

Schedule of Divine Liturgies

Sunday	Feb 14 th	Cheese-Fare Sunday Forgiveness Sunday (Beginning of Great Lent)	+Theresa Zeravica (Dolly Nicora)
Sunday	Feb 21 th	1 st Sunday in Lent Orthodoxy Sunday (Liturgy of St Basil)	+Ian Antal (Bernice Dumitru)
Saturday	Feb 27 th	Saturday of the Dead	+Parishioners of St Mary
Sunday	Feb 28 th	2 nd Sunday of Lent Gregory Palamas (Liturgy of St Basil)	+John Nicora Jr (Dolly Nicora)
Saturday	March 06 th	Saturday of the Dead	+Parishioners of St Mary

For the month of February

Our Eternal Candle burns for	+ Ed Kastriba (Donna and David Pandullo)
Our Garden Candle burns for	Parishioners of St Mary
Our Altar Candles burn for	Parishioners of St Mary

Parish Announcements:

Last Weeks Collection: 645.00

The Church is cleaned and disinfected after each Liturgy to do our part in keeping our parishioners safe while at St. Mary.

Liturgy Intentions: If you have intentions to remember or honor a loved one, please contact Donna Pandullo at (412) 973-0151 or see Samantha. Open dates remaining for 2021 are: Oct 17, 24 & 31: Nov 07 : Dec 19 and 26.

Candle Intentions: We are offering intentions for the Eternal Candle, the Garden Candle and the Tall Altar Candles. Each will be \$20.00 per month. The intentions will be listed in the bulletin. Please see Donna if you would like to add an intention.

Great Lent begins tomorrow and with it fasting and abstinence. Fasting is giving up a quantity of food and abstinence is giving up certain types of food. Except for reasons of age, illness or dietary requirements, we are to avoid meat, dairy, wine and olive oil during the first week of Great Lent and during Holy Week. During the remainder of Great Lent, we simply refrain from meat. We can, however, enjoy vegetables of all kinds, bread, fish, non-dairy and soy products. Those who prayerfully determine that Lenten fasting and abstinence needs to be modified in some way for good reason should come and discuss this with Father George. Fasting in other ways may be possible. Giving up certain activities such as enjoyable entertainment, for instance, is appropriate. The important thing is that we all take this opportunity to grow spiritually.

Adult Education is at 9 AM and every Sunday in the church. Our class focuses on the teachings of the Catholic Church and includes a focus on the Byzantine Tradition. Typically there is a lively discussion of important spiritual matters. Please join us.

PASTOR'S PULPIT OF THE GOSPEL

St. John the Baptist is a wonderful example for all of us to learn from during Great Lent. We are asked to get to know our sins better and to change our fundamental attitudes. We are also to fast and abstain from food as a sign of our repentance and to grow closer to God. St. John not only fasted, but also lived on a severe diet consisting of locusts and wild honey. We are asked by the Church for our own good to fast and abstain regarding food during Great Lent, but I promise you she will never, ever, ask you to eat grasshoppers! What we are expected to do is much easier. There is a very long tradition of fasting in our history. When we do it, we are in very good company. Moses fasted before receiving the Ten Commandments. The Old Testament prophets fasted as an outward sign of penance. Jesus fasted for forty days before beginning His public ministry. It is likely that the Mother of God fasted since all Jews did so and she was an observant Jewish woman. The Apostles fasted before making important decisions and recommended it for the good of all Christians. This practice continued in the early Church and throughout its history. Fasting, giving up a quantity of food, and abstaining, giving up certain types of food, is a spiritual exercise that helps us to avoid sin; we follow this practice in order to avoid giving in to serious disobedience of God. Again, there needs to be an interior reflection upon our sin areas as we fast and abstain, combined with the determination to do better. We need to seriously look at our lives and at our sin areas and make a decision to eliminate them or at least reduce their occurring with the help of the Holy Spirit. Except for reasons of age, illness or dietary requirements, we are to avoid meat, dairy, wine and olive oil during the first week of Great Lent and during Holy Week. During the remainder of Great Lent, we simply refrain from meat. We can, however, enjoy vegetables of all kinds, bread, fish, non-dairy and soy products. Those who prayerfully determine that Lenten fasting and abstinence need to be modified in some way for good reason, should come and discuss this with me and then fast in other ways. Giving up certain activities such as enjoyable entertainment, for instance, is appropriate. The important thing is that we all take this opportunity to grow spiritually. February 14th is Forgiveness Sunday. Jesus teaches us that if we do not forgive others, God will not forgive us our sins. Therefore, if there is anyone who needs our forgiveness or if we need to be forgiven, then we should reach out in order to forgive and to be forgiven. Blessings, Father George

Next Week's Scripture: Hebrews 11:24-40; John 1:43-51

If you have not already seen our new website, you are invited to do so. The address is stmarymckeesport.org.

Your fervent and continuing prayers are requested for: Calvin Cramer, Rosemary Gerondites, Teresa Maglicco, Alan Medved, Laurie DuVal, Fr. Matthew Elanjileth, Helen Dragos, Kathleen Gibbs, Andrea Vigue, Joseph O'Gurkis, Jennifer Wolf and Children, Ron Willard, Sr. Caritas Wendt All those serving in Armed Forces and Civil Authorities, along with All First Responders, and all those Affected by the Coronavirus.

St. Mary Romanian Byzantine Catholic Church

Eparchy of St George in Canton for Romanians
Most Reverend John Michael Botean, Bishop

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E-mail: stmarymckeesport.org

Facebook: [StMaryRomanianByzantineCatholicChurch](https://www.facebook.com/StMaryRomanianByzantineCatholicChurch)

Priest Administrator: Father George Wendt (Mobile: 740-856-9133)

President Stewardship: Mrs. Donna Pandullo (Mobile: 412-973-0151)

Church Committees:

Pastoral Advisory Council: President: Bernice Dumitru

Members: John Gibbs

Stewardship Committee: President: Donna Pandullo, Secretary: Andrea Vigue
Members: David Pandullo, John Gibbs, Kathleen Gibbs, Ben Kastriba, Sam Kastriba

Bulletin Committee: Donna Pandullo, Sam Kastriba and David Pandullo

Building and Grounds / Church Maintenance: John Gibbs, David Pandullo

OFFICE OF CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION

The toll free number is 1 877 637 6600;

Email: internationalresearchgroup@csi.com