



**The Holy Assumption of
Saint Mary
Byzantine Catholic Church**
695 N. Main St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18705



Parish Office: 570-822-6028 Office Hours M-W-F 9:30 AM-2:30 PM
Fax: 570-822-5423 Hall/Kitchen: 570-829-9288 Convent: 570-824-3973
e-mail Secretary@StMaryWB.com Website www.StMaryWB.com
Served by Rev. Michael Kerestes, Deacon Edward Frey, Deacon Basil Soroka,
with the ministry of Sister Theodosia, OSBM and Sister Regina, OSBM

Confessions: Saturday 3:30 PM / Sunday 8:30 AM or Weekdays by request

**11 March 2018
Schedule of Divine Services**

SATURDAY **FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST: OUR HOLY FATHER JOHN CLIMACUS**
10 March OUR HOLY FATHER SOPHRONIUS, PATRIARCH OF JERUSALEM

4:00 PM **Divine Liturgy:** For the *People of St. Mary Parish*

SUNDAY 8:30 AM **Morning Prayers**

11 March 9:00 AM **Divine Liturgy:** +*Judith Condrick* by Sr. Regina and Sr. Theodosia
3:00 PM **Lenten Vespers:** St. Nicholas Church, Swoyersville

MONDAY VENERABLE FATHER AND CONFESSOR THEOPHANE OF SIGRIANE / HOLY FATHER
12 March GREGORY DIALOGUS, POPE OF ROME / HOLY FATHER SYMEON THE NEW THEOLOGIAN

12:00 PM **Mid-Day Prayer with Holy Communion**

WEDNESDAY DAY OF ABSTINENCE – OUR VENERABLE FATHER BENEDICT OF NURSIA

14 March 6:00 PM **Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts:** +*Oliver Behm* by Myrrh-Bearers

FRIDAY DAY OF ABSTINENCE – THE HOLY MARTYRS SABINUS AND PAPAS

16 March 12:00 PM **Mid-Day Prayer with Holy Communion**

SATURDAY **AKATHISTOS SATURDAY / OUR VENERABLE FATHER ALEXIS, MAN OF GOD**

17 March 9:00 AM **Divine Liturgy:** +*Erika Kozich* by +Joseph Kozich

SATURDAY **FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE GREAT FAST: OUR HOLY MOTHER MARY OF EGYPT**
17 March OUR HOLY FATHER CYRIL, ARCHBISHOP OF JERUSALEM

4:00 PM **Divine Liturgy:** For the *People of St. Mary Parish*

SUNDAY 8:30 AM **Morning Prayers**

18 March 9:00 AM **Divine Liturgy:** +*Frank Kubicki* by Daughter, Irene

3:00 PM **Lenten Vespers:** St. Mary Church, Kingston

Stewardship:	<u>3/4/18</u>
Offertory	\$1,765.00
Dues	147.00
Initial	5.00
Easter	5.00
Holydays	17.00
Lenten Services	120.00
Building/ Reno	7.00
Fuel	34.00
Candles	<u>120.00</u>
Total:	<u>\$2,220.00</u>

**Propers
for
The Divine Liturgy**
Please refer to the Handouts:
1. Typical Psalms /Beatitudes
**2. Resurrection Tone 7 and
St. John Climacus**

Let us remember in prayer:

. . . Those who are ill or convalescing. May our Lord Jesus Christ, the Physician and Healer of souls and bodies, grant them peace and good health for many blessed years.

. . . All those who are in some special need of God’s loving kindness and mercy at this time. Let us remember particularly the “*Candle Prayer Requests*” of all who have asked for the prayerful support of our Parish Family in their special intentions . . . +MaryAnn T. Sakalas by Michele; Special Intention of Roz by Andy; Special Intention of Andy and Jonathon by Judy and Bud; +Frank L. Sabach by Mom; Better Health for Cynthia Fernandez; Special Intention of William B. Evans by Mom; Successful Operation for Cassie Usefara by Great-grandma; Vocations to Religious Life by Mary Ann Pieszala; Paul Evans by Wife; +Matthew Swiderski by Grandmother; Better Health for Rose Lynch by Elizabeth Latsko

GCU District 5 invites all members and friends to a Hockey Game on Saturday April 7th at the Mohegan Sun Arena in Wilkes-Barre Twp. Start time for the Penguins vs. Binghamton Devils is 7:05 PM. The cost for members is \$7.00, non-members \$17.00, lower section behind the goal. You will receive a hat, a McDonald’s gift card, hot dog, soda and chips at the game. Make your reservation by March 1st by calling Ed at 570-824-1264.

FOOD FOR THE NEEDY: The three pillars of Lenten repentance and conversion are *prayer, fasting, and almsgiving*. As we fast and abstain voluntarily during the Great Fast, let us remember those who involuntarily experience hunger regularly. Donations of nutritious, non-perishable food products or Supermarket Gift Cards can bring comfort to our brothers and sisters in need. “Lord, when did we see *you* hungry and feed you or thirsty and give you something to drink? (Matthew 25: 37)

NIGHT AT THE RACES: St. Andre Bessette Parish is sponsoring a Night at the Races on Saturday, April 28, 2018 at St. Mary Byzantine Social Hall. Doors open at 6:00 PM. Post time is at 7:00 PM. Admission is \$5.00. Food and beverages will be served. You MUST be 21 years of age or older to attend. To purchase a horse, or for more information, please call 570-823-4988.

Don’t forget to buy your Lucky Lottery Ticket for the whole month of May.

John Climacus (ca. 525 AD – 30 March 606 AD), also known as **John of the Ladder**, was a 7th century Christian monk at the monastery on Mount Sinai. He was born in Syria, and came to the monastery and became a novice when he was about 16 years old, taught by monk Martyrius. After the death of Martyrius John, wishing to practice greater asceticism, withdrew to a hermitage at the foot of the mountain. He lived in isolation for some twenty years, constantly studying the lives of the saints and thus becoming one of the most learned doctors of the Church. In 600 AD, when he was about seventy-five years old, the monks of Sinai persuaded him to put himself at their head. He acquitted himself of his functions as Abbot with the greatest wisdom, and his reputation spread so far that the Roman pope Gregory the Great wrote to recommend himself to his prayers and sent him a sum of money for a hospital of Sinai, in which pilgrims were able to lodge. Four years later he resigned his charge and returned to his hermitage to prepare for death.

He wrote a number of instructive books, the *Scala (Climax)* or *Ladder of Divine Ascent*, composed at the request of John, Abbot of Raithu, a monastery situated on the shores of the Red Sea; and the *Liber ad Pastorem*.

The *Scala/Ladder* describes how to raise one's soul to God, as if on a ladder. This book is one of the most widely read among Eastern Christians, especially during the season of Great Lent and on the 4th Sunday of Great Lent on which he is especially commemorated. The book discusses monastic virtues and vices and holds dispassionateness (apatheia) as the ultimate contemplative and mystical good in a Christian. There are thirty steps of the ladder, which correspond with the age of Jesus at His baptism and the beginning of ministry. An icon known by the same title depicts several people climbing a ladder; at the top is Jesus, prepared to receive the climbers into Heaven. Also shown are angels helping the climbers, and demons attempting to shoot with arrows or drag down the climbers, no matter how high up the ladder they may be. Most versions of the icon show at least one person falling.

His feast day is March 30th. The Byzantine Orthodox and Catholic Churches also commemorate him on the fourth Sunday of the Great Lent.