



SAINT IRENE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH
ВІЗАНТІЙСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЦЕРКВА СВЯТОЇ
ВЕЛИКОМУЧЕНИЦІ ІРИНИ

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St. Irene Parish Clergy

Rev. Fr. Vasyl Mutka
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 Rev. Fr. Frank Knusel
 (Emeritus)

Parish Ministries

Bookkeeper - Paul Washicko
ECF - Lisa Ludwikoski
S. E. - Lillian Brevoort
Women Society -
Men Society -
Fundraising -
ProLife - Lisa Ludwikoski
Fishers of Men -
Chanters - Sam Schroetke/Ray Beresh/
 Dan Gufrey/Boaz Goss
Webmaster - Sam Schroetke
Ushers - Dan Gufrey/
 Sam Schroetke/Boaz Goss
Cleaning - Dan & Becky Gufrey
Gift Shop - Pani Oresta Mutka

CHEESEFARE SUNDAY
СИРОПУСНА НЕДІЛЯ

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE: February 23—March 1

Sunday, February 23—Cheesefare Sunday (use handouts)
 9:30 a.m.—Rosary & Third Hour
 10:00 a.m.—Divine Liturgy
 The Order of Vespers on the Sunday of Forgiveness

Monday, February 24—The Finding of the Head of St John the Baptist
First Day of the Great Fast. A day of Strict Fast & Abstinence: no meat or dairy products or eggs are allowed.
 7:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Tuesday, February 25—St Tarasius, Patriarch of Constantinople

Wednesday, February 26—St Porphyrius, Bishop of Gaza
 7:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Thursday, February 27—Our Holy Father Procopius of Decapolis

Friday, February 28—The Hieromartyr Proterius
 7:00 p.m. Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Saturday, February 29—Saturday of the First Week of Lent on which we commemorate the Miracle of St. Theodore

Sunday, March 1—First Sunday of the Great Fast. Sunday of Orthodoxy (125; 220)
 9:30 a.m.—Rosary & Third Hour
 10:00 a.m.—Divine Liturgy

WELCOME TO ALL PARISHIONERS & GUESTS WHO HAVE JOINED US TODAY

Whether you're searching for a new church home or just visiting, we're glad you're with us today. If you are looking for God, have a prayer request, looking for more information about the Eastern Catholic Church, would like to join our parish, or would like to speak with Fr. Vasyl, we invite you to fill out a visitor's card and drop it in the offering basket as your offering today. Please join us for our coffee hour in the Parish hall following the Divine Liturgy. We want to get to know you! God bless you!



PLEASE REMEMBER THOSE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

For health and salvation: Bishop Gerald N Dino, Fr. Frank Knuzel, Fr. Chris Zuger, Fr. Stephen Casmus, Tony and family, James, Ellie, Kanye & Kim, Michael Cernovich, Stephan Molyveux, Glen Damewood, Luc and family, Carol

For repose of the departed: +Kristina Beresh, + Fr. Michael Irwin, +Dorothy Beresh
 Please pray also for all our benefactors, friends, neighbors and anyone we may have forgotten.
Please let Fr. Vasyl know if you would like to add new names to the prayer list and also notify him about any sick and/or hospitalized parishioners and family members.

7 DAY CANDLE OFFERING

Eternal Light: The candle burns this week
For the beatification of the servant of God Dorothy Day by Ryan Evvin

Dear parishioners and friends of our parish, one-day Great Fest Retreat will be held in our temple on Saturday of Lazarus (April 4). Speaker—Deacon Daniel Dozier.

- Schedule of Retreat:
 * 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy
 * I Talk
 * Short break
 * II Talk
 * Luncheon (free will offering)

Please bring friends and family to this enriching event.

Dear parishioners and friends of our parish, our parish will have a Pysanky Day on Saturday, March 21, 2020 from 11:00-3:00. Please share this information with your friends and associates. Also plan to take part in this useful event.

For more information, ask Roman and Becky.

Today, right after the Divine Liturgy there will be served The Order of Vespers on the Sunday of Forgiveness (Cheesefare Sunday). There will be no Adult Eastern Christianity class on this day.

Cheesefare Sunday: The last Sunday before the Great Lent, Cheesefare Sunday, is also the last day of preparation. It is called Cheesefare because on the next day we begin a total fast from all animal products, as well as from fish, wine and oil (fish, wine and oil will be allowed only on the Feasts of the Annunciation and Palm Sunday), continuing until Holy Pascha. An important theme of this day is the Expulsion of Adam from Paradise, which reminds us of that from which we have fallen. Another theme is forgiveness, since we cannot even begin our spiritual journey without granting forgiveness to those who have offended us and asking forgiveness of those whom we have offended. A special feature of this day is the very moving Forgiveness Vespers, at which we all ask and grant mutual forgiveness. At this Service, after the singing of the Great Prokeimenon, the liturgical vestments and furnishings are changed to dark colors, and the special Lenten melodies used.

As we begin the Great Fast, the Church reminds us of Adam's expulsion from Paradise. God commanded Adam to fast (Gen. 2:16), but he did not obey. Because of their disobedience, Adam and Eve were cast out of Eden and lost the life of blessedness, knowledge of God, and communion with Him, for which they were created. Both they and their descendants became heirs of death and corruption.

Let us consider the benefits of fasting, the consequences of disobedience, and recall our fallen state. Today we are invited to cleanse ourselves of evil through fasting and obedience to God. Our fasting should not be a negative thing, a mere abstention from certain foods. It is an opportunity to free ourselves from the sinful desires and urges of our fallen nature, and to nourish our souls with prayer, repentance, to participate in church services, and partake of the life-giving Mysteries of Christ.

At Forgiveness Vespers we sing: "Let us begin the time of fasting in light, preparing ourselves for spiritual efforts. Let us purify our soul, let us purify our body. As we abstain from food, let us abstain from all passion and enjoy the virtues of the spirit..."

Thank you for your material and prayer support of our temple and our community.

2020 Eparchial Appeal: Letters from the Eparchial Financial Office will be sent to the members of our parish. If you do not receive a letter from the Eparchial Financial Office, and you would like to participate in this collection, see Fr. Vasyl. Eparchy is asking a pledge of \$275 from each household. You could make a one payment pledge or use a payment schedule. Please give what you can to help our Eparchy with the various programs and obligations. Let's respond in kind to the Eparchial request.