



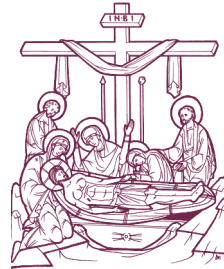
Feast of the Annunciation — March 25

We celebrate the Virgin Mary's "fiat" or "yes" to the greeting of the Archangel Gabriel that she will give birth to our Lord Jesus Christ, the Salvation of our souls. This is a day of obligation equal to the Lord's Day (Sunday) and all should do their best to gather to celebrate the Eucharist together. The day is so honoured that we break away from our Lenten fast for one day to celebrate the feast with great joy. The feast is celebrated even if it falls on Good Friday itself.



Reading of the Twelve Passion Gospels

In anticipation of Good Friday we read twelve Gospel passages that narrate the Passion of our Lord. The twelve readings retell the account of Judas' betrayal, Jesus' final words to the Apostles, His anguish in the Garden, His arrest and trial before Pilate, the denial of Peter, the scourging and crucifixion, and our Lord's death and burial. This service will move even the hardest of hearts to the Lord. "Glory to Your Passion, O Lord!" "Glory to Your long-suffering, O Lord!"



Procession and Veneration of the Holy Shroud

On Good Friday we observe a strict fast and spend the day in quiet meditation of our Crucified Lord. We celebrate Vespers with a procession and veneration of the Holy Shroud. During the procession children "clack" wooden blocks symbolic of the sounds made by hammers as Jesus is nailed to the Cross. Those not in the procession turn in their pews so as to never turn their back towards the image of Christ. The Shroud is then laid in a tomb for all to venerate.



Holy Saturday — The Descent into Hades and Nadhrobne

When the time for Vespers arrives we begin to see a great transformation. Just before the Gospel is proclaimed the clergy change from red vestments to gold in anticipation of our Lord's Resurrection. Easter foods are blessed and yet reserved for the following day so that we can partake of the blessed meal immediately after the Easter Sunday morning service. At the end of the day we celebrate the "Nadhrobne" or "at the tomb" service as the Shroud is transferred to the Holy Altar.



Pascha — The Resurrection of Our Lord

Early in the morning we journey with myrrh-bearing women to the tomb. The doors of the Church are closed and the people assembled. At a certain point the priest knocks on the doors, commanding that they be opened to the King of Glory as we sing "Christ is risen from the dead...". We share the risen Lord in the Most Holy Eucharist. At the end of the service we are greeted with "Christ is Risen!" to which we respond "Indeed, He is risen!"

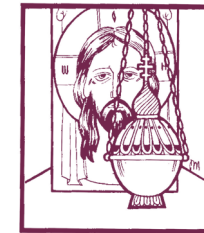
ST. STEPHEN PROTOMARTYR UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH

2021

Liturgical Services

for the

Lenten and Easter Season



Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

The Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts was first documented by Pope St. Gregory I (540–604), who at the time was the papal legate to Constantinople. He noted that the Byzantines even fasted from the act of "consecration" during the weekdays of Holy Lent. This tradition continues today and is practiced to varying degrees in North America. The prayers of incense and a solemn silent procession of the Blessed Sacrament are at the core of this Eucharistic service.



Lenten Typica with distribution of the Eucharist

This simple Lenten service is based on the morning "matins" service and adapted for the distribution of the presanctified Eucharist. Scripture readings all come the Prophets of the Old Testament who spoke of the coming of the Anointed One of God. We anticipate the "fullness of time" as God welcomes us to live in His Kingdom. We end the service with prostrations praying the prayer of St. Ephrem the Syrian: "O Lord and Master of my life, keep from me the spirit of indifference..."



Sorokousty

"At the signal given by the voice of the Archangel and the trumpet of God, the Lord himself will come down from heaven; those who have died in Christ will be the first to rise, and only after that shall we who remain alive be taken up in the clouds, together with them, to meet the Lord in the air" (1Thess.4:16-17). At this Lenten service we read aloud the names of our loved ones who have died and pray that we may be together with them at our Lord's second coming.



Akathist to the Theotokos

This centuries old "standing prayer" recalls the protection of the Most Holy Theotokos. In 625, when emperor Heraclius was fighting the Persians, the Khan sent forces to attack Constantinople by land and by sea. Patriarch Sergius urged the people not to lose heart but trust in God, a procession around the city was made with the relics of the True Cross and the Virgin's robe. Through our Lady's intercession the city was saved!

2021 – Lenten and Easter Services

1st Week of Great Lent – Sunday of Orthodoxy

Feb. 15	Monday	Beginning of Great and Holy Lent (<i>Strict fast – no meat or dairy products, Tues– Fri Meatless</i>)	
17	Wednesday	9:00am	Lenten Typica w/Eucharist
		6:00pm	Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
20	Saturday	10:00am	Sorokousty
		5:00pm	Confessions
		6:00pm	Great Vespers
21	1 st Sunday	8:30am	Divine Liturgy (<i>Ukrainian w/English homily</i>)
		10:30am	Divine Liturgy (<i>English - Choir</i>)
		5:00pm	Divine Liturgy (<i>English - Family Choir</i>)

2nd Week of Great Lent – Sunday of St. Gregory of Palamas

No meat or meat products Mon-Wed-Fri throughout the Fast

24	Wednesday	9:00am	Lenten Typica w/Eucharist
		6:00pm	Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
27	Saturday	6:00pm	Great Vespers
28	2 nd Sunday	8:30am	Divine Liturgy (<i>Ukrainian w/English homily</i>)
		10:30am	Divine Liturgy (<i>English - Choir</i>)
		5:00pm	Divine Liturgy (<i>English - Family Choir</i>)

3rd Week of Great Lent – Sunday of the Holy Cross

Mar. 3	Wednesday	9:00am	Lenten Typica w/Eucharist
		6:00pm	Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
6	Saturday	10:00am	Sorokousty
		5:00pm	Confessions
		6:00pm	Great Vespers
7	3 rd Sunday	8:30am	Divine Liturgy (<i>Ukrainian w/English homily</i>)
		10:30am	Divine Liturgy (<i>English - Choir</i>)
		5:00pm	Divine Liturgy (<i>English - Family Choir</i>)

4th Week of Great Lent – Sunday of St. John Climacus

10	Wednesday	9:00am	Lenten Typica w/Eucharist
		6:00pm	Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
13	Saturday	6:00pm	Great Vespers
14	4 th Sunday	8:30am	Divine Liturgy (<i>Ukrainian w/English homily</i>)
		10:30am	Divine Liturgy (<i>English - Choir</i>)
		5:00pm	Divine Liturgy (<i>English - Family Choir</i>)

5th Week of Great Lent – Sunday of St. Mary of Egypt

17	Wednesday	9:00am	Lenten Typica w/Eucharist
		6:00pm	Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts/Sorokousty
20	Saturday	10:00am	Akathist to the Theotokos (<i>Akathistos Saturday</i>)

Lenten Mission: From Simon to Peter, From Sinner to Saint, Conversations with St. Peter.

		5:00pm	Confessions
		6:00pm	Great Vespers † Lenten Mission w/Bishop David (Day 1)
21	Sunday	8:30am	† Lenten Mission (Day 2) – Divine Liturgy (<i>Ukr. w/ Eng. homily</i>)
		10:30am	† Lenten Mission (Day 2) – Divine Liturgy (<i>Bilingual - Choir</i>)
		5:00pm	Divine Liturgy (<i>English - Family Choir</i>)

6th Week of Great Lent - Palm Sunday

24	Wednesday	9:00am	Lenten Typica w/Eucharist
		6:00pm	Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
25	Thursday	7:00pm	Vesperal Divine Liturgy † Feast of the Annunciation
27	Saturday	9:00am	Divine Liturgy w/anointing of the sick (<i>Lazarus Saturday</i>)
28	Sunday	8:30am	† Divine Liturgy (<i>Ukrainian w/English homily</i>) Distribution of Willows
		10:30am	† Divine Liturgy (<i>English - Choir</i>) Distribution of Willows
		5:00pm	† Divine Liturgy (<i>English - Family Choir</i>) Distribution of Willows

Great and Holy Week

31	Wednesday	9:00am	Bridegroom Matins w/Typica Eucharist
		6:00pm	Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts
Apr. 1	Thursday	6:00pm	Passion Matins (<i>Twelve Passion Gospels</i>)

Great and Holy Friday – Passion of Our Lord

(Strict fast – no meat or dairy products)

2	Friday	<i>11:30am to 12:30pm – Sacrament of Reconciliation</i>	
		1:00pm	† Shroud Service (<i>Procession of the Holy Shroud</i>)
		<i>3:00pm to 3:45pm – Sacrament of Reconciliation</i>	
		4:00pm	Jerusalem Matins

Great and Holy Saturday – The Descent Into Hades

3	Saturday	2:00pm	Blessing of Food (<i>in Hall</i>)
		3:00pm	Vespers w/Liturgy of St. Basil the Great
		6:00pm	Blessing of Food (<i>in Hall</i>)
		7:00pm	Nadhrobne (<i>Tomb service – transfer of the Holy Shroud</i>)

Pascha – Resurrection of Our Lord

4	Sunday	7:30am	† Resurrection Matins & Easter Divine Liturgy (<i>Bilingual - Choir</i>)
		<i>Blessing of Food in Hall</i>	
		10:30am	† Easter Divine Liturgy (<i>English - Cantor</i>)
		<i>Blessing of Food in Hall</i>	
		6:00pm	Agape Vespers (<i>A joyful evening Resurrection service</i>)