

The Second to Last Sunday before the beginning of Great Lent is called Meatfare Sunday

It commemorates Christ's parable of the Last Judgment (Mt 25:31-46). We are reminded this day that it is not enough for us to see Jesus [like Zacchaeus], to see ourselves as we are [as did the repentant Publican], and to come home to God as his prodigal sons. We must also *be* his sons by following Christ, His only-begotten divine Son, and by seeing Christ in every man and by serving Christ through them. Our salvation and final judgment will depend upon our deeds, not merely on our intentions or even on the mercies of God devoid of our own personal cooperation and obedience.

... for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you took me in, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and in prison and you visited me. For truly I say to you, if you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me (Mt 25).

Today's Gospel — the parable of the Last Judgment — reminds us that while trusting in Christ's love and mercy, we must not forget His righteous judgment when He comes again in glory. If our hearts remain hardened and unrepentant, we should not expect the Lord to overlook our transgressions

simply because He is a good and loving God. Although He does not desire the death of a sinner, He also expects us to turn from our wickedness and live (Ezek. 33:11). This same idea is expressed in the prayer read by the priest after the penitent has confessed his or her sins (Slavic practice).

The time for repentance and forgiveness is now, in the present life. At the Second Coming, Christ will appear as the righteous Judge, Who will render to every man according to his deeds" (Rom. 2:6). Then the time for entreating God's mercy and forgiveness will have passed.

As Father Alexander Schmemmann reminds us in his book GREAT LENT (Ch. 1:4), *sin is the absence of love, it is separation and isolation.* When Christ comes to judge the world, His criterion for judgment will be love. Christian love entails seeing Christ in other people, our family, our friends, and everyone else we may encounter in our lives. We shall be judged on whether we have loved, or not loved, our neighbor.

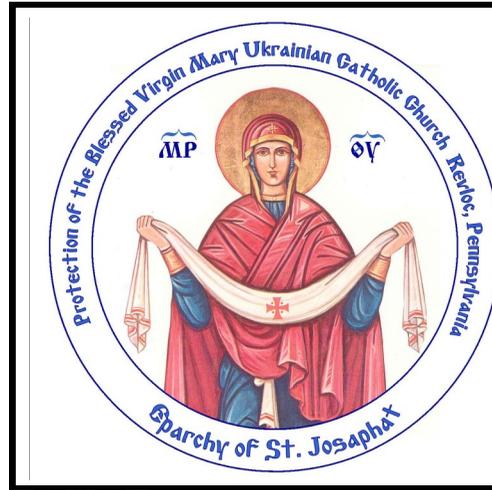
Weekend		Week Day	
Saturday	4:00PM Northern Cambria	Monday	8:30AM Northern Cambria
Sunday	9:00AM Northern Cambria	Tuesday	6:30PM Revloc
	11:00AM Revloc	Wednesday	8:30AM Northern Cambria
	5:00PM Northern Cambria	Thursday	8:30AM Northern Cambria
Liturgy schedule may change due to Holy Days throughout the year.			

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Our Weekly Bulletin

Week of January 28 to
February 4, 2018

Welcome to our Parish

Christ is Born! Glorify Him!

Divine Liturgies and Services for the Week

Sunday, Jan. 28	The Prodigal Son	Steve Deskevich Happy Birthday
Jan. 29	No Liturgy	
Jan. 30	No Liturgy for this week	
Jan. 31	No Liturgy	
Feb. 1	No Liturgy	
Feb. 2	Liturgy at Northern Cambria	6:00PM
Feb. 3	No Liturgy	
Sunday, Feb. 4	Sunday of Meatfare	The Chuff Family

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Sunday of Prodigal Son

1 Corinthians 6:12-20

Luke 15:11-32

Troparion (Tone 1)

Though the stone was sealed by the Judeans and soldiers guarded Your most pure body, You arose, O Savior, on the third day, and gave life to the world. And so the heavenly powers cried out to You, O Giver of Life: Glory to Your resurrection, O Christ! Glory to Your kingdom! Glory to Your saving plan, O only Lover of Mankind.

Kondakion (Tone 3)

Glory be to ... Foolishly have I fled from Your glory, O Father, wasting the wealth You gave me on vices. Therefore, I offer You the words of the Prodigal: Loving Father, I have sinned before You. Take me, for I repent, and make me a one of Your hired hands.

Prokeimen (Tone 1)

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have hoped in You.

Rejoice in the Lord, O you just; praise befits the righteous.

Let Your mercy, O Lord, be upon us, as we have hoped in You.

Alleluia

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

God gives me vindication, and has subdued peoples under me.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Making great the salvation of the king, and showing mercy to His anointed, to David, and to His posterity forever.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

Communion Verse

Praise the Lord from the heaven; praise Him in the highest. Alleluia (3)

Upcoming Events

February 12 - First day of Lent

March 3rd and 10th - Pysanky Classes 9:00AM to 12:00PM

March 25 - Paska Sale pick-up.

PARISH NEWS

Catechism - Sundays at 10:00AM (Cancelled for Feb. 4th)

Weekday Liturgy - Liturgy this week is cancelled since Father is out of town.

Weekly Exercise - Thursday evenings at 6:30PM

Weekly Collection - January 21, 2017 - \$565.00. Thank you for your generosity.

Blessing of Candles - Candles will be blessed today

Pyrohy Sale - St. Mary's will be having a pyrohy sale on Feb. 8th. Please place your orders by Feb. 6th.

Confessions - Father will hear confessions following Sunday Liturgies.

For the latest news, announcements and notifications, please like us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/protectionofthebvm/>

Prayer List

Parishioners:

Francis and Rose Charney, Peter Datsko, Michael Lutak, Jessica Mizera, Phyllis Weimer, Michael Yendzik

Friends of the Parish: Troy, Lisa Callahan, Bernie Kordish, Jennifer Maurer, George Datsko, Brian Smith, Breanna Borlie, Lindsey Lamer, Robin Wagner, Dan Ott

To add or remove a name, place your request in the collection basket.

Joke of the Day

During our priest's sermon, a large plant fell over right behind the pulpit, crashing to the ground. Acknowledging his reputation for long-windedness, he smiled sheepishly and said, "Well, that's the first time I actually put a plant to sleep."

The pastor of my church hates to plead for money. But when the coffers were running low, he had no choice. "There's good news and there's bad news," he told the congregation. "The good news is that we have more than enough money for all the current and future needs of the parish. The bad news is, it's still in your pockets."