

Glory to Jesus Christ!
Слава Иисусу Христу!

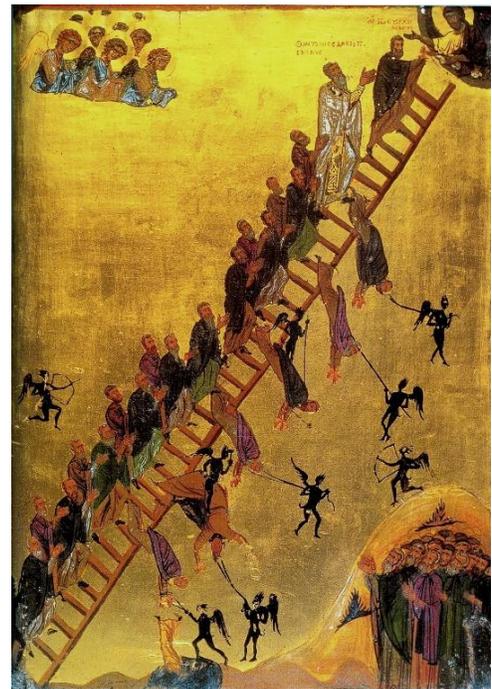
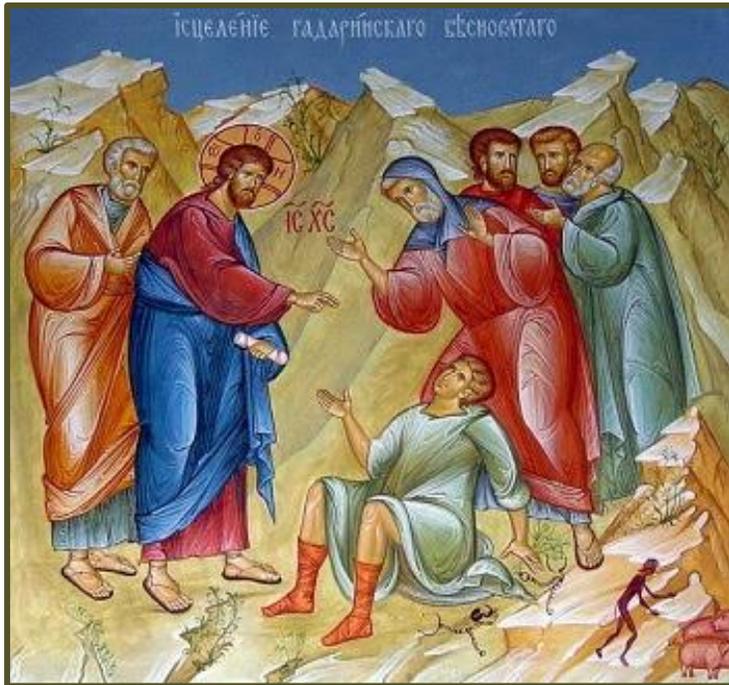
St. Mary ~ Holy Protection
Byzantine Catholic Church
4480 Route 981 Latrobe, PA 15650

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

15 MARCH 2026 / 7534
FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST
MEMORY OF OUR HOLY FATHER JOHN CLIMACUS
The Holy Martyr Agapius and His Companions.



LITURGY SCHEDULE:

- Sat. Mar. 14 17:00 Vigil: **FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST, Fourth All Souls.**
- Sun. Mar. 15 10:30 **FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST.**
40th Day: +The Cantor Andrew Regalla & Memorial Service.
- Wed. Mar. 18 18:30 **LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS**
- Sat. Mar. 21 17:00 Vigil: **FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST.**
Suffrages for +**James Kontir** – The Kontir Family: Mary Ann, Natalee, Shane.
- Sun. Mar. 22 10:30 **FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST.**
Suffrages *pro populo*



03 / 08 / 2026
COLLECTION
ATTENDANCE:

Adults: \$1181
E. Europe: \$25
Sat. 12

Candles: \$59
TOTAL: \$1275
Sun. 20 + 6

Lent Off.: \$10



FIFTH WEEK OF THE GREAT FAST: In the 5th week of the Great Fast, we chant the Great Canon of St. Andrew of Crete, to reaffirm our commitment to follow Christ. The *Great Canon of Repentance* begins with *The Life of St. Mary of Egypt* by Saint Sophronius, Patriarch of Jerusalem. She is always commemorated on the Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast. (This service begins on page 533 in your «Publicans Prayer Book»). On Friday of the 5th week we read about the **Binding of Isaac – The Akedah** (Gen. 22:1-19) where Abraham’s faith is tested for the tenth and last time. He is asked to sacrifice his only child, his son Isaac, as a burnt offering. Abraham obeys; he binds his son and lays him on the altar they have built. As he is about to slay his son, God orders Abraham to stop and free him. Because of his total trust, God bestows a great blessing upon our holy patriarch: God will «*make his descendants as numerous as the stars of heaven and the sand of the seashore...*». Yet, what the Father forbade to Abraham, He will allow for Christ, Who will be sacrificed for the life of the world.



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Let us give thanks to God and praise Him, all you peoples, for we now see the holy Cross and venerate it with love.

Understand this, all you demons, and submit yourselves; understand this, all you peoples, and submit yourselves, for through the Cross, GOD IS WITH US!



As incense rises, chants echo, and hearts awaken to divine mysteries, embark on a sacred journey with Beauty of the Rites. Delve into the heart of the Catholic Church and discover how the Great Fast is prayerfully lived across the Maronite, Byzantine, Syro-Malabar, Syro-Malankara, Melkite, and Latin traditions.

We are overjoyed to share that the Byzantine - Ruthenian Catholic Church is featured on a global platform in the newest episode of *Beauty of the Rites*, produced by Shalom World. It is truly a gift to see the depth, beauty, and distinctiveness of our Lenten traditions presented with such reverence and care.

This episode highlights the spiritual richness of the Great Fast, its profound symbolism, its prayerful rhythms, and the unique liturgical treasures that have shaped our Church for centuries.



The program offers an accessible and inspiring introduction for those discovering Byzantine Christianity for the first time, and a moving affirmation for lifelong Eastern Catholics. We warmly invite you to watch and to share this film with family, friends, and parish communities. You can view the episode through the **Shalom World app** or directly at: **shalomworld.org/beautyoftherites**. Let us rejoice together in this opportunity to help the world encounter the beauty of our heritage!



~ ANNOUNCEMENTS ~

- The annual **SPECIAL COLLECTION** to aid our sister churches in **Central** and **Eastern Europe** will be taken up during the month of March. The war against Ukraine is now in its 4th 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!**
- The Building and Maintenance Committee is selling a **\$500 LOTTERY STRIP TICKET**. The number will be taken from the PA Lottery Evening Pick 3 evening drawing on **Sunday, March 29th**.
- **19th EGG EGGSTRAVAGANZA** at St. John the Baptist Byzantine Church Social Hall, Uniontown is **next Sunday, March 22nd** from **Noon – 4:00**. Admission is free. A Lenten luncheon will be served. For additional information, call **724-438-1382, M -F** (leave message). See posters in Narthex for more details of all the many events planned for the day.