

THIRD SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST
VENERATION OF THE HOLY CROSS



Icon of the Elevation of the Holy Cross

Taking Up the Cross

Whatever is commanded through evangelical precepts is undoubtedly related to the cross, as the Lord Himself proclaims: "Whoever will come after me let him deny himself and take up his cross daily and follow me." To be sure, this cross is rightly called "holy to the Lord," because the world, which until then had been profaned, is blessed by it

Paint this sign of your life ... as if on your forehead; also imprint it no less on the threshold to your heart, so that when the avenging angel perceives this he will not delay to pass over without causing you injury. Let these phylacteries hang before your eyes without ceasing, let these marks brand your body on every side, just as the Apostle testified concerning himself: "I," he said, "bear

the marks of Jesus in my body."

Break the body with fasts, abstain from your own desires, submit yourself in very prompt devotion to the command of another's order, let the modest judgment of silence check the impudent remarks of an insolent tongue, let the charms of droll speech not break out, let the rigor of severe continence tear out the illicit motions of the carnal passions, so that for you who die now with Christ of your free will, the heavier His cross is observed to be in your ... life, the more fully the glory of his Resurrection will accrue to you.

St. Peter Damian

For more information on Eastern spirituality, visit
www.ecpubs.com



PATRONAGE OF THE MOTHER OF GOD
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Next Liturgy: Saturday, March 18th, at 10am

DIVINE LITURGY - PATRONAGE CHURCH

Date	Time	Service	Intention
Sunday 3.12.2023	11:00am 11:15am	Matins Divine Liturgy	Int. Requested by:
Friday 3.17.2023	6:30pm	Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts Panachida	Reading of the Hramoty/Diptych
Sunday 3.19.2023	8:45am 9:00am	Matins Divine Liturgy	Int. Requested by:

This is the **3rd Sunday of the Great Fast – Veneration of the Cross.**

Propers: Tone 7, page 156; then page 223.

Music for St. Basil: page 96.

CONFESSION: Fr. Serhii is available 20 minutes before or immediately after Divine Liturgy.

MEN'S CLUB EASTER FLOWER SALE: Once again, we are sponsoring a flower sale for Easter. The flowers will be used to decorate the church and altar for Divine Liturgy on Pascha. Each donated flower will be published in a special insert of the Easter bulletin. Plants may be taken by the giver after Resurrection Liturgy. **All plants not taken by the giver will be replanted around the church property.** Forms can be found either in the Narthex, on the shelf, or on our website. Plants are \$12/each and you have a choice of ordering, Easter Lilies, Tulips, or Hyacinths. **Please return your order form and payment by either placing it in the offering basket or mailing it to the rectory by Palm Sunday, April 2nd. Checks should be made payable to: Patronage Men's Club.**

"MAKING THE CITY A CHURCH" LECTURE SERIES: The Byzantine Catholic Seminary in Pittsburgh, PA, is pleased to announce its 23rd annual academic lecture to be presented by Fr. John Baldovin, S.J., at 7pm on May 10, 2023. This live-streamed lecture, entitled, "Making the City a Church: Liturgical Processions in Constantinople from the Sixth to Tenth Centuries," is to study the mobile character of ancient Constantinopolitan Christian worship and the processions of Byzantine stations liturgy. This will shed light on the liturgy itself, popular piety, and the relation of liturgy to the surrounding culture. All are welcome to attend this lecture virtually via the Seminary website (www.bcs.edu). The lecture can also be accessed live or at a later time from archives on the B.C.S. YouTube channel. For more information, please contact Fr. Ivan Chirovsky 412-321-8383, x36, or by email: development@bcs.edu.

A LENTEN RECOLLECTION: Join Homilist, Msgr Mariano Balbago, Jr., on Saturday, March 18th, from 8:30am – 3:30pm at St. Gregory's Byzantine Catholic Church in Beltsville. Liturgy will be at 2:30pm. Registration fee is \$10.00 (food included). If you are interested in attending, please let Fr. Serhii know by March 10th.

CHALICE REPAIR: It has been several months since we sent out our chalice for repair, which included replating the cup and straightening the stem. We are happy to report that the work was completed. Fr. Serhii is using our beautiful chalice today! We, again, want to thank James Tinnick, for his donation to pay for the repair of our chalice. May God grant James many Blessed years! *Mnobjaja i Blajaba L'ita!*

RELIGIOUS DVD'S: If any believers have interesting DVD's, with religious themes or lessons, please let Fr. Serhii know. He also asks that you bring them to church, so that we can watch them together with all of our believers.

Slava Isusu Christu! Slava na viki! Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory forever!

Byzantine Catholic Eparchy of Passaic Fasting Regulations for the Great Fast 2023

Abstinence:

- The law of Abstinence forbids the use of meat, permitting the use of eggs and dairy products.
- All the faithful of the Eparchy who receive Holy Communion are obliged to abstain.
- Abstinence is to be observed on all Wednesdays and Fridays during the Holy Season of the

Great Fast.

Strict Abstinence:

- The law of Strict Abstinence (Fast) forbids the use of meat, eggs, and dairy products.
- All the adult faithful of the Eparchy who receive Holy Communion are obliged to observe

Strict Abstinence.

- Strict Abstinence is to be observed on the First Day of the Great Fast, Pure Monday, February 20 and on Great and Holy Friday, April 7.

Meditations for the Third Week of the Great Fast

"But Jesus was silent. And the high priest said to him, 'I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.' Jesus said to him, 'You have said so. But I tell you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power, and coming on the clouds of heaven'" (Mt. 26, 63-64).

"Then the high priest tore his robes, and said, 'He has uttered blasphemy. Why do we still need witnesses? You have now heard his blasphemy. What is your judgment?' They answered, 'He deserves death'" (Mt. 26, 65-66).

In Krakow, in the Wawel Cathedral Chapel, there is a large miraculous cross of our Lord Jesus Christ that Queen-Saint Jadwiga often prayed before. Saint Jadwiga once patiently asked the Lord Jesus for comfort. Jesus Christ stretched out His hand to her from the cross and said, "Your prayer has been heard." The history of this event is written on a marble tablet placed under that cross.

St. Gertrude (1292) had great devotion to the crucified Jesus Christ. Once she was so moved by Christ's wounds that she kissed them and removed the nails from them, and put roses in their place. Jesus Christ praised her for this. She understood that He liked it very much.

One young lady, of a noble family, who was brought up in great advantages, asked the abbess of a monastery for acceptance. The abbess began to present her with the difficulties of monastic life, "We have very poor food, you will not be satisfied with it." "Our bed is hard, the bedroom is not heated in winter," the abbess continued. "Is there a cross there?" "If there is," said the young lady, "Then I have no difficulties." And so, for all the difficulties that were presented to her, she had a cross at the ready. When she entered the monastery, she enjoyed all the difficulties with her love for the cross. And so, she ended her life in the monastery with him, and with great merit passed to eternity.

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2023 EPARCHIAL ALTAR SERVER CONGRESS: Registration for this year's Altar Server Congress, is now open! It will take place at the Carpathian Village, 802 Snow Hill Road, Cresco,

PA, from Sunday, July 16th - Thursday, July 20th. Please visit eparchyofpassaic.com, click on "Youth and Young Adult Ministries," then "Altar Server Congress," for camper registration forms and further information. You can also contact Fr. Michael Salnicki at 570-595-3265, if you have any further questions. Please let Fr. Serhii know as soon as possible, if you are interested in attending.

2023 BYZANTEEN EPARCHIAL YOUTH RALLY: This year's rally will take place on June 22nd – 25th. We are waiting on more details, but the ByzanTeen Rally 2023 participants must be age 13 by November 1, 2023, and not have reached the age of 18 by June 27, 2023. You can find both the rally's Teen and Chaperone Registration forms on the Eparchy's website at www.eparchyofpassaic.com, click on "Youth and Young Adult Ministries," then "Byzanteens Youth Ministry." If you are interested in attending this rally, please let Fr. Serhii know so he can make sure you receive any updates that he receives.

GOD WITH US +ONLINE+: A virtual program entitled, "For the Life of the World," presented by Rev. David Anderson, will take place on Mondays from February 27th - March 13th, from 8-9pm. Join them as they study this insightful work on the sacramental life together during the Great Fast! It is not necessary to have the book or to have read it to join them, but they do encourage it! You can register for this free program at godwithusonline.org. **If you missed the first 2 sessions of this lecture, it was recorded and available on-demand, in the event library, and may find it especially edifying during the Lenten journey.**

SLAVIC FOOD FESTIVAL: Saturday, April 1st from 10am – 2pm: We will need numerous volunteers for kolachi baking and packaging, and clean up on Wednesday, March 29th beginning at 9am. Volunteers will be needed to help prep for our festival on Friday, March 31st at 9am, and to work at our festival and cleaning up on April 1st. Drivers will also be needed to pick up our kolbasi order in Johnstown, PA, and pirohi/Pascha order in the Hazelton, PA area, as well. Please contact Mary Demyan at 410-591-5654 (text preferred) or mdemya1@verizon.net, if you are available to help. Please consider volunteering for the various tasks to help make our festival a success! You should be receiving our festival mailing shortly. If you do not receive one, let us know and we will be sure to add you to the mailing list. Extra order forms can be found in the Narthex on the shelf, on the social hall kitchen counter, or on our website. **The pre-order date deadline is Monday, March 27th**, and orders can either be submitted on our church website, mailed to the church rectory, or left in the collection basket in the back of our Temple.

FESTIVAL BAKED GOODS NEEDED: Gather up your favorite recipes and get the whole family involved! We are in need of your homemade baked goods for our festival, and would love to fill our bake table. **You can drop your donation off on either Friday (3/31) or Saturday (4/1) morning. It would also help to save time if your baked good donations were wrapped/packaged, and priced in sellable portions.** We appreciate your help!

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CHILDREN'S CORNER

Praise...

are sick, and those who cannot make it to church. Also, Fr. Serhii, and his family, Fr. Joseph Borodach, Marge Dulina, Mike Skovran, James DeWolfe, Clara Valeika, Caroline Belensky, Nancy Erdek, Kay Dinko, Doris Ruszin, Anne Gupman, Anna Martin, Joseph and Marie Repasi, Mary Jo Kelly Wilhelm, Georgianna Kostak, Sandra Suseck, Howard Guba, our first responders, and all military service men and women throughout the world.

*May our Lord Jesus Christ, the Physician and Healer of souls and bodies,
grant them peace and good health for many blessed years!*

STEWARDSHIP: (Donate at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=2346733>)

Patronage Church (March 5, 2023):

Offertory: \$2,115.00
Tithe.ly: \$160.00
ECL: \$15.00
Easter Flowers: \$64.00

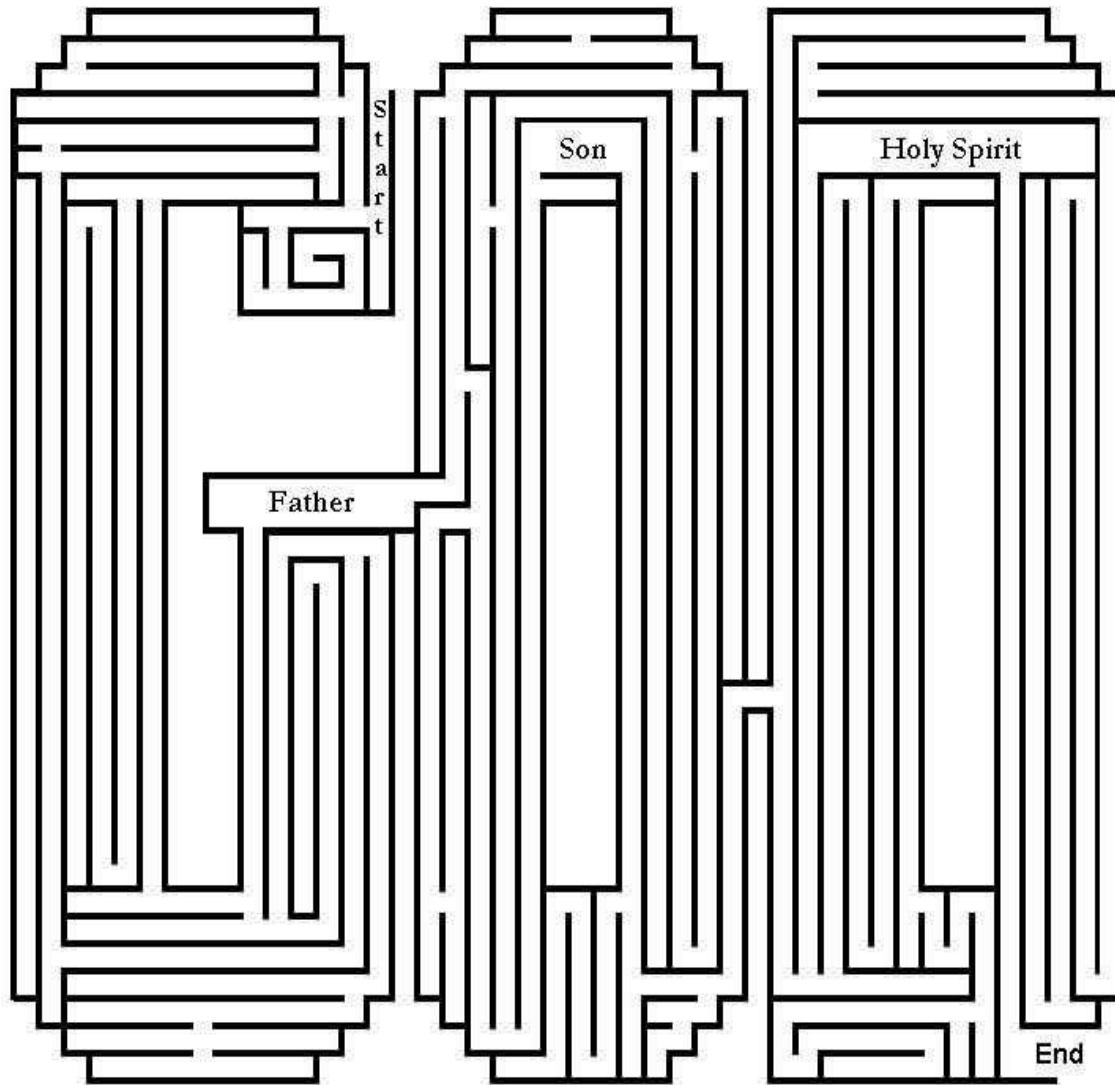
Hagerstown Mission (March 4, 2023):

Offertory: \$149.00
Tithe.ly: \$19.00

SPAM EMAILS: Some of our parishioners have been receiving emails signed, “Reverend Serhii Deiak,” either asking for money, or inquiring about a confidential conversation with him. Please be aware that these emails are scams. Do not click on them or reply. Fr. Serhii has never asked or never will ask for money from parishioners. There are, however, some believers who support him financially. He is sincerely grateful to them, as this is their personal decision and choice to do so. If you have any questions, please let Fr. Serhii know.

WELCOME TO OUR PARISH: We welcome all new visitors, to our parish family, and are happy you are joining us to share in the celebration of the Divine Liturgy and hope you will become an active part of our parish community. If you would like to be added to our parish email list, send us an email at patronage.church@gmail.com.

“My house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples” (Isaiah 56:7).



PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER: The people of Ukraine, that peace may be soon be restored to their land, our parishioners, the founders of our parish, our benefactors, those who