

RULES FOR THE GREAT FAST . . .

With Lent upon us, how shall we keep the Great Fast? From the lips of our Lord Himself, we have three vital regulations for the keeping of this sacred season.

First of all, Christ teaches the necessity to forgive. He points out the dual nature of forgiveness: If we seek the forgiveness of God for our sins, we must also forgive others their sins against us. And if we do not forgive those who have wronged us in any way, neither will God forgive us. In other words, as we treat others, so will God treat us. Of course, this great truth is also contained in the Lord's Prayer. "Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us." It is clear from this how important it is to make our peace with others before attempting any spiritual growth.

Secondly, Christ speaks about fasting, a spiritual discipline often neglected in our times. Not only is abstaining from meat and its by-products important, but the volume of food consumed, is vital; as is the abstaining from all evil deeds.

Thirdly, Christ says we must "store up for ourselves treasure in heaven." The Lord bids us to be millionaires, not in riches of this world, but in the treasures of God. It is clear from the Scriptures that Prayer and Charity are two of the great means to gather this treasure in eternity. Both are hallmarks of the true follower of Christ.

Heed the admonition of St. Paul: "Let us rid ourselves of everything that gets in the way, and the sin which holds on to us too tightly, and let us run with determination the race which lies before us . . ."

WEEKLY PARISH BULLETIN

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CHEESE-FARE SUNDAY



TODAY'S READINGS

GOSPEL: Matthew 6, 14-21;

EPISTLE: Romans 13, 11-14,4;

TODAY WE CELEBRATE:

THE VENERABLE JOHN CASSIAN

John, this great spiritual man, was born in Rome of renowned parents. In his youth he studied all the secular sciences, especially philosophy and astronomy. After that, he devoted himself completely to the study of Holy Scripture. Striving from good to better and desiring even higher levels of perfection, Cassian traveled from Rome to Constantinople to personally hear and see St. John Chrysostom. Chrysostom instructed him and ordained him a deacon. Benefiting much from the wise Chrysostom, Cassian traveled farther east, to learn even more and become more perfected. He remained in Egypt, the longest time in Nitria, among the famous spiritual athletes from whom he learned the art of every virtue. He finally returned to the west and settled in the town of Marseilles [French Seaport]. Here he established two monastic communities: one for men and one for women. At the request of the monks, Cassian wrote many essays which are especially beneficial for the lovers of the spiritual life: "Eight Books on the struggle against the eight principle passions" [Institutes of the Monastic Life and Conferences on the Egyptian Monks]. Of great importance is his essay against the heretic Nestorius. This essay was written at the request of Archdeacon Leo. He served our Lord faithfully and enriched many with his wisdom and took up habitation in eternal life in the year 435 A.D. The relics of St. Cassian repose in Marseilles [France] even today.

Dear Brothers and Sisters, next Sunday, a second collection plate will be passed around for donations to the St.Sava School of Theology in Libertyville.

HOMILY

About the living presence of Christ

"I am with You always, even to the end of the ages" (St. Matthew 28:20).

Here is consolation above consolations!

Here is consolation for those whom the tempest breaks! Let them only remember: There Christ is beside them and let them not be afraid. He is the Helmsman.

Here is consolation for those who are sick! Let them know that Christ is there beside their bed and let them not despair. He is the Physician.

Here is consolation for those who grow old! Let them not lose sight that Christ travels with them through time to all eternity, into eternal youth and let them be at peace.

Here is consolation for those who are tormented by men! Let them not think that they are abandoned, for Christ is with them in all suffering; at judgment and in prison and let them rejoice. He is the Judge.

Here is consolation for those who are disturbed by evil spirits! Let them remember that Christ is the conqueror over evil spirits, He is on their side and let them be strengthened. He is the Victor.

Here is consolation for all who seek the light of justice and truth! Let them believe that

On Saturday, March 19th, (THEODOR'S SATURDAY) we will have Divine Liturgy at 9:30 AM.

**WHOEVER
GOSSIP TO YOU,
WILL GOSSIP ABOUT
YOU.**

Christ is closer to their soul than their eyes and let them adhere to His leadership. He is Light.

O, my brethren, in truth, Christ is constantly with us as light is constantly with the eyes, which see. But O, our sorrow if the eyes of our soul are closed and, in vain does the light labor to encounter the pupil of our vision! O, our sorrow and grief when we are not with Christ!

He goes out to meet us. Are we going out to meet Him? He wants to be with us. Do we want to be with Him? If we want consolation, we must be with Him all days to the end of our time.

O Lord, our only consolation, do not leave us!

⊕ Pittsburgh Deanery Lenten Vespers are at 5 PM ⊕

March 13 - MCKEESPORT – St. Sava Church – Fr. Branislav Golic

March 27 - ALIQUIPPA – St. Elijah – Fr. Rodney Torbic

April 3 - MIDLAND – St. George – Fr. Rajko Kosic

April 10 - STEUBENVILLE - Holy Resurrection – Fr. Milan Krstic

April 17 - CARMICHAELS – St. George – Fr. Rade Merick

April 24 - PITTSBURGH - Holy Trinity Cathedral – Fr. Dragan Zaric



SARRIS CANDY pickup can be done on Wednesday, March 23rd any time after 7:00 pm.

On Friday, March 18th, we will have:

SERVICE OF HOURS9:00AM; CONFESSION9:30AM;

PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY9:45AM.

SAVE THE DATES:

VESPER SERVICES and DINNER will be held on Sunday, March 27th

CHURCH SCHOOL- The last day of Church School will be on Sunday, May 1st

ANNUAL DAN RALICH GOLF TOURNAMENT- Saturday, May 7th

SPRING FOOD FESTIVAL- May 14th and 15th

TEA and TREASURE BASKETS fundraiser Sunday, June 26th from 1pm-3:30 pm

Give rest O Lord to thy departed servant NICK SUDAK may his soul rest in peace.

Our deepest sympathy are extended to his family, kumovi and friends.

VJECNAJA PAMJAT!

VISITS:

March 9th - Beaver Medical Center - Ann Baljak, Deanna Pevac, Smilja Milosh

March 10th - Trinity Oaks - Martha Jackson

March 10th - Beaver Medows - Mike Kozlina, Jennie Zakovich, Mary

"Cookie" Loverich, Bob Sparcie, Sara Pesich

