

Glory to Jesus Christ!
Слава Иисусу Христу!

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

Glory Forever!
Слава на вики!

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

9 MARCH 2025 / 7533
FIRST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST
THE SUNDAY OF ORTHODOXY, MEMORY OF THE HOLY PROPHETS
The Forty Holy Martyrs of Sebaste



LITURGY SCHEDULE:

- Sat. Mar. 08 17:00 Vigil: **FIRST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST**
Suffrages pro populo
- Sun. Mar. 09 10:30 **FIRST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST**
Suffrages for +Anthony Macchiaroli - Marge Hulyk
- Wed. Mar. 12 18:30 **LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS**
- Sat. Mar. 15 17:00 Vigil: **SECOND ALL SOULS, SECOND SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST**
- Sun. Mar. 16 10:30 **SECOND SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST**
Suffrages pro populo

✠
03 / 02 / 2025
COLLECTION
TOTAL: \$1400
ATTENDANCE:

✠
Adults: \$1226
Lenten Off: \$20
East. Europe: \$25
Wed. 15 +1

✠
Candles: \$65
Holy Days: \$35
Sat. 8 + 1

✠
Flowers: \$25
Initial Off.: \$4
Sun. 25 + 2



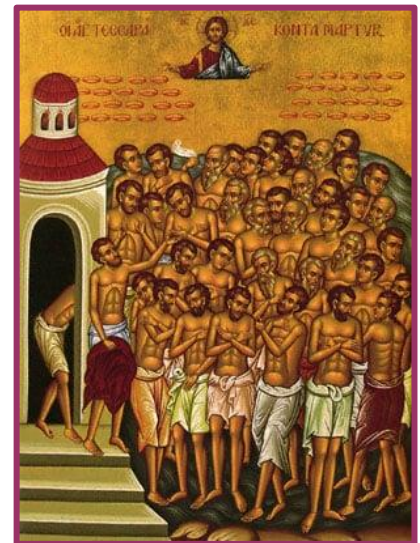
OVERVIEW OF TODAY'S EPISTLE FROM HEBREWS: The miraculous acts and lives of the Old Testament saints are a work of God's grace granted to them according to their faith. For instance, Moses refused the palace of the pharaoh because of his faith in the kingdom of God and was rewarded accordingly. In this passage St. Paul uses an economy of words to present great things through simple acts in Israel's history. St. John Chrysostom refers to the sprinkling of blood in



the Exodus: «*Although what was done was nothing, what was achieved was great. For what was done was blood, but what was achieved was salvation and the stopping and preventing of destruction. The angel feared the blood, for he knew of what it was a type; he shuddered, thinking on the Lord's death; therefore he did not touch the doorposts. Thus the hearer is to be confident.*» Moses is a type of Christ; as Moses brought his people out of Egypt, a place deprived of faith, so Christ brought us

through suffering from death to eternal life. Faith can do all things and transcends human reasoning.

THE 40 HOLY MARTYRS, who came from various lands, were all soldiers under the same general. Taken into custody for their faith in Christ, and at first interrogated by cruel means, they were then stripped of their clothing and cast onto the frozen lake which is at Sebastia of Pontus, at a time when the harsh and freezing weather was at its worst. They endured the whole night naked in such circumstances, encouraging one another to be patient until the end. He that guarded them, named Aglaius, who was commanded to receive any of them that might deny Christ, had a vision in which he saw heavenly powers distributing crowns to all of the Martyrs, except one, who soon after abandoned the contest. Seeing this, Aglaius professed himself a Christian and joined the Martyrs on the lake, and the number of forty remained complete. In the morning, when they were almost dead from the cold, they were cast into fire, after which their remains were thrown into the river. Thus they finished the good course of martyrdom in 320, during the reign of Licinius.



Let us begin this second week of the Fast with joy. O faithful, let us exert ourselves from day to day as did the prophet Elijah the Tishbite. May the four principal virtues be our chariot of fire! Let us lift our spirit by turning away from passions, and through purity, let us struggle against the flesh, so that we may resist and conquer the Enemy.



~ Announcements ~

- ✠ **ETERNAL MEMORY!** The parish extends its deepest condolences to Daniel (Debra) Simko, whose mother, Irene, fell asleep in the Lord on 27 February. Irene was a member of Sts. Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Church in Tarentum. *In blessed repose, grant, O Lord, eternal rest to the soul of Your departed servant, Irene, and remember her forever.* **Бѣчнаа памѣть!**
- ✠ **THANK YOU** to Joanne and Jim Gayton & Family for their generous donation to our parish cemetery fund in memory of Anthony Macchiaroli.
- ✠ **SUNDAY, MARCH 16th,** the annual **SPECIAL COLLECTION** to aid our sister churches in **Central and Eastern Europe** will be taken. The war against Ukraine is now in its third year. Horrific devastation and untold anguish have been inflicted upon the Ukrainian people; this year's collection to help our Byzantine Catholic brethren is more important than ever. **PLEASE BE GENEROUS!**
- ✠ **CEMETERY!** Reminder to parishioners that there are not very many plots left in our parish cemetery (lower section). If you have not yet made arrangements to purchase plots for yourself or loved ones, keep the above in mind.