

### *Wisdom from St. John Climacus*

“To admire the labors of the saints is good; to emulate them wins salvation; but to wish suddenly to imitate their life in every point is unreasonable and impossible.”

“A servant of the Lord is he who in body stands before men, but in mind knocks at Heaven with prayer.”

“To judge others is a shameless arrogation of the Divine prerogative; to condemn is the ruin of one’s soul.”

“In all your undertakings and in every way of life, whether you are living in obedience, or are not submitting your work to anyone, whether in outward or in spiritual matters, let it be your rule and practice to ask yourself: Am I really doing this in accordance with God’s will?”

“The Christian is one who imitates Christ in thought, word and deed, as far as is possible for human beings, believing rightly and blamelessly in the Holy Trinity.”

“Let your prayer be completely simple. For both the publican and the prodigal son were reconciled to God by a single phrase.”

“Do not say, after spending a long time in prayer, that nothing has been gained; for you have already gained something. And what higher good is there than to cling to the Lord and persevere in unceasing union with Him?”

“Some people with a hot temper do not worry about it and ignore the remedies that would heal them. They forget, unfortunately, what is written: ‘Surely anger kills the fool, and jealousy slays the simple,’ (Job 5:2).”

“A charitable and sensible mind takes careful note of whatever virtues it sees in anyone. But a fool looks for faults and defects. And of such it is said: ‘They have searched out iniquity and expired in the search.’ Do not condemn, even if you see with your eyes, for they are often deceived”

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST MEMORY OF OUR HOLY FATHER JOHN CLIMACUS



*Icon of the Ladder of Divine Ascent*

UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC NATIONAL SHRINE OF THE HOLY FAMILY

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Pastoral Care entrusted to:

Father Robert Hitchens – Administrator

Father Mykola Dziurakh – Parochial Vicar

Sunday – March 30, 2025

Glory to Jesus Christ – Glory to Him Forever + Слава Ісусу Христу – Слава на віки

Confessions are available before the Divine Liturgies

All Services will be Live Streamed at 9:00 AM and 11:30 AM

Platform: <https://www.facebook.com/holyfamilyshrine/>

<b>Saturday March 29</b> 10:00 a.m. 5:30 p.m.	<b>Divine Liturgy (Sorokousty)</b> <b>Great Vespers</b>
<b>Sunday March 30</b> 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	<b>Fourth Sunday of the Fast – St. John Climacus</b> (For the Parish) (+Oksana Mostowycz from the Kerda Family)
<b>Wednesday April 2</b> **7:00 p.m.**	<b>Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts</b>
<b>Friday April 4</b> **5:00 p.m.**	<b>Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts</b> (Living of the Nagurney-Medwid Family from Irene)
<b>Saturday April 5</b> 10:00 a.m. 5:30 p.m.	<b>Akathistos Saturday</b> <b>Divine Liturgy (Sorokousty)</b> <b>Akathist of the Mother of God</b>
<b>Sunday April 6</b> 9:00 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	<b>Fifth Sunday of the Fast – St. Mary of Egypt</b> (For the Parish) (+Deacon Theophil from Family)

**LENTEN RETREAT 2025 – WITH FATHER IOURI KOSLOVSKII – APRIL 9, 11, 12 AND 13**

Join us on Wednesday April 9 at 7pm, Confessions and Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (UKR and ENG); Friday April 11 at 5pm, Confessions and Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts (UKR and ENG), Saturday April 12 at 5:30pm Great Vespers and at 6:30pm Spiritual Concert; Palm Sunday April 13 9am and 11:30am Divine Liturgy – confessions during the Sunday Liturgies.

**THE GREAT FAST – A TIME FOR PENANCE AND METANOIA**

Our parish will make a commitment to observe this sacred time in accord with the authentic traditions of our Ukrainian Catholic Church. We will celebrate the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts on **Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.** and on **Fridays at 5:00 p.m.** in our Church. On Saturdays, we will celebrate the Divine Liturgy for the Souls enrolled in the Sorokousty 10:00 a.m. in our Church. Christians have been challenged to practice: **FASTING – ALMSGIVING – PRAYER – AS A WAY OF LIFE AND A WAY TO ETERNAL LIFE.** All parishioners are urged to resolve to make their best effort to attend at least **5** of these sacred services during the Great Fast, especially those in which we remember our deceased loved ones. All must attend the Divine Liturgy on Sundays.

**SPIRITUAL REGULATIONS FOR THE GREAT FAST 2025**

Although our Church traditionally prescribed abstinence from meat and dairy products in days gone by for the entire duration of the Great Fast, the following are the minimal Lenten regulations today: Abstinence from meat and all dairy products on Good Friday. Abstinence from meat only on all Fridays of the Great Fast as well as Holy Saturday. It is also traditional to abstain from meat on Wednesdays during the Great Fast. Everyone should receive the Holy Mysteries of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist during the period from the onset of Great Fast to the Wednesday before Ascension Thursday. The Fasting and Abstinence regulations are not binding on persons 60 or older, the very poor, sick, nursing or pregnant women, children below the age of 14, and those who engage in physically very hard labor. However, all are urged, if able to do so, to observe the fasting and abstinence regulations.

**2025 EASTER BAZAAR AND BASIC PYSANKA WORKSHOP SATURDAY APRIL 5**

**Buffet Luncheon:** “Traditional Ukrainian” – 10:30 a.m. until the food is gone. **Easter Bazaar:** 10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Traditional Ukrainian arts and crafts, pysanka kits, how-to books, videos, traditional foods & baked goods, and smoked & other meats. **Basic Pysanka Workshop:** Learn to decorate Easter Eggs the traditional Ukrainian way. Detailed A/V presentation, personalized instruction, materials & supplies included. Workshop Fee: \$40 (adults only). Attendance limited to 60. Individuals. Workshop registration/payment is required in advance at <https://tinyurl.com/228rxbae>

**EASTER BAZAAR 2025 FOOD PREPARATION – FRIDAY APRIL 4**

PLEASE Join us Friday April 4. On April 4 our session is to make holubtsi and other food items.

**CATECHISM CLASSES FOR CHILDREN AGES 3-5**

Catechism classes will be held from 10:15-11:15 am on Sunday. Please mark these dates for the first semester: April 6, 27, May 4, 18.

**VESPERS AND CONCERT OF SPIRITUAL SONGS “MISSION OF HOPE” SATURDAY APRIL 12**

On April 12, at 5:30 PM and 6:30 PM, a unique event will take place at Holy Family blending the grandeur of spiritual tradition and the charm of music. The Fratelli Quartet (Father Andrii Khomen, Deacon Ihor Demydas, Deacon Ivan Vysochansky, and Brother Mykhailo Kuz) from Rome will sing Great Vespers at 5:30 PM and then perform a concert of sacred music at 6:30 PM. This event offers a wonderful opportunity for each of us to restore our connection with God, find peace amid our daily worries, and immerse ourselves in an atmosphere of grace and spiritual depth. Free will offerings accepted.

**Prayer List**

Our prayer list of the sick or elderly and friends of our parish: **Theresa Aranda, Liana Arnold, Valarie Balthis, Charles Belanger, Barbara Blendy, Bluey Family, Yevhenia Borys, Terry Boyle, Taisia Bullard, Mary Connors, Veronica Cosio, Darlene Dossick, Robert Dulaine, Solomia Dutkewych and Theresa, Ruth Fedack, Bernard F, Ferne Fisanich, Myroslava Futey, Lilian Garland, Thomas Gutmann, H.H., Josie Hacker, Catherine Hetmanskyy, Vanessa Hetmanskyy, Bernadell Rita Higgins, Ellen Hitchens, Janet Hitchens, Daniel Horeczko, Boris Hlynsky, Nila Iwaskiw, Bohdan Kantor, Sarah Kelt, LTJG Lydia Kowalskyj USN, Dorothy Kozmoski, Suzanne Krumpelman, Mr. Marko, Melissa Martin, Paul Marynowych, Michele Pretka Litvak, Yaroslava L., Mufada and Family, Sallie Miller, John Moeller, Deborah Pickering, Alexandra Pohorecka, Patricia Pylypec, Ron#119, Michael Joseph Radigan, Roman Rusynko, Lisa Schaible, Christopher Sell,, Teresa Sherwood, Shliakhta Bogdana, Shliakhta Mark, Shliakhta, Andrew, Larry Sosnowich, Lindsey Sydnor, Thomas Sydnor, Stefania Szahaj, Lisa Pretka Turner, Gloria and Luis Vega, Anne Woroniak, Rose Wilson, Fr. George Worschak, and Paul Yarrish.** If you know of someone who should be on this list, please email or call with the name of the individual. Our intercessory prayer for the sick and the aged is truly helpful and comforting. In your Christian Charity, kindly remember our sick parishioners in your prayers and perhaps a card or note.