

## Schedule of Divine Liturgies

Sunday	Feb 21 <sup>th</sup>	1 st Sunday in Lent Orthodoxy Sunday (Liturgy of St Basil)	+Ian Antal (Bernice Dumitru)
Saturday	Feb 27 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday of the Dead	Parishioners of St Mary
Sunday	Feb 28 <sup>th</sup>	2 nd Sunday of Lent Gregory Palamas (Liturgy of St Basil)	+John Nicora Jr (Dolly Nicora)
Saturday	Mar 06 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday of the Dead	Parishioners of St Mary
Sunday	Mar 07 <sup>th</sup>	3 rd Sunday of Lent Veneration of the Holy Cross (Liturgy of St Basil)	+Virginia Lupu (Andrea Vigue)

### ***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: \$ 50.00  
(Inclement Weather)**

**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.

**There are 2 inserts from Bishop John Michael requesting that donations be made 1) To The Memorial of Most Reverend Floretin Crihalmeanu, Bishop of the Eparchy of Clujj- Napoca in Romania 2) to be as generous as possible to the CRS Rice Bowl. Lenten Collection. There are rice bowls at the rear of the church that you make take home and make daily donations. An envelope for each has been provided for your convenience.**

Saturday of the Dead Divine Liturgies will be offered of February 27th and March 6th at 6:00 pm. Please provide the names of those to be remembered to Donna Pandullo by February 24th so that they can be included. Join us on these two Saturdays as we pray for our deceased loved ones.

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**

Easter is our destination. We are looking forward to it even though this is the first Sunday of Lent. Our Gospel reading (John 1:43-51) takes us beyond Great Lent and points in the direction of Pascha, when we will celebrate the Resurrection of the Lord! It states that heaven will be opened and that the angels will be ascending and descending upon Christ. This curious statement is a reference to the glorification of Christ after from His death on the cross and His being raised from the dead. With a lot of what we find in the New Testament, there are Old Testament parallels. In the Book of Genesis, the Patriarch Jacob saw angels passing between heaven and earth on a ladder. Jesus implies in this Gospel that He came from heaven and is the mediator between God and His people. By linking Himself to this vision, Jesus claims that He is where heaven and earth meet. He is the mediator between God and humanity. He is using this statement to reenforce the idea that He is our savior. How do we take this teaching of the Lord and make it a part of our faith? In our Gospel lesson, the Lord also tells us that we are to follow Him. If we follow Him, we are with Him. We are with Him as He is the connection between heaven and earth. We are with Him in His glory. We are with Him in His Resurrection! Our first reading (Hebrews 11:24-40)) lays out how we are to begin, and it is by faith, acting on our acceptance of Christ and willing to please for Him, that we live. Our Scripture tells us that by faith Moses and the Hebrews passed into the Holy Land at great sacrifice. The whole history of the Old Testament is built upon the faith of the Jews. Later, according to this reading, Christian martyrs suffered grievously for their faith. We are called to sacrifice during Great Lent, and we have fine examples to inspire us: the Hebrews and the members of the ancient Church from our first reading, who by faith gave themselves at great cost and Christ, Who gave Himself willingly as a lamb for the sake of our salvation. All this helps us to keep our Lenten sacrifice in perspective. We are asked to give up meat and substitute other types of food: vegetables of all kinds and fish, for instance. Our sacrifice, by faith, is small compared to our predecessors and has an early end-time, April 4<sup>th</sup>, Easter Sunday. Fasting and abstinence are actually a sign of an inner change, a determination to be like God. In keeping with this, Saint Theresa of Calcutta tells us that "God wants us to do great things for Him, and the greatest thing of all is our own holiness." Blessings, Father George

**Next week's Scripture: Hebrew 1:10-14, 2:1-4; Mark 2:1-12**

**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

318 26<sup>th</sup> Street, McKeesport PA 15132

Phone: 412-673-5552

E-mail: [stmarymckeesport.org](mailto: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](mailto:internationalresearchgroup@csi.com)