

Schedule of Divine Liturgies

Sunday	March 14 th	4 th Sunday of Lent Veneration of Father John the Ladder (Liturgy of St Basil)	+Bonita Ring (Ellen Hornfeck)
Friday	March 19 th	Presanctified Liturgy	Parishioners of St Mary
Sunday	March 21 st	5 th Sunday of Lent Veneration of Mary Mother of Egypt (Liturgy of St Basil)	+Susan Lukas (Ellen Hornfeck)
Sunday	March 28 th	Palm Sunday	+David Lupu (Andrea Vigue)

For the month of March

Our Eternal Candle burns for + Warhola / Pandullo Families (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: \$ 263.00

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.

The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts is a beautiful way to participate in Lent. It combines the evening prayer service of Vespers along with the distribution of Holy Communion. It will be offered this Friday, March 19th at 6:00 pm. Please join us.

Upcoming Collection: Good Friday 02 April 2021 Holy Land Collection

There is a new sign at the corner of Walnut and 26th Street that shows that our church is up the street and gives Liturgy time and Church phone number. This sign was paid for by anonymous party and fabricated and installed by anonymous volunteers.

There is an insert in today's bulletin showing Holy Week Services,

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

At this time in Great Lent, we remember St. John of the Ladder. A seventh century Byzantine monk, he wrote that the process of spiritual growth for most of us is gradual. St. John's wisdom is proclaimed in both the East and the West and he has much to offer us. How can we learn from him? St. John was right when he stated that most of us change gradually. Our Gospel lesson (Mark 9:16-30), in its own way, demonstrates that this is true. A boy is possessed by a demon and his father asks for a healing. Christ's healing of the boy happened, but after much resistance. First, the boy went into convulsions. He then rolled around and foamed at the mouth. Finally, he appeared to be dead. That the boy was going to be healed was never in doubt; it just took longer than other healings that were performed by the Lord. And so, it is with us as we seek to be holy. Usually, our spiritual growth in holiness is not immediate; it takes time. For the person who genuinely wants to set aside selfishness and to be more like God, what is needed is patience to avoid discouragement. What helps us in a big way in our call to holiness? A clear understanding of what happens at the Divine Liturgy is extremely helpful. From the beginning, God wanted our hearts, and He had them in the Garden of Eden before the disobedience of Adam and Eve. Our first parents were obedient to God and they were close to Him. After the Fall from grace, however, men offered sacrifices of thousands of animals in a bloody attempt to reestablish the lost friendship with God. It was a useless effort! In the New Covenant, there was only one bloody sacrifice, that of Christ on the Cross. However, after this loving act, innumerable unbloody sacrifices have been offered on our altars during the Divine Liturgy, which puts us back on our journey to God. We attend the Sacrifice of the Divine Liturgy to receive the Holy Eucharist, but also because God wants us to sacrifice our hearts! We witness the re-presentation of Christ's sacrifice, His giving of His heart to us. The Liturgy is our example, our model as to how to live. He wants us to commit to Him completely! Now, there are three ways to live as followers of Christ. One is to be in rebellion against God, living from sin to sin. Obviously, not acceptable! Another is to be lukewarm or indifferent to Christ. Again, not acceptable! Finally, a person can be an intentional disciple, having surrendered one's heart to God. The Bible tells us that where our treasure is, there our hearts are, also. Remembering the gift of Christ's love should help us on our pathway to holiness. His words, too, should be a consolation: "Everything is possible to one who has faith." Blessings, Father George

Next week's Scripture: Hebrews 9:11-14; Mark 10:32-45

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, Jason Kritkos 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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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 412-531-5589.

Members: John Gibbs

Stewardship Committee: President: Donna Pandullo, Secretary: Andrea Vigue

Members: John Gibbs, Kathleen Gibbs, Ben Kastriba, Sam Kastriba

Bulletin Committee: Donna Pandullo, Sam Kastriba

Building and Grounds / Church Maintenance: John Gibbs,

OFFICE OF CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION

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