

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Saint Mary Byzantine Catholic Church

Glory Forever!

Слава Иисусу Христу!

4480 Route 981, Latrobe, PA 15650

Слава на вики!

Pastor: Father Paul-Alexander Shutt, O.S.B.

Confessions:

Tel: Rectory: 724-423-3673

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Saturday 4 – 4:30 PM

Fax: 724-423-1808

Website: www.stmarybyzantinecatholic.org

Sunday 9:30 – 10:00 AM

Hall: 724-423-8838

or by appointment

08 December 2013: Twenty-Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Prefestive Day of the Maternity (Conception) of St. Ann. Our Venerable Father Patapius.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Sat. Dec. 07 **5:00 PM: Sunday Vigil**
+Joseph & Josephine Krynicky requested by Joanne H. Krynicky

Sun. Dec. 08 **10:30 AM: Twenty-Ninth Sunday after Pentecost: Prefestive Day of the Maternity of the Holy Anna: pro populo**

Sat. Dec. 14 **5:00 PM: Sunday Vigil**
+ John Regalla, Jr. requested by Mom & Dad, Norma & John, Sr.

Sun. Dec. 15 **10:30 AM: Sunday of the Forefathers: pro populo**

✠ Acolytes Readers Ushers ✠

Sat. Dec. 07	-----	D. Cholock	D. Mihalko, R. Garber
Sun. Dec. 08	-----	S. Vacha	G. Krynicky, J. Overdorff
Sat. Dec. 14	-----	L. Knouse	J. Kontir, R. Garber
Sun. Dec. 15	R. & E. Hess	A. Prizzi	J. Knouse, R. Garber

Collection: Adult \$930; Student \$11; Candles \$92; Christmas Flowers \$45;
12/01/13: Fuel Oil \$80; Typhoon Haiyan \$210; **Total: \$1368.00**



✠ Jesus sends the lepers to the priest to be cleansed spiritually because this is what the Law demands, and in sending them He sends the healing, for they were made clean on the way (CYRIL OF ALEXANDRIA). The Samaritan responds in faith by blessing Jesus and glorifying Him for the benefits he received (ATHANASIUS). The thankless nine do not realize the eschatological significance of what happened to them, that is, God's kingdom has arrived in JESUS (CYRIL OF ALEXANDRIA).

Where are the nine? Christ came to heal all of fallen humanity as seen in the number ten, yet only a small portion – one – received Him in *faith* AND *thanksgiving* to **give glory to God**. Thus, «many are called, but few are chosen» (Mt 20:16). The lesson for us Orthodox Catholics is that **worship is our number one priority!** According to *Lumen Gentium 11*, The Divine Liturgy is «the source and apex of the whole Christian life.»

Luke 5:14: Show yourself to the priests: Cyril of Alexandria says that Christ gives this command in order to convince the priests by a tangible sign that He is superior to Moses. The priests hold Moses to be greater than Christ, yet our Lord heals a leper immediately with His own divine authority. When **Miriam**, however, was struck with leprosy, her brother Moses had to seek mercy from on high, and still she was healed only after seven days had taken place. You are encouraged to read the entire story in **Numbers 12: 1 – 16**.

The Apostle and Evangelist Luke probably included this healing miracle in his account of the Gospel because it resonates with an Old Testament narrative about a foreigner – the Syrian general **Na'aman** – who came to the prophet Elisha to be cured of his leprosy. This is recorded in **2 Kings, chapter 5**.

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠
During the first two weeks of December, our Church commemorates the following five Old Testament prophets who in some way prepare for the coming of the Messiah. Except for the Book of Daniel, the other prophets' books are only a couple chapters; easily read in a few minutes and worth doing during the Philip Fast to prepare us for the coming of the Messiah.

- ❑ **1 December: St. Nahum**, whose name means «*Consolation*», writes about God's judgment and the destruction of Nineveh.
- ❑ **2 December: St. Habakkuk** writes about the problem of evil. Our Lord Jesus Christ is prophesied in this book as the Lord in His holy Temple (2:20) and the One Who comes from afar to visit His people with salvation (3:3).
- ❑ **3 December: St. Zephaniah**, whose name may be rendered «*God has hidden*», was of royal descent, tracing his ancestry back to King Hezekiah. The theme of his prophesies is judgment and blessing upon the southern kingdom of Judah.
- ❑ **16 December: St. Haggai**, his name means «*festal*», was the first of the postexilic prophets. Jewish tradition suggests that he was a priest. The major theme of his book is: forsake life's comforts and rebuild the temple in Jerusalem.
- ❑ **17 December: St. Daniel** - «*God is my Judge or God is judging*» - wrote during the Babylonian captivity (605 – 530 BC). The sovereignty of God over all the nations is the major theme of his book.

Next Sunday's Readings ~ **The Sunday of the Forefathers**
Epistle, Colossians 3: 4-11 *New Life in Christ*
Gospel, Luke 14: 16-24 *Parable of the Great Banquet*



~ Announcements ~

- «Mille Grazie!» to **Tina Osif & Jennifer Fullman** for donating baked goods to our Bingo.
- «Danke sehr!» to **Marge Hulyk** for putting up the outdoor Christmas decorations.
- «Ευχαριστο σοι!» also to **Jim Fullman** for winterizing the church basement.

The parish **TYPHOON HAIYAN RELIEF COLLECTION** yielded a total of **\$590**. Thank you for your very generous response to our Catholic brethren in such dire need in the Philippines. The check for the above amount has been sent to the Archeparchy who will forward it to Catholic Relief Services.

✂~**Memory Poinsettias**~✂ This year we will once again collect for the Christmas Memory Poinsettias in honor of the dearly departed and publish the special list in time for Christmas. Using the special envelope marked Christmas Trees and Altar Flowers, please write your name on it and the name of your departed loved one. Include \$15 for each flower. Drop it into the collection basket or mail it to the office.



The Parish Christmas Dinner and ECF Play is 22 DECEMBER immediately after the Sunday Divine Liturgy. “*Chef Dato*” will again cater the event with a menu similar to last year’s. There will be a 50/50 drawing and a raffle. Any parishioner may contribute something to the raffle starting next week. The play will be presented **BEFORE** the meal. Children are to dress for the presentation as soon as they arrive. Adults may help themselves to the *hors d’oeuvres* and purchase their tickets. We will pull the numbers for the Raffle after the dinner. Then Saint Nicholas will arrive to distribute gifts.

