

March 1, 2026
 Second Sunday of the Great Fast



Veil of Protection

SAINT MARY BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever! ~ Slava Isusu Christu! Slava Na Viki!

See Handout for Propers, Typical Psalms: pp. 16-17, Beatitudes: pp. 23-24, St. Basil melodies: pg. 96

St. Mary: Divine Services for the Week:

SUN., MARCH 1 SECOND SUNDAY of the GREAT FAST

10:45 A.M. THIRD HOUR

11:00 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY of St. Basil the Great

Intention: +William Plumb (16th anniversary of passing), requested by Greg Plumb

WED., MARCH 4 Gerasimus Venerable

6:00 P.M. LITURGY of the PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS

7:15 P.M. Adult Education, Byzantine Lent 101

THUR., MARCH 5 Conon Martyr

4:45-5:45 P.M. Confessions

6:00 P.M. LITURGY of the PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS

FRI., MARCH 6 42 Martyrs of Ammorium

9:00 A.M. SIXTH & NINTH HOUR

SUN., MARCH 8 THIRD SUNDAY of LENT, VENERATION of the CROSS

10:45 A.M. THIRD HOUR

11:00 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY of St. Basil the Great

Intention: For the People of St. George, St. Mary, and St. Nicholas Chapel

Happy Birthday Greetings This Week:

Unavailable

Wedding Anniversaries this Week:

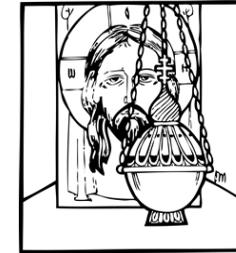
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Please Pray For Our Sick and Shut-ins

HOME: Penny Furis, William Killian, Joyce Rose, Eleanor Soltis

Franciscan Manor: (71 Darlington Rd., Beaver Falls, PA 15010) - George Cirka

*Christ is among us! He is and shall be!
 Christos posred' i nas! Jest' i budet!*



THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP

March 1 - 7, 2026

Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:

The Parishioners

Parish Offerings for February 22, 2026

God bless your generosity! "Everyone must give according to whatever he has inwardly decided; not sadly, not grudgingly, for God loves a cheerful giver." (2 Cor 9:7)

Offertory	\$870.00
Loose Currency	\$70.00
Candles	\$15.00
Total:	\$955.00

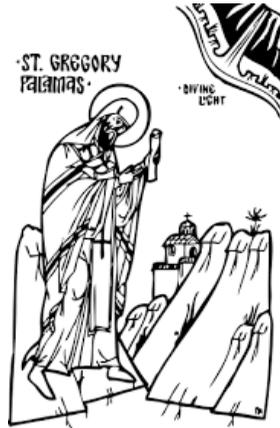
Regular Confessions Offered

St. George 4:45-5:45 P.M. on Fridays and before every Sunday Divine Liturgy
 St. Mary 4:45-5:45 P.M. on Wednesdays and following every Sunday Divine Liturgy
 St. Nicholas 4:00-4:45 P.M. before Vigil Liturgy on Saturdays

St. Gregory of Palamas

Gregory Palamas was born in Constantinople about 1296. He became a monk at Mount Athos, near Thessalonika. He was one of the main supporters of a theory of contemplation called Hesychasm. Hesychasts claimed that by suitable spiritual disciplines, those who were contemplating could come to see the “uncreated light” of God. Their opponents said that this was impossible. It was heretical. Hesychasm was condemned and Gregory was excommunicated.

In 1347, through the unwavering support of the monks of Athos, Gregory was brought back from exile, cleared of heretical charges, and made bishop of Thessalonika. After much controversy his position was declared orthodox by the church of Constantinople in 1351. Philotheus, Patriarch of Constantinople, declared him a saint in 1368, established his feast day on November 14, and ordered a special commemoration of him on the 2nd Sunday of Lent.



Hesychasm

Hesychasm means “quietude or prayerful stillness before God.” It is prayer of the heart. Hesychasm is a gathering of thoughts and feelings in the presence of God by means of spiritual reading and prayer. It is a quiet time with God.

Happenings...

2nd AED donated - please sign up to be trained!

We are very pleased to announce that a second AED machine has been purchased by a second donor! This will allow us to have one in the narthex and one in the hall.

We are still looking for people willing to be trained in the case of an emergency and will be scheduling a class soon. Volunteers are not required to become certified and are protected by the Pennsylvania Good Samaritan law, which means you cannot be sued for acting in good faith and trying to help someone. Training will be provided free of charge. Please sign up this week as it is important to have a number of people trained as not everyone is available at all times. Again, we are most grateful to our generous donors - you are truly a blessing!

Deanery Vespers will be at 4:00pm Sunday, March 8th at St. Michael's Byzantine Catholic Church in Canonsburg. A Lenten meal will follow.

St. George: Divine Services for the Week:

TUE., MARCH 3 Eutropius and Others, Martyrs

6:00 P.M. LITURGY of the PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS

WED., MARCH 4 Gerasimus Venerable

7:00 A.M. FIRST & THIRD HOURS

FRI., MARCH 6 42 Martyrs of Ammorium

4:45-5:45 P.M. Confessions

6:00 P.M. LITURGY of the PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS

SAT., MARCH 7 THIRD ALL SOULS SATURDAY

9:00 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY of St. John Chrysostom, Panachida, Hramoty

SUN., MARCH 8 THIRD SUNDAY of LENT, VENERATION of the CROSS

8:15 A.M. FIRST HOUR

8:30 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY of St. Basil

Intention: + Mary Elizabeth Olack, requested by Richard Mudron

St. Nicholas: Divine Services for the Week:

SAT., MARCH 7 THIRD SUNDAY of LENT, VENERATION of the CROSS

5:00 P.M. DIVINE LITURGY of St. Basil the Great

Intention: For the Spiritual and Temporal Welfare of Pat Feresse requested by Carol Fellenstein

Rise and Walk!

Your Sins are forgiven! Take up your bed. Carry the very mat that once carried you. Change places, so that what was the proof of your sickness may now give testimony to your soundness. Your bed of pain becomes the sign of healing, its very weight the measure of the strength that has been restored to you. (St. Peter Chrysologus)

On Keeping a Spiritual Fast

There is both a physical and a spiritual fast. In the physical fast the body abstains from food and drink. In the spiritual fast, the faster abstains from evil intentions, words and deeds. One who truly fasts abstains from anger, rage, malice, and vengeance. One who truly fasts abstains from idle and foul talk, empty rhetoric, slander, condemnation, flattery, lying and all manner of spiteful talk. In a word, a real faster is one who withdraws from all evil. (St. Basil the Great)

A Note from Fr. Anthony

Dear parishioners,

We continue to press forward in the Great Fast. Note that our adult education series continues this Wednesday and this upcoming Saturday is the 3rd All Souls Saturday.

For next week, please note one schedule change. **Presanctified Divine Liturgy will be held Monday, March 9th at 6:00pm at St. George due to the Feast of the 40 Martyrs of Sebaste.** These heroic men were executed after surviving frozen water in the 4th century for their faith. We will not have Presanctified on Tuesday.

Fr. Don Voss will be coming to St. Mary's to hear Confessions on Sunday, March 15th beginning at 10:30am. Details still need confirmed, but I plan to bring in a guest confessor for St. George's as well.

Looking ahead, we will have an **Easter Basket making class at St. George's on Saturday March 28th at 10:00am** following Divine Liturgy for Lazarus Saturday. This is a great opportunity to learn the spiritual meaning of what we put into our Easter baskets and to be exposed to a beautiful Rusyn custom.

Our Holy Week schedule will be out next week. Please note that we will once again have a **parish field trip to Christ the Bridegroom Monastery for Bridegroom Matins on Wednesday, April 1st at 10:00am celebrated by Bishop Robert Pipta.** This is a wonderful opportunity to get to see a traditional Eastern Monastery. We were blessed to be able to have Mother Cecilia and Mother Gabriella visit St. George last year. The plan is to carpool up and leave from St. Mary's in Ambridge at 8:00am. We will stop for a fast-friendly meal on the way back and should be back in Ambridge by 3:00pm. Signup sheets are in the back of the Church.

We have switched to a new website for St. Mary's, **byzantinecatholics.org**. This move was able to save us nearly \$70 a month. We contain portals to the other 2 Churches websites as we wish to promote as much collaboration between our communities as possible.

Please note that due to the initiative of parishioner Betty Kotula, we are collecting food in the back of St. Mary's to distribute to those in need.

Finally, we still are in need of parishioners to sign up for AED training at St. Mary's.

In Christ,

Fr. Anthony

Second Sunday of the Great Fast

Sinning is the act of turning away from God and His ways, trying to do things on our own. When we sin or turn away from God, we turn away from our source of strength and life. We become weak and paralysis takes over; not only physically and mentally, but worse yet, spiritually. However, the sinful character of mankind is something which we all share in common and so it takes a group effort to bring ourselves and one another back to the Source of life. But we must remember that we each have to do our own fair share of the effort. And our fair share means using the full power which God has given us.



The men who carried the mat of their friend in the Gospel share the burden of his palsied state. They not only brought him to the building where Christ was present, but they also shared his faith and made every effort to bring him directly into the presence of Christ. Great things can be accomplished through faith and if we want to come closer to God and follow His ways bad enough, we can find ways to do so. Jesus saw that they had a sincere faith and desire to become well again and so the first thing he did was to get to the root of the problem and forgive his sins to heal that gap between the man and God. After his sins were forgiven and a new life was given to the palsied man. Christ told him to pick up his mat and go home; to return to his family and friends, show them what God had done for him, and live the new life which he had received.

Today's reading offers three significant messages:

- Jesus' claim to be able to forgive sins reveals his identity as Son of God better than the miracles he performs.
- The faith of the friends was enough to capture Jesus' attention.
- There is always a communal dimension to God's healing touch.

For your reflection:

1. Am I "paralyzed" by fear or guilt because of my inability to accept God's forgiveness?
2. Do I let my friends help me to approach Jesus when I need his healing touch or does pride stand in my way?

SAINT MARY BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

PRIEST: FATHER ANTHONY COSTANTINO

Deacon Thomas J. Klacik

624 Park Road – Ambridge, PA 15003

Fr. Anthony's Cell #: (878) 226-0878

OFFICE PHONE: 724-266-2030

CHURCH FAX: 724-266-1834

CHURCH HALL: 724-266-8642

PARISH WEBSITE: www.byzantinecatholics.org



Cantors: Rebecca Leroy, Mike McCann, Naedia McCann

E.C.F. coordinator: Jonathon Dohanich

Holy Mystery of Reconciliation..... Wednesdays 4:45-5:45 P.M. & after Sunday Liturgy.

Holy Mysteries of Initiation.....Contact the church office.

Holy Mystery of AnointingAsk prior to surgery or serious illness.

Holy Mystery of MarriageContact the church office eight months prior to wedding.

Religious Education Classes.....September through May.

Pirohi Sales Every Friday

Faith + prayer and fasting = power to overcome even the greatest sin



3RD ANNUAL

SPRING ST. NICHOLAS CELEBRATION



Join us on the first Sunday in May at the GCU St. Nicholas of Myra Chapel in Beaver, PA, as we gather to honor our patron saint, St. Nicholas! This special celebration, established by Fr. Val Michlik, is a meaningful opportunity for all the faithful to come together in devotion. We'd love to see you there!

DIVINE LITURGY

Hierarchical Divine Liturgy will be celebrated on Sunday, May 3, 2026, at St. Nicholas Chapel at 3^{PM} celebrated by Bishop Artur Bubnevych

MUSEUM

At the conclusion of Divine Liturgy, the GCU Museum, combining Greek Catholic, and Carpatho-Rusyn histories, will be opened to all visitors until 5^{PM}

BANQUET

A banquet at Seven Oaks Country Club will follow. \$40 for adults, \$20 for children (12 & under). Must be registered and prepaid online.

SUN, MAY 3RD

3^{PM} - 7^{PM}

ST. NICHOLAS
BYZANTINE CHAPEL
5400 Tuscarawas Rd
Beaver, PA 15009

Banquet to follow at:
SEVEN OAKS COUNTRY CLUB
132 Lisbon Rd, Beaver, PA 15009

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Registration required for both the Liturgy & Banquet. Due to the size of the chapel, the Liturgical celebration is limited to the first 80 who reserve a spot.

Register today!



gcuusa.com/pages/spring-st-nicholas-event

2026 | Beaver, PA

ST. MARY BYZANTINE
CATHOLIC CHURCH

THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE THEOTOKOS AND EVER-VIRGIN MARY



WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25TH
VESPERAL DIVINE LITURGY
6:00 PM

Fr. Ladis J. Cizik of St. Augustine Parish will be giving the homily: The Mystery of the Annunciation



ST. MARY BYZANTINE
CATHOLIC CHURCH
624 PARK ROAD
AMBRIDGE, PA 15003

GUEST HOMILIST

FR. LADIS J. CIZIK

Father Cizik is a Catholic Priest serving as the 'Chaplain' at St. Augustine Parish in Beaver County. He was ordained in 1987. He has offered the Traditional Latin Mass in various places around the country and world.

Besides serving in several parishes in the Diocese of Pittsburgh, he was the Executive Director and Vice President of the National Blue Army of Our Lady of Fatima and was posted at its headquarters in Washington, New Jersey from 2000 to 2003. His duties included directing the Blue Army's National Shrine of the Immaculate Heart of Mary in Washington, NJ, and administration of the Blue Army's hotel for pilgrims in Fatima, Portugal, *Domus Pacis*. During this time, Father Cizik served as the Editor and as a writer for the Blue Army's official worldwide publication, *SOUL* magazine.

Father Cizik has led numerous pilgrimages to Catholic Shrines around the world, most notably to Fatima, Portugal many times, as well as numerous trips to Rome and to San Giovanni Rotondo, Italy, where St. Padre Pio served. Other countries visited on pilgrimage included: Israel, Spain, France, Mexico, Canada and various locations in the United States.

Father Cizik served as a writer for various traditional Catholic publications, including "the Remnant" newspaper and "Catholic Family News." Father served as Chaplain, since 1988, to the Divine Child Jesus Saint Padre Pio Prayer Group and, since 2003, to the Beaver Valley Blue Army of Our Lady of Fatima, both presently meeting at Saint Blaise Church in Midland.