

February 23, 2020 – Sunday of Cheesefare

Divine Liturgy: Tone 4

Rom 13:11-14:4 and Mt 6:14-21

March 1, 2020 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Great Fast. the Sunday of Orthodoxy

Divine Liturgy: Tone 5

Heb 11:24-26, 32-12:2 and Jn 1:43-51

LITURGY SCHEDULE AND INTENTIONS

**Sunday February 23** 10:00am(Ruthenian) **Sunday of Cheesefare**  
Divine Liturgy for health & blessings upon Jim Hays by mother Margaret Prayers for mutual forgiveness

12:00pm (Melkite) **Divine Liturgy**

Monday, Feb. 24, First day of the Great Fast-Strict fast from all dairy, egg & meat products

**Monday February 24** 7:00pm(Ruthenian) **Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**

**Tuesday February 25** 7:30pm (Melkite) **Great Compline**

**Wednesday February 26** 7:00pm(Ruthenian) **Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**

**Friday February 28** 6:00pm(Ruthenian) **Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**  
7:30pm (Melkite) **Akathistos**

**Sunday March 1** 10:00am(Ruthenian) **1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Great Fast-Sunday of Orthodoxy -Divine Liturgy**  
Procession with Holy Icons for +Marcie & +Delio Rotondo by granddaughter Theresa

12:00pm (Melkite) **Divine Liturgy**  
5:00pm (Chaldean) **Holy Liturgy**  
7:30pm (Melkite) **Great Compline**

**Tuesday March 3** 7:00pm(Ruthenian) **Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**

**Wednesday March 4** 6:00pm(Ruthenian) **Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**

**Friday March 6** 7:30pm (Melkite) **Akathistos**  
9:30am (Ruthenian) **2<sup>nd</sup> All Souls Saturday**  
Divine Liturgy & Panachida for our deceased family & friends

**Saturday March 7**

**Sunday March 8** 10:00am(Ruthenian) **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of the Great Fast-St. Gregory Palamas -Divine Liturgy**  
health & birthday blessings for Therese Colbert by parents Theresa & Will

12:00pm (Melkite) **Divine Liturgy**  
7:30pm (Melkite) **Great Compline**

**Tuesday March 10** 7:00pm(Ruthenian) **Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**

**Wednesday March 11** 6:00pm(Ruthenian) **Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**

**Friday March 13**

**Saturday March 14**

7:30pm (Melkite)

**Akathistos**

9:30am (Ruthenian)

**3<sup>rd</sup> All Souls Saturday**  
Divine Liturgy & Panachida for our deceased family & friends

5:00pm

**Great Vespers**

**Sunday March 15**

10:00am(Ruthenian)

**3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the Great Fast-Veneration of the Cross -**  
Divine Liturgy & Panachida +Thomas Hays

by Margaret Hays  
Panachida for +Delfino Jesus Lopez (40<sup>th</sup> day-Mar. 16),  
by daughter Aly Lopez & Family

12:00pm (Melkite)

**Divine Liturgy**

**Tuesday March 17**

7:30pm (Melkite)

**Great Compline**

**Wednesday March 18**

7:00pm(Ruthenian)

**Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**

**Friday March 20**

6:00pm(Ruthenian)

**Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts**

**Saturday March 21**

7:30pm (Melkite)

**Akathistos**

9:30am (Ruthenian)

**4<sup>th</sup> All Souls Saturday**

Divine Liturgy & Panachida for our deceased family & friends

**Sunday March 22**

10:00am(Ruthenian)

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Great Fast-**  
St. John Climacus -

Divine Liturgy & Panachida +Ralph Kowalik (50<sup>th</sup> anniversary- Mar. 21, 1970)  
by Kowalik Family

**Tuesday March 24**

12:00pm (Melkite)

**Divine Liturgy**

**Wednesday March 25**

7:30pm (Melkite)

**Great Compline**

11:00am (Ruthenian)

**Annunciation of the Theotokos**  
Divine Liturgy -For the deceased members of the O'Connor & Colbert families

By Marcella Colbert

**Friday March 27**

6:00pm(Ruthenian)

**Akathistos**

**Sunday March 29**

7:30pm (Melkite)

**Akathistos**

10:00am(Ruthenian)

**5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the Great Fast-St. Mary of Egypt -Divine Liturgy**  
for health and blessings upon Lisa Rotondo-McCord  
by daughter Theresa

**REMINDER: The Great Fast begins TOMORROW Monday, February 24<sup>th</sup>!**

**Fasting Regulations:** All members of our parish are asked to fast on Wednesdays and Fridays from all meat products; on Clean Monday (the 1<sup>st</sup> day of the Fast) and Good Friday, we fast from all meat, dairy and eggs.

This is the minimum fast. We are all urged to set the bar higher and to challenge ourselves to a strict fast according to our capabilities. This season we as Christians dedicate ourselves to FASTING, GENEROSITY and PRAYER, in preparation for the Feast of the Resurrection, Holy Pascha.

**Please remember in your prayers the sick and homebound in our parish :**

Peter Mytchak, Bill Torma, Elizabeth Van Den Heuvel, Leslie Bohannon, Kathryn Kowalik, Joan Ostrowski, Marianne Oprisko, Malak Bakkal, Sr. Sandy Atha, Fr. Charlie Brown, Louis Rafaj, Bob Mihalo and Sr. Rita Crabbe.

**Sunday Collection 10am Liturgy: *God bless you for your generosity!***  
**February 9- TBA                                      February 16- TBA**

**Calendar of Events**

- Feb 23, Mar 8, 22, Apr 5, 19, May 3 & 17 Eastern Christian Formation for Children after the 10am Liturgy
- Feb 23 Women's Group meeting in Church Social Hall at 12noon
- Feb 23, Mar 1, 15, 29 "Divine Liturgy-The Work of the People" in the Social Hall after Liturgy
- Feb 24 Clean Monday-1<sup>st</sup> Day of the Great Fast-Strict Fast (no meat or dairy products)
- Feb 27 St. Cecilia Parish visits St. John's- 7:30pm La Luz del Oriente: la Iglesia Bizantina
- Mar 14, Apr 11, May 9, Jun 13, Jul 11, Aug 8, Sep 12, Oct 10 and Nov 14  
Meeting of the African Violets Club , 10am-12:30pm Social Hall
- Mar 14 Icon exhibit & lectures, "Icons: Seeing the Face of God", 1pm-6pm
- Mar 28-Lecture: St. Theresa Catholic Ch., Sugarland, 10am-12pm "The Origins of Christian Iconography"

St. John's Parish Library received the donation of a new book "Of Such is the Kingdom: A Practical Theology of Disability", from the author, Summer Kinard. This wonderful book and many others are available in our Library. Please make use of these resources especially during the Great Fast!

**Bible Study-** You are invited to join David Dominguez, for our next Bible Study on Tuesday, March 10 at 6:30pm for potluck and 7-8:30pm study and

discussion. We will be studying 1 Maccabees, chapters 10-14. All are welcome!

**House Blessings - EXTENDED**

Due to all the activities, problems and illnesses, house blessing season is extended! We will be blessing homes as long as it takes! Contact Fr. Elias at 713-256-8953 or [houstonelias@gmail.com](mailto:houstonelias@gmail.com)

Starting TODAY, St. John's will host a series of presentations and discussions, as part of our Parish "Continuing Faith Education" about our Liturgical tradition, its history and how we pray the Liturgy today. The presentations will take place after the 10am Divine Liturgy, at 12 noon in the Social Hall. Mark your calendars and invite your friends and family!

**Divine Liturgy-The Work of the People**

- Feb. 23-*Introduction to Liturgy: Temple & Church* with Fr. Elias
- Mar. 1-*Sacred Space & Sacred Furnishings* with David Dominguez
- Mar. 15-*Preparing for Liturgy & Proskomidi* with Fr. Elias
- Mar. 29-*The Divine Liturgy and the Moral Life* with Ryan Black

"Return to Me for I have redeemed you." -Isaiah 44:22

Cultivate intimacy with God thru "Return to Me", a Lenten program of spiritual formation sponsored by St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church in Whiting, Indiana. The parish will host an online webinar series on prayer Thursdays during the Great Fast beginning Feb. 27 at 7pm CST. Learn how scripture, the Jesus Prayer, silence and the Liturgy offer the language you need to speak with and hear the Lord who loves you. For more info and to sign up for this FREE webinar series, go to [stmarywhiting.org/returntome/](http://stmarywhiting.org/returntome/)

**Thank you to all who came and helped with cleanup in the immediate aftermath of the flooding of the Church, on the day of the flood as well as on the following Saturday. A lot of work was done in the Church as well as on the grounds! Thank you so much! We are currently working with the insurance company to begin restoration. There will be some costs, not covered by the insurance so if you would like to donate, please mark the envelope FLOOD and your donation will be put aside for those specific needs.**