ST. GREGORY’S DIVINE SERVICES FOR THE WEEK

Tuesday, February 12

*Our holy father Meletius, Archbishop*

7:00 P.M. Akathist Hymn to Christ Our Savior

Saturday, February 16

*Martyrs Pamphiliius and Others*

5:00 P.M. Vigil Divine Liturgy

Supplications will be offered for +Mildred Tury, given by son John Tury

Sunday, February 17

*Sunday of the Prodigal Son*

9:10 A.M. Third Hour

9:30 A.M. Divine Liturgy

The Epistle Reading will be 1 Corinthians 6:12-20 and the Gospel reading will be Luke 15:11-32. Supplications will be offered for +Gerry Nazak, given by Jodi Hernandez and family. Following the Divine Liturgy, please join us in the Church hall for refreshments and Christian fellowship.

HOW TO COMMUNICATE

“If you want people to understand you, then you must become like them. That’s the move which God made: He became human. He spoke our language. He communed with us on all human levels except sin, and that’s how He managed to truly communicate with us. So, not only did Christ, Who came and saved us, meet us where we were, but He did something else as well: He surrendered Himself for our life. In other words, He forsook everything which was His and gave Himself up for our sake.”

- Metropolitan Athanasios of Limassol
Expanding the Usher Ministry at St. Gregory’s

As you read in our latest PAC & PFC minutes (1-24-2019), this year we will be expanding the Usher Ministry in our parish family. The ministry of ushers is the oldest lay ministry in the Church. During the time of Christ, the doorkeepers of the temple numbered in the hundreds and were the forerunner’s of today’s ushers. What are the responsibilities of a Church Usher?

A Church Usher is a member of the parish who helps ensure a smoothly running Divine Service and who ministers to people in a variety of practical ways. The specific responsibilities of an usher vary, but his or her duties usually include some or all of the following:

- Greeting people as they arrive for the Divine Services
- Assisting people with special needs
- Seating guests.
- Collecting the offering.
- Keeping order at the entrance of the Church
- Distributing bulletins and service programs
- Providing security
- Administering emergency procedures

This ministry is open to men and women of St. Gregory’s. If you love helping people, have the hospitality charism, or just want a fun and easy way to get involved, the Ushering Ministry may just be what you’re looking for!

Are you interested in being a Church Usher? Please contact Fr. Valerian. The training session for all the Church Ushers will be on Saturday, February 23rd and Sunday, February 24th.

St. Gregory’s Prayer List

Kindly remember in your prayers our parishioners and friends who struggle with sickness, pain, hardship, or any special need: Edward Chekan, William Christoff, Theresa Lokes, Stephen Morovich, and Bill Schultz.

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.

Announcements

Welcome Byzantine Serrans!

On this Sunday we welcome members of the Byzantine Catholic Serra Club. During the Divine Liturgy prayerful supplications will be offered for the departed priests, religious and deceased Serran members. Following the Divine Liturgy, please welcome the members of the Byzantine Catholic Serra Club who foster, affirm, promote and support, by prayer and deed, vocations to the priestly and diaconal ministries and to the consecrated life, in the Byzantine Catholic Church.

St. Valentine Mac & Cheese Cook-Off

Following the Sunday Divine Liturgy, please join us in the Church hall for fellowship and to enjoy some Mac & Cheese. You will rate the Mac and Cheese on aroma, appearance, taste/flavor, and texture. The winner will be determined at the end of the event.

Tuesday: Akathist to Christ Our Savior

On Tuesday evening, February 12th, we will continue with the celebration of the Akathist Hymn to Christ Our Savior, which will begin at 7:00 p.m. In case of inclement weather, please contact the parish office first to see if the Divine Services are being celebrated or have been cancelled.

Wednesday: Class- The Holy Mysteries-Sacraments

What are the sacraments? What is their purpose? Are they just symbols? Ever wonder any of these things? On Wednesday, February 13th, at 7:00 p.m. we will continue with our third class on the Sacraments of our Holy Church during which we will focus on “Holy Confession – The Forgotten Sacrament”. Come and be part of this new adult education series!

Privileged Week

Please remember that this week (from the Sunday of the Publican and Pharisee to the Sunday of the Prodigal Son) according to our Liturgical calendar we enjoy the “privileged week” during which the laws of abstinence (from meat on Friday) do not oblige.

Haven’t Seen Someone in a While?

Visit them or give them a call or send an email. It is nice to hear from a friend from Church. Let them know that you miss seeing them and hope that everything is okay.
Presentation on Sts. Cyril & Methodius
For many of us February 14th is only known as St. Valentine’s Day, but for us Byzantine Catholics this day has a special significance as we honor the memory of St. Cyril, Apostle to the Slavs. As part of our Library Speakers Program, a presentation on two Byzantine brothers, Saints Cyril and Methodius, will take place in our Church hall next Sunday, February 17th, following the Sunday Divine Liturgy. To learn more about these 9th century Christian missionaries, a display will also be in our Church hall.

All Souls Saturday
The 1st All Souls Saturday will be celebrated on Saturday, February 23rd, at 4:40 p.m., prior to the beginning of the Saturday Vigil Divine Liturgy. On these All Souls Saturdays, it is tradition in our Holy Church to prayerfully remember our beloved departed family members, loved ones, etc. Amongst your offertory envelopes you have a special envelope for the commemoration of departed souls marked “All Soul’s Remembrance”. Please write the names of your deceased loved ones on this envelope and drop the envelope in the collection basket or bring it to the parish office.

Do You Receive the BCW?
The Byzantine Catholic World – BCW, is the official newspaper of the Metropolitan Archeparchy of Pittsburgh and currently is published every three weeks (17 issues). The BCW provides readers with accurate news and information about the Church on a local, national and universal level. You will find articles on spirituality, liturgy, and other areas of Church life. In the Church narthex we have free copies of the BCW for you to see. If you intend to continue receiving the BCW (we encourage you to do so), or if you are a new subscriber, please use the envelope in your contribution box. Cost is $14.00 per year. For more information on the BCW, please call the parish office.

Thank You & Congrats!
Thank you all for participating in this year’s Super Bowl 53 Pool Fundraiser. Congratulations to the following winners: 1st Quarter – Michael Medvec; 2nd Quarter – Darren Stromock; 3rd Quarter – John Cencich; 4th Quarter – John Cencich.

Collection- May God bless you…
The total for Sunday, February 3rd, 2019 was $4577.00 (Envelopes: $2764.00; Loose: $16.00; Candles: $35.00; Altar Candle: $156.00; Debt: $350.00; Initial Envelopes: $25.00; All Souls: $245.00; BCW: $16.00; Comedy Fundraiser: $600.00; Superbowl Raffle: $370.00).

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

Repose of St. Cyril, Equal to the Apostles
February 14
Saints Cyril and Methodius are the patrons of the Unity of the Eastern and Western Churches. The two brothers, apostles of the Slavs, were born in Thessaloniki, the second largest city in the Byzantine Empire. Born in 827, Cyril was the youngest in the family. He was baptized Constantine. It is known that he assumed the monastic name Cyril a few weeks before his death in Rome. His brother Michael was older, born in 815. He received the monastic name Methodius. They were both educated in the imperial city of Constantinople. Their missionary work laid the foundations for Slavic Christianity, leaving the Slavonic language and two alphabets, Glagolitic and Cyrillic, as their legacy. The two brothers St. Cyril and St. Methodius attributed for initiating these Slavic alphabets into which tongue they translated the Holy Scripture and Divine Liturgy. Their prime missionary activity was preaching the Word of God. Their introduction of the Slavonic Liturgy and the training of priests contributed to the propagation and deepening of the Christian faith among the Slavs in Great Moravia. St. Cyril died on February 14, 869, at the age of 42. His older brother, St. Methodius died in 885 at age 70.

Parishioner Don Paslowski

10th COMEDY NIGHT AT ST. GREGORY’S: FRIDAY MARCH 1st
The 10th annual Comedy Night will take place on Friday, March 1st. Tickets are $25.00 each and include snacks, soda and beer. Ethnic food will be available for purchase while it lasts the evening of the event.

Table reservations are being taken by contacting Mike Kiss in person or by phone at 412-818-1295 or email at MKISS@CALLEQUITY.NET. Tickets are now available after the Saturday Vigil and Sunday Divine Liturgy.

If you are planning to attend this popular pre-Lenten event, make sure to reserve your tickets NOW! We wish to accommodate our parishioners first before this event is announced to the general public.