

Glory to Jesus Christ!
Слава Иисусу Христу!

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

Glory Forever!
Слава на вѣки!

Administrator: Fr. Paul-Alexander Shutt, OSB

Confession Schedule: Saturday 16:00 – 16:30

Parish email: st.marytrauger@gmail.com

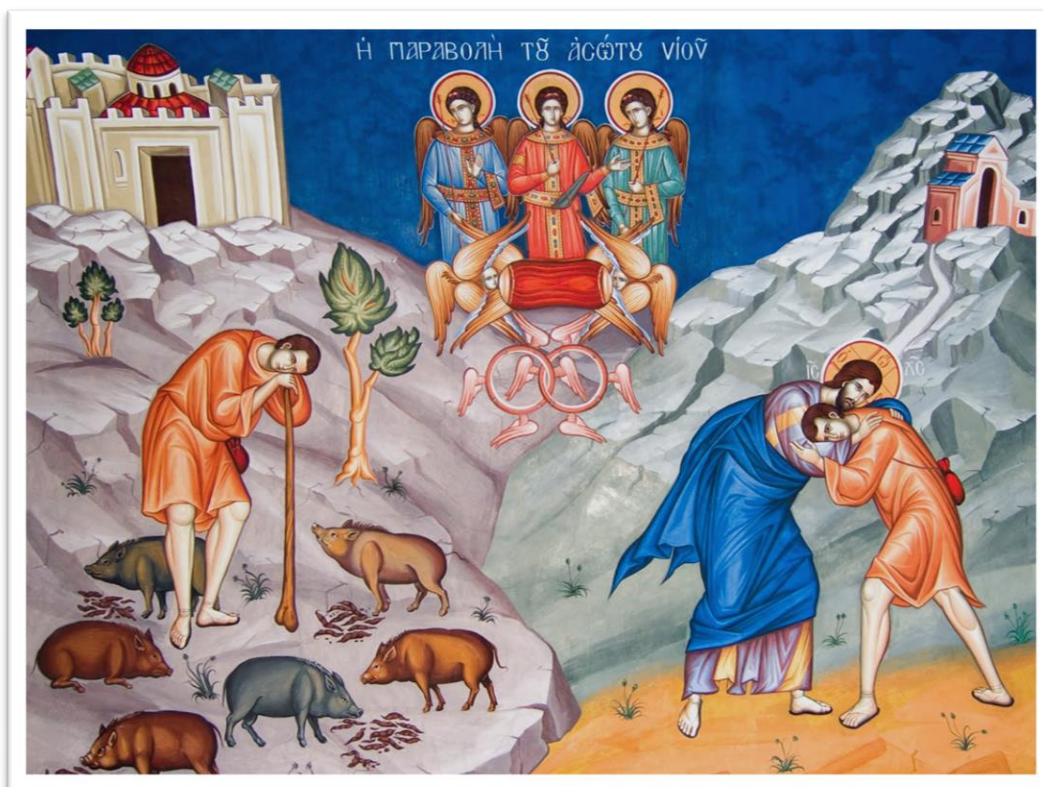
Parish Office: 724-423-3 673 Hall: 724-423-8838

Sunday 9:00 – 9:30, or by appointment

Website: www.stmarybyzantinecatholic.org

5 FEBRUARY 2023 / 7531 SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON

Postfestive Day of the Meeting in the Temple. The Holy Martyr Agatha.



LITURGY SCHEDULE:

Sat. Feb. 04 17:00 Vigil: **SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON**

Suffrages for +Freida Kutch – Sandy & Steve Dickerman

Sun. Feb. 05 10:30 **SUNDAY OF THE PRODIGAL SON** *Suffrages pro populo; esp. for +Steven Kish – The Douglas Young Family*

Sat. Feb. 11 10:00 **FIRST ALL SOULS SATURDAY w/ Panachida**

17:00 Vigil: **MEATFARE SUNDAY** *Suffrages for +John Krynicki – Daughter Joanne; +Kathleen Bossick – Marge Hulyk*

Sun. Feb. 12 10:30 **MEATFARE SUNDAY** *Suffrages pro populo*

01 / 29 / 2023

COLLECTION

TOTAL: \$1184

Adults: \$1040

Init. Off.: \$5

Lenten Off: \$20

Holy Days: \$10

Fuel: \$30

Candles: \$59

Maintenance: \$20

Ambon Prayer on the Feast of the Encounter

Ω Master, Lord and God, You sent Your only-begotten Son, Your Word, into the world, born of a woman under the Law for the sake of our redemption. Through Your Spirit, You foretold His coming and bore witness to His presence to Simeon the Elder. Bless us also, Your unworthy servants, by His radiance and accept our prayers, as You accepted the acknowledgment of the prophetess Anna. Make us worthy to embrace Your incarnate Word in our souls, and to be called consecrated temples of Your all-holy Spirit. By Your strength, give joy to our civil authorities and to all your Church, that in us Your Name may be glorified, and that of Your only-begotten Son and that of Your adorable and life-creating Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages. Amen.

Today, Simeon the Elder enters the Temple, rejoicing in spirit, to receive in his arms the One Who gave the Law to Moses, the One Who fulfills the Law in Himself. For Moses was counted worthy to see God, although in darkness and sounds that were not clear; and with covered face he rebuked the unbelieving people. But Simeon carried the pre-eternal Word of the Father in bodily form, and he revealed the Light to the Gentiles, the Cross and the Resurrection. Anna was shown to be a prophetess, announcing the Savior and Deliverer of Israel. Unto Him let us cry aloud: Through the Theotokos, have mercy on us, O Christ our God. *Vespers: At the Litija*



THINGS HAPPEN IN GOD'S TIME, NOT OURS: One of the readings for the Synaxis of the Holy Prophets Anna and Simeon (Feb. 3) is about the quality of faithful patience that they demonstrate so well. The Apostolic Letter of James counsels us, *«Be patient, therefore, beloved until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient»* (5:7-8). These words remind us that things happen in God's time, not ours. The farmer is patient with the land until God sends the rain. For Anna and Simeon, the time of waiting was very long, so their patience had to be very great. Whatever situations face us – the ones that require patience – may also stretch on. We must strive to *«strengthen our hearts»* as did Simeon and Anna. That doesn't mean that we are to just sit idly by waiting for something to happen – Anna spent many years in the Temple *«worshiping with fasting and prayer night and day»* (Lk 2:37). We must be ready for God to act at any moment, and not *«grumble against one another»* when our patience gets tested for a longer time that we might have expected or wished. Even a lengthy period of time in human reckoning is only an instant in God's sight. So no matter how far away it may seem to us, the Apostle James tells us, *«the coming of the Lord is near»* (5:8).

