

# WORLD

THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC

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## “Showers of blessings”

FAITHFUL RETURN TO MOUNT ST. MACRINA IN UNIONTOWN, PA.  
FOR 87TH ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE IN HONOR OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP



Archbishop William Skurla (left) delivers his homily during the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy at the 87th annual Pilgrimage in Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Sept. 5 at Mount St. Macrina in Uniontown, Pa. For more photos, see the special commemorative pull-out section on pages 7 to 10.

By David Mayernik Jr.  
Editor

The sun may not have peeked out behind the gray clouds for much of the afternoon but Pilgrims' hearts were certainly shining.

Sister Susan Sisko, Provincial, Sisters of St. Basil the Great, called the rain that gently wafted down from above during the 87th annual Pilgrimage in Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help “showers of blessings.”

Following a year without an in-person Pilgrimage due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Sisters of St. Basil the Great were grateful to welcome faithful

back to Mount St. Macrina in Uniontown, Pa. Sept. 5.

“But regardless of the weather, it’s good for us to be here. It’s good for us to be together. All of us; as a church, as the people of God, as the Sisters of St. Basil, as our Hierarchical Clergy and all our wonderful Faithful,” Sister Susan said following the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy.

“We needed this. We needed this Pilgrimage; we needed to come together as a group of people to pray and to celebrate that faith that we hold so dear.”

With the theme, “Mother of Perpetual Help, Our Gentle

Protectress,” portions of the Pilgrimage, which was cut back to one day over its usual three-day period over the Labor Day weekend, were streamed live to an internet audience for the first time in the history of the Pilgrimage.

The event holds the distinction of being the oldest and the largest Byzantine Catholic Pilgrimage in the country.

On Sept. 3, 1934 — Labor Day — about 3,000 faithful came by trains, chartered buses and cars for the blessing of the newly acquired home of the Sisters at Mount St. Macrina.

Many had gathered at St. John church on the other side of town, and they came in procession through the city of Uniontown carrying banners. Forty-two priests joined Bishop Basil Takach in the Divine Liturgy preceding the blessing.

Bishop Basil, with the permission of the Holy See and the enthusiastic support of the Sisters, decided to hold annual pilgrimages at Mount St. Macrina. This would also provide an opportunity for spreading devotion to the Mother of God under her title as

*Continued on page 10*

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## MISSION

The mission of *The Byzantine Catholic World* is to spread the Gospel message in the rich tradition of the Byzantine Catholic Church; to encourage faithful to reflect the image of Christ in everyday activities of life; to offer spiritual formation through changing times; and to celebrate community among Byzantine Catholics in the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh, throughout the Metropolitan Church in America, and around the world.

## ETERNAL MEMORY SISTER MARY MARTHA KACMAREK, OSB

Sister Mary Martha Kacmarek, OSB, 88, of Warren passed away Thursday evening, Sept. 2 at Villa Maria Community Center in Villa Marie, Pa.

Sister Mary Martha was born on December 4, 1932 in Chicago, Ill. the daughter of Joseph Kacmarek and Mary (Gorel) Kacmarek.

In 1954, Sister Mary Martha graduated from St. Xavier College in Chicago, earning her bachelor's degree. Shortly after, she entered into formation in religious life with the Sisters of St. Basil in the late 1950s. For health reasons, she was unable to continue with the Sisters of St. Basil, which led her to the Sisters of St. Benedict. She entered into formation on June 29, 1966 and made her Final Profession into the Order on June 5, 1971 at SS. Peter and Paul Byzantine Catholic Church in Warren, Pa. In 1974, Sister earned her Master of science in mathematics degree from the University of Notre Dame.

Over the years, Sister Mary Martha served in many different roles, most notably as an ECF teacher and math teacher at various schools and as the treasurer for her Community. Her most significant role came as a hospice volunteer, where she found her true ministry. She tried to live her life according to Psalm 27:4: "One thing I ask of the Lord, that I will seek after: To live in the house of the Lord all

the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the Lord."

In 2018, she celebrated 50 years, her Golden Jubilee.

Sister Mary Martha will be deeply missed by

her Community, her family and all those whose lives she touched.

Sister Mary Martha was preceded in death by seven of her siblings. She is survived by her oldest brother, Joseph Kacey of Chicago; his wife, Sally; and a sister-in-law, Mary Ann Kacmarek; and many nieces, nephews and cousins of whom she was very fond, and with whom she corresponded frequently.

Friends were received on Tuesday, Sept. 7 preceding the Funeral Divine Liturgy at SS. Peter and Paul Church in Warren Ohio. Very Reverend Richard I. Lambert was the celebrant for the liturgy, and Reverend Fathers Kevin E. Marks and Robert J. Karl were concelebrants. Interment followed in the Benedictine Sisters section of SS. Peter and Paul cemetery in Warren, Ohio.

May God grant to His servant, the nun, Sister Mary Martha, Blessed Repose and Eternal Memory! ■



Sister Mary Martha Kacmarek, OSB

BYZANTINE CATHOLIC  
SEMINARY OF SS. CYRIL  
AND METHODIUS

## "Come and See" Weekend of Discovery



*Press release by the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of SS. Cyril and Methodius, Pittsburgh, Pa.*

The Byzantine Catholic Seminary of SS. Cyril and Methodius in Pittsburgh, Pa. is pleased to host the "Come and See" Weekend of Discovery from Friday, November 5 to Sunday, November 7, 2021.

Invited to this retreat are men, ages 18 to 35, single or married, who may be considering a vocation to the priesthood in the Byzantine Catholic Church. The atmosphere will be prayerful, positive, and fraternal.

A past retreatant noted about his experience that the weekend was helpful for his "seeing both the difficulties and joys of Seminary and ordained life." It was also noted that "watching the seminarians look out for one another and serve parish communities was a great witness to the gospel."

The retreat includes sharing liturgical services and meals with the Seminary community and an introduction to the Seminary formation program. It will also include a tour of the Seminary, gatherings with the seminarians, and witness talks.

There is no tuition for this "Come and See" Retreat of Discovery. The retreat, meals, and lodging are free. The application deadline is October 13, 2021. For more information and to apply, please see the Seminary's website [www.bcs.edu](http://www.bcs.edu). Only those who are fully COVID vaccinated will be permitted to register this year.

Founded in 1950, the Byzantine Catholic Seminary is a free-standing, English speaking theological seminary, welcoming all those seeking the knowledge possessed by the Eastern ecclesial traditions.

The Seminary is authorized to grant graduate degrees by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and accredited by the Commission on Accrediting of the Association of Theological Schools. ■



## BULLETIN BOARD

*Mount St. Macrina  
House of Prayer  
online programs*

Mount Saint Macrina House of Prayer, 510 W. Main St., Uniontown Pa. has announced upcoming virtual online programs on Zoom.

For more information or to register, call 724-438-7149 or email [hpmsm@verizon.net](mailto:hpmsm@verizon.net). Email address required to receive link.

■ **Saturday Morning Spiritual Reflection:** "Optimism's Chain Reaction" with Becky Johnen, Ed.D. 10-11:30 a.m. Oct. 23. Offering: \$20. Registration due: Oct. 18. Available on Zoom.

■ **Advent Bible Study:** "An Introductory Study of the Prophets Isaiah and Jeremiah" with Sister Melita Marie Penchalk, OSBM. 10 a.m.-noon Nov. 11, 18 and Dec. 2, 9. Offering: \$25. Registration due: Nov. 8. Available on Zoom.

*Carpatho-Rusyn  
Society update*

The mission of the Carpatho-Rusyn Society is to preserve and perpetuate the distinct culture, history, language, and heritage of the Carpatho-Rusyn people.

The Society offers many educational programs online at Carpatho-Rusyn Society on You Tube.com. Also offered are genealogy presentations on Zoom and expert help in finding your roots. Our new addition is our Heritage Store, where you will find educational materials, maps, flags and accessories. We will constantly be adding more items.

Visit our website at [www.c-rs.org](http://www.c-rs.org) and click on "Get Involved" to become a member.

For more information contact: Bonnie Burke at [bb@c-rs.org](mailto:bb@c-rs.org) or call 440-729-2045.



BYZANTINE CATHOLIC SEMINARY OF SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS

## “If you have faith the size of a mustard seed”

NATHANAEL MARK KLINE  
ORDAINED TO MINOR  
ORDERS, THE SUB-DIACONATE,  
DIACONATE

Metropolitan Archbishop William C. Skurla ordained Nathanael Mark Kline to Minor Orders, the Sub-Diaconate and the Diaconate on Saturday, Aug. 21 at his home parish, St. Mary Assumption in Weirton, W. Va., where Reverend Father Vasyl Symyon is the pastor.

Very Reverends Robert M. Pipta, and Bryan Eyman and Reverend Father Kevin E. Marks concelebrated the Divine Liturgy; Very Reverend Andrew J. Deskevich served as Master of Ceremonies; the Deacons were Deacons Thomas Klacik and Myron Spak; and Deacon Nathanael's sons Nathanael, Nikolas, Michael and Demetrius joined Seminarian Luke Iyengar and St. Mary parishioner Chad Durante in assisting at the altar.

Parish cantor George Lacik led the congregational singing.

Reverend Father Joseph Yelenc, TOR and Deacons Paul Boboige, Lyn Houze and Brian Norrell were in attendance.

A reception and luncheon followed in the church social hall.

Deacon Nathanael, the son of Mark and Georgianna Kline, and his wife Racheal are the parents of five sons: Nathanael, Nikolas, Michael, Demetrius and Simeon. A graduate of Franciscan University in Steubenville, Ohio, Deacon Nathanael holds the BS degree in Education and the MA degree in Theology. Presently he is a special education teacher at Stanton Elementary of Edison Local Schools of Hammondsville, Ohio. ■



DEACON ROBERT LEE JONES ORDAINED TO PRESBYTERATE

Deacon Robert Lee Jones was ordained to the Presbyterate by Archbishop William C. Skurla in the chapel of SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary on Thursday, Aug. 26 during the opening Divine Liturgy for the new academic year.

Concelebrants were the priests of the Seminary faculty and staff: Very Reverend Robert M. Pipta; and Reverend Fathers Valerian Michlik, Christiaan Kappes, Joel Barstad, and Ivan Chirovsky.

Very Reverend Andrew J. Deskevich and Reverend Father Paul V. West served as masters of ceremonies, and Very Reverend James Spontak and Reverend Father Will Rupp were also in attendance.

Seminarian Nathan Tapsack was the cantor, and the other seminarians participated as altar servers.

A brunch followed the ordination.

In his homily, Archbishop William Skurla mentioned the parable of the mustard seed, noting that from such a small seed a great tree would grow. He compared this to the man of



small stature whose ministry would also be effective in enabling growth.

Having been prepared for the priesthood by his four years of study and formation at SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary, newly ordained Father Robert anticipates graduation with the Master of Divinity Degree this coming Autumn. He and his wife Elizabeth are members of St. Gregory in Upper St. Clair, Pa. ■

REFLECTION FROM  
MOUNT ST. MACRINA

## Thirsting for righteousness

by Sister Barbara Jean Mihalchick, OSBM  
Sisters of St. Basil the Great  
Mount St. Macrina, Uniontown, Pa.



Sister Barbara Jean Mihalchick posts videos of her reflections each week on the Facebook page of the Sisters of St. Basil the Great.

This is a transcript of her Aug. 4, 2020 reflection.

Glory to Jesus Christ!

We continue with the Beatitudes: “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness for they shall be satisfied.”

Well, “satisfaction.” We find ourselves these days saying, “If only I could. If only we could.” Yet, in these times, as the pandemic continues to be and to feel long, we are wishing for things to be different.

I want to raise our awareness that can help us spiritually. Think of this Beatitude: “Those who hunger and thirst for righteousness.”

Generally speaking, in this country, our nature is often quite well-satisfied. So, a sense of longing can be pretty rare, except in these times. Jesus is the fulfillment of all of our hungers, our thirsts. But what if we're not aware of them?

In this time, we can long for a greater love, peace, harmony, meaning, a new understanding. That might give us a sense of what it is to hunger and to thirst for righteousness.

What is righteousness? It's the fullness of what God has to give us. We seek Him but sometimes we don't remember. Actually, there is a God-sized hole in each of us and only our Lord Himself can fill it.

We can turn to Him with prayer, we can turn to Him in the Eucharist where He gives Himself to us, whether in the sacrament or spiritually if we can't be in the church.

Jesus Himself said these words in John's Gospel:

*Jesus stood up in the temple and exclaimed, “Let anyone who thirsts come to Me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture says: ‘Rivers of living water will flow from within him.’” He said this in reference to the Spirit that those who came to believe in him were to receive.*

The fullness of spiritual life comes through our Lord Himself. When we have found that, let's be aware to share that satisfaction with others who still don't know where to find fulfillment. Those, for instance, who are looking for love and goodness in all the wrong places. Those who are stuck on themselves, those who are condemnatory of others.

They need our help to find what life is all about: hungering and thirst for God; the only true fulfillment.

God bless you. ■

### IN PERSON EVENT

#### ASSEMBLY OF THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC (RUTHENIAN) METROPOLITAN CHURCH

November 5 & 6, 2021

St. John the Baptist Cathedral  
Munhall, PA

#### “One Body in Christ: Re-emerging from the Pandemic”



#### Topics

##### **Looking Back: Looking Ahead with a Hopeful Heart**

Deacon Tom Shubeck

##### **Our Worship Post Pandemic**

Fr. Valerian Michlik & Fr. Andrew Summerson

##### **The Eucharist: Holy Gifts to Holy People**

Most Rev. Bishop Kurt Burnette

##### **Growing Parishes Post Pandemic**

Deacon Basil Balke

Plus Breakout Sessions & Vendors

Registration: [archpitt.org](http://archpitt.org) or  
your eparchial website



BYZANTINE CATHOLIC SEMINARY OF SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS

## Knights of Columbus support vocations to the Archeparchy



Very Rev. Andrew Deskevich, Protosyncellus; Father Kevin Marks, Vocations Director; Michael Lynch, Pennsylvania Knights of Columbus State Council Treasurer, Metropolitan Archbishop William Skurla; Deacon Sean Petrisko; and Richard Miller.

*Press release by the Pennsylvania State Council of the Knights of Columbus*

The Pennsylvania State Council of the Knights of Columbus presented a \$5,288 check to the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh Aug. 26 to support vocations.

Michael P. Lynch, State Treasurer of the Pennsylvania State Council, presented the check.

On hand for the presentation were Father Kevin Marks, Vocation Director for the Archeparchy; Very Reverend Andrew Deskevich, Protosyncellus; Deacon Sean Petrisko; and Richard Miller.

Additionally, Metropolitan William Skurla was presented a copy of the Marian Icon of Persecuted Christians. This icon carries an Apostolic Blessing from Pope Francis.

Created by Italian iconographer Fabrizio Diomed, this icon depicts the Blessed Mother, with the Child Jesus over her heart, spreading her protective mantle around a representative gathering of recent Christian martyrs — men and women, young and

old, from East and West; priests, religious and laypersons, including one of the six priest-members of the Knights of Columbus who were killed by the Mexican government in the first half of the 20th century.

The four crosses represent an “ecumenism of blood” among martyrs of Roman and Eastern Catholicism, as well as those of Coptic, Armenian, Syriac and Orthodox traditions.

This icon was the focal point of the 2018-19 Marian Prayer program sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. Since its inception in 1979, the Knights of Columbus’ prayer program has held more than 166,900 local council and parish prayer services with some 20 million participants.

Featured images have included Our Lady of Guadalupe, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Our Lady of Czestochowa, Our Lady of Pochoiv, Our Lady of the Assumption, Our Lady of the New Advent, Our Lady of the Rosary and Our Lady of Charity.



FOUNDING MEMBER OF ST. GREGORY IN UPPER ST. CLAIR, PA.

## The late John Andrejko honored by Bethel Park School District

*Press release by the Bethel Park School District, Bethel Park, Pa.*

The Bethel Park School District and Community Foundation honored the late John J. Andrejko Aug. 28 by dedicating in his honor the newly refurbished bell that sits just outside of the high school.

Andrejko, a giant of a man with an even bigger heart, worked at Bethel Park for more than three decades in a variety of administrative roles, where he impacted thousands of students.

*Editor’s note: He was also a founding member of St. Gregory in Upper St. Clair, Pa.*

“It used to amaze me how many people would come up to my dad, no matter where we were — whether we were out to dinner or on vacation or wherever we were — and they would just pour their heart out to him just thanking him for all he did for them,” said his son, John Andrejko.

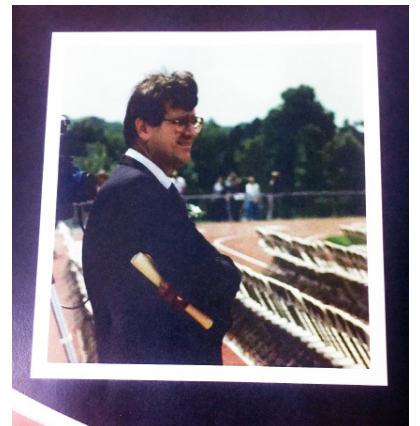
“Afterwards, I would say to him, ‘Dad, that was a really touching story. Who was that?’

“And he’d just shrug his shoulders and say, ‘I don’t know?’”

“I think that shows what kind of a guy my father was and how he dealt with everyone,” said a visibly emotional younger Andrejko.

The bell, like Andrejko, symbolizes an important institution at Bethel Park.

In the late 1970s, the bell that once sat outside the old Bethel Township High School on Park Avenue was set to be destroyed before a group of preservation-minded students, guided by Andrejko, stepped in to first hide the bell and then pay for its refurbishment. That bell stood outside of Bethel Park High School until 2019, when it was donated to the Bethel Park



John Andrejko

Historical Society.

The new bell isn’t new at all and is actually of the same vintage as the bell that once sat outside the old schoolhouse. It even has an inscription that reads “Pittsburg,” which was an accurate spelling of the city’s name from 1891-1911, before the “h” at the end was permanently reinstated by the United States Board on Geographic Names.

School counselor, Jim Knapp, assistant superintendent, Dr. Zeb Jansante, and council president, Tim Moury located the bell after an exhaustive search for the exact right replacement.

“We searched high and low for the new bell and we finally found it all the way down in Houston... Pennsylvania,” joked Dr. Jansante.

The bell was then sent to Michigan, where it was completely refurbished.

“That original bell represented Bethel Park’s unique tradition and John well understood that,” said Andy Amrhein, the director of the Bethel Park Community Foundation, which funded the new bell’s refurbishment.

“This new bell is an ideal way to honor that tradition and recognize someone who meant so much to so many people.” ■



The family of John Andrejko



REFLECTION FROM FATHER VASYL

# The Fourth Commandment

## *Honor your father and your mother*

By Father Vasyl Symyon  
*Assumption of the Mother of God, Weirton,  
 W.V.; Saint John the Baptist, Avella, Pa.*



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory to Him forever!

I will begin this article with a short story. A few years ago, a friend of mine and his family visited me and stayed at my house overnight. The parents had two children, one of which was a little more than one year old. I recall how much that small child cried during the night and how the mother had to care for him causing me to recollect how many nights my mother and my father lost sleep because they had to care for my brother and me.

My parents sacrificed many hours, months and years to raise us properly. They taught us how to walk, talk, dress, read, be respectful and well-mannered and, most importantly, how to learn about and know God. How to love Him, trust Him and pray to Him for help and guidance.

In previous articles we reflected upon the first three of God's Ten Commandments, which were reserved for God and His relationship with us. Now let us begin to meditate on the second part of the Decalogue, the last seven commandments which focus on people, their behavior in the community and their relationships with others.

Interestingly enough, the second part of the Ten Commandments begins with the Commandment "Honor your father and your mother that you may have a long life in the land the Lord your God is giving you" (Ex 20, 12). Yes, this is the first commandment in the second part of the Decalogue, which "speaks to" our relationships with our parents. The Fourth Commandment uniquely includes a promise from God "that you may have a long life." God assures every man and woman that if they respect their parents, He will bless them with a good and long life!

Your parents gave you life and for this gift of life you must express your appreciation as often as possible! How? By word, by deed and through prayer. Without your parents you would not exist in this world. Your development in your journey through life begins within the family. And your parents established that course

as your first teachers, first helpers and first defenders.

As children grow and mature, however, they become more independent. The majority attend college, accept jobs, raise families, and foster leisurely relationships with friends and co-workers of similar age. In some instances, children ignore their parents because they do not have time for them. As parents age and require special care, their children place them in a good nursing home or assisted living facility but leave them "at the doorstep." The specialized homes become "prisons" where parents are ignored. No family visits. No family phone calls.

Serious failure to care for aged parents, serious disrespect for them and failure to obey them are mortal sins against the Fourth Commandment. Therefore, please find time for your parents as often as you can. Do not forget about them! Please visit them, phone and talk to them, assist them with their wants and needs especially as they age. They may not directly ask for your help and attention, but they will appreciate it. Because they deserve it!

For the effort, time and toil they took to raise you, honor them in return by doing what is necessary to help them as you take responsibility for your life – and eventually their lives.

Also, I would like to remind you to pray for your parents whether living or deceased. In all of our churches we celebrate Divine Liturgies and pray for them. Therefore, any time is an excellent opportunity for you to offer an intention for a Divine Liturgy for your parents — for their birthdays, wedding anniversaries, in moments of sickness and after they have passed to the Lord.

Let us also remember our grandparents and give them the proper and well-earned respect for the special role they play in our lives. Our Holy Father Francis reminds us: "Grandparents are the link between the different generations, to pass on to the young the experience of life [...] It is important for grandparents to meet their grandchildren and for grandchildren to meet their grandparents because as the prophet Joel states, "Grandparents, before their grandchildren, will dream and have illusions [great desires], and young people, taking strength from their grandparents, will go forward and prophesy."

And because of the importance of grandparents in our lives, the Holy Father has established a World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly every fourth Sunday in July.

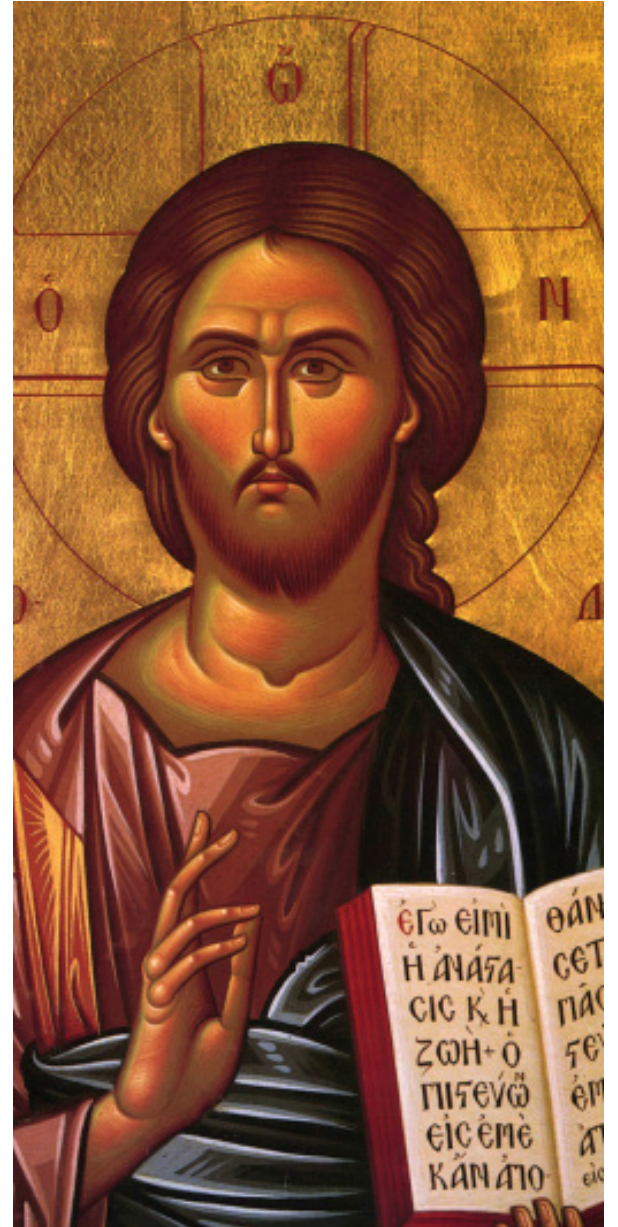
The Fourth Commandment also obligates us to offer proper respect to authorities, especially to our church authorities. That means appropriate reverence to the church fathers: our priests, bishops, cardinals and the pope. As our parents did for us in our youth, our spiritual fathers fostered our spiritual lives and nurtured our holiness. Be courteous to priests and bishops. They perform many different duties that very often parishioners do not see and notice.

Without the church hierarchy (pope, cardinals, bishops, etc.), we would not have priests. Without priests, no one could dispense the holy sacraments to us. Who then would celebrate the Divine Liturgies, perform marriage ceremonies, baptize and confirm our children and hear our confessions? Who would distribute the Holy Eucharist, anoint the sick/dying and serve funerals?

Therefore, please respect your spiritual clergy at all levels and do not take them for granted! I understand how in today's society people may criticize church ministers, but when was the last time you prayed for them? When was last time you asked your priest if he needed your help or support? So instead of criticizing and judging our spiritual fathers, please pray for them and lend them a helping hand!

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, I conclude and summarize this article with the words from the Book of Sirach, which even after more than 2,000 years are still and always will be very suitable for all Christians to heed:

*"For the Lord sets a father in honor over his children and confirms a mother's authority over her sons. Those who honor their father atone*



*for sins; they store up riches who respect their mother. Those who honor their father will have joy in their own children, and when they pray they are heard. Those who respect their father will live a long life; those who obey the Lord honor their mother. Those who fear the Lord honor their father and serve their parents as masters. In word and deed honor your father that all blessings may come to you. A father's blessing gives a person firm roots but a mother's curse uproots the growing plant. Do not glory in your father's disgrace, for that is no glory to you! A father's glory is glory also for oneself; they multiply sin who demean their mother. My son, be steadfast in honoring your father, do not grieve him as long as he lives. Even if his mind fails, be considerate of him and do not revile him because you are in your prime. Kindness to a father will not be forgotten; it will serve as a sin offering — it will take lasting root. In time of trouble it will be recalled to your advantage, like warmth upon frost it will melt away your sins. Those who neglect their father are like blasphemers; those who provoke their mother are accursed by their Creator" (Sirach 3:2-16). ■*

ST. GREGORY IN UPPER ST. CLAIR, PA.

## 50th anniversary celebration

by Father Valerian Michlik  
St. Gregory, Upper St. Clair, Pa.

Sunday, Sept. 19 was a beautiful sunny day as we gathered to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of St. Gregory in Upper St. Clair, Pa. The celebration began with the procession led by St. Gregory's Acolytes, the Knights of Columbus, and our ECF children. It concluded with clergy and the Most Rev. Metropolitan Archbishop William C. Skurla.

Following the traditional welcome with bread and salt, the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy commenced with our St. Gregory's Chant Group leading the responses.

The entire Church, indoors and outdoors, was united in prayer, prayers of thanksgiving on this special day.

During his homily, Archbishop William said we must pick up our cross and follow after Christ to be worthy of the grace of God.

"That has taken place during the 50 years of celebration at St. Gregory in Upper St. Clair, starting with the holy celebration with the Knights of Columbus and the lower church and now to the upper church, a beautiful place to celebrate and give praise to God."

Following the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy, the celebration continued with the Anniversary Banquet at the nearby Crowne Plaza Hotel.

St. Gregory's Chant Group opened the evening with the hymn: "Save Your people, O Lord, and bless Your inheritance" followed by the Our Father and the blessing of the food by our Metropolitan Archbishop.

Following the Anniversary Toast, dinner was served.

The evening continued with a special presentation given by our younger parishioners. It was exciting to witness our Library Ministry launch the third volume of St. Gregory's Church History.

The dinner portion of the evening concluded with a special closing prayer.

We continued the evening with live music and dancing as we celebrated the 50th Anniversary of our wonderful parish family. ■





## 87TH ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE IN HONOR OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

“MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP, OUR GENTLE PROTECTRESS”

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2021  
MOUNT ST. MACRINA, UNIONTOWN, PA.

# “WE NEEDED THIS PILGRIMAGE”

— SISTER SUSAN SISCO, PROVINCIAL, SISTERS OF THE ORDER OF ST. BASIL THE GREAT



*“We continue to need Our Lady’s help,”  
Archbishop William Skurla said.*

*“With each Pilgrimage, we come with our needs and we pray to Our Lady of Perpetual Help to intercede with her Son to grant what we need.”*

### ■ ARCHBISHOP WILLIAM’S HIERARCHICAL DIVINE LITURGY HOMILY ■

Welcome to the 87th annual Pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help at Mount St. Macrina in Uniontown, Pennsylvania. We also welcome our virtual pilgrims who for the first time are able to attend through the internet with

livestream.

We thank Sister Susan Sisko, the Basilian Sisters, their associates, volunteers, staff, and workers who have again made this pilgrimage possible. It takes a full year to prepare for the pilgrimage. As we met, we selected the theme

of “Our Lady of Perpetual Help Protectress” as our theme for this pilgrimage. The reason was obvious. We need protection from the pandemic, struggles in our country and church, and the floods and winds of the past month. We continue to need Our

Lady’s help.

With each pilgrimage we come with our needs and we pray to Our Lady of Perpetual Help to intercede with her Son to grant what we need. We have the larger mosaic icon in the shrine, and we have the Icon of Perpetual Help

*Continued on page 8*

# Homily

*continued from page 7*

which is carried in the processions during the Pilgrimage.

The original Icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help was painted, or written, in the Byzantine style on the island of Crete. Iconographers do not sign their icons, but it is in the style of the 13th century. Some believe it is much older. It was transferred to the Rome by a merchant in 1499. It was later transferred to the Church of San Mateo where it was kept for three centuries.

Our processional Icon was presented by Pope Pius the Eleventh to Bishop Takach in 1935 to be used in pilgrimages to Our Lady of Perpetual Help. The gift followed the plan of Pope Pius the Ninth who spread the devotion to the Icon to the whole world with the efforts of the Redemptorists Order. The original icon had been restored and moved the Church of Saint Alphonsus Liguori located in Rome. From the first procession, the icon and later copies icon have assisted with prayers which have resulted in miracles, healings, and consolations around the world. Many have occurred during the pilgrimages to Mount St. Macrina.

Look at the icon as it passes in procession or in the shrine. In the story of the icon, the child Jesus leaps into Mary's arms for protection. His sandal barely hangs on as he is held at the heart of the Mother of God. Above the Mother of God and the infant Jesus, the Archangels Michael and Gabriel circle above similar to shiny ornaments which parents hang above a child's crib today. However, normally we would not hang ornaments which the Archangel Michael with lances and sponges and Gabriel with a three bar cross and nails. Maybe the Addams Family would, but as with Jesus it would scare a little child. The items are the symbols of the passion, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

The story of the icon holds the plan of salvation from the birth of Jesus to his Crucifixion. Our Lady's hand points to Jesus as a way of telling us this is the path to our salvation. She guides our prayers to her Son, Who can grant whatever is good for us.

As with each Pilgrimage, we ask for what we need. We offer special prayers to Our Lady of Perpetual Help to protect us this year from the continuing pandemic. We pray that our nation and church be healed from division and unrest. And, we pray each of us to be healed and protected in the coming year. ■

## 87TH ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE IN HONOR OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP "MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP, OUR GENTLE PROTECTRESS"

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2021  
MOUNT ST. MACRINA, UNIONTOWN, PA.





# 87TH ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE IN HONOR OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP "MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP, OUR GENTLE PROTECTRESS"

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2021  
MOUNT ST. MACRINA, UNIONTOWN, PA.

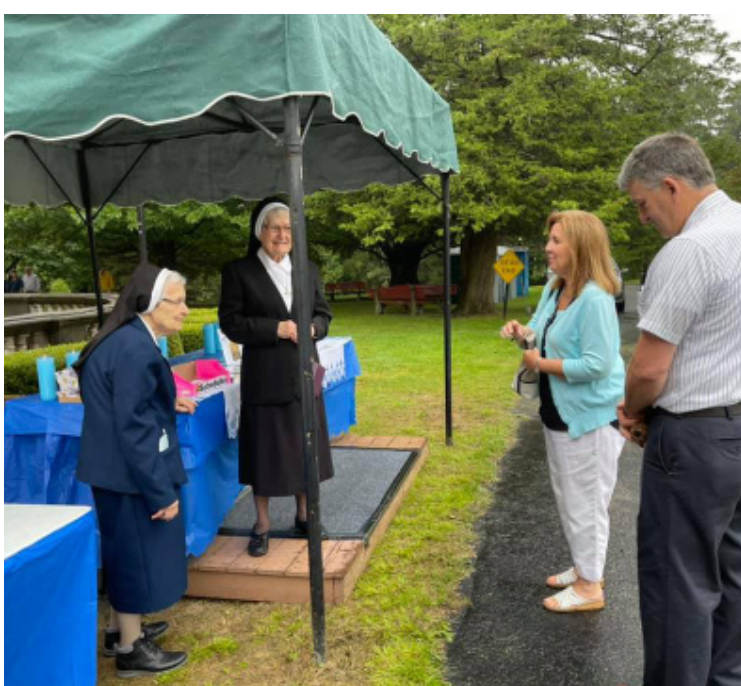


## "It's good for us to be together"



*A message delivered by Sister Susan Sisko, Provincial, Sisters of St. Basil the Great,*

*following the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy at the 87th annual Pilgrimage in Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.*



Glory to Jesus Christ!  
It seems I was just welcoming you a few hours ago and already it's going to be time to say goodbye.

Once again, we thank you for being present. We thank you for being among us through these "showers of blessings" that we've been having throughout the day.

But regardless of the weather, it's good for us to be here. It's good for us to be together. All of us; as a church, as the people of God, as the Sisters of St. Basil, as our Hierarchical Clergy and all our wonderful Faithful.

We needed this. We needed this Pilgrimage; we needed to come together as a group of people to pray and to celebrate that faith that we hold so dear.

In our Church, we say when we want to say goodbye, "S'bohom," "Go with God."

But you came with God. We're here with God. And you'll be leaving with God because that same God and His Loving Mother, with His Gentle Protectress, never leaves our side. Never.

So, when I say "Bohom," what I mean is may your journey, wherever you go in this next year, may that journey always be with God and with our Blessed Mother. May that same journey bring you back here to Mount Macrina and, as (Archbishop William) said, without masks.

May we come together next year to celebrate our faith, to celebrate our love for each other, to celebrate our Church and to celebrate all those things that bring us as a people together.

Glory to Jesus Christ! ■

**87TH ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE IN HONOR OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP**  
**“MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP, OUR GENTLE PROTECTRESS”**  
 SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2021  
 MOUNT ST. MACRINA, UNIONTOWN, PA.

**“Showers of blessings”**

*Continued from page 1*

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, as Holy Father Pius XI requested of the Sisters.

Archbishop William Skurla, during his Hierarchical Divine Liturgy homily, said pilgrims continue to need Our Lady’s help.

“With each Pilgrimage, we come with our needs and we pray to Our Lady of Perpetual Help to intercede with her Son to grant what we need.”

Archbishop William said as work continued to prepare for this year’s Pilgrimage, the reason for choosing the theme, “Mother of Perpetual Help, Our Gentle Protectress,” was obvious.

“We need protection from the pandemic, struggles in our country and church, and the floods and winds of the past month. We continue to need Our Icon of Perpetual Help which is carried in the processions during the pilgrimage.”

He said the original Icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Help was painted — or “written” — in the Byzantine style on the island of Crete.

It is believed to have originated in the 13th century but may be much older.

It was transferred to Rome by a merchant in 1499 and later to the Church of San Mateo where it was kept for three centuries.

“Our processional Icon was presented by Pope Pius the Eleventh to Bishop Takach in 1935 to be used in pilgrimages to Our Lady of Perpetual Help. The gift followed the plan of Pope Pius the Ninth who spread the devotion to the Icon to the whole world with the efforts of the Redemptorists Order.”

In consultation with local county CDC/health department officials, this year’s Pilgrimage did have some limitations:

All liturgical services took place at the Shrine Altar and there were no overnight accommodations of the grounds of Mount St. Macrina.

Pilgrims were also asked to wear masks when entering indoor shrines, as well as buildings such as the Religious Gift Shop, House of Prayer and restroom facilities.



Photos by the Sisters of St. Basil the Great, Missy Norrell and David Mayernik Jr.



ST. MICHAEL IN CANONSBURG, PA.

# Nutroll fundraiser

by Barb Kushner  
St. Michael, Canonsburg, Pa.

In September, Judy Shuba, Chairwoman; Mary Ruozzi, Co-chair; and Barb Kushner, GCU Director; presented a matching funds check to Very Rev. Joseph Raptosh, St. Michael, Canonsburg Pa., for their annual nutroll fundraiser sponsored from 2020-21. God bless Judy, Mary and all the volunteers for their hard work. A special thanks to the GCU for their matching funds and best wishes for another successful campaign this fall. ■



ASCENSION OF OUR LORD IN CLAIRTON, PA.

# Miniature golf outing

by Trish Roberts  
Ascension of Our Lord, Clairton, Pa.

On Sunday afternoon, Aug. 22, families from Ascension of Our Lord Byzantine Church in Clairton, Pa. participated in a miniature golf outing at Family Funscape in Elizabeth, Pa.

It was a beautiful sunny day as the children and their families

played 18 holes on a fun course.

Each family golfed as a team and gift card prizes were awarded to the children who scored the best in their age group with three of them, Henry Dufalla, Julia Tomkowitz and Nicholas Tomkowitz also scoring a "hole in one"! ■



Alexandria Lassige



Brent Kolesar



Dean Maksin and grandson Blake Maksin



Chris Dufalla teaches his son Theodore



Natalie Tomkowicz waits for Liberty Bellevance to putt



Golf Best Score: Henry Dufalla, Brent Kolesar, Julie and Nicholas Tomkowicz

SS. PETER AND PAUL IN WARREN, OHIO

# Parish Summer Picnic

by Lisa Mosko  
SS. Peter and Paul, Warren, Ohio

Food, games and fun! That's what everyone enjoyed at the Parish Summer Picnic at SS. Peter and Paul in Warren, Ohio on Aug. 15 following the 11 a.m. Divine Liturgy.

Food was provided by the church

and Parish Guild members brought delicious desserts. Thanks to the Sudik family for grilling hamburgers and hot dogs outside.

Parishioners tried their luck on the Big Dice Wheel, 50/50, and Instant Lottery Ticket Bingo.

It was a fun time for all! ■



HOLY GHOST IN MCKEES ROCKS, PA.

# First Confession

by Father Frank Firko  
Holy Ghost, McKees Rocks, Pa.

Renewing Baptismal Promises, making a First Confession and receiving the Holy Eucharist at the June 5 Vigil Divine Liturgy at Holy Ghost in McKees Rocks, Pa. was Alaina Grace Usouski.

She reaffirmed her baptismal promises and in love promised to serve her Lord, God and Savior Jesus Christ!

Due to the Covid-19 restrictions regarding personal attendance for this past year's ECF Classes, Alaina's Grandmother, Peggi Lucas, was given special permission to serve as her instructor.

May God grant to Alaina many happy and blessed years! ■



Alaina Grace Usouski, Father Frank Firko and Peggi Lucas, Alaina's grandmother.



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHEDRAL IN MUNHALL, PA.

# Stuffed Cabbage Dinner

St. John the Baptist Cathedral in Munhall, Pa. held a take-out Stuffed Cabbage Dinner Sept. 11 and 12. ■



Photos by Nick Havrilla Sr.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST IN PITTSBURGH (SOUTH SIDE), PA.

# Welcome, Father Miron!

by Barbara Rebovich  
St. John the Baptist, Pittsburgh (South Side), Pa.

The parishioners of St. John the Baptist in Pittsburgh (South Side), Pa. are happy to announce and warmly welcome our new pastor to church. Rev. Father Miron Kerul'-Kmec, wife Sarah and son, Miron Theophan (three months old) arrived at the parish the week of Aug. 23.

He celebrated his first liturgy as our spiritual leader on Sunday, Aug. 29.

Thank you Archbishop William Skurla for naming Father Miron as our pastor. Also, thank you to Very Rev. Andrew Deskevich for his kindness, patience and help during what was a difficult time for our church community.

We pray for Father Miron and his family that their time with us will be graced with many blessings. Mnohaja, blahaja l'ita, Vo zdraviji i spasentiji, Mnohaja, blahaja l'ita! ■



Father Miron Kerul'Kmec, wife Sarah and son Miron Theophan

# Night at the Races

by Barbara Rebovich  
St. John the Baptist, Pittsburgh (South Side), Pa.

On Saturday, July 21, we finally had a long-anticipated Night at the Races at St. John Chrysostom's Hall in Greenfield., Pa

The event benefited St. John the Baptist on Pittsburgh's South Side.

Our favorite race emcee, Jim Reynolds, continues to be as entertaining as always. Food was excellent (kudos to the chefs). Lots of laughter, fun, shouts of joy (for winning) and groans of defeat (for losing). Raffle baskets were all donated and unbelievably amazing. Our 50/50 raffle netted the winning person \$172.

Thank you to everyone who attended and supported our church.



A special thank you to everyone who volunteered their time to make our event a success. We also had a cake for our friend, Clay, who was celebrating his 83rd birthday. It was great to see all of you. Until next year, adios! ■



ST. ELIAS IN MUNHALL, PA.

# Preparing pirohi ...and holiday treats!

by Mary Caryl Planiczki  
St. Elias, Munhall, Pa.

St. Elias pirohi makers are already hard at work making

our famous pirohi for the Nativity Fast. More work days are planned, so plenty will be ready! ■

by Mary Caryl Planiczki  
St. Elias, Munhall, Pa.

St. Elias bakers put the new stove to work making holiday

rolls in many flavors and delicious cold dough cookies, too!

Place your orders early to get the best selection! ■



## Upgrading St. Elias

by Mary Caryl Planiczki  
St. Elias, Munhall, Pa.

Many upgrades are being completed to the St. Elias Church facilities. The parking lot has been repaved and interior

plastering and painting repairs have been made.

Many thanks to Father Vitalii Stashkevych for installing LED lighting throughout the church hall which will be more energy and cost efficient for years to come! ■



## Welcoming Father Robert

by Mary Caryl Planiczki  
St. Elias, Munhall, Pa.

St. Elias welcomed Father Robert Pipta, rector of SS. Cyril and Methodius Seminary, in Pittsburgh, Pa., and seminarians Thomas and Tyler to Divine Liturgy on Sept. 12.

Prayers are with these young men as they discern Christ's calling in their lives.

May God grant them a blessed and productive academic year. ■





## THOUGHTS FOR OUR DAY

by Archpriest David M. Petras


### THE ANAPHORA: UNITY



In the Gospel of St. John, at the Last Supper, our Lord taught the disciples that the foundation of his message was to bring the human race into unity: "I pray not only for them, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, so that they may all be one, as you, Father, are in me and I in you, that they also may be in us, that the world may believe that you sent me" (John 17:20-21). We have been created in the image of God, and God is one in a unity so powerful and complete that we may say, "God is love" (1 John 4:16). Jesus told us that "If you love me, you will keep my commandments" (John 14:15) and his commandment is found in the Gospel of St. Matthew, "be perfect, just as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48). This perfection consists in being in unity with one another in love, as again St. John explains, "Beloved, if God so loved us, we also must love one another. No one has ever seen God. Yet, if we love one another, God remains in us, and his love is brought to perfection in us" (1 John 4:11-12). It is clear from what God has revealed that this is more than just tolerance of one another, more than just a compromise of ideologies, more than rugged individualism that avoids conflicts, but it is being in God's image, of living in that one human nature that was created to be God-like, sharers "in the divine nature" (2 Peter 1:4).

In many ways in his gospel message, Jesus taught us how we were to be united. Our union with one another is established

on God's life within us, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Matthew 22:37-39). This union in love admitted of no exceptions, "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your

  
In many ways in his gospel message, Jesus taught us how we were to be united.

enemy.' But I say to you, love your enemies, and pray for those who persecute you" (Matthew 5:43-44). Certainly, economic or political ideologies, which attempt to divide us into classes or clans or tribes, cannot take precedence over the commandment of love, as St. Paul pointed out, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free person, there is not male and female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:28). The same basic unity of all humanity was also taught by our Lord. This is the reason for the parable of the Good Samaritan. When the "scholar of the law" asked Jesus, "Who is my neighbor" (Luke 10:29), Jesus replied with the story of the man who was the victim of robbers. He was not helped by the ones you would expect, the priest or levite, but instead by a foreigner

and heretic, a hated Samaritan (Luke 10:29-37), revealing that we are one human race when we help, love and support one another despite race or tribe.

In the celebration of the Liturgy, we are certainly called to form one community united in God. Our Lord said this was necessary for the sacrifice, "if you bring your gift to the altar, and there recall that your brother has anything against you, leave your gift there at the altar, go first and be reconciled with your brother, and then come and offer your gift" (Matthew 5:23-24). St. John Chrysostom said this was the reason for the Kiss of Peace in the Liturgy. Just after the priest brings the gifts of bread and wine to the Holy Table, the deacon says to the people, "Let us love one another." St. John observes that "precisely while the very gift is lying there, when the sacrifice is already beginning, he sends you at that precise time to be reconciled to your brother. Neither after removing nor before presenting the gift, but precisely while it lies before you, you are to run to your brother" (The Gospel of Matthew, Homily 16.9). Though it may not be common today to actually exchange the kiss of peace physically, this is what the Liturgy is about. At the beginning of the Liturgy, the deacon asks us to pray, "for the stability of the holy Churches of God, and for the union of all." This is rightly a petition for all Christians in the universal Church, but it may also apply to the people present in the praying community, that we may be united in heart and soul. The recitation of the Creed is immediately joined to the kiss of peace, not for judgment or condemnation of others, but that

we may worship in the unity of one basic faith.

We may now see this in the anaphora. Our eucharistic prayer ends with a doxology, our glorification of God, who has done wondrous works for our salvation, especially through his cross and resurrection, and in this doxology we express our unity, "And grant that with one voice and one heart we may glorify and praise your most honored and magnificent name." We then seal this prayer with our solemn assent by singing "Amen," the Hebrew word for "would that it be so." This has been the essential mark of the Christian community from the beginning. The words of this doxology are taken from the description of the oneness of the community manifested by the earliest followers of Christ. The Acts of the Apostles describes this: "The community of believers was of one heart and mind, and no one claimed that any of his possessions was his own, but they had everything in common. With great power the apostles bore witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great favor was accorded them all" (Acts 4:32-33). When we celebrate the Liturgy, we bear witness to the resurrection. Christians, therefore, were a community of love and care for one another, "There was no needy person among them, for those who owned property or houses would sell them, bring the proceeds of the sale, and put them at the feet of the apostles, and they were distributed to each according to need" (Acts 1:34-35). We must have the faith today that praying the Anaphora can bring us together to be of "one voice and one heart" in our Lord. ■



## PARISH LITURGIES BROADCAST VIA INTERNET

Here is the most current list of parishes broadcasting Sunday Divine Liturgies and other services to the Faithful via their websites and social media sites such as Facebook.

For changes or to be listed, send information to [bcw@archpitt.org](mailto:bcw@archpitt.org).

**St. John the Baptist Cathedral  
Munhall, Pa.**  
[www.stjohnsbyzantinecathedral.com](http://www.stjohnsbyzantinecathedral.com)

**Holy Ghost  
McKees Rocks, Pa.**  
[www.holyghost-byzantinecatholic.org](http://www.holyghost-byzantinecatholic.org)  
[www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com), then type Holy Ghost Church Live Stream

**St. John Chrysostom  
Pittsburgh, Pa.**  
[www.sjcbcc.com](http://www.sjcbcc.com)

**St. Gregory  
Upper St. Clair, Pa.**  
[www.facebook.com/stgregoryusc](https://www.facebook.com/stgregoryusc)

**St. Michael  
Campbell, Ohio**  
[www.facebook.com/st.michaelbyz.campbell](https://www.facebook.com/st.michaelbyz.campbell)

**St. Elias  
Munhall, Pa.**  
[www.facebook.com/StEliasByzantineCatholicChurch/](https://www.facebook.com/StEliasByzantineCatholicChurch/)

**SS. Peter and Paul  
Braddock, Pa.**  
<https://www.facebook.com/SSPeterPaulBraddock/>



**St. Michael  
Hermitage, Pa.**  
<https://www.facebook.com/stmichaelbyz.hermitage>

**St. Stephen  
North Huntingdon, Pa.**  
[www.facebook.com/ststephenbyzantinecatholicchurch](https://www.facebook.com/ststephenbyzantinecatholicchurch)



BYZANTINE CATHOLIC SEMINARY  
OF SAINTS CYRIL AND METHODIUS  
FORMING LEADERS FOR THE CHURCH

## LITURGICAL SCHEDULE AT THE SEMINARY

“COME, LET US SING  
JOYFULLY TO THE LORD”

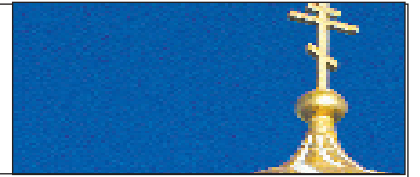
Join the Seminarians of Byzantine Catholic Seminary at 3605 Perrysville Ave., Pittsburgh, Pa., for Liturgical Prayer. Visitors are welcome at the Seminary chapel. *Masking required of those who are not fully COVID vaccinated.* Enter through the chapel door that faces Perrysville Avenue. It's recommended visitors call 412-321-8383 in advance. For more information about the Seminary: go to [www.bcs.edu](http://www.bcs.edu).

### Schedule of Services for October

FRI	1	8 a.m. Divine Liturgy (M)
SAT	2	9 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R) 5 p.m. Great Vespers (M)
SUN	3	7 a.m. Festal Matins (R)
MON	4	8 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R)
TUE	5	7 a.m. Parastas for the Departed (R)
WED	6	7 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R)
THU	7	7 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R)
FRI	8	8 a.m. 1st Hour and Divine Liturgy (M) 6 p.m. Great Vespers (M)
SAT	9	9 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R) 5 p.m. Great Vespers (R) [LS]
SUN	10	7 a.m. Festal Matins (R)
MON	11	8 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R)
TUE	12	7 a.m. Matins (R)
WED	13	7 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R)
THU	14	7 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R)
FRI	15	8 a.m. 3rd Hour and Divine Liturgy (M)
SAT	16	9 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R) 5 p.m. Great Vespers (M)
MON	18	8 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R)
TUE	19	7 a.m. Moleben for Those in Illness (R)
WED	20	7 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R)
THU	21	7 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R)
FRI	22	8 a.m. 1st Hour and Divine Liturgy (M) [LS] 6 p.m. Vespers with 4th Kathisma (R)
SAT	23	9 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R) 5 p.m. Great Vespers (R)
SUN	24	7 a.m. Festal Orthros (M)
MON	25	8 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R)
TUE	26	7 a.m. Divine Liturgy (M)
WED	27	7 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R) [LS]
THU	28	7 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R)
FRI	29	8 a.m. 3rd Hour and Divine Liturgy (M) 6 p.m. Vespers with 4th Kathisma (R)
SAT	30	9 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R) 5 p.m. Great Vespers (M) [LS]

(M) Melkite tradition (R) Ruthenian tradition [LS] Livestream

## AROUND THE ARCHEPARCHY



**ICONOGRAPHY WORKSHOP** — Oct. 14 to 17, Most Holy Name of Jesus Parish, 1700 Harpster St., Troy Hill, Pa. Marylyn Barone will conduct an iconography workshop for adults at all levels of experience. You will write an icon of the Nativity of Jesus Christ. The class will be Thursday evening, Friday evening, all day Saturday and Sunday, noon until finishing. The cost of \$135 will cover all supplies. For further information, call Marylyn Barone at 412-678-9453 or email her at [mwbarone@comcast.net](mailto:mwbarone@comcast.net).

**ANNUAL CRAFT/VENDOR SHOW AND FOOD FESTIVAL** — 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 16, St. John the Baptist Cathedral, 210 Greentree Road, Munhall, Pa. Dozens of tables of crafters and vendors, crafter showcase auction, raffles, stuffed cabbage dinners, haluski, pierogies, St. John's baked goods and more. For information, call 412-461-0944.

**SPAGHETTI DINER AND BASKET RAFFLE** — Noon to 3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 17, St. John the Baptist, 525 Porter Ave. Scottsdale, Pa. Dinner includes spaghetti, meatballs, salad, roll, dessert and beverage. Donations: \$10, adults; \$5, children under 12 years. Take-out and extra desserts will be available. Sponsored by the Altar Society of St. John the Baptist. For more information, call 724-220-5062.

**TRUNK-OR-TREAT** — 4-6 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 24, St. John the Baptist, 176 Cross Creek Road, Avella, Pa. Cars planning to participate should arrive at the church before 3:50 p.m. Text questions 724-678-3228.

**39th ANNUAL CARPATHO-RUSYN CELEBRATION** — Noon-4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 31, St. John the Baptist Church, 201 E. Main Street, Uniontown, Pa. Modified annual ethnic festival and 9 a.m. Divine Liturgy. Food items available in Social Hall will be take-out only. Menu includes: Ethnic Platter, \$10 (two pirohi, one holubki, halushki, and kolbasi); kolbasi sandwich, \$4.50; halushki, \$3/pint or \$6/quart; pirohi \$10/dozen (limit one dozen); holubki, \$12/half dozen (limit 1 dozen). Baked goods including Long Rolls (nut, poppyseed, apricot, and pineapple cottage cheese), kolachi, cookies, cakes, breads, and more. Raffle items will be available in parking lot behind church/school building. Handicapped accessible. Subject to change. No charge for admission. For information, call 724-438-6027 M-F 9 a.m.-3 p.m. (leave message). Email: [stjohnthebaptistuniontown@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnthebaptistuniontown@gmail.com). Check parish website <http://www.stjohnbaptist-byzocath-uniontown.org/> the week of the event for a possible changes.

**HOLIDAY BASKET EXTRAVAGANZA** — Noon-? Sunday, Nov. 21, St. John the Baptist Cathedral, 210 Greentree Road, Munhall, Pa. Donation: \$20, includes take home chicken parmesan dinner. Extra dinners may be purchased for \$10 each. 20+ Basket Raffle, variety of vendors and 50/50 Drawing. St. John's Baked Goods (kolache and more) and door prizes. Tickets must be purchased in advance. For tickets and information, call Diane at 412-303-6534. Any CDC, state and local health department guidelines at the time will be followed during the event.

**ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER** — 1-5 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 7, SS. Peter and Paul, 701 Foster Ave., Duquesne, Pa. Sponsored by SS. Peter and Paul Parish Club. Cost: \$10, adults; \$5, children 10 years and under. No charge for children under 5 years. There will also be raffles and auctions.

**TASTE OF HEAVEN COOKIE SALE** — Pre-orders only. Pick-up 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 4, St. Gregory Church, 2005 Mohawk Road, Upper Saint Clair, Pa. 15241. Orders will be taken from Monday, Oct. 11 to Sunday, Nov. 21. Additional details will be posted soon at [stgregoryusc.org](http://stgregoryusc.org) and on the St. Gregory Facebook page.

## DATES TO REMEMBER



### OCT. 1

Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos

### OCT. 3 to 7

Clergy Retreat

### NOV. 7

Standard Time (“fall back”) resumes at 2 a.m.

### NOV. 11

Veterans Day  
*National observance*

### NOV. 21

Feast of the Entrance of the Theotokos

### NOV. 25

Thanksgiving Day  
*Chancery closed Nov. 25 to 26*

See more upcoming events at [www.archpitt.org](http://www.archpitt.org)

THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC  
**WORLD**

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**NEXT ISSUE:**  
**NOVEMBER 2021**

**SUBMISSIONS  
DEADLINE:**  
**OCTOBER 20**