

FORGIVENESS SUNDAY

February 11, 2018

9:10 AM Rosary

9:30 AM Health/Blessings for all Parishioners

Monday, February 12th First Day of the Great Fast

6:00 PM CANON OF ST ANDREW OF CRETE

Tuesday, February 13th

NO SERVICES

Wednesday, February 14th

6:30 PM BIBLE STUDY

Thursday, February 15th

6:00 PM LITURGY OF THE PRESANCTIFIED GIFTS

Friday, February 16th

NO SERVICES

Saturday, February 17th

11:30 AM Ukrainian School in the Rectory

5:00 PM + Anastasia & Mykola Bosyj – by Maria, Nick and John

Sunday, February 18th

9:30 AM Health/Blessings for all Parishioners

The Church was a mother to you in life, providing for your spiritual needs; please remember the Eparchy of Saint Josaphat in Parma in your last will and testament.

The wording to do this is as follows:

“I give and bequeath to the Ukrainian Catholic Diocese of St. Josaphat in Parma, located in Parma, Ohio, _____% of the residue of my estate [or: the sum of \$_____].”

Thank you!

PYROHY PROJECT DATES 2018:

Mar 17

Apr 21

May 19

June 23

Next Divine Liturgy in Canton will be on March 4th at 12:30 PM

Holy Ghost Parish is continually blessed by your generosity!

CONGRATULATIONS:

This week **Maria Griffiths (2/12)** and **Emily Szijarto (2/17)** celebrate their birthdays. May God grant you **many healthy and happy years, Mnohaya i Blahaya Lita**

BRING YOUR ICONS TO BE BLESSED:

Next Sunday, Feb 18th is the **First Sunday of the Great Fast**, also known as the **Sunday of Orthodoxy**. We celebrate the victory over the iconoclasts by blessing icons. It does not matter whether your icons have been already blessed or not. Bring them! As many as you have!

DONATION STATEMENTS FOR 2017:

Statements for tax deductible contributions made the church 2017 are available in the vestibule. Please contact Fr. Sal if you have any questions or if you need your statement mailed to you.

Bishop Bohdan's visit:

Dear Parishioners, remember that bishop Bohdan is going to be with us, inspecting our parish on February 18th. Please be on your best behavior that day ☺

stjosaphateparchy.com

CALL TO PRAYER:

In this year of Liturgy and Prayer, we, the bishops of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the USA, call upon all Christian families to nurture shared morning and evening prayer in the family circle. Especially we encourage you to gather together and pray as a family in your homes at **9:00 o'clock in the evening** (regardless of time zones). We should pray, each one for their needs: for the family as well as the parish, for the eparchy and the entire Church, for peace in Ukraine and USA, for vocations and other intentions. Therefore, let us begin this year with prayer together, with reflection on God's Word, in selfless service to one another and with trust in God!

We can frequently think that conversation with God, which is prayer, is a useless waste of time. The reason might also be that we ourselves do not completely understand how important it is for us to abide with our Creator. We are materialistic because we live in this materialistic world. Throughout life, we devote much time to everyday matters or concerns, although we see how little time we spend in prayer. Very often, owing to a lack of prayer, we stumble upon a mistaken conviction and make the incorrect choice. We can be certain that the root of all our negative conditions, problems, and crisis is the same — neglect of prayer. From personal experience, each one of us knows that, when we are “watchful” about prayer, then everything else also goes well, in harmony and uniformity with God. Exactly for this reason we call upon all Christian families to nurture shared morning and evening prayer in the family circle.

VISIT THE HOLY GHOST PARISH LIBRARY

Located in the parish hall near the double doors, our library has books and other materials to borrow. Browse selections on Liturgy, Scripture, Mary and other Saints, Prayer, the Sacraments, and some children's items. There is a small collection of books in Ukrainian. Let us know if you have books to add to the library on our Liturgy, theology, and traditions. Books of this type may be left in the box marked "Book Donations" near the Library shelves. Questions: Pete or Norma Kopko 330-477-9650.

BYZANTINE DAILY OFFICE:

A while back you received an insert with our parish bulletin detailing a new electronic product from Easter Christian Publications to assist with your prayer life. However, for the iTunes and other audio download websites, the albums of the Daily Office cannot be found with the text "ECP-BDO" as indicated in the flier. You must use "**Byzantine Daily Office**" instead, in order to search those websites. Please make note of this, those of you who desire to raise your level of daily prayer.

Also check www.ecpubs.com/daily-office.html for more information.

THE UNITED STATES COUNCIL OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS

We are all invited to visit www.usccb.org/conscience to learn more about various social issues relative to the teaching of the Catholic Church. It helps to stay informed, as we continue to mature in our Catholic Christian Faith. See what the hierarchy has discussed, decided and published in order to guide the faithful.

FOR THOSE WHO CAN'T JOIN US:

Know that we are praying for all the souls connected with Holy Ghost Parish, the Ukrainian Catholic Church, the Greater Catholic (Universal) Church, and all Christian souls in the world. We also pray for non-Christians, and we pray for our enemies. The goal of our prayers is to bring the world into greater harmony, that all may become one in the unity of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ, as he commanded.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Please continue to bring in any Box Tops for Education labels and leave them in the tall container by the Sunday coffee service. Our altar servers really appreciate your collection of these labels as they donate them to their school.

"28. The parish is not an outdated institution; precisely because it possesses great flexibility, it can assume quite different contours depending on the openness and missionary creativity of the pastor and the community. While certainly not the only institution which evangelizes, if the parish proves capable of self-renewal and constant adaptivity, it continues to be "the Church living in the midst of the homes of her sons and daughters". This presumes that it really is in contact with the homes and the lives of its people, and does not become a useless structure out of touch with people or a self-absorbed group made up of a chosen few. The parish is the presence of the Church in a given territory, an environment for hearing God's word, for growth in the Christian life, for dialogue, proclamation, charitable outreach, worship and celebration. In all its activities the parish encourages and trains its members to be evangelizers. It is a community of communities, a sanctuary where the thirsty come to drink in the midst of their journey, and a center of constant missionary outreach."

Pope Francis, *Apostolic Exhortation on the Proclamation of the Gospel in Today's World*

The news media have made all of us aware of the valiant struggles that the Ukrainian people are engaged in these days. In solidarity with them, we follow Patriarch Sviatoslav's initiative to pray for Ukrainian's God-given rights to freedom of speech, choice and religion; therefore, Fr. Sal has added these liturgical Petitions to the Divine Liturgy at Holy Ghost Parish.

Liturgical Petitions:

O good and loving Master, look down with compassion, heal, comfort and protect Your servants in Ukraine as they seek to foster unity and end division, and enjoy human rights, liberty, and self-determination in their nation, let us pray to the Lord.

We also pray that the Holy Spirit may open the hearts and minds of all to wisdom and grace so that those in Ukraine and throughout the world will cease the acts of aggression and respect the territorial sovereignty of Ukraine, let us pray to the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

“Christ among us” - a program brought to you each Sunday at this time to reach those who are elderly or ill, and those who are not able to attend their church for Sunday worship.

Tune in to WPIT- 73 AM - Pittsburgh, PA every Sunday at 2:00 pm (EST) or listen to the radio program on-line at www.wpitam.com You can also listen any time at <http://stjosaphateparchy.com/listen/>

This Program is sponsored by the Diocesan Resource Committee of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saint Josaphat in Parma, OH, and by your contributions. Each Sunday we will bring to you the word of God, we hope to brighten your lives and bring you joy and solace

*****Vatican Announcement about Cremated Remains** – On October 25th the Vatican confirmed that Catholics may be cremated, but announced that they may not have their ashes scattered at sea or kept in urns at home. According to the new guidelines, cremated remains should be kept in a “sacred place” such as a church cemetery. For more details about this announcement, we forward all faithful to the Holy See website www.vatican.va

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ARE YOU READY?:

Many people think because they attend a particular parish, they automatically belong. But membership requires signing up---formally enrolling yourself in parish. Registration is a commitment to a community, a way to be included in the religious, social, and ministerial activities of your parish. Registering in your parish is a statement of faith and confidence in the life and work of your parish. Please make an effort to register in our parish.

FORGIVENESS:

Forgiveness does not mean acceptance of a lie. When we forgive, we don't put up with evil, but on the contrary, we name it and call a wrongdoer as such. But when we forgive, this means that first of all we throw evil out of our own heart. Only that person who is spiritually higher and stronger, can forgive. To forgive means to overcome evil. Forgiveness does not mean release from responsibility for wrongdoings. Fair punishment is necessary for reconciliation. Otherwise how can we speak about the due respect for the victims of crimes, due satisfaction for their offences if, according to the principles of justice, the person who offended them will not suffer deserved punishment?

MARRIAGE The Holy Mystery of Marriage (from the catechism of the Ukrainian Catholic Church) Marriage Is a Mystery of Love between a Man and a Woman # 472

Marriage is based on the fact that the married couple mutually complements one another. The Church gives witness to this in a prayer of the Rite of Crowning: “Holy God, you created man from the dust and from his side fashioned a woman as a suitable helpmate for him, for such was the good pleasure of your majesty that man should not be alone on earth.” In their gender differentiation, a man and a woman complete one another, creating an indissoluble union of one body

"The merciful Lord hurries to help others using our feet, supports the sick and frail with our hands, listens to those who have been wronged with our ears, consoles those who are sad with our mouths, carries the weak with our shoulders, brings others close to Himself with our hearts. In other words, the vocation of every Christian is to be an icon of God's goodness and love in the world."

- Patriarch Sviatoslav

On behalf of the Synod of Bishops
of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church

2018:

- **March 3-4: LOCK-IN RETREAT at St. Anne Ukrainian Catholic Church in Austintown, OH;**
- **June 14-15: EPARCHIAL YOUTH DAYS at Cheeseman Farm in Portersville, PA;**

- **October 6-7: FALL YOUTH RETREAT at (pending venue);**
- **December 7-9: YOUTH RALLY in Charlotte, NC (pending the exact name of and venue for the event);**

“Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we shall reap our harvest, if we do not give up.” Galatians 6:9

POINSETTIA - BRIEF HISTORY

John Robert Poinsett, who was an amateur botanist and the first United States ambassador to Mexico, first introduced poinsettias to the U.S. in 1825. He introduced the plant when he brought some cuttings to his plantation in Greenwood, South Carolina.

December 12th is National Poinsettia Day.

An official day set aside to enjoy this symbol of holiday cheer. It was established upon the death of Mr. Poinsett to honor him and the plant that he made famous. He died in 1851.

Poinsettias are native to Mexico, where they grow wild.

The enchanting legend of the poinsettia dates back several centuries, to a Christmas Eve in Mexico when a little girl named Pepita had no gift to present to the Christ child.

Her cousin, Pedro, urged her to give a humble gift. So, on her way to church she gathered some weeds that she found along the road. As she approached the altar, a miracle happened. The weeds blossomed into beautiful flowers.

Then they were called Flores de Noche Buena - Flowers of the Holy Night. Now simply called Poinsettias.