

**ST. MARY'S
BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH**

VERY REV. RICHARD I. LAMBERT

356 S. BelleVista Ave.

Youngstown, Ohio 44509

Rectory 330-799-8163

Social Center 330-792-1578

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Feb 26, 2023

SAT. 4:30 p.m. Health & Blessings of Parishioners Page 146, 220

SUN. 10:30 a.m. +John & Joyce Haydu by Daughter, Nancy & Family

MON. 10:30 a.m. No Service

TUE. 10:30: a.m. No Service

**WED. 10:30 a.m. Presanctified Liturgy
+Martha Ilko by Mr. Mrs. John Czyrnik**



THU. 10:30 a.m. No Service

**FRI. 10:30 a.m. Presanctified Liturgy
2nd All Souls Commemoration of Loved Ones**

SECOND SUNDAY OF GREAT FAST

March 5, 2023

SAT. 4:30 p.m. Health & Blessings of Parishioners

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SUN. 10:30 a.m. +William & Veronica Vicini by Dr. Mrs. Tom Sopkovich

O Lord I have cried to You, hear me. Here me, O Lord. O Lord, I have cried to You hear me; receive the voice of my prayer when I call upon You. Hear me, O Lord. Let my prayer be directed as incense to You, the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice; hear me O Lord.

CHURCH DONATIONS Feb. 19, 2023
Monthly Dues \$25.00 Candles \$53.00
Offertory \$ 775.00

SUPER BINGO

We will hold a Super Bingo at our Center on March 4th... Tickets will be sold in advance..\$45.00.. You can get them Sunday at Bingo or call the office 330-792 -1578 to purchase. Spaghetti Dinner is included. Doors open at 3:00 and dinner will be served from 3:00 - 4:00 p.m.

SOCIAL GAMES

Games are played every Sunday in our Center....Doors open 5:00 p.m and Bingo begins at 6:30 p.m. We will ALSO have Bingo the second Wed. Of every month.

GRANT HER ETERNAL REST

Please remember in your prayers Mrs. Veronica Kovach who passed on to her eternal reward. Divine Liturgy with Christian burial Service for the repose of her soul was held Thursday. Interment at St. John Cemetery. Grant eternal rest O Lord, to your servant, Veronica and remember her forever. Vicnaja Pamjat!

LENTEN FOOD SALE

St. Michael's 2140 Highland Rd. Hermitage will be selling Potato/cheese, Sauerkraut, and Prune Pyrohies \$ 9.00 Doz & Qts of Haluski \$9.00. Call 724 962 4618 to Place order. Pick up March 8th 3:00 - 5:30 p.m

LENT FUND RAISER FOR SISTERS

We are asking for donations during Lent that will be sent to our Sisters at St. Mt. Macrina. Envelopes are at both entrances .

Having suffered the Passion for us, Jesus Christ, O Son of God, Have mercy on us!

LENT

Each Lent we remember how Jesus gave His life for each and every one of us. In this journey toward Easter we remember that He died so we could live. We remember the false accusations people brought against Jesus; His last agonizing hours; the pain he endured so that we might have everlasting life. The holy season of Lent is an opportune time to reflect on our Lord's death and ours, and the last thing we will encounter: Death, Judgment, Heaven or Hell. Yes, there are serious subjects, sober and thought provoking. The Church wants us to be serious during Lent. That is why throughout this holy season the Church asks us to attend Lenten Services. That is why the Church tells us to cut down on food and drink...to call to mind the sacrifice Christ made for us. Each of these practices, each in its own way, is a reminder to us that all of us must die and face the last things. While we are able, we should ponder those things here and now and ask ourselves how well we have prepared for our death whenever that may come. That every human person must die is a certain fact. Actually, it is the only event we can be sure of. We don't know whether we will graduate from high school, whether we will get a job promotion, or even if we will be alive tomorrow. Given this reality, how can we prepare for the last things? A good life is the best and only real preparation for death. Frequently we should ask ourselves the questions: Are we satisfied with our lives? Do we think God is satisfied? Are we doing what God wants? Are we avoiding sin? Are we living in accordance with the teachings of His Church? Every day we should ask ourselves these questions. Thus, the Lord asks that we follow Him ever more closely, to serve Him with special devotion during Lent. For His sake we say more prayers and better prayers. For His sake we observe the laws of fast and abstinence. And for His sake we sacrifice early morning sleep to attend Sunday Liturgy and receive Holy Communion.

What could be more sensible and profitable for a Catholic to follow these observances and to think of these subjects during the season of Lent. As we walk that lonely road with our Lord, we think of the merits He won for us on the Cross. Identifying with the sufferings of our Lord will be a good preparation for the sufferings of our lives especially when our lives come to an end. *Every Lent is a dress rehearsal for our death.*

PRAYER FOR LENT

O Lord Jesus Christ, my God, hope of all. You have established these holy days of fasting by Your law and the prophets, as a way of my mortification and repentance. In the fullness of time, You manifested Yourself in the flesh on this earth, and by Your fast of forty days and nights, You sanctified the practice of fasting and commanded me to follow Your example. As a merciful and gracious God, enable me to begin these holy days of Great Fast with perfect repentance, with humility rather than hypocrisy, with diligent prayer, with hunger and thirst, with frequent prostrations, and with contrite heart. Enable me also to complete this time of the Great Fast, without fault and with a pure conscience, keeping my faith intact and achieving victory over sin. Send me an angel of peace to watch over my life to protect me from all snares of my enemies, and to assist me in the performance of good deeds. Strengthen me by Your power so that I may accomplish the ascetic works of the Great Fast. Then, with my passion bridled and my soul and body cleansed, I will be worthy to partake, without condemnation, of Your Most Pure Body and Your Most precious and Life-giving Blood. For you are the merciful and gracious lover of mankind Who has come to save all, and to You I render glory, together with Your Eternal Father, and Your All Holy, Good, and Life-Giving Spirit, now and ever, and forever Amen.

LENT....FASTING AND FEASTING

Tradition teaches us to fast during Lent, but because we are being prepared for Pascha, the victory of life over death, we need also to *FEAST* on the Life God offers as we seek to deepen His life within us. It is appropriate then to *FAST & FEAST*.

Consider this: *FAST* from harsh or mean words. *FEAST* on patience. *FAST* from worry. *FEAST* on God's love and care. *FAST* from sadness and depression. *FEAST* on joy and peace of mind. *FAST* from complaining. *FEAST* on appreciation and gratitude. *FAST* from bitterness. *FEAST* on forgiveness. *FAST* from resentment. *FEAST* on acceptance. *FAST* from jealousy. *FEAST* on being yourself. *FAST* from self-centeredness. *FEAST* on compassion for others. *FAST* from excess. *FEAST* on moderation. *FAST* from apathy. *FEAST* on caring. *FAST* from discouragement. *FEAST* on hope. *FAST* from judging others. *FEAST* on finding Christ in them.