

St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church  
Українська Греко-Католицька Церква Святого Івана Хрестителя  
Pastoral Emergency call or text (716) 873-5011  
E-mail: stjohnparishk@gmail.com //www.stjohnucckenmore.org

PARISH STAFF: Administrator/Pastor: Rev. Mykola Drofych/Trustee: Mrs. Marie Duncan, Mr. Stephan Swiatkiwsky Parish Treasurer: Miss Julia Hrubciak

### The Divine Liturgy – The Experience of God

The purpose of the Divine Liturgy is for creation – and especially mankind, the pre-eminent species of creation– to worship, commune with and experience God. It is for this reason that Byzantine worship is traditional, corporate, and unchanging -- traditional, because this is how mankind has worshipped God from the beginning; corporate, because God's Kingdom is one and His people are one; and unchanging, because God Himself does not change. We do not seek to recreate the past, or prepare ourselves for Heaven – rather, we come to be with God in His Kingdom. Fr. Robert Taft, a Catholic Liturgical scholar, expresses it beautifully, “*What we are confronted with is not the past made present, or even the future present, but the end present, not in the sense of the finish but of completion: God Himself present to us.*”

**From February 6-9 I will be out of parish. In case of emergency please call or text at (716) 873-5011  
Thank you, Fr. Mykola**

### NOTE:

All weekdays of Lent are aliturgical and the Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom is not prescribed. During the Lent we will celebrate the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts.

### Prayers for the Sick

Please remember the following people in your prayers every day: Paul & Ella Storm, Nina Moscoe, Zenon & Ksenia Deputat, Anna Harasym, Alice Ortynskyj, Anna Mychalczuk, Irene Tesluk, Violette Stephan, Angela Jurowicz

May the Good Lord hear our prayers and bring them His strength and good health.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST  
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH  
3275 Elmwood Ave, Kenmore, NY

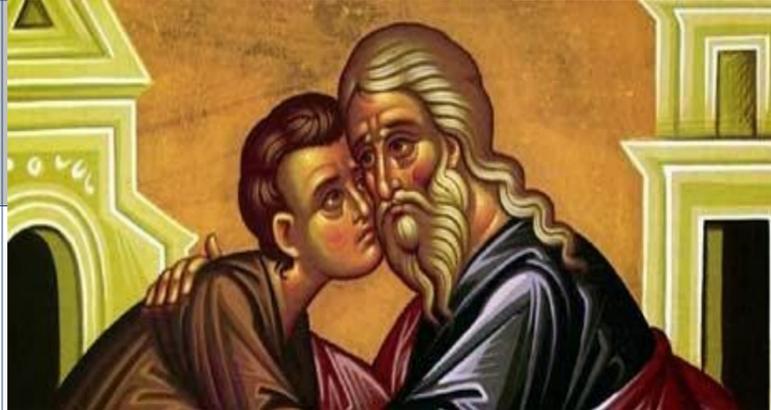
**February 2023**

**WE SEND OUR  
CONDOLENCES**  
to Bob Hlywa and  
Family for the loss  
of their loved one  
†Stefan Hlywa  
*God grant him rest  
in the joy of heaven  
and Eternal  
memory!*



**The benefits of fasting.** Man is precious to the Lord, the entire world is subjugated to him; the Son of God Himself came down to earth from heaven, in order to save man from eternal torment, to reconcile him with God. All the fruits and the flesh of various animals have been given to him to eat, different beverages have been provided to him to satisfy his taste, - but not to the point of satiety, not for pleasure exclusively. Every Christian has other pleasures - great, spiritual, divine pleasures; it is to these pleasures that the pleasures of the flesh must be subjugated, must be tamed or completely excluded if they become a hindrance to spiritual pleasures. Therefore, food and drink are not forbidden in order to bring sorrow to man, or, as it is commonly said in society, to restrict his freedom, but in order to give him true pleasure, real and eternal. It is for this reason that non-lenten foods and liquor are forbidden during lent, because man is very precious to God and must be safeguarded from attaching himself to material things which are unworthy of him. *Saint John of Kronstadt.*

## February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>Prayer before Lent</u></b></p> <p>Dear Lord, As I make my Lenten Journey with you, send me Your Spirit, help me to give of myself, help me to turn away from sin, and help me to fast and pray, so that I may know You and serve You better. Let me be renewed through my journey to share Your grace with the world. Amen</p>			1	2 10:00 a.m. <b>Divine Liturgy</b> <b>The Encounter of</b> <b>Our Lord God and</b> <b>Saviour Jesus Christ</b>	3	4
<p><b>5 Sunday of the Prodigal Son</b></p> <p><b>ENG: 9:00 a.m.</b> For all parishioners <b>UKR: 10:00 a.m.</b> +Mykola +Mariya</p>	6	7	8			
<p><b>12 Meatfare Sunday (of the Fearful Judgment)</b></p> <p><b>ENG: 9:00 a.m.</b> For all parishioners <b>UKR: 10:00 a.m.</b> †Iryna †Semen Doroshchak</p>	13	14	15 9:00 a.m. Divine Liturgy			
<p><b>19 Sunday of Cheesefare - Sunday of Forgiveness</b></p> <p><b>ENG: 9:00 a.m.</b> For all parishioners <b>UKR: 10:00 a.m.</b> +Adrian Deputat, +Ihor Pikas, and +Roman Pikas by Zenon and Ksenia Deputat</p>	20 <b>First day of the Great Fast</b>	21	22 10:00 a.m. <b>The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts</b>	23	24 10:00 a.m. <b>The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts</b>	25
<p><b>26 First Sunday of the Great Fast: The Sunday of Orthodoxy</b></p> <p><b>ENG: 9:00 a.m.</b> For all parishioners <b>UKR: 10:00 a.m.</b> +Marijan Stasiuk</p>	27	28	<p>Forgiveness for the Eastern Churches is essential for the beginning of Great Lent and this is why the Ukrainian Catholic Church begins Great Lent with this special service. Forgiveness gives us peace and when we are at peace, we can pray. The journey of Great Lent shows us that we are all prodigals and that we choose many times to live in a far off land. The call of the journey of Great Lent is to bring us back to the warmth of the Father's embrace and to restore our likeness to him. The celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord is the goal of the Lenten journey and hopefully, the spiritual restoration of each person on this journey.</p>			