



ST. GEORGE'S DIVINE SERVICES

Saturday, Feb. 14 **All Holy Ascetical Fathers and Mothers**
 Readings: Rom. 13:11-14:4; Mt. 6:14-21
4:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (McKees Rocks)

Sunday, Feb. 15 **Sunday of Cheese Fare**
 Readings: Rom. 13:11-14:4; Mt. 6:14-21
9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy/ Rite of Forgiveness
 Supplications will be offered for+ **Patricia Della Ragione, Luigi & family.**
 Supplications will be offered for+ **Michael & Anna Cheresnowsky, Magdalena Cheresnowsky.**

Monday, Feb. 16 **St. Pamphilius and other Martyrs**
 First Day of the Great fast
 Readings: Gen. 1:1-13; Prov. 1:1-20
6:30 P. M. Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts (North Side)

Saturday, Feb. 21 **Our Venerable Father Timothy of Symbola**
 Readings: Heb. 11:24-26.32-12:2; Jn. 1:43-51
4:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy (McKees Rocks)

Sunday, Feb. 22 **First Sunday of the Great Fast**
 Readings: Heb. 11:24-26.32-12:2; Jn. 1:43-51
9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy
 Supplications will be offered for +**Peter & Rose Drahusz,**
 given by Mary Ann Russo
 Supplications will be offered for +**Olga Petrushka, given by Mary Ann Hirt.**

Eternal light Candle offering for February 15, 2026

Blessed Memory of +**Stefan Antoniow by Olech and Motria Hodowanec.**



LENTEN WORD SEARCH

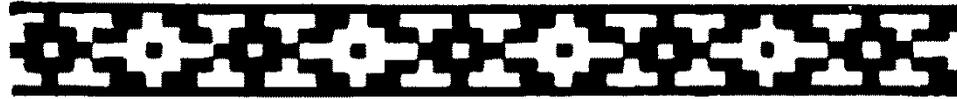
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|--------------|---------------|-------------|------------|
| Adam | Compline | Confession | Cross |
| Eucharist | Eve | Faith | Fasting |
| Forty | Glory | Heaven | Humility |
| Icon | Life | Liturgy | Pascha |
| Prayer | PreSanctified | Prostration | Repentance |
| Resurrection | Saints | Salutations | Savior |
| Sinner | Soul | Theotokos | Trinity |
| Unction | Worship | | |

2026 Lenten Regulations

Although our Church traditionally prescribed abstinence from meat and dairy products in days gone by for the entire duration of Lent, the following minimal Lenten regulations are in force in our Eparchy of St. Josaphat.

1. **Abstinence from meat and all dairy products on the First Day of Lent (February 16, 2026) and on Good Friday (April 3, 2026).**
2. **Abstinence from meat only on all Fridays of Lent as well as Holy Saturday (April 4, 2026). We also recommend voluntary abstinence from meat on all Wednesdays of Lent.**
3. **Reception of the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist during the Paschal Season (from the onset of Lent, February 16, 2026 to the Wednesday before Ascension Thursday, May 13, 2026)**

Fasting and Abstinence regulations are not binding on persons 60 or older, the very poor, sick, nursing or pregnant women, children below the age of 14, and those who engage in very hard physical labor. Prayer and almsgiving oblige all!



Prayers for Forgiveness

Heavenly Father,

I come before You with a humble heart,
acknowledging my mistakes and the ways I have fallen short.

Wash me clean from the weight of my wrongs,
and fill me with Your mercy that never fails.

Teach me to forgive myself as You forgive me,
and to extend that same grace to others.

Renew my spirit, guide my steps,
and let my life reflect Your love and truth.

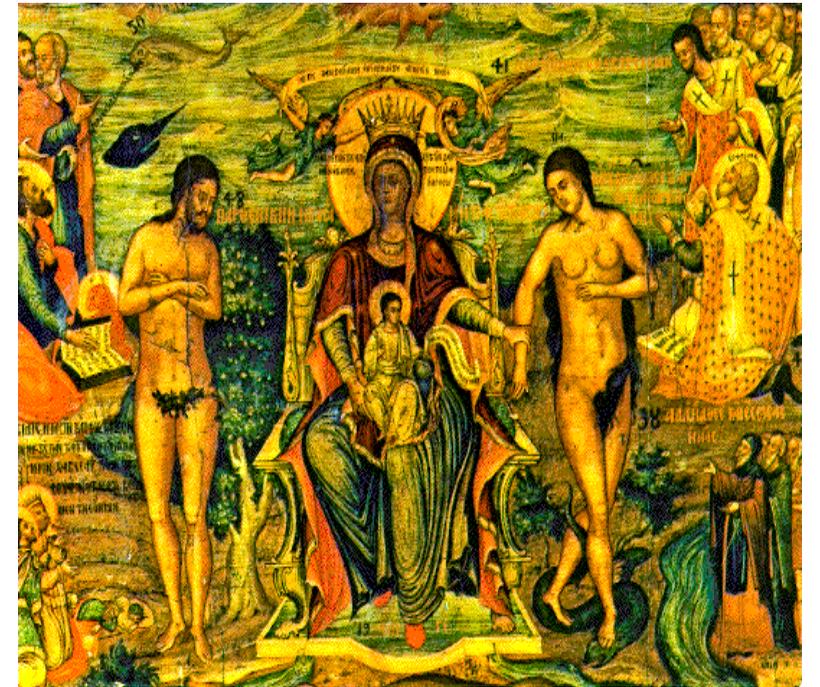
Thank You for hearing me,
for loving me even in my weakness,
and for giving me a fresh start each day.

Amen.

Feb. 15, 2026

Sunday of Cheesefare: Sunday of Forgiveness, Tone 3 The Holy Apostle Onesimus

Changeable Parts See the
special insert available in the
church vestibule.



Announcements:

Today: Sunday of Forgiveness

This Sunday is, in our Liturgical calendar, the last Sunday before the Great Fast called Cheesefare Sunday. This Sunday is also called “Forgiveness Sunday” from the pious Eastern Christian custom of asking each other’s forgiveness for discourtesy and disrespect, before we begin together our journey through the Great Fast-Lent. At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, we will have the Rite of Forgiveness during which we will ask each other for forgiveness. Please make sure that you have the special booklets for this Service, which are available in the Church vestibule.

Our Lenten project will be starting the week of February 15th. We want to continue our tradition of having our homemade soups and haluski for sale. There is a sign-up sheet in the vestibule if you are able to support this mission. Any help you can provide is much appreciated.

Welcome Hugo!

We welcome into our parish family Hugo Lutsiv, son of Yulian & Sara, who received the Holy Mysteries of Christian Initiations (Baptism, Chrismation and Holy Eucharist) on Saturday, February 14h. May Almighty God bless Hugo and his family for many happy and blessed years: *Многая Літа!*

Pyrohy Project:

Lent begins next week and we can use your help! Pyrohy production starts at 9 a.m. If you have time to volunteer, we would love to have you join this ministry which is our main fundraiser.

Pittsburgh For Ukraine:

On Tuesday, February 24th, there will be a presentation at the Schenley Plaza and Panakhyda at Heinz Chapel commemorating the 4th Year of the War in Ukraine. Please see the poster in the lobby for the complete schedule.

****LAST CALL** Sarris Candy Fundraiser**

There are brochures in the lobby if you would like to order some delicious Sarris Easter Candy. St. George receives a small percent of each sale. Please return your order form and check by **Sunday, February 15th**. Delivery is Sunday, March 22nd.

RaiseRight – Gift Cards with a Purpose:

Do you need to buy a gift, go grocery shopping, to the movies or out to eat? If so, RaiseRight is a great option to purchase your gift cards while helping St. George at the same time. You can set up an account at: <https://www.raiseright.com/> The St. George code is: M2MGCVH7NH2P. This is very easy to do and only takes a few minutes. Please see Vicki Senko with any questions.

Coffee Social

Thanks to Kathy Novak and Vicki Senko for sponsoring the January coffee social. Motria Hodowanec has volunteered for the February coffee social. If you would like to sponsor a future coffee social, please see Vicki Senko.

Collection- May God bless you...

The grand total for Sunday of February 8, 2026 was **\$1,409.00 + \$234.70**
(Collection: \$1,370.00, Loose: \$39.00, pyrohy: \$586.00)

Sincere thanks to all of you for your kindness and generosity!



Sunday of Forgiveness (Cheese Fare Sunday)

Matthew 6: 14-21

“For if you forgive other people when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive others their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins.”

The last of the preparatory Sundays before Great Lent, the Sunday of Forgiveness, has two themes: it

commemorates Adam’s expulsion from Paradise, and it accentuates our need for forgiveness.

We weep with Adam and Eve before the closed gate of Eden, repenting with them for the sins that have deprived us of our free communion with God. Their expulsion reminds us how far we can fall into sin and separate ourselves from God. But Lent is also a time when we are preparing to celebrate the saving event of Christ’s death and rising, which has reopened Paradise to us once more (Luke 23:43). So, sorrow for our exile in sin is tempered by hope of our re-entry into Paradise by being repentant and seeking God’s forgiveness.

The theme of forgiveness is a focus of today’s Gospel reading and in the special ceremony of mutual forgiveness that we take part in on this day. Before we enter the Lenten fast, we are reminded that there can be no true fast, no genuine repentance, no reconciliation with God, unless we are at the same time reconciled with one another. We do not travel the road of Lent as isolated individuals but as members of a family. Our asceticism and fasting should not separate us from others but rather link us to them with ever-stronger bonds.

The Sunday of Forgiveness also directs us to see that Great Lent is a journey of liberation from our enslavement to sin, setting the conditions for this liberation. The first is fasting – the refusal to accept the desires and urges of our fallen nature as normal, the effort to free ourselves from the dictatorship of the flesh and matter over the spirit. To be effective, however, our fast must not be hypocritical, a “showing off.” We must “appear not unto men to fast but to our Father who is in secret” (vv. 16-18). The second condition: forgiveness. The triumph of sin, the main sign of its rule over the world, is division, opposition, separation, hatred. Therefore, the first breakthrough of this fortress of sin is forgiveness – the return to unity, solidarity, love. To forgive is to put between me and my “enemy” the radiant forgiveness of God Himself. To forgive is to reject the hopeless “dead-ends” of human relations and to refer them to Christ. Forgiveness is truly a “breakthrough” of the Kingdom into this sinful and fallen world.

Also known as Cheese Fare Sunday, this Sunday is the last day that dairy products can be eaten before the Lenten fast, which begins the following day on Clean Monday, the first day of Great Lent. This is also the first time that the Lenten prayer of St. Ephraim accompanied by prostrations is read. At the end of the service all the faithful as well as the priest, ask one another for mutual forgiveness, reminding us that we will make this journey as members of a family. – *Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America*