



**Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary  
Ukrainian Catholic Church  
(St. Mary's)  
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**Reverend Alexander Dumenko — Pastor (301) – 421 – 1739**

**Mr. Ronald Bodnar — Cantor (703) – 670 – 6740**

**Sunday Divine Liturgies: 8:30 a.m. Holy Days as scheduled in the Bulletin**

**DIVINE LITURGY SCHEDULE**

**MARCH 11-18, 2018**

**Sunday, March 11 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Great Fast – Saint John Climacus**

**EPISTLE HEB. 6:13-20; GOSPEL: MK. 9:17-31 TONE 7**

8:00 a.m. – Confession 8:30 a.m. – For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners & in particular for Joanne & Joseph Strada (50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary from the family/ Sorokousty Service

**Sunday, March 18 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Great Fast – Saint Mary of Egypt**

**EPISTLE HEB. 9:11-14; GOSPEL: MK. 10:32-45 TONE 8**

8:00 a.m. – Confession 8:30 a.m. – For God's Blessings on Our Parishioners & in particular for Mary Elizabeth Stine from the family/ Sorokousty Service

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**4th Sunday of the Great Fast – St. John called "of the Ladder"**

...What is this Ladder? Being a monk at the monastery of St. Catherine on Mount Sinai, our



venerable father John wrote a book outlining the stages of the spiritual life. He based his entire work on the image of a ladder of thirty rungs, stretching from earth to heaven. Each rung described a step in the pursuit of virtue and the spiritual life. Since it was first written, The Ladder of Divine Ascent has been an essential part of the formation of monastics, and a mainstay of ascetic spirituality. However, The Ladder is not just for monks and nuns because all Christians are called to make an ascent to the heights of heaven. For this reason the Church places the commemoration of Saint John and his Ladder on the Fourth Sunday of the Great Fast, as the faithful continue their

ascent with the Lord to Golgotha and through Golgotha to His Heavenly Kingdom. The 30 Steps of the Ladder of Divine Ascent: - Steps 1-4: renouncement of the world and obedience to a spiritual father - Steps 5-7: penitence and affliction as paths to true joy - Steps 8-17: the defeat of vices and acquisition of virtue - Steps 18-26: avoidance of the traps of asceticism (laziness, pride, mental stagnation) - Steps 27-29: acquisition of stillness or peace of the soul, of prayer, and of dispassion - Step 30: the union of faith, hope, and love.

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**LITURGICAL SERVICES FOR HOLY (GREAT) WEEK AND EASTER 2018**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 25 FLOWERY (Palm) SUNDAY – ANNUNCIATION BVM**

**8:30 AM - DIVINE LITURGY. BLESSING OF PUSSY WILLOWS**

**GREAT THURSDAY, MARCH 29 7:30PM - MATINS OF THE PASSION OF CHRIST**

**GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 30 7:30PM - VESPERS & PROCESSION WITH THE HOLY SHROUD**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 1, EASTER SUNDAY – RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD**

**7:30 AM - NADHROBNE. PROCESSION. RESURRECTION MATINS.**

**DIVINE LITURGY (ENG/UKR.) BLESSING OF EASTER BASKETS.**

