



# The Sunday Messenger

HOLY TRINITY ORTHODOX CHURCH - WILKES BARRE, PA

+ The 36th Sunday after Pentecost + February 11th, 2024 + Hieromartyr Blaise, Bishop of Sebaste



## Hymns for Today

Let the heavens rejoice! Let the earth be glad! For the Lord has shown strength with His arm. He has trampled down death by death. He has become the first born of the dead. He has delivered us from the depths of hell, and has granted to the world great mercy.

By sharing in the ways of the Apostles, thou didst become a successor to their throne. Through the practice of virtue, thou didst find the way to divine contemplation, O inspired one of God; by teaching the word of truth without error, thou didst defend the Faith, even to the shedding of thy blood. O Hieromartyr Blaise, entreat Christ God to save our souls!

On this day Thou didst rise from the tomb, O Merciful One, leading us from the gates of death. On this day Adam exults as Eve rejoices; with the Prophets and Patriarchs they unceasingly praise the divine majesty of Thy power.

Godly shoot, unfading flower, most fruitful branch of Christ the Vine, God-bearing Blaise, fill with joy those

who in faith honor thy memory as thou unceasingly intercedest for us all.

### Please Sing Along!

Singing the hymns and responses to the litanies along with the choir throughout the Divine Liturgy is encouraged!

## Epistle Reading - 1 Timothy 1:15-17

This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief. However, for this reason I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might show all longsuffering, as a pattern to those who are going to believe on Him for everlasting life. Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

## Gospel Reading - Matthew 15:21-28

Then Jesus went out from there and departed to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, "Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed." But He answered her not a word. And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, "Send her away, for she cries out after us." But He answered and said, "I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, "Lord, help me!" But He answered and said, "It is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the little dogs." And she said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered and said to her, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire." And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

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**DEAR GUESTS AND FRIENDS:** *A most sincere and heartfelt welcome to you from our community. According to the ancient traditions of the Orthodox Church, the Sacrament of Holy Communion is to be administered only to Orthodox Christians who have prepared to receive the Holy Sacrament through prayer and fasting. If you have questions please let us know!*

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## This Week's Schedule Holy Trinity Orthodox Church

### THIS WEEKEND

Saturday, February 10th

9 AM: Friends of the Poor

5 PM: 9th Hour (4:50), Great Vespers, Confession

Sunday, February 11th

8:10 AM: Resurrectional Matins w/ Hours

9 AM: Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour, Church School,  
Parish Council Meeting @ 11:30 AM

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### THIS WEEK

WED 11 AM - 1:30 PM: Private Prayer in Church

6:30 PM: Akathist: "Mother of God, Healer of Cancer"

THURS 11 AM: Bible Study

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### NEXT WEEKEND

Saturday, February 17th

5 PM: 9th Hour (4:50), Great Vespers, Confession

Sunday, February 18th

8:10 AM: Resurrectional Matins w/ Hours

9 AM: Divine Liturgy, Coffee Hour, Church School,  
Parastas in Memory of Archpriest John Udics  
offered by SD Greg Polk

**Welcome Holy Resurrection Cathedral:** We are blessed to have the faithful of Holy Resurrection Cathedral with us while Fr. Gregory is recovering. Please make yourself completely at home and join us for coffee hour! There will be a basket at the candlestand marked Holy Resurrection for your tithes and donations. May our Lord continue to strengthen Fr. Gregory for a speedy and complete recovery!

## 2024 HOME BLESSINGS

If you would like to have your house blessed there is still plenty of time! See Fr. Innocent to make an appointment. Fr. Innocent and the family look forward to this joyful time with each one of you! You can prepare for our visit by having an icon, candle, bowl for holy water, and list for living & departed.

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

**February Birthdays:** Mary Gurka (2/1), Cassandra Mahaffey (2/2), Amelia Stankiewicz (2/3), Subdeacon Thomas Donlick (2/5), Sebastian Neal (2/6), Emma Sofrenovic (2/7), Paul Tumavitch (2/9), Mitchell Rivera (2/14), David Mills (2/19), Jeremiah Haugh (2/21), Sandy Serafin (2/23), Alexanne Conklin (2/24), Andrew Rivera (2/28) **Anniversaries:** Brian & Kristi Benczkowski

**This Week's Birthdays & Anniversaries:** Mitchell Rivera (2/14)



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

& Upcoming Parish Events

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**Parish Council** is the second Sunday of each month. Our next meeting is **TODAY, SUN, Feb 11th.**

**Friends of the Poor** is the second Saturday of each month. The next gathering will be **SAT, March 9th.**

**Parish Potlucks** are usually the last Sunday of each month. Our next potluck is SUN, **Feb 25th.**



## The Treasury

"... but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. + Jesus Christ

**Monthly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$12,305**  
**Weekly Cost to Keep the Church Open: \$2,840**  
**Collections last Sunday (2/4): \$4,827**