

**Glory to Jesus Christ!**  
**Слава Иисусу Христу!**

**Saint Mary Byzantine Catholic Church**  
**4480 Route 981 Latrobe, PA 15650**

**Glory Forever!**  
**Слава на вики!**

**Pastor:** Father Paul-Alexander Shutt, O.S.B.  
**St. Mary's Email:** st.marytrauger@yahoo.com  
**Website:** www.stmarybyzantinecatholic.org

**Confessions:**  
**Saturday** 4 – 4:30 PM  
**Sunday** 9:30 – 10:00 AM  
or by appointment

**Tel: Rectory:** 724-423-3673  
**Fax:** 724-423-1808  
**Hall:** 724-423-8838

**09 December, 2012: Twenty-Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**The Maternity of the Holy Anna**  
*The Holy Hannah, Mother of the Prophet Samuel*

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

|      |      |    |  |                       |   |                        |
|------|------|----|--|-----------------------|---|------------------------|
| Sat. | Dec. | 08 | <b>5:00 PM: Sunday Vigil:</b> w/ Mirovanije<br><i>+Joseph &amp; Josephine Krynicky requested by Joanne H. Krynicky</i> |                       |   |                        |
| Sun. | Dec. | 09 | <b>10:30 AM: 28<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost:</b> <i>pro populo</i> w/ Mirovanije                               |                       |   |                        |
| Sat. | Dec. | 15 | <b>5:00 PM: Sunday Vigil</b><br><i>+Ignatius Papier requested by Connie &amp; Mike Bankovich</i>                       |                       |   |                        |
| Sun. | Dec. | 16 | <b>10:30 AM: Sunday of the Forefathers:</b> <i>pro populo</i>  |                       |   |                        |
|      | ✘    | ✘  | ✘  | ✘                     | ✘ | ✘                      |
|      |      |    | <b><u>Acolytes</u></b>   | <b><u>Readers</u></b> |   | <b><u>Ushers</u></b>   |
| Sat. | Dec. | 08 | M. Mihalko   | L. Knouse             |   | J. Snitzer, D. Mihalko |
| Sun. | Dec. | 09 | D. Cianciotti  | L. Cianciotti         |   | C. & D. Cianciotti     |
| Sat. | Dec. | 15 | M. Mihalko   | D. Cholock            |   | J. Kontir, R. Garber   |
| Sun. | Dec. | 16 | R. & E. Hess   | L. Knouse             |   | J. Overdorff, W. Furwa |

**Collection:** 12/02/12: Adult \$ 842; Candles \$ 50; Student \$ 4; Fuel \$ 25; Flowers \$ 285;  
**Total: \$ 1206.00**



The feast of the **Maternity of Holy Anna** celebrates God's great gift to the ancestors of Christ, Joachim and Anna in their old age – the birth of a child. This righteous couple Joachim and Ann felt cursed because they were old and had had no children. In response to her many prayers, an angel announced to Anna that she would conceive a child who would play a very special part in God's plan for salvation, for their daughter Mary would be chosen to bear the Christ – God in the flesh, the long-awaited Messiah, the Incarnate Word of God, the Savior of the world, and so fulfill God's plan for the salvation of mankind. The Maternity of Anna shows us how our God uses even the most unlikely, seemingly impossible people and situations to carry out His Divine will.



The time between The Feast of the Maternity of Anna on 9 December and The Great Feast of the Nativity of The Theotokos on 8 September is one day less than nine months. The decision was made that the time between the two feasts would not be exactly nine months, that the time would be one day less than perfect. The reason is because only God is perfect. The only feasts of a conception and a birth that are exactly, perfectly nine months apart are the Great Feast of The Annunciation of The Theotokos (25 March) and the Great Feast of Nativity of Our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ (25 December). While December 9 is the historical date, the Latin Catholic Church moved it from 9 December to December 8.

We truly believe in that the Theotokos is «*pure, spotless, stainless, immaculate*». The Byzantine Catholic and Orthodox Churches, however, do not make this event dogma because it is not essential for salvation, that is, this event is not seen as specifically bearing on the life and mission of God the Son within the Holy Trinity: Our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ.

The Latin Catholic Church: Pope Pius IX officially proclaimed this privilege of the Theotokos, accepted throughout the centuries, as a dogma in 1854. In the West, this Feast is called the Immaculate Conception and is celebrated on 8 December. Byzantine Catholics considered Pius IX's unilateral declaration of the dogma of the Immaculate Conception imprudent. Since Byzantine Catholics and Orthodox do not understand Original Sin in the same way as the Latins do, the concept of the Immaculate Conception makes no sense in Eastern theology. Byzantine Catholics and Orthodox believe that only an Ecumenical Council can declare dogma.

<http://www.mliles.com/melkite/theotokosminorconception.shtml>



### ~ Announcements ~

- Special Thanks to **Mary Ann Kontir, Kathy DeFlorio, Betty Shultz** and **Joyce Regalla** for donating baked goods to our Friday Bingo.
- Kick the new year off with family and friends with a **FREE New Year's Day Pork & Sauerkraut dinner held January 1<sup>st</sup> at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 108 Dutch Hill Road, Latrobe, PA from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.** Anyone who wishes to help, either the morning before or the day of the event can do so by calling the church **724-423-2590** with your available time.
- **The Christmas Memory Poinsettias will be published once again this year in honor of the dearly departed.** Using the special envelope marked Christmas Trees & Altar Flowers, write your name and the name of your departed loved one on it and place it in the collection basket. The cost is **\$15** for each flower that you wish to purchase.
- **To prepare the Church for the Christmas Season, we will be giving it a good cleaning this Wednesday, Dec. 12, beginning at 10:00. Anyone who is free, bring your supplies and elbow grease.**

- We will celebrate the Eve of the Nativity of Our Lord with the Vigil Divine Liturgy of St. Basil starting at 8:00 pm. Come a little earlier at 7:45 to join in the singing of various Christmas carols.
- **Starting this weekend**, the ***Mystery of Holy Repentance*** will be celebrated after the Divine Liturgies on Saturdays, Dec. 8 & 15 and Sundays, Dec. 9 & 16. All parishioners should try to make a good Christmas confession. Booklets for the Mystery of Holy Repentance according to the Byzantine Rite are located on the card table in the Narthex and will also be available in the Confessional. Should you so desire, confessions will also be heard before the icon of Christ on the Iconostasis.
- **The Parish Christmas Dinner & Play will be held Sunday, Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> immediately after the Divine Liturgy. Chef Dato's Restaurant will be the caterer. The cost of the meal is \$20, w/ parishioners paying \$10.00 toward the total cost. Children ages 16 and under are FREE.** Use the Sign-Up Sheet to list how many from your family are attending. We need to have the total number turned in by Tuesday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. We will again have a 50/50 drawing and a Raffle. Any parishioner may contribute something to the Raffle. As in the past, the **ECF play** will be presented **BEFORE** the meal. We, therefore, ask that the children dress for the presentation as soon as they arrive. Adults may serve themselves to the hors d' oeuvres and purchase their tickets. When dinner is over, we will pull the numbers for the raffle. We will conclude with the presentation of gift by St. Nicholas.

