

**Saint Joseph Byzantine Catholic Church**

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**Saints Peter and Saint Paul Byzantine Catholic Church**

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SUNDAY – February 26, 2017 – Cheesefare Sunday

**9:30 a.m.— Divine Liturgy – For +R. J. Boyd**

**TODAY'S READINGS: Epistle: Romans 13:11– 14:4 Gospel: Mt 6:14-21**

**PASTORAL MESSAGE:** Tomorrow (**Pure Monday**) begins **Great Lent**. As we prepare ourselves to celebrate the Resurrection at Pascha, remember that we must follow the way of the Cross and Christ's suffering for the next 40 days. Part of the discipline of suffering is experienced in fasting. As Byzantine Catholics, we share in the Great Fast with our Roman Catholic, Orthodox, and Liturgical Protestants Brethren. Monday, February 27<sup>th</sup> is the First Day of the Fast. Strict Fast and Abstinence is required. **No meat or dairy products are permitted.** Also, doing penance and giving to charity is an expectation throughout Lent. **Wednesdays and Fridays** during Lent require **simple abstinence from meat**.

**PRESANCTIFIED LITURGY:** Due to **Father Rella's Military duties**, Presanctified Liturgy will only be celebrated on **Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday during Holy Week**. You are encouraged to visit other area Byzantine Catholic or Eastern Rite Catholic Churches when Presanctified Liturgy is being offered; usually on Wednesday and Friday.

**CONGRATULATIONS:** To all those celebrating Birthdays, Anniversaries, and other milestones, especially **Rose Rella**. Mnohaya lita! God, Grant you Many Happy Years!

**ANNUAL LENTEN SERIES:** On the first four Fridays of the Great Fast 2017 (March 3, 10, 17, 24) a short Lenten Service will be celebrated at Noon and 7:00 PM at St. Mary Byzantine Catholic Church, 1900 Brooks Boulevard in Hillsborough, NJ. The service will be followed by a Lenten fasting meal with a series of guest speakers in the St. Mary Parish Center. The service, program and meal are scheduled to last 90 minutes. For more information call 908-725-0615 or go to the parish website - [www.stmaryhillsboroughnj.org](http://www.stmaryhillsboroughnj.org). There is no charge for this event.

SUNDAY – February 26, 2017 – Cheesefare Sunday

**11:00 a.m.— Divine Liturgy – For the People of the Parish**

The **SANCTUARY LAMP:** burns this week for the **For the People of the Parish**

**COFFEE HOUR TODAY:** There is Coffee Hour today and **Saints Peter and Paul Theophany Center**, with a **Mardi Gras Theme**. We will be serving traditional New Orleans style KING CAKE. Many thanks to **Lori Grobelny, Maureen Hewit, and Pani Tammy Rella** for coordinating the event. Please join us!

**REMEMBER OUR ARMED FORCES:** Most especially the Archbishop of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese for the Military Services, the Most Reverend Timothy Broglio and his Priests and Deacons. Also, those parishioners currently serving in the military--- Airman First Class **Rose Rella**, Senior Airman **Maria Rella**, Petty Officer Second Class **Erin Wimmer**, Captain **Tammy Rella**, and our parish priest, Chaplain (Captain) **Francis Rella** who is currently serving on Active Duty. Also, remember the Veterans of our parishes who served in every armed conflict since World War I, especially **George Sabornick, James Burkhart, and Steven Labos**.

**BELATED CONGRATULATIONS:** To **Pani Tammy Rella** in her promotion to the rank of **Captain in the United States Air Force**. **Pani** serves a Clinical Nurse in the **Air Nation Guard**. God bless her vocation and grant her Many Years!

**PLEASE PRAY** for the sick, most especially for **Judy Kelly** who is in **JFK Hospital**, **Josephine Abate** at Monmouth County Care Center, **Anne & Chester Kucharski** at Regency, and **Susan Lakat** at the Independence Manor in Flemington, **Carol Timko** at Bridgeway Care Center, and **Elizabeth Bessenyi** at Somerset Hills Assisted Living. Also, pray for our Trustee **Mary Kucek**, and parishioners **Veronica Szegesky, Concetta Rella**, mother of Father Rella, **Daniel Arnott, Carole Bartunek**, mother of Pani Tammy Rella, **Marie Mangano**, and **Heather Lindsay**, cousin of Father Rella.

**ROSARY:** The recitation of the Holy Rosary will begin at 10:45 every Sunday before Divine Liturgy throughout Great Lent.

**GUIDELINES FOR THE RECEPTION OF COMMUNION:** As Catholics, we fully participate in the celebration of the Divine Liturgy when we receive Holy Communion. Roman Catholics also fulfill their Sunday Obligation by attending and receiving Holy Communion in a Byzantine Catholic Parish since we are in Full Communion with the Holy Father, Pope Francis, and the Apostolic See of Rome. If this the first time you are receiving in the Eastern Rite of the Catholic Church, the Priest will say a blessing and give you the Sacred Eucharist with a spoon from the Holy Chalice. There is no need for a response of Amen. “Members of the Orthodox Churches, the Assyrian Church of the East, and the Polish National Catholic Church are urged to respect the discipline of their own Churches. However, per Roman Catholic discipline, “the Code of Canon Law does not object to the reception of Communion by Christians of these Churches.”

**PARISH STAFF**

*Fr. Francis Rella, Administrator      Mr. Robert Kondrk, Cantor*

*Ms. Lori Grobelny, Office Assistant      Mr. John Dulina, Custodian*