

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

23 MARCH 2025 / 7533
THIRD SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST
VENERATION OF THE HOLY AND LIFE-GIVING CROSS



LITURGY SCHEDULE:

- 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
- Tues. Mar. 25 18:30 **ANNUNCIATION OF THE THEOTOKOS**
Suffrages for +Joanne Krynicki – Fran & John Kernicky
- Wed. Mar. 26 18:30 **LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS**
- Sat. Mar. 29 17:00 Vigil: **FOURTH ALL SOULS, FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST**
- Sun. Mar. 30 10:30 **FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST**
Suffrages pro populo

03 / 16 / 2025

COLLECTION

ATTENDANCE:

Adults: \$1301

Lenten Off: \$120

Sat. 8 + 2

Candles: \$71

E. Europe: \$260

Sun. 29 + 5

Holy Day: \$10

TOTAL: \$1772

Wed. 12

Flowers. \$10



FOURTH WEEK OF THE GREAT FAST: On Wednesday we reach the mid-point of the Great Fast. It is during this week that we venerate the Cross, which stands at the center of our salvation. The Genesis readings focus on the end of the Great Flood, God's covenant with Noah, the Genealogy of Noah, and the Tower of Babel.

Mid-Lent: The Holy Cross. At Matins the Cross is brought in solemn procession to the center of the Temple and remains there on the Tetrapod for the entire week. It is noteworthy that the theme of the Cross that dominates the hymns of this Sunday is developed in terms not of suffering but of **VICTORY** and **JOY**. More than that, the theme-songs (*hirmoi*) of the Sunday Canon are taken directly from the Paschal Service – «The Day of the Resurrection» – and the Canon is a paraphrase of the Paschal Canon of Saint John of Damascus.

Fr. Alexander Schmemmann

Let us give thanks to God and praise Him, all you people, for we now see the holy Cross and venerate it with love. Understand this, all you demons, and submit yourselves; understand this, all you people, and submit yourselves, for through the Cross, **GOD IS WITH US!**

When, then, you make the sign of the cross on the forehead, arm yourself with a saintly boldness, and reinstall your soul in its old liberty; for you are not ignorant that the cross is a prize beyond all price. Consider what is the price given for your ransom, and you will never more be slave to any man on earth. This reward and ransom is the cross. You should not then, carelessly make the sign on the forehead, but you should impress it on your heart with the love of a fervent faith. Nothing impure will dare to disturb you on seeing the weapon that overcomes all things.

St. John Chrysostom

And I will pour out a spirit of compassion and supplication on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem, so that, when they look on the One Whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over Him, as one weeps over a firstborn. On that day the mourning in Jerusalem will be as great as the mourning for the pomegranate orchard being cut down in the plain.

LXX Zechariah 12:10-11



~ Announcements ~

- ❖ 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.