

**ST ANDREW UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC CHURCH
2025 GREAT FAST AND EASTER (PASCHA) SCHEDULE**

REMINDER: NO WEEKDAY MORNING LITURGIES DURING THE GREAT FAST			
Schedule is subject to change – Please check weekly bulletin for updates			
	<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>COMMENTS</u>
First day of Great Fast	March 3	All day	<i>No meat and dairy products are permitted.</i>
Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts (English)	March 5, 12, 19, 26, April 2, 9	6:30PM	<i>Abstinence from meat is encouraged on every Wednesday during Great Fast.</i>
Every Friday during Great Fast	March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4, 11	All day	<i>Abstinence from meat is mandatory.</i>
<i>Sorokousty</i>	March 8, 15, 22, 29, April 5, 12	After 9:00am Liturgy	Names of deceased loved one's read aloud after Saturday morning Liturgy
Great Feast of Annunciation of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Holy Day of Obligation)	March 25	9:30am	St. John Chrysostom Divine Liturgy
GREAT FAST MISSION		Please check the weekly bulletin for further details. Confessions will be heard before and after liturgies.	
Palm Sunday (Great Feast)	April 13	Normal weekend Liturgy schedule – Myrovanya and Blessing of willow branches at all Liturgies	
Holy and Great Monday	April 14	6:00pm	Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts with Gospel
Holy and Great Tuesday	April 15	6:00pm	Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts with Gospel
Holy and Great Wednesday	April 16	6:00pm	Liturgy of Presanctified Gifts with Gospel
Holy and Great Thursday	April 17	10:30am	Vespers with Liturgy of St Basil the Great with Washing the Feet (<i>This service at St Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral</i>)
		6:00pm	Matins & Reading of 12 Gospels at St. Andrew
Holy and Great Friday <i>(No meat or dairy products are permitted on this day.)</i>	April 18	5:00pm	Vespers; Exposition and Veneration of Holy Shroud
		9:00pm	Evening Vigil (9:00pm until Midnight)
Holy and Great Saturday <i>(Abstinence from meat is mandatory on this day)</i>	April 19	9:00am	Vespers with Divine Liturgy of St Basil (Eng)
		3:00pm	Blessing of Baskets – Easter Food (Ukr)
		5:00pm	Blessing of Baskets – Easter Food (Eng)
Pascha (Easter) Sunday <i>(No fasting during Bright Week only.)</i>	April 20	7:00am	Resurrection Matins with Divine Liturgy of St John Chrysostom with Myrovanya and Blessing of Artos (Ukrainian with Choir)
		12:00NN	Divine Liturgy of St John Chrysostom with Myrovanya (English)

*The three pillars of Great Fast are **Fasting, Good Works (Almsgiving), and Prayer...**
This year, let Lent make a difference in your life!*

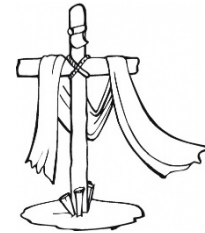
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Special Overnight Vigil at St Andrew (Holy and Great Friday to Holy and Great Saturday) – The church doors will be open from 9:00pm to Midnight. This evening vigil will be a time for prayer and contemplation. Throughout the evening, various prayers and Bible readings will be read in both English and Ukrainian. All are invited to participate in this special period of reflection.

DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS GREAT FAST? (In the words of Pope Francis)

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope
- Fast from worries and have trust in God
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful
- Fast from bitterness and fill your hearts with joy
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.



GREAT FAST is a time for us to grow prayerfully, personally, and powerfully in our relationship with God. Great Fast is a 40-day period when we prepare ourselves for the Great Resurrection. During this time we follow the footsteps of Jesus who spent 40 days and 40 nights in the desert...our goal is to meet the risen Lord Jesus, who reunites us with God the Father. During Great Fast, the Church teaches us how to receive Him by using the two great means of repentance – prayer and fasting. This year, imagine that this Great Fast is going to be different from every other Great Fast you ever experienced...imagine that God is going to help transform our lives, leading us to greater freedom, greater joy, and deeper desire for love and service. This can be a wonderful season of grace for us if we give ourselves to it. Great Fast is about God's great desire to bless us. (Source: *Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Edmonton Newsletter Vol 2 Issue 5*)

Preparing for Confession (Reconciliation) – During Great Fast we are called to reform our lives and become holy. We do this by focusing on God through prayer, treating others well, and changing our negative behavior. Confession is not only a spiritual cleansing, but a spiritual awakening. We must acknowledge our sins and take responsibility for our actions and consequences. To make a good confession, five things are necessary: (1) examine your conscience thoroughly; (2) be sincerely sorry for your sins; (3) resolve to amend your life; (4) confess your sins to the best of your ability; and, (4) complete the penance given to you. (Source: *same as above*)

Reflection - *It is not enough for us to say: "I love God," but I also have to love my neighbor...We have been created in His image for greater things, to love and to be loved. We must "put on Christ" as Scripture tells us. And so, we have been created to love as He loves us...When He was dying on the Cross, Jesus said, "I thirst." Jesus is thirsting for our love, and this is the thirst of everyone, poor and rich alike. We all thirst for the love of others; that they go out of their way to avoid harming us and to do good to us. This is the meaning of true love, to give until it hurts ...Mother Teresa* (Source: www.ewtn.com/faith/lent)

For more information about the Great Fast and Easter, please go to our Eparchial Website: <http://stjosaphateparchy.com/> If you do not have a computer, stop by the St. Andrew Church Office.

The Great Fast is a journey of the heart which is then filled with the radiant light of Pascha at the end of the journey.

Upcoming St Andrew EVENTS/ACTIVITIES – Mark your Calendar! More Details to Follow:

- ❖ GREAT FAST FISH FRY FRIDAYS (Dine-in OR Take-out) – (3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28, 4/4, and 4/11)
- ❖ PASKA MAKING AND SALE – See weekly bulletins for details
- ❖ DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY – April 27
- ❖ PARISH EASTER DINNER/SVIACHENE – See weekly bulletins for details
- ❖ FIRST RECONCILIATION / COMMUNION – May 4
- ❖ MOTHER'S DAY – May 11
- ❖ PENTECOST SUNDAY – June 8