

**HOLY SPIRIT BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
4815 5th Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213 - Rectory Phone: 412-687-1220  
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Administrator: Reverend Michael D. Kunitz, M. Div.  
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Cantor: Julia Revilak & Family  
Sub-Deacon: Raphael Ruggiero

## **February 15, 2026**

### **Sunday of Cheese Fare**

#### **SCHEDULE OF DIVINE SERVICES**

**Sunday, Feb. 15: Sunday of Cheese Fare**

7:00 am Matins 7:45 am Rosary, 8:00 am Divine Liturgy **with Ceremony of Mutual Forgiveness**  
**IHO Martina Revilak by the Revilak Family**

5:00 pm Confessions, 6:00 pm Divine Liturgy **with Ceremony of Mutual Forgiveness**

**Monday, Feb. 16: First Day of the Great Fast-Pure Monday**

6:00 pm Confessions, 7:00 pm Presanctified Liturgy  
**IMO John Katsur Jr. by Mary Dzurichko**

**Wednesday, Feb. 18: Pure Wednesday**

NO SERVICES

**Friday, Feb 20: Pure Friday**

6:00 pm Confessions, 7:00 pm Divine Liturgy

**Saturday, Feb 21: 4:00 pm Confessions, 5:00 pm Evening Light Bible Study, 6:00 pm Great Vespers**

**Sunday, Feb. 22: First Sunday of the Great Fast**

7:00 am Matins 7:45 am Rosary, 8:00 am Divine Liturgy  
**IMO John & Mary Modecki Family by their Daughter Dolores Bacasa**

6:00 pm Divine Liturgy

**Divine Liturgies are open for intentions for this new year. If you would like to make an intention for a Liturgy, please call the office or fill out request form in the back of the church and give it to Fr. Michael.**

**CHURCH CLEANING DAYS:** Join us next **Saturday, February 21 at 10:00 am** to clean the church. If needed, we will also meet on **Saturday, February 28 at 12:00 noon** cleaning supplies will be provided. A sign-up sheet is in the narthex. Please lend a hand if you can.

**LENTEN CHARITY 2026:** As Great Lent is a time for Fasting, Penance, Prayer, and Almsgiving, the parish will again take **monetary collections** for a local charity during the Lenten Season. This year, we will be giving to **Community Human Services Food Pantry**. This group, based in South Oakland, helps the poor, homeless, and less fortunate right here in our neighborhood. Anything we're able to give will be greatly appreciated. Please speak with Mary Dzurichko if you're interested in donating.

**BASKET RAFFLE:** *We are having a basket raffle at the Meager Meal. The theme is “Prepping for Pascha.” If you’re interested in contributing to a basket of items to help people celebrate Pascha this year, please speak with Lynne Walicki or Fr. Michael. Items need to be received by next Sunday, February 22.*

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR MEAGER MEAL SUNDAY MARCH 1<sup>ST</sup>:**

Our parish has the honor of hosting the second Deanery Penitential Vespers on March 1<sup>st</sup>. We need donations of various fast-friendly (meatless) soups, bread, desserts and beverages. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex where you can note what you plan to bring. **We’re still looking for dessert options if you’re interested in helping.**

**DEANERY PENITENTIAL VESPERS FOR GREAT LENT 2026:** The Great Fast begins this year on Pure Monday, February 16th. The Pittsburgh Protopresbytery of our Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy will hold its annual Order of Vespers on Sunday afternoons during the Great Fast from February 22nd through March 22nd. Every Sunday clergy and laity from all over the Deanery come together in a different parish to participate in the sacrament of Reconciliation at 3:30 pm and pray the Vespers at 4:00 pm. Each Vespers is followed by a social hour focused on a meager meal of fast-friendly meatless soup. This is a wonderful opportunity for prayer, penance, self-denial, fellowship and to gather with fellow travelers in the Great Fast, spiritually preparing us on our way to receive the Lord in the Feast of Feasts, Great and Holy Pascha on April 5th. Confessions 3:30 pm – Vespers: 4:00 pm

**Cheese Fare Sunday, February 15:** St. John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Cathedral - 210 Greentree Road Munhall, PA 15120. Forgiveness Vespers

**1st Sunday, February 22:** St. John Chrysostom Byzantine Catholic Church - 506 Saline St., Pittsburgh, PA 15207  
Homilist: Fr. Michael Kunitz

**2nd Sunday, March 1:** Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church - 4815 Fifth Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213  
Homilist: Fr. Tyler Wisniewski

**3rd Sunday, March 8:** Holy Ghost Byzantine Catholic Church - 225 Olivia St., McKees Rocks, PA 15136  
Homilist: Fr. Vitalii Stashkevych

**4th Sunday, March 15:** Ss. Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Church - 431 George St., Braddock, PA 15104  
Homilist: Fr. Frank Firko

**5th Sunday, March 22:** St. Pius X Byzantine Catholic Church - 2336 Brownsville Rd, Pittsburgh, PA 15210  
Homilist: Fr. Valerian Michlik

**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES:** May God grant you many happy and blessed years!

2/17 Martina Revilakova

2/27 Sub-Deacon Raphael Ruggerio

Don’t see your birthday or anniversary? Let us know so we can update the directory!

**THE OFFICE OF YOUTH & ADULT MINISTRY THROUGH THE ARCHEPARCHY WILL BE HOLDING AN ON-LINE GREAT FAST BIBLE STUDY DURING LENT** This is a new program that will be held via Zoom and start at 6:00 pm. These sessions are designed for adults 35 and younger. For more information emails can be sent to [youth@archpitt.org](mailto:youth@archpitt.org)

**SEEKING VOLUNTEERS:** If you are interested in learning to lead Matins as a Reader’s Service on Sunday before Liturgy, please see Father Michael. Matins is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month unless otherwise noted.

**ICONS AVAILABLE:** There are several blessed icons in the church hall, there is no cost to take these home, though a free will offering for the benefit of the parish is welcome.

**MORNING LITURGY COFFEE SOCIAL VOLUNTEERS:** In addition to attending services together, it is important that we spend time in conversation with one another. To make it truly a time of sharing – we ask everyone to sign up to host a Sunday. We look forward to seeing you!

**EVENING LITURGY SOCIAL:** In addition to attending services together, it is important that we spend time in conversation with one another. Please join us in the hall following the liturgy for fellowship. We look forward to seeing you!

**EPISTLE: Rome 13:11 – 14-4**

And do this because you know the time; it is the hour now for you to awake from sleep. For our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed; the night is advanced, the day is at hand. Let us then throw off the works of darkness [and] put on the armor of light; let us conduct ourselves properly as in the day, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in promiscuity and licentiousness, not in rivalry and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no provision for the desires of the flesh. Welcome anyone who is weak in faith, but not for disputes over opinions. One person believes that one may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. The one who eats must not despise the one who abstains, and the one who abstains must not pass judgment on the one who eats; for God has welcomed him. Who are you to pass judgment on someone else's servant? Before his own master he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

**GOSPEL: Matthew 6: 14-21**

If you forgive others their transgressions, your heavenly Father will forgive you. But if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your transgressions. "When you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites. They neglect their appearance, so that they may appear to others to be fasting. Amen, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, so that you may not appear to others to be fasting, except to your Father who is hidden. And your Father who sees what is hidden will repay you. "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and decay destroy, and thieves break in and steal. But store up treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor decay destroys, nor thieves break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.

**SAINT OF THE DAY:** Feb. 15 **The holy apostle Onesimus**, a fugitive slave whom St. Paul the apostle caught and gave birth to in Christ, a son in the faith, as Paul himself wrote to his master Philemon (1<sup>st</sup> Century AD).

Feb. 16 **The holy martyrs: the presbyter Pamphilus, Porphyry and their companions**, who received the crown of martyrdom: Pamphilus the priest; Valens, a deacon of Jerusalem; and Paul, born in the city of Jamnia, who had passed two years in prison; and also Porphyry, a servant of Pamphilus; Seleucus the Cappadocian, who was of high rank in the military; Theodulus, an old man from the family of the governor Firmilian; and finally Julian the Cappadocian, who, coming from abroad that very same hour, when he kissed the bodies of the martyrs, was accused as a Christian and ordered by the governor to be burned over a slow fire. (309)

Feb. 17&21 **The Holy Great Martyr Theodore the Recruit** (306).

Feb. 18 **Our holy father Leo, Pope of Rome** who, born in Etruria [i.e., Tuscany], first stood out as a diligent deacon of Rome. He was then elevated to the chair of Peter, where rightly and by his merit he deserved to be called "the Great." He nourished his flock by his excellent and prudent discourse. Because of his orthodox teaching on the incarnation of God, the true faith was vigorously affirmed through his delegates to the Ecumenical Council of Chalcedon. He rested in the Lord at Rome, where he was buried on this day. (461)

**ON-LINE GIVING IS HERE!** If you wish to make a monetary donation to our parish – you can do so on our website or by using this QR code. Remember every dollar helps support the mission of our parish community. Thank you.



**PRAYER FOR OUR FOUR SAINTLY BISHOPS:** Please pray for the causes of our four Saintly Bishops and ask them to intercede for your specific intentions: O Almighty God, our Lord, we bless You, we praise You, and we thank you for all the graces which You, in Your infinite mercy have bestowed upon us. We are especially grateful for giving us four saintly and heroic Bishops: **Bishop Theodore G. Romzha, Bishop Paul P. Gojdich OBSM, Bishop Basil Hopko, and Bishop Alexander Chira**, who, by their courage, charity, and intrepid faith, inspired our Ruthenian people in the darkest moments of their history. By their great sufferings, humiliating imprisonment, and violent death they gave living witness to their Catholic faith and glorified Your exalted name. Therefore, O Gracious Lord, glorify them in return by Your divine power and inscribe their names in the book of Your Saints. For you are holy, our God, and we render glory to You, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and ever, and forever, Amen. With Ecclesiastical Approbation Acknowledgment of answered prayers: Postulator's office, 54 Riverview Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15214, U.S.A.

**PRAYER FOR SEMINARIANS:** **Saints Cyril and Methodius**, Venerable Apostles of the Slavs and Patrons of our Byzantine Catholic Seminary, we place our Seminarians in your loving care. Help them to grow in humility, meekness and prudence. Enkindle in them a burning zeal for souls. May their hearts be filled with the gifts of the Holy Spirit and may they learn to know and love the church so that they may always and everywhere think, speak and act with Her, the Glorious Spouse of Christ. May they become exemplars of generosity and detachment from the things of this world. But above all, O Venerable Patrons, help them to truly know, love and serve the Eternal High Priest, Our Lord Jesus Christ, Whose priests they aspire to be. Amen. St. Michael the Archangel, Defend us in battle. Be our protection against the wickedness and snares of the Devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray. And do thou, O Prince of the heavenly hosts, By the power of God, cast into hell Satan and all the evil spirits, who prowl throughout the world seeking the ruin of souls. Amen.