



ST. GREGORY'S DIVINE SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday, December 3 *Holy Prophet Zephaniah*

7:00 P.M. Moleben to Emmanuel (Advent Prayer Service)

Thursday, December 5 *Venerable father Sabbas the Sanctified*

7:00 P.M. Vespertal Divine Liturgy

Saturday, December 7 *Our holy father Ambrose of Milan, Archbishop*

5:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy

Supplications will be offered for +Stephen Medvec, given by Mike and Donna Medvec

Sunday, December 8 **Twentyninth Sunday after Pentecost
The Conception of Righteous Anna of the Theotokos**

9:10 A.M. Third Hour

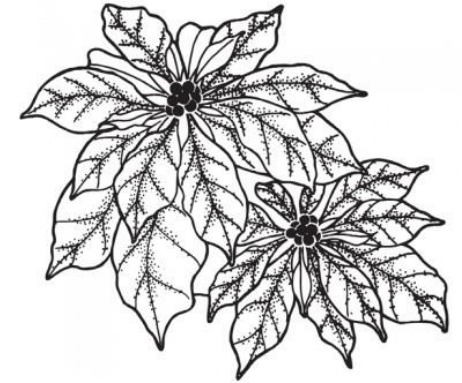
9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy, Festal Anointing

The Epistle Reading will be Galatians 4:22-31 and the Gospel is Luke 17:12-19. Supplications will be offered for +Ann Kofel, given by Joe & Maria Mills-Silvestri. Please join us in the Church hall following the Divine Liturgy for a time of fellowship and refreshments.

Celebrated for many centuries under a variety of titles, the Feast widely known in the Eastern Church as the Feast of the Conception by St. Anna is celebrated in the Roman Church as the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. This Feast commemorates Saint Anna's conception of Mary, the Mother of God. Anna and Joachim had lived devoutly in marriage for fifty years. Still, they were scorned for being without offspring. With heavy hearts, they prayed that God would bless them with a child. The Almighty God answered their prayers by allowing Anna to conceive a child who would be the Mother of God's own Son, Jesus Christ.

Poinsettia for St. Gregory's

For the upcoming Festal Season of the Nativity of Our Lord – Christmas Season, you will have the opportunity this year to honor or remember loved ones by purchasing a poinsettia to be placed in our Holy Church. If you wish to participate, please fill out this form. After you have completed the form, you can either place it in the offering basket or return it to the parish office. Be sure to circle “memory of” or “honor of.” Please **PRINT** your name and the name of the person(s) you are remembering as you wish the names to appear in our parish bulletin. The deadline to place your order is **Sunday, December 8th**. The plants may be taken home after the Divine Liturgy on Saturday January 11th, 2025, or Sunday, January 12th, 2025.



Given in memory of/honor of (print legibly):

Your Name: _____

Your Phone Number: _____

Amount enclosed: \$ _____

\$10 (6½" pot with one plant) _____ number of plants

\$25 (8½" pot with three plants) _____ number of plants

Make check payable to: St. Gregory Byzantine Catholic Church

St. Gregory's 2024 Advent Project: Heroes For The Homeless



During this time of the Nativity Fast-Advent Season we are called to reach out and to see the needs of others. Here in our parish family, we have had over the years the wonderful opportunity to do so, especially during this time of the year when we are on a spiritual journey to Bethlehem to welcome the Newborn King-Christ Our Savior.

For the 2024 St. Gregory's Advent Project, we will be contributing to the mission of Heroes For The Homeless to benefit homeless individuals in the greater Pittsburgh region. Heroes For The Homeless provides these people with necessary and highly specific tactical supplies they have no means of obtaining through other avenues.

In the Mother of God Chapel we are collecting tarps, handwarmers, baby wipes, disposable razors, toothpaste, new/lightly used winter coats, and new/lightly used gloves. The last day to participate in this outreach is Sunday, December 22nd. Thank you for participating in this Advent outreach!

St. Gregory's Prayer List

Kindly remember in your prayers our parishioners and friends who struggle with sickness, pain, hardship, or any special need: Maureen Cerny, Theresa Lokes, Nancy Romza, Joan Sakmar, Rita Smochko, Michael Sirochman, and Agnes Yanchak.

If you would like to add your name or the name of a loved one to this list, please contact the parish office via phone or email. In the Church vestibule, you are invited to add the names of the sick and any other intentions you would like to be remembered in our Prayer Intention book.

Church Mice

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Announcements

Today: Wedding Anniversary Celebration

As a parish family we offer our prayers and best wishes to all our couples who are celebrating their wedding anniversary in 2024. As part of this celebration, we will have a special blessing service at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. May the Lord's blessings be upon them as they journey together in faith and love!

Tuesday: Moleben-Advent Prayer Service

As part of the Nativity Fast-Advent Season we celebrate the beautiful Emmanuel Moleben-Advent Prayer Service. Plan to come on Tuesday, December 3rd at 7:00 p.m. for this Moleben – Prayer Service during which a short meditation will be given.

Feast of St. Nicholas

On Friday, December 6th, we commemorate our Holy Father Nicholas the Wonderworker. To celebrate this feast day and to honor this great Saint we will have Thursday evening, December 5th, a Vespers Divine Liturgy at 7:00 p.m. Please come to honor one of the greatest and famous Saints in our Holy Church.

Countdown to Taste of Heaven

Our annual TASTE OF HEAVEN Cookie Sale is rapidly approaching on Saturday, December 7th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. We have not reached our goal of 50 bakers, but several bakers are making more than one type of cookie. If you have not had a chance to sign up, but you are able to bake this week, please let us know! The more variety we have, the better our presentation and sales will be.

Cookies can be dropped off in the church hall on **Thursday, December 5th from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and on Friday, December 6th from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.** If you need an alternative time to drop off your cookies, please contact Dorothy Mayernik (412-310-0521), Kathy Smith (412-445-3763), or Susan Ruglovsky (412-720-3542). Also, if you can lend a hand during the sale, please sign up on the list on the table in the vestibule. We are looking forward to a festive and delicious event!

Friday: Decorating the Church and Hall

As part of our preparation for the Nativity of Christ, we will decorate our Holy Church on Friday, December 6th, at 6:00 p.m. Please plan to help out with putting up the trees and decorations for this sacred time of the year.

Chant Group Rehearsal

According to St. Augustine: "He Who Sings, Prays Twice". On Wednesday evening, December 11th, at 6:30 p.m. the Chant Group rehearsal will take place in the Church hall. Join us as we practice together our liturgical chant in preparation for the upcoming Nativity Season!

Order of Confession

Our Holy Church invites us, through the Sacrament of Holy Confession, to prepare ourselves worthily to celebrate the Nativity of Christ-Christmas. On Saturday and Sunday, December 14th-15th, Fr. Frederick W. Gruber from the Diocese of Pittsburgh will be here with us to administer the Mystery of Reconciliation as part of our Nativity Fast-Advent journey

Our St. Nicholas Party: Breakfast with St. Nick

The annual parish St. Nicholas party will be held in our Church Hall on Sunday, December 15th following the 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy. At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, our parish children will come forward to welcome St. Nicholas to our parish (parents may accompany the smaller children). Following the welcome in Church we will continue in our Church hall with a St. Nicholas Breakfast sponsored by our St. Gregory's Men's Club. Sign-up sheets have been placed in the Church vestibule for parishioners to indicate their intention to attend the party. We are looking forward to filling the hall with happy parishioners.

Journey to Bethlehem Discussion

Reminder to all participants in the Library Ministry's Best Advent / Best Phillipian Fast Ever Program: Please mark your calendars and make every effort to participate in our discussion group after the 9:30 a.m. Divine Liturgy on Sunday, December 22nd. We will gather in the parish library to share our individual Phillipian Fast experiences with one another as we continue to prepare for the Nativity of Our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ

Christmas Concert 2024

The Pittsburgh Byzantine Catholic Archeparchial Choir invites you to experience the joy of the Nativity season on Sunday December 22 as they present "Joyfully We Sing!" a choral showcase of beloved music of the Holy Birth of our Lord. The program will begin at 2:00 pm at St Elias Church, 4200 Homestead-Duquesne Road in Munhall, Pa. The Choir's signature "Cookie Reception" will be held in the church social hall following the program. All are warmly welcome!

Collection- May God bless you...

The total for Sunday, November 17th, 2024, was \$3,995.58 (Envelopes: \$2,117.00; Online: \$999.58; Loose: \$54.00; Children: \$4.00; Candles: \$31.00; Debt: \$50.00; KS Fund: \$650.00; St. Nicholas Dinner: \$90.00).



The total for Sunday, November 24th, 2024, was \$4,207.35 (Envelopes: \$3,153.00; Online: \$502.35; Loose: \$36.00; Children: \$1.00; Debt: \$460.00; Flowers: \$55.00).

The QR code will take you to our donation portal. Your engagement, support and prayers are very much appreciated.

St. Gregory's Christmas Kielbasa 2024

Make sure to place your order for our delicious St. Gregory's Kielbasa!!! We are selling a 2-pound 10-ounce package (2lb 10oz) for \$18.00.



Pick-up at the Church Hall:

Friday, December 13th: from 8AM to 11AM;
Saturday, December 14th: from 9AM to 11AM;
Saturday, December 14th: after 5PM Divine Liturgy (6:15PM to 6:45PM);
Sunday, December 15th: after 9:30AM Divine Liturgy (10:45AM to 11:30AM)

To place your orders:

Sign-up sheets are available in the Church narthex for placing orders or the kielbasa can be ordered on the St. Gregory home page: www.stgregoryusc.org

To order or if you have any questions, please contact our parishioner Antonio Wolfe at 412-735-6025 or awolfeupj@gmail.com.

The last day to order is this upcoming Friday, December 6th!

Thank you all for your continued support of this very important fundraiser!