attic”.

This Project was initiated in November 2013. Once again we are conducting a Clothing and Food Drive for March 2023. Clothes will be accepted for men, women, and children, for all seasons, including accessories and shoes. All items should be clean and wearable. This is not a dumping ground for old, and dirty clothing. Clothes can be kept on hangers, or put in bags or boxes.

All non-perishable food will be accepted. If every parishioner brings at least 2 food items, we can fill the bread box

at the “Restore and Rescue” Church on Willow Street, as Father Nestor suggested.

Items can be dropped off in the School Gym on Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup> (3:30 p.m.- 5:30 p.m.) and Sunday, March 5<sup>th</sup> (10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.) before, or after the Divine Liturgy. Volunteers will accept the clothes./food. You have 20 days to gather clothes and non-perishable food. We thank you for your support and donations.

Volunteers will be needed to help transport the clothes to “The United Neighborhood” in Scranton. On Monday, March 6<sup>th</sup>, at approximately 10:00 a.m., the clothes will be loaded into cars or trucks. Come and lend a helping hand on March 6, 2023. Contact Lauren Telep at 646-241-9443 for any questions.



## **PIGS IN THE BLANKET DINNER**

Shopa-Davey VFW Post #6082 at 123 Electric Street, Peckville, Pa is sponsoring the "Pigs in the Blanket" Dinner on Sunday, February 19, 2023, Serving from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. available "TAKE

OUT" or "EAT IN." Raffle tickets are available to purchase. Open to the Public and dinner tickets are \$12.00 each, tickets are available also during the week at the VFW Post on Electric Street, Peckville.

## **PARISH MEETING**

There will be a Parish Meeting on Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup> immediately following the 4:00 liturgy. All parishioners are invited to attend this half-hour meeting, which has a very brief agenda:

1. Schedule of upcoming Parish fundraising events.
2. Clearance Rummage Sale details.
3. Ideas/feedback/suggestions regarding the above two items.

## **UKRAINIAN PYSANKY CLASSES**

Ss. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church in Olyphant will be offering Ukrainian Pysanky classes in March 2023. The two-hour beginner class will teach the basics to create a traditional Ukrainian pysanky egg. The cost of the class is \$25 for each person. Supplies are included. Classes will be held at 207 River Street, Olyphant, St. Cyril's Parish Hall, with plenty of free parking. Classes will be held on Sunday, March 12th, starting at Noon., and the 2nd class on March 12th at 3:00 p.m. On

Sunday, March 26th, starting at noon and the 2nd class on March 26th will begin at 3:00 p.m.

Class size is limited and you must call for a reservation to register. Call Tammy Budnovitch at 570-766-1919.

This is a fundraiser for the church. Available for purchase are individual Pysanky eggs created by Tammy Budnovitch. Other items available for purchase are jewelry, mosaic art, books, and additional pysanky egg supplies.

## **COLLECTION PROCESSING TEAM...**

The Collection Processing Team for the month of February 2023 is Team #2:

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

**Sunday Collection for Feb. 11 & 12, 2023: \$**

## Ss. Cyril & Methodius Ukrainian Catholic Church

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Rev. Nestor Iwasiw, Pastor

### *Readiness to Forgive*

Nothing makes us so like God as our readiness to forgive the wicked and wrongdoer. For it is God who has made “the sun to shine on the evil and on the good.”

For this same reason again in every one of the clauses Jesus commands us to make our prayers together in one voice, saying, “Our Father,” and “thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven,” and “give us the bread, and forgive us our debts,” and “lead us not into temptation,” and “deliver us.” So everywhere he is teaching us to use this plural word that we may not retain so much as a vestige of resentment against our neighbor.

How great a reproof then must they de-

serve, who, after all this, still do not forgive and even ask God’s vengeance on their enemies. In doing so, they diametrically transgress this command. Meanwhile Christ is seeking in every way possible to hinder our conflicts with one another. For since love is the root of all that is good, by removing from all quarters whatever mars it he brings us together and cements us to each other. For there is not one, not a single one, whether father or mother or friend, who loves us as much as the God who created us.

*St. John Chrysostom*

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