

Saint Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church

(Saint Mary's Ruthenian Greek Catholic Church, Inc.)

On the Corner of East 15th Street and Second Avenue

Father Edward G. Cimbala, MAOL, D.Min. ~ Pastor

Boris Derow ~ Music Director/Cantor

Parish Office

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March 16, 2025

2nd Sunday of the Great Fast

March 23, 2025

3rd Sunday of the Great Fast

Veneration of the Precious and Life-Giving Cross

LITURGICAL SERVICES

Sunday, March 16
10:00 AM

2nd Sunday of the Great Fast

For the Parish Families of
St. Mary's and Holy Cross
+John and +Mary Malast
+Kevin Guiteras
By Debbie Sank
Followed By Panachida
and the Reading of the
Hramoty for the
Second All Souls Saturday

Tuesday, March 18
6:30 PM

Presanctified Liturgy
+John Murphy
By John Rossiello
Lenten Soup Meal

Wednesday, March 19

12:15 PM
Lenten Moleben
Lenten Soup Meal

Sunday, March 23
10:00 AM

3rd Sunday of the Great Fast
Veneration of the Cross

For the Parish Families of
St. Mary's and Holy Cross
+Mike and +Mary Goda
By Goda Family
Followed By Panachida
and the Reading of the
Hramoty for the
Third All Souls Saturday

Tuesday, March 25
6:30 PM

Feast of the Annunciation

For the Parish Families of
St. Mary's and Holy Cross
+Margaret Cimbala
by Tom and Anna Jane Petty

Wednesday, April 26

12:15 PM
Lenten Moleben
Lenten Soup Meal

Sunday, March 30
10:00 AM

4th Sunday of the Great Fast
St. John of the Ladder

For the Parish Families of
St. Mary's and Holy Cross
+Theresa Hutnick
by Margie & Elenor Ruschak

Tuesday, April 1

6:30 PM
Presanctified Liturgy
+Mary Ann Hogstrom
by Patricia Dietz
Lenten Soup Meal

Wednesday, April 2

12:15 PM
Lenten Moleben
Lenten Soup Meal

Thursday, April 3

7:30 AM
The Canon
of St. Andrew of Crete

Sunday, April 6
10:00 AM

5th Sunday of the Great Fast
St. Mary of Egypt

For the Parish Families of
St. Mary's and Holy Cross
Followed By Panachida
and the Reading of the Hramoty
for the
Fourth All Souls Saturday

WELCOME VISITORS

**“MY HOUSE SHALL BE CALLED A HOUSE OF PRAYER
FOR ALL PEOPLES.” - Isaiah 56: 7**

If you are a visitor to St. Mary's, we want you to know how deeply we appreciate your presence. Whether you have come from another part of the country, from across the world, or simply from another parish, we are grateful for your interest in our church. We warmly welcome you and hope you find our worship true and reverent. We consider you part of our family and would be more than honored by your presence in our spiritual home. For more information about becoming a parishioner, please see Fr. Ed.

Mystery of Reconciliation

Fr. Ed is always available to celebrate the Mystery of Reconciliation before the Divine Liturgy and at any other time. If Fr. Ed is not in the confessional, please look for him; he will gladly help you.



Instagram

St. Mary's is now on Instagram. You can find us at [@stmarynyc](https://www.instagram.com/stmarynyc)

Church Cleanup



Mark Your Calendars!!!

All Hands-on Deck!

Church, Rectory and Social Hall
Organizing and Clean-up Day

Saturday, April 5

9:30 AM to 1:00 PM

Lunch Included

The Akathist will be celebrated at 8:30 AM

***Come and start the day with prayer,
and stay and help clean the Church and Social Hall.***



The Prayer of St. Ephrem, the Syrian

O Lord and Master of my life, keep from me the spirit of indifference and discouragement, lust of power and idle chatter. Instead, grant to me, Your servant, the spirit of wholeness of being, humble-mindedness, patience, and love. O Lord and King, grant me the grace to be aware of my sins and not to judge my brothers and sisters, for You are blessed now and ever and forever. Amen

Make A Joyful Noise

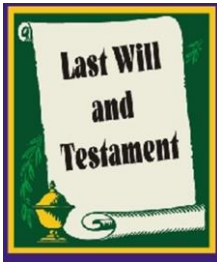
Hello, everyone,

Holy smokes! We are in Lent. That means Holy Week is just a few weeks away, and then Easter!

For Easter this year, I put out a call to some of the people who participated in the choir at our centennial celebration to join us for Good Friday and Easter Sunday. I have been preparing the music, and the scheduled rehearsals for this choir will be on Saturday, March 29, Sunday, Mar 30, Saturday, April 5, and Sunday, April 6. Times to be announced. Some of our Joyful Noisers Choir will also be joining us, and I hope the choir will total 15 people. If you would like to be part of this special group of people coming together to make a Joyful Noise and be a part of the choir for this Easter season and would like more information, please get in touch with me at my email, bderow@gmail.com or my cell at (929) 969-4145. It would be wonderful to have a full choir loft raising our voices in song together.

I am Looking forward to sharing this Lenten season with you all again. I hope to hear from you soon!

Boris



Remember St. Mary's ~ It's not a topic we are comfortable discussing or even considering. Maybe that's why over 60 percent of Americans die without a will. And yet, a will is one of the most profound expressions of love and commitment we can leave behind. It is how we let family and friends know how much we truly treasure them. It is also a way to ensure that our

parish will continue to prosper after we are gone. Your bequest to St. Mary's is a beautiful way to thank God for our parish's place in your life. Please complete a will for your own sake and your family's sake after you are gone. Please consider St. Mary's in your estate plans.

SPECIAL THANKS! An anonymous donor has contributed \$1,000 to sponsor our new Lenten Purple Altar Covers. Aren't they striking? Would anyone like to sponsor the new white gold ones that were on the altars before the Great Fast began? Please see Fr. Ed.

**Please Take This Bulletin Home!
Share it with Your Family and Friends!**

Sharing of the Easter Basket



After blessing the Easter Foods following the Divine Liturgy on Easter Sunday, everyone is invited to stay and share foods from their basket. This gives those unfamiliar with the tradition of blessing Easter Foods an opportunity to experience, taste, and see how

excellent everything is. Everyone is encouraged to make up a basket consisting of the foods they gave up during the Great Fast – your basket does not have to have Eastern European foods. Did you give up your favorite wine, cheese, meat, dessert, or candy? That is what you put in the basket! If you are making a basket for the first time, please see Fr. Ed. He has a few Easter Basket covers, and he will give you one.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE



Sunday, April 13

Palm/Flowery Sunday

10:00 AM – Divine Liturgy

with Blessing of Palms and Pussywillows
Followed by the Service of Holy Anointing

Thursday, April 17

Great and Holy Thursday

6:30 PM

Vespers and Liturgy of St. Basil the Great

Friday, April 18

Great and Good Friday

3:00 PM

Vespers with Burial Procession

Easter Sunday

April 20

The Resurrection of Our Lord

10:00 AM – Resurrection Matins
and Divine Liturgy

Followed by the Blessing of Baskets
And Easter Social

Some Reflections on the Great Fast

We are now amid the Great Fast, the time of preparation for the Feast of Feasts, the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. It is a time of fast, yet it is a time of gathering strength. It is a time of prayer, yet it is a time of great action. It is a time of training. The Great Fast is the time the Church gives us to train to go forth into the world as New Creations. It allows us to experience dying to ourselves so that we may rise to life with Christ and share this life with others. We must experience poverty of spirit to possess the Kingdom of Heaven, and those who embrace the Fast realize that they are nothing without God.

As we immerse ourselves in the Love of God (in prayer), we become more deeply transformed into the image and likeness of the God of Love. This love banishes fear, a fear which naturally occurs when crosses appear on our paths. The Fast teaches us to love the Cross, to bear the Cross patiently.

Most of all, love teaches us to help others carry their crosses. We who experience the Fast are already carrying the resurrection in our bodies. The witness of embracing the cross and living the resurrection gives hope to others. The world is full of suffering. We who embark upon the Fast embrace the Cross live transformed lives, constantly dying to ourselves and yet being resurrected by God for the service of others.

The witness of those who live the Fast is powerful and eloquent. It is the Gospel lived in its fullness. It is simple yet profound. It is a life that encompasses time and space, bringing the God who is beyond Eternity into the Now. It is a lived Incarnation. It is the life of the Holy Mother of God; it is life in the Kingdom!

A Reminder ... Wednesdays and Fridays During the Great Fast are days of simple abstinence from meat.



Pussywillows

Following the Presanctified Liturgy on Tuesday, April 8, we will bundle Pussywillows and Palms. Please plan on staying and helping for a bit. Thank You!



Easter Flowers for St. Mary's

For the upcoming Festal Season of The Resurrection of Our Lord – Easter, you will have the opportunity this year to honor or remember loved ones by purchasing a Lily or Hydrangea to be placed in our Holy Church. If you wish to participate, please fill out this form. After completing the form, you can put it in the offering basket or return it to the parish office. Remember to indicate “in memory of” or “in honor of.” Please PRINT your name and the name of the person(s) you are remembering as you wish the names to appear in our parish bulletin. *The deadline to make your commemoration is Sunday, April 6.*

- \$35.00 - Single Stem Easter Lily – 5 to 7 flowers(20 available)
- \$65.00 – Double Stem Easter Lily – 11 – 14 flowers (4 available)
- \$65.00 – 8” Pot Hydrangea – Purple – 5 large flowers (6 available)

Name	In Honor Of	In Memory Of	Amount
	Total	Enclosed	\$

Your Name	
Phone #	