



February 21, 2021

**FIRST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST**

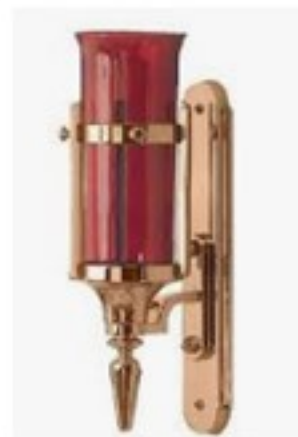
**Parish Schedule**

- Feb. 20 (Sat) Divine Liturgy 5:00pm**  
*+Susan Sabol req by Helen Magdic*
- Feb. 21(Sun) FIRST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST**  
**Sunday of Orthodoxy - Of the Holy Icons**  
**Divine Liturgy 10:30am**  
*+Charles Zeleznik req by Julee Lindberg Family*
- Feb. 26(Fri) SECOND FRIDAY OF THE GREAT FAST**  
**Presanctified Liturgy 7:00pm**  
*+Mary Soltis req by Dee & Mark Niedwiecki*  
**HRAMOTY - REMEMBRANCE OF THE DEPARTED**
- Feb. 27 (Sat) Divine Liturgy 5:00pm**  
*+Susan Sabol req Chris & Jamie Fekete*
- Feb. 28 (Sun) SECOND SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST**  
**Divine Liturgy 10:30am**  
*+Thomas, Catherine & Jack Wesdock*  
*Req by Julee Lindberg Family*

Our Tithe to our Parish - February 14, 2021 - \$2,139.00

To all those who have been so faithful in your donations, especially during these trying times, we offer a huge Thank You! Our parishioners have been very conscious in the support of our church that allows us to continue to meet our expenses and even the extra items that come up.

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 Feb. 21 thru Feb. 27 for +Peter Jackowski Sr. req by family.



*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, Diana Abraham, Ron Bishop, George Bodnar ,  
Jude Bodnar, Pamela Seech Dawson, Steve Fekete, Margaret Gegick,  
Eugene Heinack, Kevin Ianni, Ted Race, Clarence Rizzi, Helen Rizzi,  
Rose Marie Rupnik, Joseph Rusinko Sr.

*In your kindness please remember Mr Joseph Rusinko in your prayers. Joe is back in the hospital as he continues to suffer from the Corona-19 Virus. He is completely fatigued by this and it all causes confusion for him. And since visitors are not permitted in hospitals at this time, it only adds to the suffering. So please remember Joe and his family at this time.*

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

The 2020 Parish Financial Statement is available in the vestibule of the church. If you would like a copy mailed to you, please send a note to the church's e-mail ([ststephennh@outlook.com](mailto:ststephennh@outlook.com)) or call the office on Tuesday. (724-863-6776)



*ΗΡΑΜΟΤΥ*  
*REMEMBRANCE OF THE DEPARTED*

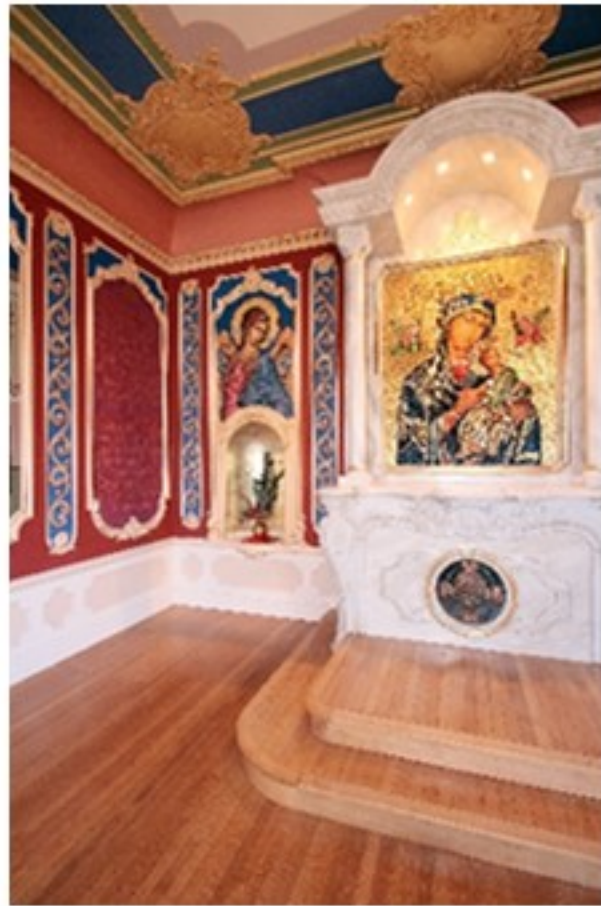


Each year we remember the departed members of our families, loved ones and parish in a series of commemorations in and around the Great Fast season. These are called the Saturdays of the Departed.

As we have done in the past, we shall continue to remember our departed loved ones on the particular Friday evenings, following the Presanctified Liturgy.

*2021 House of Prayer Virtual Programs*

February , 23 & March 2, 9, 2021, 6:30-8:30 p.m.



Tuesday Evening Reading Series  
“Crossing the Desert: Learning to Let Go, See Clearly, and Live Simply”

With Sr. Barbara Jean, OSBM Register by February 11  
Offering: \$5.00 per session or \$15.00 for all 4 sessions

February 25 & March 4, 11, 18, 25, 9:30-11:30 a.m.  
Lenten Bible Study Thursdays

With Sr. Melita Marie, OSBM Register by February 18, 2021  
Offering: \$5.00 per session or \$20.00 for all 5 sessions

CALL TO REGISTER: 724-438-7149.

PLEASE PROVIDE YOUR EMAIL TO RECEIVE YOUR

LINK AS THE PROGRAMS WILL BE CONDUCTED THROUGH ZOOM.

Please share this information with anyone who may be interested.

*FIRST SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST*

With the help of God, we have completed the first week of the Great Fast. And hopefully it has been a good start for our parish, even amid the ice storms, cancellation of Services and inability to get our Covid-19 shots!

A number of individuals and families have been talking about the various ways in which they will seek to keep the Lenten Fast in their homes and in their lives this year since it is different. There seems to be a significant level of consciousness about the meaning of fasting and self-discipline in our lives today.

As in the past, we look forward to a nice group of people for the Divine Liturgy of the Pre-Sanctified Gifts each Friday, and quite a few people have commented on the ways in which it helps bring them into the spirit of Lent, even if it means participating via live-streaming. We all have memories of growing up ... and the various images of Lent that were a part of our lives. We continue to "make memories" for the future by sharing in the rich life of our church today.



This first Sunday of the Great Fast is dedicated to the Holy Icons ... the victory of those who venerated icons in their worship over those who sought to smash and destroy all religious images and symbols.

Images are an important part of our lives. We keep pictures and photos of family and loved ones ... we keep mementoes of treasured events ... and these are important.

Our eyes need to see ... just as our ears need to hear ... and we need to taste and touch and smell ... this is the way we are made. God has created our senses and He comes to us often through our senses. God cannot be contained by our senses ... but they can open us up to Him and to his world.

As we venerate the holy icons in our homes today, we give thanks for all the ways God reaches us through our senses ... these same senses that were anointed at our baptism ... dedicated to God ... and we rededicate ourselves to using them for wholesome purposes.