

St. John Chrysostom, Col's, OH Parish Weekly Schedule

Sunday February 12
Sunday of the Prodigal Son

9:30am Divine Liturgy
For the Faithful

~ Coffee and refreshments will be served in the parish hall following the services. Everyone is welcome!

Monday February 13

9a-1p Office Hours

Wednesday February 15

8am Divine Liturgy in chapel
+Margaret Jennings by John Czarnik

9a-1p Office Hours

Thursday February 16

8am Divine Liturgy in chapel
+Kenneth Papke by the Washlock Family

9a-1p Office Hours

Friday February 17

8am Divine Liturgy in chapel
+The Priest Robert Barter by Anonymous

9a-1p Office Hours

Saturday February 18
1st All Souls Saturday

9am Divine Liturgy
For All the Faithful Departed

Sunday February 19
Sunday of the Prodigal Son

9:30am Divine Liturgy
For the Faithful

11:15am Children's ECF

St. Barbara, Dayton, OH Monthly Schedule

Saturday February 4
Sunday of the Publican and the Pharisee

4pm Divine Liturgy
For the Faithful

~ Coffee and refreshments will be served in the parish hall following the services. Everyone is welcome!

Saturday February 11
Sunday of the Prodigal Son

4pm Divine Liturgy
For the Faithful

~ Coffee and refreshments will be served in the parish hall following the services. Everyone is welcome!

Saturday February 18
Sunday of Meatfare; 1st All Souls Saturday

4pm Divine Liturgy
For All the Faithful Departed

~ Coffee and refreshments will be served in the parish hall following the services. Everyone is welcome!

Saturday February 25
Sunday of Cheesefare

4pm Divine Liturgy
For the Faithful

~ Coffee and refreshments will be served in the parish hall following the services. Everyone is welcome!

Monday February 26
First Day of the Great Fast

6pm Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

“Whoever is generous to the poor lends to the LORD...”

~ Proverbs 19:17

We are entering into the period of the Great Fast and our Gospels speak to us of God the Father's Love for us. In this spirit, we would like to ask everyone of the parish of St. John Chrysostom to help us help others in this area during the Great Fast. Instead of presenting monetary donations for Presanctified Liturgies, we ask that you use those donations to fill the



baskets by the Icon of St. Tabitha. We have broken down the weeks of the Great Fast by specific types of items that are needed by the Westerville Area Resource Ministry, the local food pantry to which we regularly donate. These items are graciously transported to

W.A.R.M. (Westerville Area Resource Ministry) by one of our parishioners.

1st Week of the Great Fast – Cleaning items, laundry detergent, multipurpose cleaners, sponges, dish soap, etc.

2nd Week of the Great Fast – Paper products, paper towels, toilet paper, diapers, baby wipes, feminine protection items, etc.

3rd Week of the Great Fast – Personal items, bath soap, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, toothbrushes (individually packaged), deodorant.

4th Week of the Great Fast – Boxed goods, cereal, mac & cheese, pasta, noodles, cake mixes, etc.

5th Week of the Great Fast – Canned/jar items such as vegetables, fruits, sauces, condiments, etc.

These are just suggestions; anything you wish to donate is gratefully received.

~ Fr. Bob

“Feeding the hungry is a greater miracle than raising the dead!”

~St. John Chrysostom

Growing
Together
in Faith

**EASTERN
CHRISTIAN
FORMATION**

Children's ECF Class Schedule:

February 5th & 19th, March 5th & 19th, April 2nd & 23rd, May 7th & 21st

Adult ECF Class Schedule:

March 5th, 12th, 19, and 26th.

Adult ECF Classes

We have FREE books for Adult ECF in the entryway of the church. Classes will be led by Robert Parks and held on the four Sundays of March. We will focus on themes in Matthew Kelly's book *Resisting Happiness* over these four Sundays, which have to do with the overarching theme of seeking God.

This book was suggested by the Eparchy of Parma as a starting point for all of us seeking *metanoia* during the time of the Great Fast. The books were made available to us, for free, from Parma. Even if you do not attend the Adult ECF classes, the book is good to read on your own during the Great Fast.

Volunteers Needed!!! Dance!

The Ladies Guild wants to sponsor a dance as a fundraiser on May 6th. In order to do this we need **firm commitments of at least 20 people** to volunteer to prepare and work the dance. In order to get the appropriate licenses needed for selling alcohol and to schedule entertainment we need to have the names of those of you willing to work **NO LATER THAN TODAY**. Please contact Pat Papai at **614-578-5698** or send her an e-mail at **mpapai@att.net**. Of course, you may also call or email the church office at:

614-882-7578; stjohnbyz@hotmail.com

AND

Baking Dates

We **NEED** volunteers to help with baking Pascha Breads and the nut, apricot and poppyseed rolls.

We have scheduled February 25th and March 4th as the days for making Pascha Loaves. Lisa Sulich is coordinating this effort and asks that you contact her as soon as possible, either by phone **937-844-7778** or email: **lmsulich@yahoo.com** to commit to helping with the Pascha Breads. The start times will be determined by discussion with those who volunteer.

We would like to make nut, apricot and poppyseed rolls available to our parishioners for Pascha as well as for the First Friday Sale on April 7th. **We have blocked out March 11th** and, hopefully, one more day for this baking.

At least 6 people are needed for each day to make the rolls, if we do not have the needed number of volunteers, we will not bake rolls. **Firm commitment for roll baking is needed by Sunday, February 26th.** Please contact Lisa Sulich at the number and/or email above, or you may also contact the office at 614-882-7578; email: stjohnbyz@hotmail.com.



From The Eparchy of Parma

5th Annual Women's Retreat

CAREY, OHIO: Saint Mary Byzantine Catholic Church in Marblehead, Ohio is sponsoring the Fifth Annual Women's Retreat on March 3, 4 and 5, 2017. It will be held at the Basilica and National Shrine of Our Lady of Consolation, 315 Clay St., Carey, Ohio 43316. The topic of the retreat will be **"Hear me, O LORD!"** The retreat master will be Father Valerian Michlik, pastor of Saint Gregory Byzantine Catholic Church in Upper Sinclair (Pittsburgh) PA. Please contact Joan Washburn at 865-696-7809 or washburn.joan5@gail.com for further information. We look forward to your attendance at this spiritually rewarding event.

Read your Bible!

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Exodus 32: 7-11, 13-14; Psalms 51: 3-4, 12-13, 17, 19; 1 Timothy 1: 12-17; Luke 15: 1-33

In today's Gospel reading from St. Luke, Jesus delivers three parables in short order. The first deals with a lost sheep; the second with a lost coin; and the third with a lost son. Although the Lord was specifically speaking to Pharisees and scribes, a large crowd had gathered including sinners and tax collectors, and Jesus' message was as much for them. In fact, it is a message each of us needs to hear and to take to heart.

As is always the case in Holy Scripture, there are messages for us in each of today's readings. How carefully do we listen to those messages? We may hear the scripture readings; we may even follow them carefully in a missalette or other book, but do we truly listen for the messages there are for each of us?

The First Reading comes to us from the Book of Exodus. The second Book of the Old Testament, Exodus gets its name from the ancient Greek word *exodus*, meaning "going out." It tells how the Israelites leave slavery in Egypt through the strength of God and under the leadership of Moses. They journey through the wilderness to Mt. Sinai, where God promises them the land of Canaan (the Promised Land) in return for their faithfulness. However, this particular reading from Exodus 32 speaks of a time when the people strayed from their faith.

God is speaking to Moses, and the Lord explains that things are happening and have happened of which Moses may not be aware. God speaks of idols and false Gods. This is a warning for all of us. Many times in our lives we lose our sense of priority; we may see other things as more important at moments than our faith. God can and will forgive us, but it is a forgiveness we must seek, and we must be committed to changing to live God-centered lives — the kind of conversion

required of us to be good stewards.

To serve God we must first be faithful to God. That is what Paul is explaining to Timothy in the Second Reading. St. Paul is well aware that he is reliant upon the Lord to be enabled to serve Him and to share the Good News with others. Paul says, **"I am grateful to him who has strengthened me, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he considered me trustworthy in appointing me to the ministry."** We often speak of how important it is to trust in the Lord. However, we cannot neglect the fact that God trusts us as well.

This is the kind of trust about which Paul is speaking. Paul did not "volunteer" to serve God. He was called and he responded to that call. The Lord also calls each of us, and He expects each of us to respond as good stewards also. However, one of the greatest gifts we receive — free will — can also be a stumbling block. Of course, it all goes back to faithfulness, the faith that failed the Israelites. God loves us; God is patient with us; and God forgives us when we fail. The secret is for us, like Paul, to be grateful for our calling. Our Second Reading concludes with St. Paul declaring **"To the king of ages, incorruptible, invisible, the only God, honor and glory forever and ever. Amen."** Paul could never stop praising God. If we have trouble with that, it is probably because we do not know God very well. That may be the real goal of our lives.

Jesus' parables are the epitome of how He teaches us. The three in today's Gospel Reading from St. Luke all involve what is important in life. In the parables of the Lost Sheep, the Lost Coin, and the Lost Son (the Prodigal Son) Jesus is addressing the issue of what is important in God's eyes and how that relates to repentance and forgiveness. Much has been written and said about the story of the prodigal son and it might be summarized quite simply. The son makes two appeals to his father. The first might be stated as **"Give me..."** and the second as **"Make me..."**

We may ask for a lot from God as well. But the real key to success and to being a good steward is to say quite simply *“Lord, make me what You will” or “Lord, make me an instrument of Your peace.”* It is only through faith and through gratitude and through acceptance of God’s will that we can truly serve Him. Real joy is found in God’s response to that second request — *“Make me.”*

Like the sheep, the coin, and the son, we are all lost at times. But God loves us, looks for us, and welcomes us and rejoices with us when we are found, when we return. The Lord offers an important caution to us in the third parable or third part, the story of the Prodigal Son. This parable is as much about the older brother as it is about the lost brother. Remember whom Jesus was addressing — tax collectors and Pharisees. Of course, Jesus is also addressing us. As much as He expects us to be loving and caring and good stewards of our many gifts, Jesus also does not expect us to feel morally superior to others. In fact, when we start to think that we are in any way superior because of our own perceived holiness, we have lost — just as the older brother did — the ability to have mercy and to love as we are supposed to.

St. Paul urges us to "pray without ceasing," and this prayer is one of the best ways to start doing so. If we fill the otherwise wasted moments of our day with the Holy Name of Jesus, we'll keep our thoughts focused on Him and grow in His grace.

LORD JESUS CHRIST, SON OF GOD, HAVE MERCY ON ME A SINNER!

Prayer List

For the sick in our parish families, please remember in your prayers:

The Priest Eugene Linowski			
Ron Doctor	Ray Duskotch	Julia Fedeczko	Julie Fultz
Charlene Grabner	John Grabner	Ev Houston	Esther Imhoff
Frederick Kowalski	Marilyn Kimbrel	Donald Krofcheck	Victor Lonzrick
Christine Loya	Bill Martin	Joe Martin	Paul Mech
Ed Nyahay	Dave Olszyk	Mic O’Halloran	John Oshinski
Paula Oshinski	Bob Parks	Maria Rakowsky	Betty Sikora
John Sikora	Dennis Stinich	Bernie Turanchik	Ruth Turanchik
Anastaszja Wojchak			

That the Lord God, for the glory of His name, visit his sick servants with His Holy Spirit and cure every illness and affliction, let us pray.



Carson Boniface
Abigail Branham
Nick Branham
Al Gingras
Joan Hummel
Patricia Hartung

Bernie & Ruth Turanchick
Celebrating 65 Years crowned in marriage!
May God grant them many Happy and Blessed Years!

Volunteer Schedules
Collection Counting

Feb. 12 Jerry Stasek
Feb. 19 Mark Frye
Feb. 26 Kathey Krofcheck
Mar. 5 Alex Rakowsky

Church Cleaning

Feb. 18 Paula Martin/Lora Lonzrick