



**Byzantine Catholic Church of St. John the Baptist
301 Cherry Street, Pottstown PA 19464**

Email: office@stjohnbyz.org

Pastor: Fr. Nicholas de Prospero

Deacons: Rev. Mr. Michael Senoyuit, Rev. Mr. Edward Quinn

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15 December 29th Sunday of The Forefathers

Sat 14 Dec	3:15pm	Confessions
	4:00pm	Deceased of the Giangiaco Family by the Giangiaco Family
Sun 15 Dec	9:00am	HGB Kathy Kepner by Mary Glatz
Thr 19 Dec	9:00am	+William Glatz by Mary Glatz and Family
Fri 20 Dec	9:00am	Parishioners of St. John's
Sat 21 Dec	10am-12pm	Christmas Confessions
	4:00pm	Deceased of the Moore Family by Lois Moore
Sun 8 Dec	9:00am	+Lucy Mikula by Ron Mikula

7 Branch Candles are given for health and God's Blessings for Mary Beth Hallowell by her Family..

Parish Income 8 December Offertory \$1,967; Loose \$574; Candles \$131; Fuel \$165; Flowers \$18; Christmas \$40; Holy Days \$203; Special Donation \$181; Thanksgiving \$75; Cookie Walk \$262; St. Nicholas Raffle \$180; Guild Donation \$5,000; Maintenance Fund \$283; Bishop's Appeal \$70;A/C Fund \$500; Total \$9,649 Month to date \$20,680

Divine Liturgy This Weekend

Red Book: ; Opening HYMN O Come O Come Emmanuel (hand out sheets)

Green Book Tone 6 p.152; Forefathers p. 281

Green Book: Beneath your Compassion p. 454 #B

Please remember in your prayers: parishioners, family and friends recovering from illness and surgery:

Arcadia at Limerick: Nancy Erdek; **Frederick Living:** Sarah Roshoa, and also: Fr. Nicholas de Prospero, Audrey Gluszyk, Mary Beth Hallowell, Anna Marie Hunter, Keith Hunter, Barbara Lenhart, Mark Lewis, Cletus McLaughlin, Daniel Mc Laughlin, Pat McLaughlin, David Mondik, Dillon Richard, Maksym Stetsenko, Earl Stong

Our Parish Cemetery is both a privilege and a challenge. We are fortunate that we can go and visit our loved ones buried there, bring them flowers and pray for their souls. Our challenge is keeping up with the never ending maintenance of the grounds. Witness that the fence has been breached for the third time, this year. The perpetual care of the cemetery is our responsibility and we ought to shoulder it by our donations to the Cemetery Collection which this year was under \$1,000 toward an annual, ordinary expense of about \$25,000. Please donate if you can.

.Church Decoration after Sunday Liturgy.

We need lots of help this Sunday to get the church ready for Christmas. Please give us a hand if you can. All volunteers will be given a free lunch to thank them for their help.

Pink Envelope Drawing We thank all who donated to the Parish Maintenance Fund this year. Each winner in the drawing done last week, receives a \$100 prize. Winnings can be claimed after Liturgy this weekend.

The Winners names are: Andrew Skitko Jr., Sara Sweisford; John Gramata; Michael Somich; Denise Miner; Mary Ann Skitko; Fran Petro; Mary Beth Bartko; Linda Nulton; and Judy Petro. May the Lord bless you all for your support for the Maintenance of His Church. your generosity

2025 Church Envelopes and Calendars are available in the church hall this weekend. If you need church envelopes please fill out the information requested on the sign up sheet and they will be provided. If you do not use church envelopes, it is difficult to make a statement of your donations needed for IRS purposes. Whether you use them or not, everyone should be registered as a parishioner of our parish. Parish registration forms are available for your convenience, completed forms can be placed in the collection basket. .

Christmas Eve Holy Supper is a beautiful and important part of the celebration of Christmas which begins on Christmas Eve which is a Fast Day. Booklets are available in the church vestibule describing how to make the Holy Supper and the meaning of each food served at the meal. More information is available on line. Search at GCU.usa

Grateful Thanks to the Guild of St. John's and to all of the Willing Workers who helped the Christmas Bake sale. The Guild donated \$5,000 to the church at last week's celebration. May the Lord's blessing be upon all who made the Bake Sale possible.

Christmas Schedule

Christmas Candles can be dedicated by printing the required information on the sheets provided. Donation is \$30 per candle.

Saturday 21 Dec., Christmas Confessions 10am to Noon

Christmas Eve Tuesday 24 Dec., 4:00pm Children's Liturgy

Christmas Day 25 December 8:30am Christmas Compline and Carols
9:00am Christmas Liturgy

The Holy Season of Advent in the Eastern Catholic Church lasts for six weeks. Fasting is an integral part of the practice of our Faith during the season of Advent. We fast because Christ taught us to fast by His example. Fasting for Advent must be connected to prayer and giving alms for those in need. Advent is the spiritual preparation for the Feast of Christmas, the day when God came down to earth to save us by being the Light that shines on us to reveal our true identity to us.

The Fall Bishop's Appeal began in October. We ask each of our families to pledge a donation to this annual appeal to help our Eparchy be an instrument of the spreading of the Gospel of Christ through charitable works made possible through your donations made in His Name. The list of those who benefit from your donations is long and a worthy one. Remember our Lord said "as often as you did it for the least of my brethren, you did it for me." Our donations are a win / win. They show our gratitude to God for His Blessings and are a helping hand to those who need one.