



March 20, 2022

**THIRD SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST  
VENERATION OF THE CROSS**



**Parish Schedule**

**Mar. 19 (Sat) Divine Liturgy 5:00pm**  
*49th Wedding Anniversary - Ronald & Janice Bishop  
req by the children*

**Mar. 20 (Sun) THIRD SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST  
VENERATION OF THE CROSS  
Divine Liturgy 10:30am**  
*+Ruth Seech req by Family*

**Mar. 25 (Fri) ANNUNCIATION OF THE THEOTOKOS  
Divine Liturgy 7:00pm**

**Mar. 26 (Sat) Divine Liturgy 5:00pm**  
**For our Parish Family**

**Mar. 27 (Sun) FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST  
ST JOHN CLIMACUS  
Divine Liturgy 10:30am**  
*+Nicholas Soltis req by Ann Dole & Family*

Our Tithe to our Parish - March 13, 2022 - \$2007.00

The Sanctuary Lamp continues to burn before the presence of Our Risen Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ in our church during the week of Mar.20 thru Mar. 26 for +Ed & Mary Lanyi req by Bob.



*Let us remember in our prayers all of our friends and parish family members who are sick at home or in a nursing facility and for all who are in need of our prayers.*

Tillie Abraham, Ron Bishop, George Bodnar ,  
Pamela Seech Dawson, Steve Fekete, Margaret Gegick, Kevin Ianni,  
Ted Race, Helen Rizzi, Joseph Rusinko Sr.

**MOUNT SAINT MACRINA  
HOUSE OF PRAYER**

**April 5 6:30pm - 8:00pm**

**Lenten Tuesday Evening On Zoom**

Theme: "Today"

With Deacon Stephen Russo

Registration Due : March 29 Offering: \$30



**PIROHY FOR LENT**

We will be making Pirohy for Lent this month. The dates are Thursday, March 24 cooking cabbage, Saturday March 26 making potato balls, and Monday & Tuesday, March 28 & 29 preparing Pirohy.

There is a sign up sheet in the back of the church for orders.

*The 15th Egg Eggstravaganza* will be held on Sunday, April 3, 2022 , from 12 noon - 4 PM. At St John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Church, 20 East Main Street, Uniontown. For more information, see flyer on bulletin board.

**The Lenten Prayer of St. Ephrem**

Lord and Master of my life,  
spare me from the spirit of indifference, despair,  
lust for power, and idle chatter. (Prostration)

Instead, bestow on me, your servant,  
the Spirit of integrity, humility, patience, and love. (Prostration)

Yes, O Lord and King, let me see my own sins  
and not judge my brothers and sisters;  
For you are blessed forever and ever. Amen (Prostration)

## MARCH 20

St. Stephen will be accepting the donations to be sent to our diocese and then forwarded to the Ukraine. If by check, please make it payable to St. Stephen Byzantine Catholic Church and also note on envelope or on memo "Donation for Ukraine".

## Ukraine Assistance

In addition to the special collection that will happen this weekend to benefit the Eparchy of Mukachevo, Ukraine, there is another opportunity to help.

The Rankin Croatian Club is collecting items for Ukrainian refugees. They are shipping items to Poland where many are seeking shelter. Items being collected include: soap, tissues, toothbrushes, toothpaste, solid deodorant, sanitary products, paper plates, plastic cups, plastic cutlery, blankets, tea, coffee, raincoats, diapers and dry pet snacks.

If anyone is interested in donating, there will be a plastic bin specially marked in the education wing through **March 27**.

## VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS

*... Through the Cross, joy has come to all the world ...*

In the popular imagination, the Byzantine Church is seen as the Tradition that dwells in the light of the Resurrection.

Every Sunday is seen as a renewal of the Resurrection. The icons which fill our churches are bathed with light. Feasts of light such as the Theophany and the Transfiguration are celebrated with great solemnity in our Church.



People who read about the Byzantine Tradition or who are studying it are always amazed at the great emphasis we place on the Resurrection. They are even surprised that we dare to mention the term in the midst of the Great Fast ... as we look forward to the goal of our Lenten Fast.

The spirituality of the Western Church traditionally has had a slightly different focus. Life in Medieval Europe was harsh and bleak. Suffering and disease such as the Black Plague wiped out a major portion of the population. Poverty was rampant.

All this influenced the spirituality of the Western Churches. A quick glance at the religious art from the Middle Ages shows a great emphasis on suffering and death; the wounds and passion of Christ are common subjects for meditation and art. Even the devotional Services such as the Stations of the Cross focus on the suffering of Christ ... and the end of the Tomb.

Yet, despite these differences, there is still a great emphasis on the Cross in the Byzantine Tradition. However, it is not only the suffering that is stressed; it is also the glorious and life-giving Cross. We often see the Cross ringed with flowers ... signs of life and vitality. Thus, all our self-denial, fasting and penance are directed towards turning us away from sin and turning us towards Christ, just as we did in our baptism. Christ is indeed our life. This leads to authentic joy!

*Through the Cross, joy has come to all the world!*