

Prayer During The Pre-Nativity Fast

O Christ our Lord and God, You did not think equality with God something to be grasped at, but You emptied yourself, took the form of a slave and were born in human likeness. Enlighten us as we prepare to celebrate your holy birth. Make us worthy to see the mystery of your becoming man for us, while remaining God in eternity. Fill our minds with understanding, that we might see You even in the least of our brothers and sisters. You have given us the gift of Your Holy Spirit, You have loved us even to the point of your saving death and glorious resurrection, grant us also a faith that

cannot be confounded, a love that does not pretend, and a wisdom that is complete. You have said, "Unless you become like children, you cannot enter the kingdom of heaven," grant that in this feast we may again experience the rebirth we were given in baptism, and sing out with the angels, "Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth to those on whom his favor rests." You have humbled yourself, O Christ our God, may your name be exalted, together with the Name of your eternal Father and the Name of your all-holy, good and life-giving Spirit, now and ever and forever. Amen.



According to the forty-day tradition, the Phillip's fast in preparation for Christmas begins November 15. This is a good time to read the papal encyclical "The Light of Faith." Visit the Vatican website to download the document.

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Reflection

This prayer which is especially for this season of the Philip's Fast praises God for four things God has done for us and then prays that we could respond to God's generosity in each of these actions in specific ways ...

Reflections for this holy season:

Enlighten us...what enlightenment, understanding, do I now seek?

Grant me faith ... where am I lacking in faith, love and wisdom? Ask and receive.

Help me experience again my rebirth in baptism and sing out, "Glory to God!" Let me

practice being more thankful than usual to be a child of God, more gracious to others.

Teach me to exalt You, Lord and to speak of You, shining forth your Goodness against the darkness of this world and of the winter season. Open my heart to your joy.

SAINTS, SCRIPTURES & SOLEMNITIES

November 17

26th Sunday After Pentecost
Eph 5:9-19
Lk 12:16-21

November 21

Entrance of the Mother of God
Heb. 9:12-7; Lk 10:38-42 & 11:27-28

November 24

27th Sunday After Pentecost
Eph 6:10-17
Lk 13:10-17

December 6

Nicholas of Myra Archbishop
Heb. 13:17-21; Lk 6:17-23

December 8

29th Sunday After Pentecost
Conception of St. Anna
Co. 3:12-16; Gal. 4:22-31; Lk
17:12-19; Lk 8:16-21

December 15

Sunday of the Forefathers
Col 3:4-11; Lk 14:16-24



Scripture Quotations for Advent

He will be made a light to all the nations so that all the world may be saved. Is. 49:6.

The Lord will use His holy power; He will save His people, and all the world will see it. Is. 52:10.

He will bring lasting justice to all; distant lands will eagerly wait for His teaching. Is 42:5.

He will rule as David's successor basing His power on right and justice from now until the end of time. Is. 9:7.

He will not judge by appearance or hearsay; He will judge the poor fairly and defend the rights of the helpless. Is. 11: 3-4.

He will rule His people with justice and integrity. Is. 11:5.

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light. They lived in a land of shadows, but now light is shining on them. Is. 9:2.

He has chosen me to bring good news to the poor, to heal the broken-hearted, to announce release to captives and freedom to those in prison. Is. 6:1.

I myself will teach you and give you prosperity and peace. Justice and right will make you strong. Is. 54: 13-14.

God is my Saviour; I will trust Him and not be afraid. The Lord gives me power and strength; He is my Saviour. Is. 12: 2.

Let everyone shout and sing! Israel's holy God is great, and He lives among His people. Is. 12: 6.

The royal power of the Son born to us will continue to grow; His kingdom will be one of peace. Is. 9: 7.

We have put our hope in you, O Lord. Jer. 14: 22.

I will make the nations know my power and my might; they will know that I am the Lord. Jer. 16:21.

I will turn your darkness into light. Is. 42: 16.



Photo Gallery



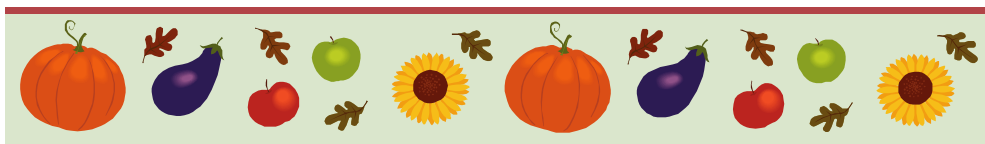
Sister Barbara Jean and Sister Elizabeth Jane promoting vocations at Franciscan University



Sister Barbara Jean attended the General Assembly of the Eparchy of Parma



Sisters of St. Basil attend the Eparchy of Passaic's 50th Anniversary on Sunday, November 10.



Experiences, Events, & Exercises

House of Prayer Lists Upcoming Events

MOUNT MACRINA MANOR ANNUAL LIVE NATIVITY

December 6, 6-8 p.m.

Free Admission

PRE-CHRISTMAS SATURDAY MORNING

December 7, 9:15 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Presented by: Fr. Valerian Michlik

Registration Due: December 2

Offering: \$30. Includes Lunch

PRE-CHRISTMAS SUNDAY AFTERNOON

December 15, 1:15-5 p.m.

Presented by: Deacon Tim Corbett

Registration Due: December 10

Offering: \$30. Includes Supper

OPEN HOUSE

Sunday, December 29, 2013, 1-4 p.m.

“All Are Welcome In This Place!”

BOOK DISCUSSION

Tuesdays, March 3, 10, 17, 24, 2014

10 -11:30 a.m.

Presented by: Sr. Barbara Jean

Registration Due: February 26

Free Will Offering

SCRIPTURE WEEKEND RETREAT

March 7-9

7:30 p.m., Friday – 1 p.m., Sunday



Presented by: Fr. Daniel Forsythe

Registration Due: February 25

Offering: \$140. Commuters: \$115.

LENTEN SATURDAY MORNING

March 15, 9:15 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Presented by: Fr. Frank Hanincik

Registration Due: March 10

Offering: \$30. Includes Lunch

LENTEN SUNDAY AFTERNOON

March 16, 1:15 – 5 p.m.

Presented by: Sr. Carol Petrasovich

Registration Due: March 11

Offering: \$30. Includes Supper

WEEKEND ICON WRITING RETREAT

April 4-6

6:00 pm Friday—4:00 pm Sunday

Presented by: Marylyn Barone

Registration Due: March 28 Limit 20 persons

All supplies included. Offering: \$225.00

Commuters: \$200.00

TIME AWAY FOR CAREGIVERS

Wednesday, May 7, 2014

10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Are you a caregiver who could use some time away? Refresh and spend time walking, reading or sit and pray on our lovely grounds or at the House of Prayer.

Come for a little while or come for the day!

Free Will Offering. Includes Lunch

Registration Due: May 5.

All programs take place at the House of Prayer unless otherwise specified. Please register early to prevent program cancellation.

Individual directed retreats, personal retreats, group retreats and days of prayer can be scheduled from October through July.

For further information, please call the House of Prayer directly at (724) 438-7149 or visit www.sistersofstbasil.org.



PREPARING DURING THE
SEASON OF ADVENT
*COMING OF THE
LIGHT OF THE WORLD*



of the Lord in our flesh. In order to prepare for this victory of light we must, during Advent, open ourselves more and more to the light “which lights everyone who comes into the world” . We must examine ourselves under this inner light, and let this light “which is in our deepest self” guide our daily actions.

Waiting for the Light of the World as a Spiritual Theme as One Prepares for a Holy Christmas

Byzantine Spirituality sees Advent as a time of awaiting the Light which will shine forth. The celebration of Jesus’ birth coincides with the victory of light over darkness in the physical world—from Christmas on, daylight lengthens. In the same way, our interior darkness will be dispelled by the coming of him who is the Light of the World. The Byzantine Advent above all looks to Epiphany, “the feast of lights”, whereas the Roman Advent concentrates especially on Christmas, the feast of the coming

Models in Scripture:

Luke 1:5-25—Zechariah and Elizabeth

Luke 1:57-80—Zechariah

Luke 1:26-38—Mary, Theotokos

Matthew 1:18-25—Mary and Joseph

Luke 1:39-56— Mary and Elizabeth

EASTERN CATHOLIC-
CHURCHES
ENCOUNTER 2014

Would you like to “Encounter Jesus Christ” with other Eastern Catholics through prayer, teaching and fellowship?

The Eastern Catholic Bishops of the U.S. invite you to participate in the Conference, EASTERN CATHOLICCHURCHES ENCOUNTER 2014 which is intended to be an inspired gathering of God’s people from the Eastern Catholic Churches of the United States and Canada “Encountering Jesus Christ” ENCOUNTER 2014 will take place in Orlando, Florida at the Renaissance Orlando Airport Hotel, January 30 to February 2, 2014. Clergy Days are January 30-31; the Main Conference January 31 to February 2. Conference Registration fee \$95 covers all meals, break refreshments and materials. Special Hotel room rate of \$109.

For more information and to register, go to: www.Encounter2014EasternCatholicChurches.org or call 570-294-2910 to request brochures. Look forward to praying, learning and meeting with you at ENCOUNTER!



“Let us give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the merciful Father, the God from whom all help comes!”

(2 Cor. 1:3)

SISTERS OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT

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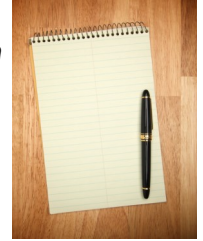
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NOVEMBER THANKFULNESS CHALLENGE



1. Voice your thankfulness to a family member or friend.
2. Perform a small act of kindness to show appreciation for someone.
3. Write a letter of thanks to someone whose service is overlooked.
4. Eat a meal or spend time with someone that you usually don't talk to on a normal basis.
5. Draw a picture of something for which you are thankful.
6. Do an act of public service.
7. Make a list of the things you use during the day for which you can be thankful.
8. Read an article or story about someone in poverty. You have much to be thankful for!
9. Go without something to remind yourself how thankful you are for it.
10. Share something you are thankful for on social media.
11. Before eating Thanksgiving dinner, have each person name something that they are thankful for this year.
12. Do a secret act of appreciation for a family member or friend.
13. Thank a stranger for something.
14. Take or find a picture of something for which you are thankful and post it in a visible place.



This Christmas Shopping Season, Visit the Mount St. Macrina Religious Gift Shop



- ◆ Icons
- ◆ Religious gift & books
- ◆ Cards
- ◆ Religious jewelry
- ◆ Special order items
- ◆ Great prices!

Other items with a focus on the tradition of Byzantine spirituality.

The Gift Shop is open:
10 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. (Wed., Fri. & Sat.)
10 a.m. - 8 p.m. (Tues.)

For further information, please call
724-439-6180 (Religious Gift Shop) or
724-438-8644 (Card Shop)
Trinity Center - Lower Level