

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

St. Mary's Email: st.marytrauger@yahoo.com

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

22 December 2013: Sunday before Christmas-of the Ancestors

The Holy Great Martyr Anastasia

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

Sat.	Dec. 21	5:00 PM: Sunday Vigil <i>+Ignatius Papier requested by Connie & Mike Bankovich</i>
Sun.	Dec. 22	10:30 AM: Sunday before Christmas – of the Ancestors: pro populo
Tues.	Dec. 24	9:00 PM: Christmas Eve Vespers w/Divine Liturgy of St. Basil + Mirovanije
Wed.	Dec. 25	10:00 AM: Christmas: Birth of Our Lord—Obligation Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom w/Mirovanije
Sat.	Dec. 28	5:00 PM: Sunday Vigil <i>+John Krynicky requested by Friends & Neighbors</i>
Sun.	Dec. 29	10:30 AM: Sunday after Christmas: pro populo

✠	✠	✠	✠	✠
	<u>Acolytes</u>	<u>Readers</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	
Sat. Dec. 21	-----	M. Hulyk	J. Snitzer, D. Mihalko	
Sun. Dec. 22	D. Cianciotti	B. Chirdon	J. & R. Knouse	
Tues. Dec. 24	All Present	Hess, Chirdon, Syphan, Cianciotti	----Any 2 Present----	
Wed. Dec. 25	All Present	A. Prizzi	----Any 2 Present----	
Sat. Dec. 28	-----	J. Kontir	R. Garber, J. Snitzer	
Sun. Dec. 29	R. & E. Hess	F. Chappell	G. Krynicky, R. Garber	

Collection: Adult \$1625; Christmas Flowers \$215 Holy Days \$60; Student \$11;
12/15/13: Candles \$50; Initial Offering \$05 **Total: \$1966.00.**

✠ ✠ ✠ ✠ ✠

Until Mary Bore a Son: WHETHER “UNTIL” IMPLIES A LIMITED TIME. CHRYSOSTOM: And when Joseph had taken her, “he had no relations with her until she had borne a son.” Matthew has here used the word *until* not that you should suspect that afterward Joseph did know her but to inform you that before the birth the Virgin was wholly untouched by man. But why then, it may be said, has he used the word *until*? Because it is common in Scripture that this expression is used without reference to specific, limited times. Here are three examples. First, in the narrative of the ark it was said that “the raven did not return *until* the earth was dried up,” yet the raven did not return even after that limited

time. Second, when discussing God the Scripture says, “You are from everlasting until everlasting,” but there is no implication here that some limit is being fixed – rather the opposite. Third, when preaching the gospel beforehand and saying, “In His days may righteousness flourish, and peace abound, until the moon be no more!” it is not thereby setting a temporal limit to this beautiful part of creation. So then here likewise, it uses the word *until* to make certain what was before the birth, but as to what follows, it leaves some further inference to be made. So it is necessary to learn what Matthew teaches: that the Virgin was untouched by man until the birth. But the rest is left for you to perceive, both as a consequence of the previous narrative and what was later acknowledged: that not even after having become a mother and having been counted worthy of a new sort of travail and a childbearing so strange, could that righteous man [Joseph] ever have permitted himself to have sexual relations with her. THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW, HOMILY 5.3.

The Praxis of Faith: «Lord, let me preach You without preaching, not by my words but by my example, which is the evident fullness of the love that my heart bears for You.»
Blessed Mother Theresa of Calcutta

Next Sunday’s Readings ~ the Sunday after Christmas ~ David, Joseph, and James
Epistle, Galatians 1: 11-19 *How Paul became an Apostle*
Gospel, Matthew 2: 13-23 *Flight into Egypt; Slaying of the Infants; Return from Egypt*



~ Announcements ~

PASS THE WORD: with family and relatives returning home for Christmas, who is eligible to receive the Divine Eucharist?

- (1) Any Catholic of any rite who is in good standing with the Church: V. # 3-5 below.
- (2) Orthodox who have the permission of their parish priest or bishop.
- (3) Those who attend the Divine Liturgy on a regular basis: Sundays and Holy Days.
- (4) If married, have celebrated the Mystery of Crowning.
- (5) Have received the Mystery of Holy Penance for **grave sins**, *exempli gratia*,
 - a. Knowingly and deliberately do not attend Sunday and Holy Day Liturgies;
 - b. Have publicly denied the holy Orthodox Catholic Faith;
 - c. Participate in the occult, new age practices, sorcery, divination, and the like;
 - d. Engage in theft, shop lifting, embezzlement, fraud of any kind;
 - e. Engage in drug trafficking;
 - f. Practice co-habitation, sex outside of marriage, commit adultery, incest, rape, prostitution;
 - g. Have procured an abortion; have helped one in any way to have an abortion;
 - h. Euthanasia; assisted suicide; used cremation as a denial of the resurrection of the body;
 - i. **Nota Bene:** Just because something is not listed above, does NOT mean that it may not be considered **grave** and therefore there is no need to go to Confession. If you are unsure of any possibly **grave** sin, see the priest as soon as possible!

▪ **For those who are physically able, 24 December is a DAY OF STRICT FAST** in our Byzantine Church: we are to abstain from meat, fish (shell fish permitted: shrimp, scallops, mussels, etc.), dairy products, wine and oil. According to tradition, at the sighting of the first star, a light meatless meal may be taken.



▪ A generous memorial gift was received in the name of Peter Shultz for the care and maintenance of our parish cemetery. **Requiem æternam dona tuo servo Petro, Domine!**

▪ **The list of Christmas Memory Poinsettias is on the table in the Narthex.**

▪ «**Merci beaucoup!**» to **Barbara Chirdon, Ron Garber, & Betty Lipko** for donating baked goods to our Bingo this past week.

▪ **“Special Thanks” to:**

- **Ron Garber & Rick Povlik** for putting up the Christmas lights on the bushes around the rectory and for setting up the Nativity Scene and helping with the set-up of the Christmas tree and the Christmas flowers.
- **Laura Henry & Marge Hulyk** for giving the church a good cleaning for Christmas and for **Laura Henry** for washing the linens.
- **The Youngwood Knights of Columbus** for the «*Keep Christ in Christmas*» banner.