

5 2nd Street
Herminie, PA 15637
<http://pokrov.iksnazul.com>

Cantor
Joseph Luzanski

Liturgical Schedule

Divine Liturgy
Sunday: 8:30 am
Holyday: 9:00 am

Confessions

One half hour before
the divine liturgy or
by appointment

Served By

Father Vasyl Yakubych
Василь Якубич
Cell: 412-627-1678
E-mail: yakubichvasill2020@gmail.com

The Divine Liturgy intention is for the Parish Family.

*If you would like to schedule a Litrgy please talk to
Father Vasyl or use the sign up sheet in the vestibule.*

Reminder:

There is a list for Divine Liturgy and
Sanctury Lamp intentions in the vestibule
of the church.

*Attention - 1st ALL SOULS Saturday is
coming soon. Dear Parish Family, the 2024
Spiritually Powerfull remembrances of "All
Souls" will begin on Saturday, February 3rd.
Using the envelope provided in your tithing
envelope set or on a sheet of paper, please
submit the names of those you wish to have
remembered at the All Souls Divine Liturgy /
Panachida on these five Saturdays. Only write
the first names of the individuals to be
commemorated;*



**BABA NEVER MISSES
CHURCH NO MATTER
HOW BAD THE
WEATHER IS. ON
SUNDAY.**

Blessing of Homes

Please provide your name and telephone number
on the sheet in the entrance. A schedule will be
prepared for all of those who request Father
Vasyl to visit them for this blessing and you will
be notified as to the day and time of Father
Vasyls visit.

As is customary for this blessing, a table should
be prepared with a candle, and icon or cross, and
some of the blessed water.

The Sunday of Zacchaeus

Tone 8

Menologion

Our Venerable father, Maximus, Confessor; died from
tortures A.D 662, in the reign of Constans II. His
tongue torn out and right hand cut off, he died in
prison.

Propers

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Fasts & Feasts

JANUARY

30 The Three Holy Hierarchs: Basil The
Great, Gregory The Theologian And
John Chrysostom.

FEBRUARY

2 Encounter of Our Lord, God, and
Savior, Jesus Christ with Simeon and Anna
(Presentation of Our Lord Into the Temple)

3 First All Souls Saturday

12 First Day of the Great Fast

Stastny Novy Rok

Happy New Year



There will be a coffee
social after the Liturgy
today.

We will also talk about
future plans and events.

There will be a short service in which all
participate, and this is followed by the sprinkling
of the home with the Jordan water. In this way,
the blessing of the Jordan is carried to all the
corners of our parish.

It takes between two to four hours to create the
Sunday bulletin. Almost all of the content comes
from Byzantine and Orthodox sources. Some I
create myself. I am always on the lookout for
items of interest and I am open to suggestions.

The paschal season of the Church is preceded by the season of Great Lent, which is also preceded by its own liturgical preparation. The first sign of the approach of Great Lent comes five Sundays before its beginning. On this Sunday the Gospel reading is about Zacchaeus the tax-collector. It tells how Christ brought salvation to the sinful man, and how his life was changed simply because he "sought to see who Jesus was" (Luke 19:3). The desire and effort to see Jesus begins the entire movement through Lent towards Pascha. It is the first movement of salvation.

Our lenten journey begins with a recognition of our own sinfulness, just as Zacchaeus recognized his. He promised to make restitution by giving half of his wealth to the poor, and by paying to those he had falsely accused four times as much as they had lost. In this, he went beyond the requirements of the Law (Ex. 22:3-12).

The example of Zacchaeus teaches us that we should turn away from our sins, and atone for them. The real proof of our sorrow and repentance is not just a verbal apology, but when we correct ourselves and try to make amends for the consequences of our evil actions.

We are also assured of God's mercy and compassion by Christ's words to Zacchaeus, "Today salvation is come to this house" (Luke 19:9). After the Great Doxology and Trisagion at Sunday Matins (when the Tone of the week is in Tone 1, 3, 5, or 7) we sing the Troparion of the Resurrection: "Today salvation is come to the world, let us sing praises to Him Who arose from the tomb, and is the Author of our life. For having destroyed death by death, He has given us the victory and great mercy."

Zacchaeus was short, so he climbed a tree in order to see the Lord. All of us have sinned and come short of the glory of God (Rom. 3:23). We are also short in our spiritual stature, therefore we must climb the ladder of the virtues. In other words, we must prepare for spiritual effort and growth.

This year, Easter Sunday will be observed on Sunday, March 31. This is based on the Gregorian calendar. However, many Eastern Orthodox churches follow the Julian calendar rather than the Gregorian. In 2024, Eastern Orthodox Easter will occur on Sunday, May 5 (the Julian calendar date converted to the Gregorian calendar).

Easter is a "movable feast," so it doesn't happen on the same date from year to year. In the Gregorian calendar, it is always observed on a Sunday between March 22 and April 25. However, Easter can be observed between April 4 and May 8 in the Eastern Orthodox Church.

Easter Sunday always occurs on the first Sunday after the Paschal Full Moon. What is the Paschal Full Moon? This is specifically the first Sunday following the full Moon that occurs on or after the March or spring equinox.

While Christmas is fixed to a solar calendar (and near the winter solstice), Easter is based on the lunar cycles of the Jewish calendar. In the Christian religion, the Last Supper (the final meal Jesus shared with his apostles before his crucifixion) was a Passover feast. It's because Easter is based on a lunar month (which is 29.5 days) that the date of Easter can vary.

Note that the spring equinox date used by the Christian Church is always March 21 to simplify matters. In fact, the astronomical date of the equinox can shift by a day or so. In 2024, the astronomical date of the equinox is Tuesday, March 19. So, you'll often see this called the "ecclesiastical" equinox (i.e., the date used by the Church).

Generally, if the full Moon occurs on the same day as the spring equinox, Easter is observed on the subsequent Sunday. However, there is a caveat:

As mentioned above, the Christian Church decided to simplify calculating Easter's date by always observing the spring equinox on March 21, despite the fact that the equinox date changes over time and is actually getting earlier. **(To be continued.)**

by Catherine Beckmann

Easter is coming really early this year. I hang on to Christmas until the Feast of the Presentation of our Lord in the Temple. That's a lot of mixed signals. Christmas and the Great Fast competing for my attention. But if you take down your decorations on the 2nd of January your house is dark and gloomy. Santa Claus and the Easter Bunny duking it out. Imagine that!

