

Glory to Jesus Christ!
Слава Иисусу Христу!

St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church
4480 Route 981 Latrobe, PA 15650

Glory Forever!
Слава на виви!

Pastor: Father Paul-Alexander Shutt, O.S.B.
St. Mary's Email: st.marytrauger@yahoo.com
St. Vincent Office: 724-805-2646
Website: www.stmarybyzantinecatholic.org

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

Tel: Rectory: 724-423-3673
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Hall: 724-423-8838

**18 December, 2011: Sunday Before Christmas, of the Holy Fathers: The
Genealogy of Christ**

The Holy Martyr Sebastian and His Companions

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Sat. Dec. 17 **5:00 PM**, Sunday Vigil
+ Ignatius Papier requested by Michael & Connie Bankovich

Sun. Dec. 18 **10:30 AM: Sunday before Christmas, of the Holy Fathers:
The Genealogy of Christ: For Our Parishioners**

Sat. Dec. 24 **8:30 PM, Great Compline
9:45 PM, Christmas Carols
10:00 PM, Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom w/ Mirovanije**

Sun. Dec. 25 **10:00 AM: Christmas: Birth of Our Lord, God & Savior Jesus Christ
Divine Liturgy of St. Basil w/ Mirovanije**

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Acolytes

Readers

Ushers

Sat. Dec. 17 M. Mihalko D. Cholock J. Kontir, M. Bankovich
Sun. Dec. 18 E. Hess L. Knouse D. & C. Cianciotti
Sat. Dec. 24 All Servers J. Hess J. Snitzer, R. Garber
Sun. Dec. 25 All Servers B. Chirdon D. Hess, J. Knouse

Collection: 12/11/11: Adult \$ 850; Student \$ 5; Candles \$ 39; Fuel \$220; Holy Day \$ 196;
Christmas Flowers \$ 228; **Total: \$ 1538**

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Let us all offer Almighty God **prayers of thanksgiving** for the successful cardiac catheterization performed this past Thursday on His servant the Priest Eugene, administrator of our Archeparchy. No further procedure is needed and he will be treated now with medication.

There are two inserts in this week's bulletin: the colorful one prepared by Eastern Christian Bulletin Service gives us snap shots of the Christmas and Theophany

Feasts. The second insert is a follow up to last Sunday's commemoration of the Patriarchs, blessed Moses, and the holy Prophets of Israel by presenting the eight Old Testament pericopes (readings) for Great Vespers of the Nativity of the Lord. These readings offer an excellent opportunity to prepare ourselves spiritually during these final days leading up to the birth of the Messiah anew in our world, our parish, our homes, and especially in the crèche of our hearts.

Let us all remember to set aside quiet and prayerful time this week, a week that has become a most hectic and secular one filled too with preparations but those that are inimical to the spiritual life and celebration that we await. Let us sit and listen to those through whom Christ has already spoken; so that we may begin to better know them and therefore be able to call ourselves their friends and so delight in commemorating their memory; that their words to us may truly correspond with our feelings and love for them.



**The «Akedah» or the Binding of Isaac
The Passion of Isaac**



**The «Akedah» or the Binding of Christ
The Passion of Christ**



~ ANNOUNCEMENTS ~

- **A heartfelt “Thank you” to everyone who helped to give the church a good cleaning for Christmas.**
- **Today after the Divine Liturgy is Our Parish Christmas Play & Dinner, catered by Chef Dato’s Restaurant & Catering.**
- **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, please write your name on it & the name of your departed loved one. Include **\$15** for each flower. Then just drop it into the collection basket.
- **Kick the new year off with family and friends with a Free New Year’s Day Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner held January 1st at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 108 Dutch Hill Road, Latrobe, PA from 11:30 am until 3:30 pm. See Poster for details.**

- **Thank You Very Much! / multas gratias vobis** to *Nancy Shultz* and *Marlene Harhai* for donating cakes to our bingo this past week.

Hymns from Vespers of the Sunday of the Holy Fathers, the Sunday before Christmas



The Holy Fathers are adorned by the by the glory off the divine sharing of our nature. **Adam** rejoices today, since he is the foundation and the strength of the wise Forefathers; **Abel** leaps for joy as well. **Enoch** is glad; **Seth** and **Noah** dance together. The praiseworthy **Abraham** sings with the Patriarchs. **Melchizedek** now sees from on high the birth without a father.

The faithful and **God-wise youth** are radiant with joy in the furnace. They herald the nativity of Christ on earth. As the precious dew which the Lord sent down, He now preserves the Virgin without stain and enriches her with sublime gifts. Therefore, **Daniel**, inspired by God, is also happy and full of joy because he had a clear vision of the unhewn stone from the mountain. He now zealously prays for our souls.

The Chosen Patriarchs and the Fathers: **Abraham**, **Isaac**, and **Jacob**, who lived before the time of the Law, are like luminaries, because the righteous **Prophets** radiated from them like brilliant light. They have illuminated all creation with the rays of prophecy, and they are fittingly praying to God for us.