




WORLD

THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC

THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE ARCHDIOCESE OF PITTSBURGH

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The Great Fast journey begins

SUNDAY PENITENTIAL VESPERS
AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHEDRAL IN MUNHALL, PA.



Seminarians Adam Marquart, David Varga, Subdeacon Abraham Barahmeh, Chad Durante, and Subdeacon Mark LeRoy participate in the first Great Fast Sunday Penitential Vespers service of the Lenten season March 9 at St. John the Baptist Cathedral in Munhall Pa. Father David Bosnich delivered the homily. Photo by Nick Havrilla Sr. For more photos, see page 5.

"The Nicene Confession of the Lordship of Christ"

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC SEMINARY OF SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS 25TH ANNUAL LECTURE SET FOR MAY 6

By *The Byzantine Catholic Seminary of SS. Cyril and Methodius*

The Byzantine Catholic Seminary in Pittsburgh, Pa. is pleased to announce its 25th annual academic lecture will be delivered by Father Khaled Anatalios, PhD, STL, MA at 7 p.m. E.D.T. on Tuesday, May 6.

Father Khaled will discuss "The Nicene Confession of the Lordship of Christ," presenting students and supporters of SS. Cyril and Methodius Byzantine Catholic Seminary an interpretation of the Council of Nicaea as a contestation about the lordship of Christ. This interpretation will lead to some recommendations for how the Nicene confession can help us to answer the question today of



Father Khaled Anatalios

what it means to say that Jesus is Lord.

All are welcome to attend this lecture virtually via the Seminary website at www.bc.edu.

The lecture can also be accessed

live or at a later time from archives on the B.C.S. YouTube channel.

Father Khaled Anatalios, a priest of the Melkite Catholic Eparchy of Newton (North America), is the John A. O'Brien Professor of Theology at the University of Notre Dame in South Bend, Ind. and a fellow at the Tantur Ecumenical Institute (Jerusalem). Father Khaled's wife, Meredith, also has her master's in theology and together they have four children. His primary field of study is in the history of Christianity, with specific research and training interests in Early Christian Doctrine, Theological Method, and Biblical Exegesis. A particular focus of his

Story continued on page 3

"Do Whatever He Tells You" (John 2:11)

20TH ANNUAL WOMEN'S DAY
OF REFLECTION SET FOR MAY 17

The 20th annual Women's Day of Reflection will be held 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. Saturday, May 17 at Kearns Spirituality Center (Campus of LaRoche University), 9000 Babcock Blvd., Allison Park, Pa.

This year's theme is "Do Whatever He Tells You" (John 2:11): Revisiting the Wedding Feast of Cana.

Presenters include:

Rev. Liddy Barlow is ordained in the United Church of Christ. She is a creative and passionate servant of the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church and all its complicated diversity. She works to bring Christians of all traditions together to make visible our true unity as the Body of Christ. In 2014, Rev. Barlow became the first woman to be installed as Executive Minister of Christian Associates of Southwest PA. She reports to the Council of Bishops and Judicatory Executives who represent 28 Protestant, Catholic, and Orthodox Church bodies throughout greater Pittsburgh. As Executive Minister, Rev. Barlow sets a vision for Christian Associates and manages all of the organization's projects and relationships. She was recognized as "40 Under 40" leader by Pittsburgh Magazine. The Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh acknowledged her as one of the "Righteous Among the Neighbors."

Father Thomas Bailey, OSB, born and raised in Texas, is a member of the Benedictine Marmion Abbey in Aurora, Ill. He was ordained to the priesthood in 2004 and appointed Instructor and Formation Advisor at Conception Seminary College in 2008. From 2018 to 2021 he was Prefect of Studies at the Pontifical Greek College in Rome

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THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC

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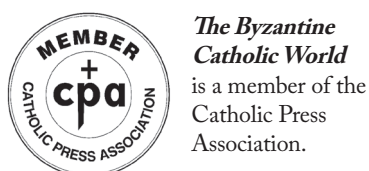
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MISSION

The mission of *The Byzantine Catholic World* is to spread the Gospel message in the rich tradition of the Byzantine Catholic Church; to encourage faithful to reflect the image of Christ in everyday activities of life; to offer spiritual formation through changing times; and to celebrate community among Byzantine Catholics in the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh, throughout the Metropolitan Church in America, and around the world.

HOLY WEEK AND PASCHA SCHEDULE

**ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST
BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL**
210 GREENTREE ROAD
MUNHALL, PA. 15120
WWW.STJOHNSBYZANTINECATHEDRAL.COM
412-461-0944



Holy Week and Pascha services
may be viewed online at www.stjohnsbyzantinecathedral.com.

HOLY MONDAY
6:30 P.M. APRIL 14
■ Vespers Divine Liturgy

HOLY TUESDAY
6:30 P.M. APRIL 15
■ Presanctified Liturgy

HOLY WEDNESDAY
6:30 P.M. APRIL 16
■ Presanctified Liturgy
with Anointing of the Sick

HOLY THURSDAY
11 A.M. APRIL 17
■ Divine Liturgy of
St. Basil the Great with
Consecration of Sacred Chrism

GOOD FRIDAY
9 A.M. APRIL 18
■ Royal Hours

7 P.M. APRIL 18
■ Entombment Vespers for Good Friday
and Procession with the Holy Shroud

HOLY SATURDAY
7 P.M. APRIL 19
■ Resurrection Matins and Divine Liturgy

THE RADIANT RESURRECTION
9 A.M. SUNDAY, APRIL 20
■ Divine Liturgy

BRIGHT MONDAY
9 A.M. APRIL 21
■ Divine Liturgy



BULLETIN BOARD

Upcoming events at the House of Prayer

The following events will take place at Mount St. Macrina House of Prayer, 510 W. Main St., Uniontown, Pa. To register for programs or more information, call 724-438-7149 or email hpmsm@verizon.net.

■ **Tuesday Morning Reading Series on Zoom:** 10:30 a.m.-noon April 1, 8. Book is "A World Undone: Finding God When Life Doesn't Make Sense" by Father Mike Schmitz. Presenter is Sister Barbara Jean Mihalchick, OSBM. Book available through Ascension

Press or Amazon, also Kindle. Register at hpmsm@verizon.net or 724-438-7149.

■ **Thursday Evening Reading Series on Zoom:** 6:30-8 p.m. April 3, 10. Book is "A World Undone: Finding God When Life Doesn't Make Sense" by Father Mike Schmitz. Presenter is Sister Barbara Jean Mihalchick, OSBM. Book available through Ascension Press or Amazon, also Kindle. Register at hpmsm@verizon.net or 724-438-7149.



OFFICIAL APPOINTMENTS BY METROPOLITAN ARCHBISHOP WILLIAM

Effective March 3, 2025

■ **Father James Fraser IV**, who has been on loan from the Eparchy of Passaic, is relieved as Administrator of St. Mary, Morgantown, W. Va. and of all Archeparchial Ministry.

■ **Father Kyprian Wojciechowski** appointed Administrator of St. Mary, Morgantown, W. Va., in addition to his present responsibilities as Administrator of St. John the Baptist, Uniontown, Pa.

Earn your Master's Degree in Theology at the Byzantine Catholic Seminary's School of Theology

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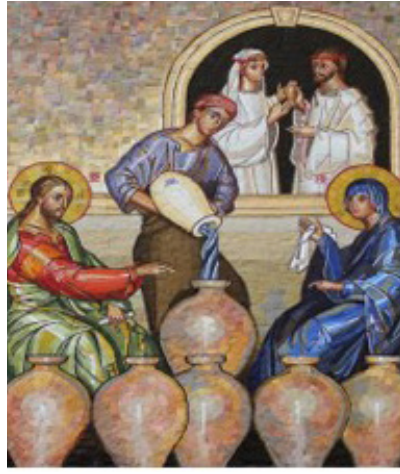


“Do Whatever He Tells You” (John 2:11)

20TH ANNUAL WOMEN’S DAY OF REFLECTION SET FOR MAY 17 ON THE CAMPUS OF LAROCHE UNIVERSITY

Story continued on page 1

and Pro-rector from 2021–2023. Presently, Father Thomas is Director of Human Formation and Professor at the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Pittsburgh, Pa. In addition, he is the Administrator of St. Mary Romanian Catholic Church in McKeesport, Pa. He has Bi-ritual faculties, studies in Early Slavic Christianity, a Master’s in History and Theology, and Bachelor’s in History. Father Thomas is a master craftsman in woodwork. His guided reflection will show us how Empty Jars can lead to Overflowing Grace.



The event is sponsored by the Byzantine Catholic Archeparchial Office of Religious Education. A dedicated committee meets

throughout the year to plan and coordinate the day, working with a theme of interest to women to help them grow in their spirituality. The springtime event also features a luncheon, vendors and a bountiful basket auction with proceeds donated to women and children in Ukraine.

Contact Sister Marion Dobos at 412-322-8773 or mdobos1@gmail.com for more information.

Cost of \$40 includes lunch. Pre-registration is required. Deadline is May 3.

For overnight accommodations call 412-366-1124 or email kearns@cdpsisters.org

A registration form is also available at archpitt.org. ■

SCHEDULE

- 9 a.m.**
Registration/Coffee
- 9:45 a.m.**
Prayer for peace in Ukraine/Welcoming
- 10 a.m.**
Session I
Rev. Liddy Barlow
- 11 a.m.**
Break
- 11:15 a.m.**
Session I (continued)
- Noon**
Lunch and vendors
- 1 p.m.**
Session II
Father Thomas Bailey, OSB
- 1:45 p.m.**
Benefit Auction for children and women in Ukraine
- 2 p.m.**
Pairing Wine & Cheese
Amanda Singel

We know wine is mentioned several times in the bible. So is cheese. (Job 10:10, 1 Sam. 17:18, & 2 Sam. 17:29)

The program will conclude with an experience to “Taste and See That the Lord is Good.” (Psalm 34:8)

Registration Form

Women’s Day of Reflection – Saturday, May 17, 2025
Kearns Spirituality Center
(Campus of LaRoche University, 900 Babcock Blvd., Allison Park, PA 15101)

Name _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Make check payable to: Office of Religious Education

FEE for Sat. only: \$40 – includes lunch (No Refunds) Please mail this form and your registration fee to:

Box Lunch _____ Ham _____ Turkey _____ Salad _____ Overnight accommodations call 412-366-1124 Pre-registration required Deadline for registration: May 3, 2025	Office of Religious Education 3605 Perrysville Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15214
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“The Nicene Confession of the Lordship of Christ”

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC SEMINARY OF SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS
25TH ANNUAL LECTURE SET FOR MAY 6

Story continued on page 1

work is the engagement between early Christian theological reflection and contemporary theological concerns.

A graduate with his PhD from Boston College, Father Khaled’s most well-known work in systematic theology is “Deification through the Cross, An Eastern Christian Theology of Salvation” (2020) and his best-known scholarly work in the history of Christianity, which makes contributions on the all-important figure of St. Athanasius the Great, is “Retrieving Nicaea: The Development and Meaning of Trinitarian Doctrine” (2018). He is also the author of “Feasts for the Kingdom, Sermons for the Liturgical Year” (2023) and the editor of “The Trinity in the Life of the Church” (2014).

The annual lecture series is sponsored by the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Pittsburgh,

Pa., a community of mentors, teachers, and students living and working in an ecumenical environment of Christian unity, integrity, and missionary spirit. ■

Founded in 1950, the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of SS. Cyril and Methodius is a free-standing, English speaking theological seminary, welcoming all those seeking the knowledge possessed by the Eastern ecclesial traditions. We are authorized to grant graduate degrees by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and accredited by the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools. We offer the following degree programs approved by the Commission on Accrediting: Master of Divinity; Master of Arts in Theology. We operate as a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization incorporated in Pennsylvania, and are governed by a Board of Directors under the leadership of the Metropolitan Archbishop of Pittsburgh.

Keeping the tradition alive

MARYLYN BARONE TALKS ICONS WITH HOMESCHOOL GROUP

Marylyn Barone presented a talk on the meaning of icons and the icon screen March 5 at Resurrection Byzantine Catholic church in Monroeville, Pa.

A Latin rite homeschool group from the Delmont area were the participants.

They were very excited to learn about the icons and Marylyn was happy to show them how to “breathe with both lungs.”

After the talk, they participated in an activity about the icon screen. ■



SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY

Very Rev. Archpriest Eugene Yackanich marks 60 years as priest

By David Mayernik Jr.
Editor

Very Rev. Archpriest Eugene Yackanich had a memorable career in the Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh.

He served in 15 parishes and also as Archeparchy administrator, and Protosyncellus, among other positions.

Now for the past eight years, Archpriest Eugene, 85, has been enjoying retirement near Fort Meyers, Fla, with the company of his two sisters, Alice, 97, and Beatrice, 86.

Last month, he celebrated the 60th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood.

He was ordained March 25, 1965 by Archbishop Nicholas T. Elko in McKeesport, Pa.

What does he remember most about that day?

“I think the big thing was my dad (Rev. Demetrius Yackanich) was a little sick but he was there concelebrating with us. That was a big thing, to have my own father at the altar.”

His first solemn Divine Liturgy was celebrated at St. Nicholas Church, Brownsville, Pa., where his father was pastor.

Archpriest Eugene said he wanted to be a priest and follow in the footsteps of his father at a young age.

He attended two years at St. Vincent College and then the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of SS. Cyril and Methodius for six years.

He is the last surviving member of his class of 15 men. Among his classmates was the late +Bishop Gerald Dino. Ten men served in the Eparchy of Passaic and five in the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh.

Archpriest Eugene served in churches including Munhall, Braddock, Uniontown, and Patton, all in Pennsylvania.

Metropolitan Archbishop



Very Rev. Archpriest Eugene Yackanich

William C. Skurla appointed him to the position of Protosyncellus of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh in April 2012 and he also elevated to the dignity of Archpriest on Nov. 24, 2013.

Prior to his appointment as Protosyncellus, Archpriest Eugene served as Administrator of the Archeparchy upon the passing of Metropolitan Archbishop Basil Schott in July 2010, a position he held until the enthronement of Archbishop William.

Along with the protosyncellate, Father Eugene has also served in the positions on the Archeparchial Finance Council, Renewal and Revitalization Commission, Seminary Advisory Board, Cemetery Board, and Clergy Placement Board, as well as memberships in the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference (PCC) and Christian Associates of Southwest Pennsylvania (CASP).

These days, Archpriest Eugene keeps busy with visiting friends in Florida — some of whom were members of his former parishes up north — and working on jigsaw puzzles.

Oh, and enjoying the weather.

“It’s going to be 81 (degrees) and sunny,” he said when asked for today’s weather report. ■

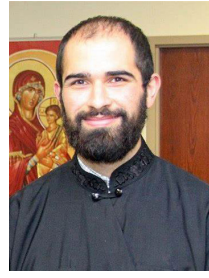


Very Rev. Archpriest Eugene Yackanich is elevated to Archpriest by Metropolitan Archbishop William C. Skurla Nov. 24, 2013 at St. Elias in Munhall, Pa.

GUEST RELECTION

Humbling ourselves to be exalted

By Deacon Luke Iyengar



A little while ago, I found myself preaching in one of our parishes on the Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee. The Gospel for the day — if we need a reminder — is this parable:

“Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank thee that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for every one who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted” (Luke 18:10-14 RSV-CE).

It was my first time ever at this particular parish, so many of the people there probably missed the irony that there I was, preaching on a Gospel that ends with such strong words about humility, when I can tend to think of myself as God’s gift to humanity. “Every one who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted” (Luke 18:14). I don’t know about everyone else, but I experience the truth of these words pretty frequently — perhaps more than I would like, perhaps less than I need. I’m going along, living my life, thinking of how smart and cool I am, when suddenly I trip on a perfectly flat surface, wear my dinner like a 2-year-old, and stick my foot so far in my mouth that I need surgery to get it out. Truly, those who exalt themselves end up humbled.

But the flip side is that those who humble themselves end up exalted. Our Lord gives us the example of the publican: He doesn’t talk about his accomplishments, or how great he thinks he is. He doesn’t dare to raise his eyes to heaven as he prays the prayer so dear to Byzantine Catholics: “O God, be merciful to me, a sinner.” He doesn’t raise his eyes to heaven, but his heart is turned toward God. And because of that, our Lord tells us that he went home justified — made right with God — while the Pharisee did not.

This isn’t just a story about how God finds people who boast about

how great they are as tiresome as the rest of us do. If we look deeper, we can see it as an invitation to follow the pattern of life marked out for us by Jesus Christ. St. Paul reminds us in the Letter to the Philippians that Jesus Christ did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father (Philippians 2:6-11, emphasis mine).

So, similarly, Jesus Christ invites us to humble ourselves now so that when the time comes we are ready for God to exalt us and fill us with His glory.

This doesn’t mean that we start hating ourselves. Each of us is created by God out of love; hating ourselves would be to say that what God has created is not good. But, we do have to be honest: We’re sinners. And, even if we weren’t sinners, we’re still creatures — created beings. We depend on God for everything, and it’s only proper, right, and just to acknowledge that. So, we don’t tell God how great we are. Instead, we focus on how great He is. We thank Him for creating and saving us. We ask Him to forgive our sins, heal our souls, and show us His mercy. We praise Him for how great He is, rather than focusing on ourselves.

With the Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee a few weeks ago, Byzantine Catholics opened up the Lenten Triodion, the book containing the services for that Sunday up until Pascha (Easter). We can already see the Cross on the horizon, the great act of humility by which Jesus Christ overcame Death and granted us eternal life. We already prepare to “bow before His Resurrection on the third day” (Paschal Dismissal), and He invites us to share in His humility in order to share in His glory. So, as we continue the journey to the Resurrection, perhaps we can try to think less of ourselves and more of God, to consider less how great we are and more how great He is, to ask Him to forgive our sins, heal our souls, and show us His mercy, and above all to thank Him for making us share in His own life through our Lord Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever. ■



The Great Fast journey begins

THE GREAT FAST SUNDAY PENETENTIAL VESPERS AT ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHEDRAL IN MUNHALL, PA.

The first Great Fast Sunday Penetential Vespers service of the Lenten season was celebrated March 9 at St. John the Baptist Cathedral in Munhall Pa.

The rite was well-attended by faithful of the Archeparchy.

Father David Bosnich delivered the homily. ■



Photos by Nick Havrilla Sr.

“Love and Life in the Divine Plan”

2025 PRE-CANA HELD AT BYZANTINE CATHOLIC SEMINARY OF SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS

By The Office of Religious Education

In his address at the World Meeting of families a few years ago, Pope Francis reminded couples that “Love is something we learn; love is something we live; love grows as it is forged by the concrete situations which each particular family experiences.”

Good marriages don't just happen. It requires work. It also requires patience, humility, forgiveness, honesty, communication, sacrifice and lots of grace.

Fourteen couples came together on March 8 at the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Pittsburgh, Pa. to grow in their understanding of the commitment they are about to make by entering into the Mystery of Marriage.

Ultimately, marriage has two fundamental purposes namely, the good of the spouse as well as the procreation of children. The nature of love is to overflow, to be life giving. In addition, it is essential that marriages have a solid foundation in a practicing faith. In numerous ways, the couples were reminded to put God first in their marriage.



2025 Pre-Cana couples

The Office of Religious Education would like to thank those who gave presentations, guided small group discussions, took photos, explained and demonstrated the Ritual of Marriage. They are: Father Thomas Dansak, Father Ron Barusefski, Mark and Sandee Collins, Viktoria Zolnova, and Chris and Amanda Singel.

The 2025 Pre-Cana Program was one of the largest in a few years. The couples were high energy, engaging and appreciative.

Participants were from the following parishes: St. Elias,

Munhall, Pa. (3); St. Michael, Campbell, Ohio; Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Munhall, Pa. (2); St. Gregory Nazianzus, Upper St. Clair, Pa. (2); St. Mary, Ambridge, Pa.; St. Mary, Bradenville, Pa. (2); Holy Trinity, Sykesville, Pa.; Holy Ghost, McKees Rocks, Pa.; and St. George, Aliquippa, Pa. ■

The Pre Cana program is sponsored by the Office of Religious Education. The registration form can be found at archpitt.org, link, Office of Religious Education.

RELECTION FROM
MOUNT ST. MACRINA

The Gift of Counsel

by Sister Barbara Jean Mihalchick, OSBM
Sisters of St. Basil the Great
Mount St. Macrina, Uniontown, Pa.



This is a transcript of her Aug. 24, 2024 reflection. It can be viewed on the Facebook page of the Sisters of St. Basil the Great at <https://www.facebook.com/sistersofstbasil.uniontown>.

Glory to Jesus Christ!

As I continue to speak about the Gifts of the Holy Spirit for which we pray, my focus this month is on the Gift of Counsel. The Gift of Counsel is wise guidance in our thinking and decision-making within the whole faith tradition; the Catholic and Christian faith tradition in which we live.

It's backed up in every way by Scripture, by the teachings of the Church, by our wise use of the Sacraments - by every way that we turn to Godly guidance and are given Godly guidance as we grow in this Gift.

Do we need it? So much! How often will we use it? The more we do, the better - perhaps, easier - our life becomes.

Let me explain. This Gift helps us to make good decisions that will keep us out of complications, unfaithfulness, and division - things like that.

With the Gift of Counsel, for instance, you can give good guidance for your own decisions but also use it to help others. This is a Gift that operates within the Body of Christ; we're all helping each other with the Gift of Counsel and obviously - it's based on Scripture and the teaching of the Church - the more we know about those things, the better we can give counsel and the better decisions we can make. Better decisions can keep our families in a greater and holy peace. The more we use the Gift of Counsel, the more we can contribute to the Body of Christ; this means fostering the people with whom we live as well as contributing to the parish and the society in useful and blessed ways.

So the Gift of Counsel operates within community and it is for the sake of community. Pray to receive it and generously use it!

Our Lady of Good Counsel, pray for us.

God bless you. ■





ST. MARY HOLY PROTECTION OF THE MOTHER OF GOD IN MORGANTOWN, W. VA.

Strengthening our spiritual life

By Patricia Johnson
Holy Protection of the Mother of God,
Morgantown, W. Va.

Under the guidance and spiritual leadership of our recent pastor, Father Jim Fraser, the parish of St. Mary's Holy Protection in Morgantown, W. Va. has made several recent additions and improvements which have greatly strengthened the spiritual life of the parish.

Enhancing the celebration of the Divine Liturgy are the new ripidia representing the six-winged Seraphim who surround the throne of God in Heaven. The ripidia were made by parishioner Linda Waycaster.

Newly installed icons of St. Olga, St. Vladimir, St. Methodius, St. Cyril, The Mandylion: The Image of Edessa, Bl. Theodore Romzha, Bl. Paul Gojdic, St. Constantine, and St. Helen remind us that "Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us rid ourselves of every burden and sin that clings to us and persevere in running the race that lies before us while keeping our eyes fixed on Jesus, the leader and perfecter of faith" (*Hebrews 12:1-2*).

As a reminder of that which represents heaven, the ceiling was painted a beautiful blue and stars were added over the altar behind the iconostasis.

As a reminder of God's abundant mercy and grace, icons of the Prodigal Son and Photine, the Samaritan woman at the well with Christ, adorn the doors of the Confessional.

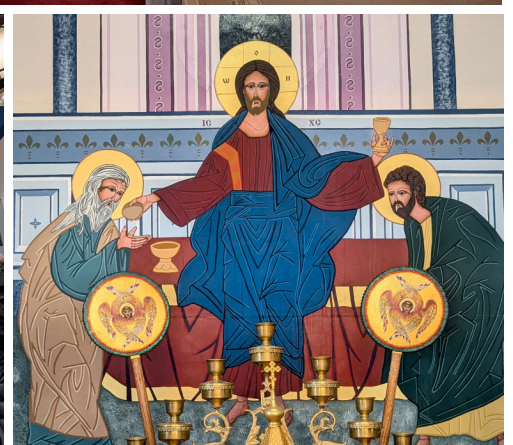
Outside, a new sign lets those passing by know that a vibrant, faith-filled parish awaits them.

A new metal roof on the parish is both an aesthetic and practical improvement which will serve the parish for years to come.

Many of these additions to the parish were made possible through the generosity of donors and hard-working parishioners who raised money through sales of baked goods and pierogies.

Adam Marquart, recent WVU graduate and former parishioner in his first year at SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary, shared this:

"Father Jim Fraser has been one of the most impactful priests in my life. It was an immense



blessing to learn to serve and cantor the Divine Liturgy under his guidance," he said.

"Most of all, his example of the priesthood showed me the beauty and love of spiritual fatherhood. My many conversations with

him about my discernment of the priesthood led to my own application and entrance to the seminary. He has been a great blessing to the church in Morgantown. He is a good shepherd after the Lord's heart."

St. Mary's is also blessed with a parishioner in her final semester at WVU who is discerning monastic life with Christ the Bridegroom Byzantine Catholic women's monastery. ■

Sunday of Orthodoxy

ST. STEPHEN IN LEISENRING, PA.

By Bob Gillingham
St. Stephen, Leisenring, Pa.

Father Jerry Botsko, beloved administrator of St. Stephen Byzantine Catholic Church in Leisenring, Pa., celebrated the Blessing of Icons on Sunday, March 9, which was also the first Sunday of the Great Fast.

The Blessing service took place after the Divine Liturgy.

Several parishioners brought cherished icons to be blessed. These included a beautiful icon of the Holy Trinity; an especially meaningful icon of the Theotokos whom this parishioner says she tries to be close to at all times; statues and an image of the

Sacred Heart of Jesus; an icon of the Pantocrator, which was given as a birthday present by a parishioner's daughter; and a medal of the Theotokos given a parishioner by Father Tyler.

Additionally, there were two outstanding icons written by parishioner Rosemarie: one of St. Christopher carrying Jesus and the other of Mary with the Holy Spirit before her. The variety of icons certainly demonstrated the personal nature of each parishioner's faith.

The photos below show the icons from an aerial view and Father Jerry blessing the icons. ■



ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM IN PITTSBURGH, PA.

On the first Sunday of the Great Fast, parish youth participated in an icon procession to commemorate the Church's victory over iconoclasm.

Just as Empress Theodora made a procession to celebrate the victory of orthodoxy in 843, the children joyously processed with their new icons inside the church.

A variety of icons were blessed at liturgy: Our Lady of Guadalupe, St. Panteleimon, Our Lady of

Perpetual Help, and Christ the Teacher. Father Tyler Wisniewski blessed the icons following the Little Entrance as the cantors sang the Troparion for the Holy Icons.

The children were excited to take their icons home and add them to their prayer corners.

It was a beautiful event and an excellent reminder to all of the liturgical and spiritual importance of icons. ■



ST. GREGORY IN UPPER ST. CLAIR, PA.

By Father Valerian Michlik
St. Gregory, Upper St. Clair, Pa.

In preparation for the First Sunday of the Great Fast, ECF students at St. Gregory in Upper St. Clair, Pa. were busy preparing Icons for this special day.

This Sunday, which is dedicated to the Restoration of the Holy Icons commemorates the end of the Iconoclast (icon-smashers) heresy which had troubled the Church for about 120 years.

At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, we witnessed the Blessing

of Icons and participated in the procession around the Church holding Holy Icons depicting Christ, the Theotokos, and all of those saints who have walked the Christian life before us.

This Sunday of Orthodoxy is also a reminder for all of us that we are called during this Lenten season to recover-restore within us the image of what it means to be an authentic human being, a genuine person created in the image and likeness of God. ■





ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST IN UNIONTOWN, PA.

Pre-Lenten Bowling Party

By Bonnie Balas and Julia Pillar
St. John the Baptist, Uniontown, Pa.

On the evening of March 1 after Divine Liturgy, the Mon-Valley deanery hosted a Pizza and

Bowling party for the youth and their parents at Fairbank Bowling Center. All who attended had a great time. ■



Blessing of icons, vestments

By Bonnie Balas and Julia Pillar
St. John the Baptist, Uniontown, Pa.

On Jan. 18 after the evening Divine Liturgy, Father Kyprian Wojciechowski blessed a newly acquired set of red vestments.

These exquisitely made vestments from Ukraine were donated in memory of the deceased members of the St. John Ethnic Craft Club.

In addition, on the first Sunday of Lent “The Restoration of

Icons,” Father Kyprian blessed new feast day icons which were acquired through a stewardship program.

Those who sponsored the icons donated them in honor or memory of a family member or loved one.

The icons were written by Wayne Hajos, a master iconographer from Columbia, Md. ■



Fashengy

By Bonnie Balas and Julia Pillar
St. John the Baptist, Uniontown, Pa.

On Feb. 23, a Fashengy (pre-Great Fast meal), was sponsored by the St. John Social Ministry group.

The Social Ministry room was

decorated with Mardi Gras colors and theme. The organization provided meats, rolls, and beverages, while the attendees brought and shared their special covered dish items.

It was a great time of feasting and fellowship. ■



Concelebrated services

By Bonnie Balas and Julia Pillar
St. John the Baptist, Uniontown, Pa.

On the Sunday of Cheese Fare afternoon, Forgiveness Vespers were celebrated at St. John Byzantine Catholic Church.

Father Aaron Sandbothe, a Maronite Catholic priest from our neighboring parish of St. George, concelebrated with Father Kyprian Wojciechowski.

Confessions were made available for those who attended. ■

On Wednesday March 5, Father Kyprian added a daytime (12:30 p.m.) Liturgy of Pre-Sanctified Gifts. Father James Fraser concelebrated and son Thomas served.

Those attending welcomed their former administrator, Father James, and wished him well on his forthcoming assignment in Louisville, Ky. God grant the Fraser family many blessed years. ■



Pysanky classes

By Bonnie Balas and Julia Pillar
St. John the Baptist, Uniontown, Pa.

Annual Pysanky Classes are being held at St. John the Baptist Church in Uniontown, Pa. on Monday evenings through April 7 from 6-8 p.m.

The 20-plus who attend show enthusiasm for their products. Many return each year to enjoy the activity, while many new students are fascinated by the eggs they make. ■



‘Tis the season...for pirohi!

By Bonnie Balas and Julia Pillar
St. John the Baptist, Uniontown, Pa.

Although pirohi making at St. John the Baptist in Uniontown, Pa. takes place from September through May, the Lenten season greatly enhances their sales.

Volunteers come Tuesday through Friday to make and distribute nearly 300 dozen per week. Recently added to the pirohi choices of potato-cheese and sauerkraut, is prune (lekvar).

The pirohi are \$10 per dozen. To order call: 724-434-5355 on Monday through Wednesday. ■



ST. GREGORY IN UPPER ST. CLAIR, PA.

Comedy Night 2025

By Father Valerian Michlik
St. Gregory, Upper St. Clair, Pa.

All was ready for this year's Comedy Night 2025. Parishioners and friends of St. Gregory's packed the church hall for this pre-Lenten event that has been a great success for the past fifteen years!

The evening opened with David Kaye, Pittsburgh's King of Comedy and a good friend of

St. Gregory. We all enjoyed Chris Nakis and Robert Mac, comedians who were both hilarious with their clean humor and made it a perfect funny fundraiser for our parish family.

The evening concluded announcing the winners of our various raffles.

A big thank you to all our dedicated parishioners and patrons of this pre-Lenten event. ■



ST. MARY IN WINDBER, PA.

Celebrating Christmas

By Bill Koshute
St. Mary, Windber, Pa.

During this Christmas season, parishioners at St. Mary Church of the Dormition in Windber, Pa. enjoyed a very joyful Nativity play presented to them by the ECF children under the direction ECF instructor Mariana Rusyn.

Tracing the steps and events of the Shepherds, flock of sheep and traveling three Kings following the Star to Bethlehem, the play involved all students from the very youngest to the oldest as they journeyed to meet the new Born Messiah, Jesus, and the Holy

Family.

Cast included: Sheep (Isabella Wengner, Trey Tallion, Audrey Wenger); Shepherds (Antonii Rusyn, Viktor Rusyn); Tame Wolf Chasing Sheep (John Frank Boburchuk); St. Joseph (RJ Tallion); The Angel (Emilia Wenger); The Three Kings (Elias Wenger, Maria Rusyn and Augustine Wenger); with cameo appearances by Roland and Dominic Wegner; Director Marianna Rusyn; Stage crew and Audio Support by Father Ivan Rusyn. ■



By Bill Koshute
St. Mary, Windber, Pa.

Following a Divine Liturgy to celebrate the Feast of St. Nicholas, parishioners and families of St. Mary in Windber, Pa. gathered in church hall to continue the celebration and learn more of the the true story of the life of St. Nicholas, patron saint to the Slavic peoples.

Families gathered with an opening prayer by Fathe Ivan Rusyn, followed by gathering the children together to learn more about our very special saint and

his special prayers, and miracles.

Food, refreshments games and fun followed. In the middle of all the fun, St. Nicholas appeared at the celebration, as promised last year, to meet all of the children and parishioners of St. Mary.

He greeted each and everyone of them in his special way, encouraged them to stay faithful to their Byzantine Catholic faith, obey their parents and teachers and get along well with others.

He also promised that he would try to visit again next year! ■





ST. MICHAEL IN HERMTAGE, PA.

Founders Day

By William Dzuricko
St. Michael, Hermitage, Pa.

The GCU celebrated Founder's Day (Feb. 14) during the weekend of Feb. 15 to 16 at St. Michael Church in Hermitage, Pa.

After the 4 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. Sunday Divine Liturgies, parishioners were treated to individually wrapped, iced,

heart shaped sugar cookies as well as GCU "giveaways" and information.

The Sunday morning "coffee club" joined in the celebration when a Valentine's Day cake was sliced and served in the church narthex with the usual morning coffee.

A good time was had by all! ■



SS. PETER AND PAUL IN WARREN, OHIO

Parish Guild Anniversary

The Parish Guild of SS. Peter and Paul in Warren, Ohio held its annual Anniversary Dinner at Buena Vista Café on Feb. 11. Some pictures of past members

and many memories were shared with all in attendance.

After our dinners, delicious cupcakes and chocolates were available for our Valentine treats. ■



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST IN SCOTTDALE, PA.

Pirohi time

St. John the Baptist in Scottdale, Pa. began making pirohi for the Lenten season last month.

Pictured below are Cindy Hribal, John Kadylak, Andy Lipko, Father Oleh Seremchuk and Sandy Kadylak preparing the potato and sauerkraut balls.



Working with and cutting dough are Father Oleh Seremchuk and Andy Lipko. Helping but not pictured are: Kathy Onusko, Debbie Saxberg, Barb Zaksek, Dorothy Kozak, Betty Sapola, Julie Yankovich, Barb Kalp, Patty Augustine, Dolly Litman, and John Onusko.



Making pirohi are Catherine Catalina, Sandy Kadylak and Margie Edwards. Making pirohi are: Margie Edwards and Father Oleh Seremchuk and John Kadylak are in back.



John Kaylak. Terry Frederick is operating the dough machine.

ST. MARY IN BRADENVILLE, PA.

Congratulations, Jude!

St. Mary in Bradenville, Pa. celebrated the Baptism, Charismation, and receiving of the Holy Eucharist of Jude Charles Barr.

Jude is the son of Barbara Theis and Brian Barr of Greensburg, Pa. Nicholas Theis and Ashley Nye are Jude's Godparents. ■



ST. ELIAS IN MUNHALL, PA.

“Fat Sunday”

By Mary Caryl Planiczki
St. Elias, Munhall, Pa.

St. Elias in Munhall, Pa. parishioners and their pastor

Father Vitalii Stashkevych enjoyed “Fat Sunday” after liturgy on Cheesefare Sunday. Donuts and coffee were the treat! ■



Welcoming seminarians

By Mary Caryl Planiczki
St. Elias, Munhall, Pa.

The St. Elias parish family was happy to welcome Father Ronald Barusefski, rector of the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Pittsburgh, Pa., and some of our seminarians to liturgy.

May God help guide them and protect them through their studies. We will keep them all in our prayers. May God grant them many years! ■



Fish Fry-day

By Mary Caryl Planiczki
St. Elias, Munhall, Pa.

First Fish Fry at St. Elias in Munhall for the Lenten season was March 7.

Great food, bake sale, csoroge,

raffles, and many smiling faces waiting to greet you! Open 11:30 a.m.-6 p.m. every Friday during lent except Holy Friday! See you soon! ■



Sweet treats

By Mary Caryl Planiczki
St. Elias, Munhall, Pa.

Lenten Kitchen at St. Elias in Munhall opened March 7. Csoroge workers are getting these

delicious pastries ready to go! See you at the Lenten Kitchen every Friday during Lent except Good Friday. 11:30-6. Try one... or a dozen when you come! ■





THOUGHTS FOR OUR DAY

By Archpriest David M. Petras

YOU ARE NOT YOUR OWN



A sacramental mystery is a ritual action that signifies the place of the Paschal mystery in the life of a believer. The Paschal mystery is Christ's victory over sin and death through his death on the cross and resurrection. The death and resurrection of Christ reveals that ultimately only one who "loses" his or her life can gain it. The "loss of life" in this temporal life is the death to sin and passion that destroy the image of God in us. The celebration of a sacramental mystery is a specific way of shaping Christ's death and resurrection in the way we live which accomplishes in reality our death to sin and evil passion and our deification. The key here is the specific way. A ritual must by the symbols used signify the death and resurrection in such a way that by the power of the Holy Spirit, God works the mystery of his death and resurrection in us. One of the sacramental mysteries of the Church is called Holy Orders, or Ordination, or the Imposition of Hands. This means that when a Christian is ordained to the role of deacon, presbyter or bishop, he dies to sin, which in this case is any care or desire that would hinder him in giving himself wholly to the service of the people of God. One renounces one's own selfishness in order to serve the Church. St. Paul said, Are you are not your own? (1 Corinthians 6:20). He did not apply this to a Church office, but to all Christians, but it does apply in a most fitting way to those who are called to service to the people of God.

The community has a need for people to celebrate the mysteries, to give spiritual guidance, to preach the gospel, to teach, instruct and baptize, to proclaim the forgiveness of sins, and other services. The ordained servant of God is someone who is consecrated to these tasks by the commission of the Church and cannot allow any care or desire

The community has a need for people to celebrate the mysteries, to give spiritual guidance, to preach the gospel, to teach, instruct and baptize, to proclaim the forgiveness of sins, and other services.

to interfere with his mission. The "resurrection" in this sacramental mystery is deification. For the deacon, presbyter and bishop, this means a particular identity with Christ for the sake of the community. Because of the mystery of the incarnation, the ordained minister in some way "stands in the place of Christ." Obviously, this does not mean that other faithful cannot be conformed to the image of Christ, only that for the sake of service to the people of God, the ordained cleric acquires a specific identity with Christ, so that through his service others can also be united with Christ.

In the Byzantine rite, there are five orders: lector, subdeacon, deacon, presbyter (priest) and

bishop. The orders of lector and subdeacon are not considered part of the sacramental mystery. They are sometimes called "minor orders," to distinguish them from the major orders of deacon, presbyter and bishop. There is an essential difference in the way they are celebrated: Minor orders are bestowed outside the altar in the nave of the church. Major orders are given inside the sanctuary, the altar, and all begin with the words, "Divine grace, which heals all infirmities..."

There are Greek technical words, for major orders it is cheirotonia, and for minor orders it is cheirothesia. Both words mean "imposition of hands." Cheirotonia, though, means the imposition of hands for a sacramental order, and cheirothesia means the imposition of hands for a function within the Church. The Roman Church does have what are called "minor orders," but these offices are not bestowed with an imposition of hands. The orders of bishop, priest and deacon are full sacramental rites. The person ordained takes part in the Paschal mystery of death and resurrection, that is, of death to one's self to give himself entirely to service to God's people. The lesser orders are a blessing to serve a function in the community of the Church.

The sacramental mysteries of the Church are open to all the faithful. Everyone must receive the basic sacraments of baptism, chrismation and eucharist. These are considered essential to life in God. Our Lord taught, Amen, amen, I say to you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit (John 3:5), and then also

taught, Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you (John 6:53). Some may have questions about this. In the Byzantine Church, baptism and chrismation, the gift of the Spirit, and Holy Communion, necessary for spiritual life, are always given together. It is possible that a person may die without chrismation and Communion, if baptism has to be given in emergency by a person who is not a priest. The Roman Church delays confirmation, the sacrament of the Spirit, and Communion until a person has reached the age of reason, so it is possible that a child might die without these sacraments but is still fully saved.

The other sacraments are given for specific needs and may not be absolutely needed, penance, for grave sins committed after baptism; anointing, for sickness, is sometimes necessary for nearly all people. Marriage is needed only for those called to common life of matrimony. Orders, however, are only for a few who are called to life service to the Church. They are nevertheless universal rites, for they are necessary for the spiritual life of all Christians. They are recognitions that our lives of faith, of hope, and of love are possible only by the grace of God, given by the Father, through Christ and in the Holy Spirit. St. Paul wrote, For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not from you; it is the gift of God (Ephesians 2:8). By faith he means not only having an opinion about the existence of God, but our free offering of ourselves to God, who works in us and makes us holy. ■

PARISH LITURGIES BROADCAST VIA INTERNET

Here is the most current list of parishes broadcasting Sunday Divine Liturgies and other services to the Faithful via their websites and social media sites such as Facebook.

For changes or to be listed, send information to bcw@archpitt.org.

St. John the Baptist Cathedral
Munhall, Pa.
www.stjohnsbyzantinecathedral.com

Holy Ghost
McKees Rocks, Pa.
www.holyghost-byzantinecatholic.org
www.youtube.com, then type Holy Ghost Church Live Stream

St. John Chrysostom
Pittsburgh, Pa.
www.sjcbcc.com

St. Gregory
Upper St. Clair, Pa.
www.facebook.com/stgregoryusc

St. Michael
Campbell, Ohio
www.facebook.com/st.michaelbyz.campbell

St. Elias
Munhall, Pa.
www.facebook.com/StEliasByzantineCatholicChurch/

SS. Peter and Paul
Braddock, Pa.
<https://www.facebook.com/SSPeterPaulBraddock/>

St. Michael
Hermitage, Pa.
<https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelbyz.hermitage>

St. Mary
Windber, Pa.
<https://www.facebook.com/StMaryDormition>

Pope returns to Vatican after long hospitalization



Pope Francis waves to a crowd of well-wishers at Rome's Gemelli hospital before returning to the Vatican March 23, 2025, after 38 days of treatment at the hospital. (Catholic News Service photo/Pablo Esparza)

By Cindy Wooden
OSV News

ROME — Immediately before leaving Rome's Gemelli hospital after more than five weeks of treatment for breathing difficulties, double pneumonia and infections, Pope Francis greeted hundreds of people who gathered outside the hospital March 23.

With a very weak voice, Pope Francis thanked the crowd, waving his hands and giving a thumbs up.

He also pointed to a woman carrying a yellow-wrapped bouquet of flowers and told the crowd, "She's good."

An aide had pushed Pope Francis in his wheelchair onto the balcony overlooking the square outside the hospital. Some 600 people had gathered at the hospital, including Rome's Mayor Roberto Gualtieri. Hundreds of people also gathered in front of video screens in St. Peter's Square to see the pope for the first time since he was hospitalized Feb. 14.

The pope left the hospital almost immediately after his appearance on the balcony.

The motorcycle police leading the pope's motorcade turned onto the street leading to the Vatican entrance closest to his residence and then turned around. Rather than go directly home, Pope Francis was driven through the center of Rome to the Basilica of St. Mary Major where he has prayed before and after every foreign trip and after

his two previous hospitalizations for abdominal surgery.

Pope Francis did not go into the church but left a bouquet of flowers to be placed on the altar under the Marian icon "Salus Populi Romani" or "Health of the Roman People."

Television footage of the pope, seated in the front seat of a white Fiat, showed he was using oxygen through a nasal tube.

Just before the 88-year-old pope had come out on the hospital balcony, the Vatican released a text he had prepared for the midday Angelus prayer.

Pope Francis greets well-wishers at Rome's Gemelli hospital before returning to the Vatican March 23, 2025, after 38 days of treatment at the hospital. (CNS photo/Vatican Media)

The pope's message focused on the day's Gospel reading of the parable of the fig tree from Luke 13:1-9, in which a gardener asks a landowner to allow him to spare a fig tree that had not borne fruit for three years; the gardener asks to be given a year to fertilize and care for the tree in the hope that it would bear fruit in the future.

"The patient gardener is the Lord, who thoughtfully works the soil of our lives and waits confidently for our return to him," the pope wrote.

"In this long period of hospitalization, I have experienced the Lord's patience, which I also see reflected in the tireless solicitude of the doctors and health care workers, as well as in the attention and hopes of the family members of the sick," who also are in the Gemelli, he wrote.

"This trusting patience, anchored in God's love that does not fail, is indeed necessary in our lives, especially in facing when the most difficult and painful situations," Pope Francis wrote.

But, like the other messages he released from the hospital on Sundays, the pope also urged prayers for peace and commented on current events.

"I was saddened by the resumption of heavy Israeli shelling on the Gaza Strip, with so many dead and wounded," he said. Israel, citing an impasse in negotiations with Hamas militias, began launching aerial attacks on Gaza March 18, ending a ceasefire that had begun in January.

"I call for an immediate silencing of the weapons; and the courage to resume dialogue, for all hostages to be released and for a final ceasefire to be reached," the pope wrote. The humanitarian situation in Gaza "is once again very serious and requires urgent commitment from the conflicting parties and the international community."

Doctors prescribe two months of rest

Dr. Sergio Alfieri, head of the medical team treating the pope, had told reporters March 22 that in his rooms at the Domus Sanctae Marthae, the pope will continue using oxygen as needed through a nasal tube, will be taking medication to fight a lingering mycosis, a

fungal infection, and will be continuing his physical therapy and respiratory therapy.

The doctors have prescribed two months of rest and recuperation and have urged the pope not to meet with large groups during that time. They also said his voice will require time to recover.

Dr. Luigi Carbone, the assistant director of the Vatican health service and a member of the medical team treating the pope at Gemelli hospital, said that other than an oxygen tank, no special equipment would be needed in the pope's room. He added, though, that the Vatican health service has a doctor and other personnel on duty 24 hours a day.

Even after the pope's return to the Vatican was announced, the rosary for him and for all the sick was continuing in St. Peter's Square each evening.

The crowd gathered to pray March 22 loudly applauded when Archbishop Giordano Piccinotti, president of the Administration of the Patrimony of the Holy See, began the recitation telling them, "The Holy Father is returning home. We give thanks to God and to the Virgin Mary for this great news."

The Vatican press office said that March 23 the rosary would continue and would be led by Cardinal Mauro Gambetti, archpriest of St. Peter's Basilica.

■



AROUND THE ARCHEPARCHY



PITTSBURGH BYZANTINE CATHOLIC ARCHEPARCHIAL CHOIR TO LIVESTREAM LENTEN AND PASCHAL HYMNS

— PBCAC will live stream Lenten hymns for reflection at 8 p.m. (Eastern) on Thursday April 10. Hosted by St. Elias Church in Munhall, Pa. at <https://steliasmunhallpa.weebly.com>. The PBCAC also will present an uplifting program of Paschal hymns at St. Elias Church, 4200 Homestead-Duquesne Road, Munhall, Pa. on Thomas Sunday, April 27 at 3 p.m. The public is invited to experience this joyous presentation in person and then join the choir afterwards for cake and refreshments in the church social hall. This Paschal program also will stream on St. Elias web site <https://steliasmunhallpa.weebly.com>

SPRING CRAFT SHOW & VENDOR SALE — 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, April 26, St. John the Baptist Cathedral, 210 Greentree Road, Munhall, Pa. Crafters, vendors and Crafters' Showcase Auction. Ethnic favorites, soups, Our Famous Dumpling Haluski, Stuffed Cabbage and Pirohi. Eat-in or take out. Cathedral Kolache on sale: nut, poppyseed, apricot, apricot-nut and lekvar. For information, call 412-461-0944.

HOLY GHOST PIROHI — Holy Ghost Byzantine Catholic Church, 225 Helen St., McKees Rocks, Pa. will be selling their award-winning pirohi on Fridays beginning March 7. Sale dates will be March 7, 14, 21 and 28, and April 4 and 11. No sales on Good Friday! Prices are the same as last year: \$12 per dozen, Potato with cheese; and \$13 per dozen, Kraut or Farmers' Cheese. All orders must be placed 9 a.m.-noon on the Wednesday prior to the sale date. Call the Pirohi Kitchen at 412-331-5155 We were "Best in the Burgh" two years in a row at Kennywood's Pierogi Fest! Come on down to "the Bottoms!"

PIROHI SALES — St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church, 201 E. Main Street, Uniontown, Pa., is having pirohi (perogi) sales for take-out only. Available are: potato/cheese, sauerkraut (cooked or frozen), or prune (lekvar - frozen only) at \$10 per dozen. Orders may be placed by calling 724-434-5355 Mondays to Wednesdays for Friday pick up. Specify type(s), number of dozens, and leave name, phone number, and time of pick-up which will be Friday 9 a.m. to noon in church parking lot in back of school.

PIEROGI SALE — Noon-4 p.m. March 7 to April 11, St. Pius X, 2336 Brownsville Road, Carrick, Pa. Pre-orders taken by leaving your name and amount wanted at 412-881-8344. Cooked pierogi can be ordered for: potato cheese, \$11 per dozen and \$6 per one-half dozen; sauerkraut, \$12 per dozen and \$6 per one-half dozen; cottage cheese, \$15 per dozen and \$8 per one-half dozen. Frozen pierogi also available: lekvar, \$16 per dozen and \$8 per one-half dozen; sweet cabbage, \$12 per dozen and \$6 per one-half dozen; potato cheese jalapeno, \$12 per dozen and \$6 per one-half dozen. There is a limited of potato sauerkraut at \$11 per dozen and \$6 per one-half dozen.

ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM (GREENFIELD) EASTER PASCHA SALE — Delicious and traditional Pascha Bread made with the Church Babas' recipe. Round or loaf style: \$10 each. Deadline to order: April 6. Pick up Saturday April 12 (11:30 a.m.- 4 p.m.) or Palm Sunday, April 13 (11:30 a.m.- 1:30 p.m.) To order, call Kevin at 412-480-5295 or email: kevin@kberes.com.

ST. ELIAS LENTEN KITCHEN — 4200 Homestead-Duquesne Road, Munhall, Pa. 11:30 a.m.-6 p.m., Every Friday during Lent except Good Friday. Dine-in or take-out. Fish sandwich, potato cheese pirohi, noodle haluski, cole slaw, French fries, bake sale and csorge for dessert (served warm with powdered sugar, think beignet). Fried fish or shrimp dinner with cole slaw and French fries. Call 412-461-9271.

ANNUAL FLEA MARKET — 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, April 5, St. Pius X, 2336 Brownsville Road, Carrick, Pa. This is an event where our church sells flea market items along with vendors. The cost for a table is \$20. Refreshments will be served. To reserve a table and receive an application please call the church at 412-881-8344 and leave a message for Beth.

ST. MARY'S SUPER BINGO — 2-6 p.m. Sunday, April 6, St. Mary's Center, State Route 981, Trauger, Pa. Doors open at noon. Games start at 2 p.m. Tickets: \$30 for 24 games and include first set of Regular cards (Specials are included), one Jackpot and lunch. Extra cards, specials, and a WTA Quickie may be purchased at admission. Tickets must be reserved or paid for in advance. None sold at the door. Seating is limited. Call or text Marlene at 412-526-0285 or Marge at 724-787-5631 for tickets. 16 Regular games: \$100, 4 Specials: \$200. \$1,500 Jackpot Series. Regular: \$200, Letter X: \$300, Full Card: \$1,000. There will be opportunities for a 50/50, Chinese Auction, Instant Tickets, and a Lottery Tree. Proceeds Benefit the Church's Building and Maintenance Fund.

18th EGG EGGSTRAVAGANZA — Noon-4 p.m. Sunday, April 6, St. John the Baptist Social Hall 201 E. Main St. Uniontown, Pa. Sponsored by St. John's GCU members, local egg artists, St. John Social Ministry, and the St. John Ethnic Craft Club. Various egg artists will be demonstrating, displaying, and selling their particular art which will include Eastern European pysanky, Polish drop-and-pull wax relief eggs, Hungarian-style eggs, onion-skin-dyed etched or scratch type goose eggs, vinegar-etched emu eggs, tie dyed eggs, wood burned eggs, and other collectible Tiffany-style eggs. In addition to the egg artists, there will be an Egg Bazaar featuring vendors selling egg dyes, beeswax, tools, books, videos, and pysanky kits for sale. Traditional items used in ethnic Easter baskets will also be available, such as embroidered covers, candles, lamb butter molds, egg wraps, parish cookbooks, and much more. There will also be Easter crafts for sale. Traditional Easter basket covers will also be on display as well as information for Easter basket blessing foods such as hrutka/sirets (Easter Cheese), horseradish/beets, braided long rolls, and Paska Bread design making. An extensive parish bake sale will include long rolls (nut, apricot, poppyseed, cottage cheese), paska bread, decorated medovniki, small nut rolls, cookies, homemade candy, and many more delicious goodies. Visitors can try a hands-on workshop to learn how to decorate eggs. There will be a Children's Corner featuring egg-related crafts, storytelling, cookie decorating. There will be many Raffles and a Basket Raffle. A Lenten Luncheon Menu, including St. John's "famous" pirohi, halushki, pagach squares, pirohi pizza, and soups and more will be available for purchase. There is no admission fee. Handicapped accessible. For further information, please contact the church office 724-438-1382 (leave message). Check parish website for any updates: <http://www.stjohnbaptist-byz-cath-uniontown.org/>.

AN AFTERNOON WITH THE AUTHOR: DR. ELAINE RUSINKO AND "ANDY WARHOL'S MOTHER" — Following the 10:30 a.m. Sunday, May 18 Divine Liturgy, (approximately 11:45 a.m.) St. John Chrysostom, 506 Saline St., Pittsburgh, Pa. The recently published "Andy Warhol's Mother" by Dr. Elaine Rusinko will serve as the springboard for conversation. Dr. Rusinko provides a comprehensive history of an immigrant-era Carpatho-Rusyn woman. This is truly a unique opportunity for those interested in Carpatho-Rusyns in America. St. John Chrysostom Church has a long history of serving the Carpatho-Rusyn community in Pittsburgh, and we welcome other Pittsburgh-area parishes to join us for 10:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy and stay for An Afternoon with the Author. White Whale Bookstore, 4754 Liberty Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15244. will host Conversation with Elaine Rusinko and Stephanie Flom at 7 p.m., Friday, May 16. Please note: it is not necessary to have read the book before either event. Copies of "Andy Warhol's Mother" will be available for purchase at both events. There is no charge for the event and the Timo Foundation will offer refreshments. RSVP by leaving a message at 412-525-7050 to ensure that we have enough seating and refreshments for all attendees. We anticipate an hour-long program.



2ND ANNUAL SPRING ST. NICHOLAS CELEBRATION

Join us on the first Sunday in May at the GCU St. Nicholas of Myra Chapel in Beaver, PA, as we gather to honor our patron saint, St. Nicholas! This special celebration, established by Fr. Valerian Michlik, is a meaningful opportunity for all the faithful to come together in devotion— we'd love to see **you** there!

DIVINE LITURGY
Divine Liturgy will be celebrated on Sunday, May 4, 2025, at St. Nicholas Chapel at 3^{PM} with special guest homilist: Fr. Brian Weiding

MUSEUM
At the conclusion of Divine Liturgy, the GCU Museum, combining Greek Catholic, and Carpatho-Rusyn histories, will be opened to all visitors until 5^{PM}

BANQUET
A banquet at Seven Oaks Country Club will follow. \$40 for adults, \$20 for children (12 & under). Must be registered and prepaid online.

SUN, MAY 4TH
3PM - 7:30PM
ST. NICHOLAS BYZANTINE CHAPEL
5400 Tuscarawas Rd
Beaver, PA 15009

Banquet to follow at:
SEVEN OAKS COUNTRY CLUB
132 Lisbon Rd, Beaver, PA 15009

REGISTRATION REQUIRED
Registration required for both the Liturgy & Banquet. Due to the size of the chapel, the liturgical celebration is limited to the first 80 who reserve a spot.

Register today! 

gcuusa.com/pages/spring-st-nicholas-event



APRIL 27 SUNDAY

The Office of Youth and Young Adult Ministry
invites **YOUNG ADULTS** (18-39 y.o., single, married),
TEENS (12-17 y.o.), and **THEIR PARENTS**
to come and celebrate **THE GIFT OF YOUNG PEOPLE** in the Church
and reflect on **HOPE** in our lives!

BELIEVE IN HOPE

Archepiscopal Youth and Young Adult Gathering

4:00 pm
Divine Liturgy
Archbishop William Skurla

Refreshments
Welcome
Topic Introduction
Icebreakers

Interactive talks
with the guest
speakers
Conclusion



Save The Date!

Guest speakers announced soon!
For more information please visit: www.archpitt.org

Register here:


ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL, MUNHALL, PA

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE AT THE SEMINARY

“COME, LET US SING JOYFULLY TO THE LORD”

Schedule of Services for April

TUE	1	7 a.m. Sixth Hour (with pg. 40 in Midday Office) (R)
WED	2	5 p.m. Matins with Great Canon (R)
THU	3	8 a.m. Sixth Hour (with pg. 42 in Midday Office) (R) [LS]
FRI	4	5 p.m. Presanctified Divine Liturgy (R)
SAT	5	9 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R)
		5 p.m. Great Vespers (without Litija) (R)
SUN	6	7 a.m. Festal Matins (R)
MON	7	8 a.m. Lenten Orthros (M)

Join the Seminarians of Byzantine Catholic Seminary at 3605 Perrysville Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa., for Liturgical Prayer. Visitors are welcome at the Seminary chapel. Enter through the chapel door that faces Perrysville Avenue. It's recommended visitors call 412-321-8383 in advance. Check the Seminary web site for any last-minute changes to this schedule. For more information, go to www.bcs.edu.

TUE	8	7 a.m. Sixth Hour (with pg. 45 in Midday Office) (R)
WED	9	5 p.m. Presanctified Divine Liturgy (R)
THU	10	8 a.m. Sixth Hour (with pg. 47 in Midday Office) (R)
FRI	11	5 p.m. Presanctified Divine Liturgy (R) [LS]
SAT	12	9 a.m. Festal Matins with Divine Liturgy (R)
		5 p.m. Great Vespers (without Litija) (R)
MON	28	8 a.m. Akathist to Jesus, Light in Darkness
TUE	29	7 a.m. Akathist to the Life-Bearing Tomb (R)

(M) Melkite tradition (R) Ruthenian tradition [LS] Livestream

DATES TO REMEMBER



- APRIL 13**
Palm Sunday — Entrance of our Lord into Jerusalem
- APRIL 14 to 19**
Holy Week
Chancery closed April 17 and 18
- APRIL 18**
Great and Holy Friday

Twelfth anniversary of Archbishop William's Enthronement as Metropolitan Archbishop of Pittsburgh
- APRIL 19**
Archbishop William and other Christian leaders bless the City of Pittsburgh from Mount Washington at 10 a.m.
- APRIL 20**
Pascha —The Glorious Feast of the Resurrection of Our Lord
- APRIL 21**
Bright Monday
Chancery closed
- MAY 3**
Beatification of Blessed Father Peter Paul Oros
Belky Village, Ukraine

See more upcoming events at www.archpitt.org

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**NEXT ISSUE
PASCHA 2025**

**SUBMISSIONS
DEADLINE
FOR MAY ISSUE:
APRIL 22**