

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

16 MARCH 2025 / 7533
SECOND SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST
MEMORY OF SAINT GREGORY PALAMAS



LITURGY SCHEDULE:

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

Wed. Mar. 19 18:30 **LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS**

Sat. Mar. 22 17:00 Vigil: **THIRD ALL SOULS, THIRD SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST**

Sun. Mar. 23 10:30 **THIRD SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST**

Suffrages pro populo; esp. for the health, well-being, and safe travels of the Hurst Family – James & Patricia Krisner

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03 / 09 / 2025	Adults: \$902	Candles: \$52	Memorial: \$50	
COLLECTION	Lenten Off: \$210	Spec. Don. \$50	TOTAL: \$1264	
ATTENDANCE:	Sat. 8 + 1	Sun. 26	Wed. 13 + 5	



St. Gregory Palamas, who was from Asia Minor, was from childhood reared in the royal court of Constantinople, where he was instructed in both religious and secular wisdom. Later, while



still a youth, he left the imperial court and struggled in asceticism on Mount Athos, and in the Skete at Beroea. He spent some time in Thessalonica being treated for an illness that came from his harsh manner of life. He was present in Constantinople at the Council that was convened in 1341 against Barlaam of Calabria, and at the Council of 1347 against Acindynus, who was of like mind with Barlaam; Barlaam and Acindynus claimed that God's grace is created. At both these Councils, the Saint contended courageously for the true dogmas of the Church of Christ, teaching in particular that divine grace is not created, but is the uncreated energies of God which are poured forth throughout creation: otherwise it would be impossible, if grace were created, for man to have genuine communion with the uncreated God. In

1347 he was appointed Metropolitan of Thessalonica, Greece. He tended his flock in an apostolic manner for some twelve years, and wrote many books and treatises on the most exalted doctrines of our Faith; and having lived for a total of sixty-three years, he reposed in the Lord in 1359. His holy relics are kept in the Cathedral of Thessalonica.



During the **Third Week of the Great Fast**, we read the story of the Great Flood and the salvation of Noah in the ark (Gen. 6-9), a foreshadowing of our baptism, by which we are saved from sin by the mystery of water, a sign of death to sin and life in God.

Noah in Hebrew means *to give relief, rest, comfort*. «When Lamech had lived 182 years, he begot a son. And he named him Noah, saying: *'This one will provide us relief from our work and from the toil of our hands, out of the very soil which the Lord placed under a curse.'*» (Gen. 5:28-29). Noah is a key ancestor in St. Luke's genealogy of Christ and is a type of Christ, Who said: *«Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.»*

«The Lord said, 'I will blot out from the earth the men whom I created – men together with beasts, creeping things, and birds of the sky; for I regret that I made them.' **But Noah found favor with the Lord.**» (Gen. 6:7-8) Noah spelled backwards in Hebrew is *favor*.

The raven, the dove, the bitter olive-leaf: The first century AD Roman author Pliny tells of sailors who release birds, using them as a sort of compass, in order to follow them toward land.



The **raven** may have been chosen because, as a bird of prey, it would sustain itself by feeding on carrion which would abound if the earth were dry. The **dove** feeds on vegetation, providing Noah with more reliable information. The **bitter olive-leaf**: since the olive tree does not grow to a great height, Noah understood that the waters had almost disappeared, though not completely. He, therefore, waited another week. The Rabbis have a beautiful comment on the fact that the dove returns with the bitter olive leaf in its mouth. «Better bitter food that comes from God than the sweetest food at the hands of man.»

Dr. J. H. Hertz, C. H., Late Chief Rabbi of the British Empire

As we begin the third week of this holy Fast, O faithful, let us praise the Holy Trinity. Let us spend the rest of the time filled with joy, and let the passions of our flesh fade away. Let us gather the divine flowers of our souls and weave a crown for that Sunday, the king of days. With crowns upon our heads, we shall praise the victory of Christ.



~ Announcements ~

- **The parish is very grateful** to have received a donation in memory of Anthony Macchiaroli from Jane Brosnick. Jane was Anthony's care giver. We also received a \$100 donation for this month's bingo for which we are also very grateful.
- Donations to the annual **special collection** for our sister Churches in Eastern Europe may be made throughout the month of March. **PLEASE BE GENEROUS!**
- **18th EGG EGGSTRAVAGANZA** at St. John the Baptist Byzantine Church Social Hall, Uniontown is **Sunday, April 6th from Noon – 4:00**. Admission is free. A Lenten luncheon will be served. For more information, call **724-438-1382** (leave message). See the posters in our Narthex for details of all the many events planned for the day.