

March 22, 2026
Fifth 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 22 FIFTH SUNDAY of LENT, St. Mary of Egypt

10:45 A.M. THIRD HOUR

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

Intention: + Elsie Plumb, requested by Greg Plumb

WED., MARCH 25 ANNUNCIATION of the THEOTOKOS, Solemn Holy Day

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

6:00 P.M. VESPERAL DIVINE LITURGY of St. John Chrysostom

Intention: For the needs and intentions of the St. Mary pirohi workers, requested by Fr. Anthony

Following Adult Education

THUR., MARCH 26 ... Synaxis of the Archangel Gabriel

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

FRI., MARCH 27 Matrona, Venerable

9:00 A.M. SIXTH & NINTH HOUR

SUN., MARCH 29 PALM SUNDAY

10:45 A.M. THIRD HOUR

11:00 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY of St. John Chrysostom,

Blessing of Palms & Procession

Intention: + Elsie Plumb, requested by Greg Plumb

Happy Birthday Greetings:

None for the week

Wedding Anniversaries:

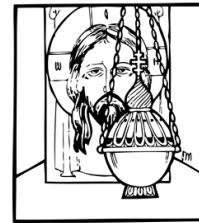
None for the week

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 22 - 28, 2026

Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:

The Parishioners

Parish Offerings for March 15, 2026

Not available this week

Do not neglect good deeds and generosity, God is pleased by sacrifices of that kind." (Hebrews 13:16)

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

A Cry for Peace and Justice from the Eastern Catholic Bishops of the United States

We, bishops of the Eastern Catholic Churches in the United States, gathered in prayer and dialogue at our annual assembly in St. Louis, express solidarity with our long-suffering brothers and sisters representing different confessions in countries where our communities originate. We are anguished by the passion they are enduring on account of war, persecution, assault against human dignity, and violation of personal and religious liberty.

We express deep gratitude to Catholics and all Americans of good will for their prayer, advocacy for justice and peace, and humanitarian aid for all those victimized by escalating hostilities and autocratic rule, from India to the Middle East, from Ukraine to the Caucasus.

We echo Pope Leo XIV in calling the world's political leaders to begin a "disarmament of heart, mind, and life." Like the Pope, we insist that stability and peace can be built "only through a reasonable, authentic, and responsible dialogue." We appeal to those in power in the United States and globally to protect and defend the innocent and vulnerable and engage in diplomacy to forge just and lasting peace.

Together with the Holy Father, we beseech all Americans to remain steadfast in both spiritual solicitude with and concrete assistance to all those suffering from warfare, torture, and either political or religious oppression. For the Lord Jesus Himself calls us to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and welcome the refugee—especially during Lent.

What we are witnessing in our home communities could easily bring us to despair: churches bombed; clergy and faithful killed; innocent millions forced from their homes. Houses and apartments, hospitals, schools, and roads are destroyed, entire cities wiped out, children abducted. Hundreds of thousands slain, countless maimed, millions traumatized. Torment, rape, and massacre. The menace of genocide.

And yet, together with them, we do not lose hope! Instead, we find inspiration in those who are overcoming great hardships. Worlds apart, our suffering brothers and sisters bear witness to us, at great personal cost, the truth of God's gifts of human dignity and of mutual love amidst desperation. These words of St. Paul could well be said of them: they are "afflicted in every way, but not constrained; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not abandoned; struck down, but not destroyed" (2 Cor 4:8-9).

Indeed, the witness they bear is truly apostolic. They forge our faith and strengthen our common hope. And that hope is not in an abstraction. It rests in the Person of our Lord Jesus Christ, a Brother, who suffered and died, who has risen from His grave, and who comes to us and meets us. We believe in the Lord who trampled death by His death and gives to us eternal life.

In anticipation of His and the whole world's Resurrection, we proclaim "Christ is risen! Indeed, He is Risen!"

St. George: Divine Services for the Week:

TUE., MARCH 24 ANNUNCIATION of the THEOTOKOS, Solemn Holy Day, Anticipated
6:00 P.M. FESTAL MATINS for the ANNUNCIATION

WED., MARCH 25 ANNUNCIATION of the THEOTOKOS, Solemn Holy Day
1:00 P.M. DIVINE LITURGY of St. John Chrysostom
Intention: For the needs and intentions of the St. George pirohi workers, requested by Fr. Anthony

FRI., MARCH 27 Matrona, Venerable
5:00 P.M. Confessions with guest confessor
6:00 P.M. LITURGY of the PRE-SANCTIFIED GIFTS

SAT., MARCH 28 Lazarus Saturday
9:00 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY of St. John Chrysostom
Intention: + Frances Prigorac, requested by Renee Pintado
Following Easter Basket Class

SUN., MARCH 29 PALM SUNDAY
8:15 A.M. FIRST HOUR
8:30 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY of St. John Chrysostom,
Blessing of Palms & Procession
Intention: + Connie Hersh, requested by Mr. and Mrs. Dwight Dickey

St. Nicholas: Divine Services for the Week:

SAT., MARCH 28 PALM SUNDAY
5:00 P.M. VESPERAL DIVINE LITURGY of St. John Chrysostom,
Blessing of Palms & Procession
Intention: For the People of St. George, St. Mary, and St. Nicholas Chapel

Feast of the Annunciation

On March 25, exactly nine months before Christmas, we celebrate the feast of the Annunciation of the Theotokos. This feast celebrates the Incarnation of the Son of God, when the archangel Gabriel appeared to a young virgin in the town of Nazareth, and she agreed to become "she who gives birth to God" (*Theotokos*). Since ancient times, this has been one of the great feasts of the Byzantine liturgical year, and on this one day during the Great Fast, the sacrifice of the Divine Liturgy is always celebrated.

A Note from Fr. Anthony

Dear Parishioners,

We are drawing near the end of the Great Fast. Friday will mark the 40th day of Lent. The fast is mitigated on Saturday and Sunday for the joyous occasions of Lazarus Sunday (where we celebrate our Lord raising Lazarus from the Sunday) and Palm Sunday (where we celebrate our Lord's triumphant entry into Jerusalem).

This Wednesday, March 25th is the one of the 12 Greats Feasts, the Annunciation. It is the sole weekday of Lent in which Divine Liturgy is celebrated, ideally in the evening. We will begin our celebration Tuesday evening with 6:00pm Festal Matins at St. George. This is a very beautiful service that includes a dialogue between the Archangel Gabriel and the Theotokos. On the 25th we will have a 1:00pm Divine Liturgy at St. George and a 6:00pm Vespersal Divine Liturgy with guest homilist Fr. Ladis Cizik followed by our final Adult Ed class at St. Mary, where I will explain our Holy Week services.

We are pleased to welcome Fr. Ryan Liebhaber, administrator of our Byzantine parish in Pleasant City as a guest homilist to St. George this Friday evening for our 6:00pm Presanctified Liturgy. He will be available for Confessions beginning at 5:00pm. Please take advantage of this special opportunity to receive this Sacrament of Healing prior to Pascha.

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.

Please sign up ASAP so we can figure out carpooling if you wish to join us for our parish field trip to Christ the Bridegroom Monastery for Bridegroom Matins on Wednesday, April 1st at 10:00am.

Finally, our schedule for Holy Week is incredibly full and I will be traveling part of Bright Week. If you know of anyone in our parish family who needs a sick call made for anointing or Communion, please let me know ASAP. I'd like to visit any shut-ins prior to Holy Week if possible.

In Christ,
Fr. Anthony

For the Son of Man also came not to be served but to serve....

The Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast

On this Fifth Sunday of the Great Fast, dedicated to St. Mary of Egypt, the Gospel reading from Mark 10:32-45 reminds us of the path of true discipleship: the call to servanthood and humility in following Christ.



In this passage, Jesus reveals to His disciples, for the third time, His impending Passion. Yet James and John, misunderstanding His mission, ask for positions of glory at His right and left. Jesus gently redirects their desires, teaching them—and us—that greatness in His kingdom comes not from power or status but through service and self-sacrifice. He sets the ultimate example, saying, "The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

St. Mary of Egypt embodies this teaching through her life of radical repentance and humility. Once consumed by sin, she encountered the transformative power of God's grace in the desert. Her journey of repentance and asceticism reveals that no soul is beyond redemption when it turns wholeheartedly to Christ.

As we approach the end of the Forty-day Great Fast which is this Friday, commemoration of St. Mary of Egypt invites us to reflect on our own lives. Are we seeking the fleeting glories of this world, or are we walking the path of humility and service that leads to true greatness in God's eyes? Let us be inspired by St. Mary's example, trusting in God's boundless mercy and striving to imitate Christ, who laid down His life in love for us all.



SAINT MARY BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH
PRIEST: FATHER ANTHONY COSTANTINO



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CHURCH FAX: 724-266-1834
CHURCH HALL: 724-266-8642



PARISH WEBSITE: www.byzantinecatholics.org

Cantors: Alex Broussard Mike McCann Naedia McCann Catherine Richthammer

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

“Though your sins be red as scarlet, I shall make them white as snow.” (Isaiah 1:18)



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

Happenings...

2026 HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE of LITURGIES

SAINT GEORGE
BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH
1001 CLINTON ST,
ALIQUIPPA, PA 15001

SAINT MARY'S
BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH
624 PARK RD,
AMBRIDGE, PA 15003

SAINT NICHOLAS
BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHAPEL
5400 TUSCARAWAS ROAD
BEAVER, PA. 15009

LAZARUS SATURDAY - MARCH 28TH

9am | Divine Liturgy at St. George

10am | Easter Basket Making Class at St. George

5pm | Palm Sunday Vigil Divine Liturgy at St. Nicholas

PALM SUNDAY - MARCH 29TH

8:30am | Divine Liturgy at St. George

11am | Divine Liturgy at St. Mary's

HOLY & GREAT MONDAY - MARCH 30TH

No Divine Services Scheduled

HOLY & GREAT TUESDAY - MARCH 31ST

6pm | Presanctified Divine Liturgy with Holy Anointing at St. George

HOLY & GREAT WEDNESDAY - APRIL 1ST

6pm | Presanctified Divine Liturgy with Holy Anointing at St. Mary's

HOLY & GREAT THURSDAY - APRIL 2ND

9am | Matins of the Commemoration of the Mystical Supper at St. George

6pm | Vespers Liturgy of Basil the Great at St. Mary's

HOLY & GREAT FRIDAY - APRIL 3RD

9am | Matins of the Twelve Passion Gospels at St. George

1pm | Royal Hours of Good Friday with Burial Procession at St. George

6pm | Vespers of the Burial of our Lord, God, & Savior Jesus Christ

(with fast-friendly snacks available afterwards) at St. Mary's

8:15pm | Jerusalem Matins at St. Mary's

HOLY & GREAT SATURDAY - APRIL 4TH

9am | Vespers Liturgy of Basil the Great at St. Mary's

4pm | Paschal Divine Liturgy with Blessing of Easter Baskets at St. Nicholas

6:30pm | Midnight Office of Pascha at St. George

7pm | Resurrection Matins and Divine Liturgy with Blessing of Easter Baskets at St. George

PASCHA - APRIL 5TH

10am | Resurrection Matins and Divine Liturgy with Blessing of Easter Baskets at St. Mary's