

WORLD

THE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC

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VOL. 67 NO. 11 OCTOBER 2022

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“Theotokos, the Seeker of the Lost”

88TH ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE AT MOUNT ST. MACRINA IN UNIONTOWN, PA.



Metropolitan Archbishop William Skurla (left) delivers the homily Sunday, Sept. 4 during the Divine Liturgy at the 88th annual Pilgrimage in Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help at Mount St. Macrina in Uniontown, Pa. A commemorative pull-out section for Pilgrimage 2022 is on pages 7 to 10.

By David Mayernik Jr.
Editor

Many gifts were given and received during the 88th annual Pilgrimage in Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help at Mount St. Macrina in Uniontown, Pa.

Among the most noteworthy was the number of children and young adults present on the rolling hills of the Mount from Sept. 2 to 5.

Sister Susan Sisko, Provincial, commented on their presence during her address following Sunday's Hierarchical Divine Liturgy.

“Hasn't that been great? Our Pilgrimage is getting younger. The Children's Procession was a great length. We have a ton of teens, we have a lot of young adults. I am really psyched for the

next several years because we have so many young people who want to be here,” she said.

Before Archbishop William Skurla and priests blessed those participating in the Children's Procession at the Shrine Altar, Sister Elaine Kisinko, OSBM thanked them.

“By your walking, always remember you gave a flower to Mary, you're wearing a medal for her and you gave glory to her Son, Jesus Christ and you honored His mother,” she said.

Sister Elaine explained to children to always remember they are a “special gift.”

“You are a special gift because God gave you as a gift to your parents and to your loved ones. You're a most precious gift to the bishops, to the priests, to the Sisters and to everybody here and

especially, you're a great gift to our Byzantine Catholic Church,” she said.

“When the Pilgrimage is over and we're back at home and school, try to remember, you're a great gift of God's goodness and you are a special gift of what you can give to those who love you and cherish you and worry about you.”

With the theme, “Theotokos, the Seeker of the Lost,” this year's Pilgrimage returned to its four-day schedule over the Labor Day weekend for the first time since before the pandemic.

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



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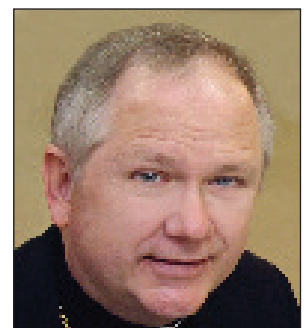
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Campus Ministry reaches out to local colleges

NEWLY ESTABLISHED PROGRAM OFFERS ACCESS TO “FULL RICHNESS AND BEAUTY” OF EASTERN CATHOLIC TRADITION



Press release by the Byzantine Catholic Campus Ministry, Archeparchy of Pittsburgh

August 17, 2022

Dear Father,
Glory to Jesus Christ!

It is with great joy that I write to inform you of a new initiative in the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh. Beginning this Fall, a Campus Ministry program will be established at the heart of the two largest universities in Pittsburgh (Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh) and extending out to all of the colleges in the region. It is our hope to develop a lasting outreach to Byzantine Catholic students, faculty and staff; providing them not only with access to the Sacraments but also the opportunity to be exposed to the full richness and beauty of a distinctively Eastern Catholic theological and spiritual tradition. To this end we will be offering Divine Liturgy on Sundays and feast days, frequent opportunities for confession, monthly educational programs, opportunity for spiritual direction and pastoral counseling, days of recollection, retreats, community outreach and social events.

The home of campus ministry will be Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church on Fifth Avenue. Three Chaplains have been entrusted with the work: Fr. David Abernethy (Director of Campus Ministry), Fr. Michael Kunitz (Administrator of Holy Spirit Parish), and Fr. Miron Kerul'-Kmec (Pastor of St. John the Baptist Parish). We ask for your support by advertising the initiative in your parish and sharing it with the members of your congregation who will be attending any of universities in the Pittsburgh area.

God Bless,
Father David S. Abernethy
Director, Byzantine Catholic Campus Ministry
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By David Mayernik Jr.
Editor

When Father David Abernethy was a student at the University of Pittsburgh, the campus ministry program offered guidance during one of life's more uncertain times.

“During my time there, I was engaged by those who worked in Campus Ministry and it changed the course of my life, both in terms of becoming Catholic but also eventually my choice to pursue the priesthood,” he said.

Since then, he's made a life's commitment to helping students during his 35 years at the Pittsburgh Oratory of St. Philip Neri and now as director of the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh's new Campus Ministry program.

“I think what drove me to work in Campus Ministry and pursue the path I did was that I was helped at a time where I lacked spiritual and personal formation when I needed it the most...I had strong counsel and guidance there. That's what I would want to offer to Byzantine Catholic (students).”

Father David joined the Archeparchy earlier this year and is administrator of SS. Peter and Paul in Duquesne, Pa. as well as providing spiritual direction for incoming seminarians.

He'll be working with Father Michael Kunitz of Holy Spirit in the North Oakland section of Pittsburgh and Father Miron Kerul'-Kmec of St. John the Baptist in Southside and St. John Chrysostom in Greenfield, both in Pittsburgh.

The Campus Ministry program will serve campuses all over the Pittsburgh area, from the University of Pittsburgh and the Community College of Allegheny County (CCAC) to Duquesne University and Chatham University.

“It all falls under the umbrella of the Campus Ministry program as it stands now.”

The new ministry kicked off with an Opening Liturgy and Dinner on the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross Sept. 14 at Holy Spirit.

“This is good timing. There are a couple of young priests here, within the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh, who've shown great interest...Holy Spirit is perfectly located in the heart of the universities,” Father David said.

“(It will) provide a center students can come to throughout the course of the day; they have the facilities there...students can come there throughout the day to study, to meet other Byzantine students, to have events for them that they are able to grow in their faith with others who have the



The chaplains of the Pittsburgh Byzantine Catholic Campus Ministry — Father Miron Kerul'-Kmec Jr., Father David Abernethy, and Father Michael Kunitz — in front of Holy Spirit Byzantine Catholic Church on Fifth Avenue in Pittsburgh, Pa.

Parishes of the Byzantine Catholic Campus Ministry

Holy Spirit (HS)
North Oakland
4815 Fifth Ave.
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15213

St. John the Baptist (SJB)
Southside
1720 Jane St.
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15203

St. John Chrysostom (SJC)
Greenfield
506 Saline St.
Pittsburgh, Pa. 15207

Divine Liturgies on Sunday:
8 a.m. (HS)
8:30 a.m. (SJB)
10:30 a.m. (SJC)
5 p.m. (HS)

Confession Times at Holy Spirit:
Sunday: 8-9 a.m. and 4-5 p.m.
Monday 10-11 a.m.
Wednesday 2-3 p.m.
Friday 5-6 p.m.

St. John the Baptist and St. John Chrysostom
Confession available before Liturgy



Opening Liturgy Sept. 14 at Holy Spirit in the North Oakland neighborhood of Pittsburgh, Pa.

same values and same desires they do.”

Father David was ordained a priest to the Pittsburgh Oratory in 1994.

He has been working in campus ministry since his Novitiate and all through Seminary. He served as a chaplain and director of Campus Ministry at the Oratory.

The mission of the Archeparchy's Campus Ministry is clear as the program begins establishing a presence at each college and university.

“We see ourselves as planting the seeds here in the first year of getting acclimated in terms of working with the universities and acknowledged as official chaplains to the university,” he said.

“We want to help the students focus on the heart of the Byzantine

life, which is the beauty of the Liturgy, the Fasting seasons and major Feasts, so they are able to embrace it for themselves, the Byzantine life and tradition.

“My hope is to focus on personal and spiritual formation; there's a beauty to the spiritual tradition in the East.”

Father David wants to spread the word to every parish in the United States who has family members attending higher education in Pittsburgh.

“Really what is at the heart of it is the Divine Liturgy; its beauty and developing a love for it, as well as the other sacraments. And immersing them in a spiritual tradition that is going to be formative and enduring for them throughout the course of their life.” ■



BULLETIN BOARD

Seminary to host "Come And See" Weekend Nov. 4 to 6

The Byzantine Catholic Seminary of Saints Cyril and Methodius is pleased to host the "Come and See" Weekend of Discovery from Friday, Nov. 4 to Sunday, Nov. 6, 2022.

Invited to this retreat weekend 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.

"Come and See" is a retreat weekend that takes place at the Byzantine Catholic Seminary in Pittsburgh, Pa. 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 Oct. 12. For more information and to apply, please see the Seminary's website www.bcs.org.

The Byzantine Catholic Seminary is a community of mentors, teachers, and students living and working in an ecumenical environment of Christian unity, integrity, and missionary spirit. The Seminary forms leaders for the Church who continue the mission mandate of our Lord Jesus Christ to "make disciples of all nations."

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. The Seminary operates as a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization incorporated in Pennsylvania and is governed by a Board of Directors under the leadership of the Metropolitan Archbishop of Pittsburgh.

For more information, call the Seminary Office at 412-321-8383 or email at office@bcs.edu. ■

Upcoming events at the House of Prayer

The following events will take place at Mount St. Macrina House of Prayer, 510 W. Main St., Uniontown, Pa. To register for programs or more information, call 724-438-7149 or email hpmsm@verizon.net. Offerings to be announced.

■ 6:30-8 p.m. Oct. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 and Nov. 7, **Monday Evening Reading Series** (in person): "Developing Boundless Compassion" using Boundless Compassion: Creating a Way of Life, book by Sister Joyce Rupp. Guides: Sister Barbara Jean Mihalchick, OSBM and Dr. Jo Ann Jankoski, D.Ed., LCMSW, MS, CCTP. Registration due: Sept. 26. Scholarships available.

■ 10-11:30 a.m. Oct. 15, **Saturday Morning Reflection:** "Mary and Eve: Two Women

in God's Plan for Salvation" (in person). Presented by Helenanne Hochendoner, M.A.T. Registration due: Oct. 8. ■

■ 7 p.m. Oct. 21 to noon Oct. 23, **Young Adult Weekend Retreat:** see *Around the Archeparchy* page 16.

■ 6:30-8:30 p.m. Oct. 25, **Tuesday Evening of Prayer for Men** (in person): "Brothers in Christ, Brothers in Prayer" presented by Father James Tringhese. Registration due Oct. 20.

■ 10-11:30 a.m. Nov. 3, 10, 17 and Dec. 1, **Thursday Morning Bible Study** (in person and online): "Introducing the Psalms" presented by Sister Melita Marie Penchalk. ■

REFLECTION FROM MOUNT ST. MACRINA

The priestly prayer of Jesus

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



This is a transcript of her Oct. 22, 2021 reflection. It can viewed on the Facebook page of the Sisters of St. Basil the Great at <https://www.facebook.com/sistersofstbasil.uniontown>.

Glory to Jesus Christ! When I was in Rome I had the privilege – I think, four times – of going to the private chapel for morning mass of Pope St. John Paul II.

When we would walk in, he was already there in his seat in the middle aisle, and in prayer. One sensed the power of God when you walked in there.

Certainly, my mind would go to: "Oh my, what are the thoughts and the prayers that are in this saintly man's mind and heart? What has he been praying about?" Surely, praying for all of us in the church. In the Gospel this Sunday, we are given the priestly prayer of Jesus that He says out loud at the Last Supper with His disciples in the room.

We are let in on what His thoughts and prayers were in that occasion. The beginning of the passage of John 17's Gospel is Jesus speaking to His Father so we hear Him at prayer.

The second part of it, He's also speaking to His Father but he is directly praying for the Apostles and all of us who hear the Word of God through them, ultimately, in the Church.

The words are so precious. I do encourage you to read Chapter 17 because Jesus is so open and the words are so touching. This is an intimate moment with those closest to Him at this time just before His Passion, Death and Resurrection.

It reminds me and us to seek such intimacy with the Lord. Through the Holy Spirit we can have that in our prayer. We live in a busy world so it may mean pulling back from some activity, finding a quiet place – ideally, every day.

The Lord's love and presence is so precious and so life-changing it's worth seeking time with Him day by day that we may be strengthened, that we may be healed, that we may be inspired, that we may be changed, that we may become lovers, also, as He is. Merciful, kind, just and compassionate.

God bless you. ■

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. 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.

Schedule of Services for October

SAT	1	8 a.m. Festal Matins and Divine Liturgy (R) [LS]
SUN	2	7 a.m. Festal Matins (R)
MON	3	8 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R)
TUE	4	7 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R)
WED	5	7 a.m. First and Third Hours (R)
THU	6	7 a.m. Festal Matins (R) [LS]
FRI	7	5 p.m. Vespers with 3rd Kathisma (R)
SAT	8	9 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R) 5 p.m. Great Vespers (M) [LS]
MON	10	8 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R)
TUE	11	7 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R)
WED	12	7 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R)
THU	13	7 a.m. Moleben for Those in Illness (R)
FRI	14	5 p.m. Vespers with 4th Kathisma (R)
SUN	16	8 a.m. Festal Matins and Divine Liturgy (R)
MON	17	8 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R)
TUE	18	7 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R)
WED	19	7 a.m. Divine Liturgy (M)
THU	20	7 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R)
FRI	21	5 p.m. Akathist to Pope St. John Paul II (R)
SAT	22	9 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R) 5 p.m. Great Vespers (R)
MON	24	8 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R)
TUE	25	7 a.m. Divine Liturgy (R)
WED	26	7 a.m. Divine Liturgy (M)
THU	27	7 a.m. Parastas for the Departed (R)

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

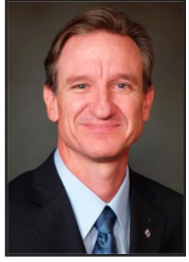


BYZANTINE CATHOLIC SEMINARY OF SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS

The beginning of the rest of our lives

DEACON STUDENT STEPHEN MELANCON REFLECTS ON FOURTH YEAR AT SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS

by Stephen Melancon
Deacon student, Eparchy of Phoenix
Our Lady of Wisdom Italo-Greek Catholic
Church, Las Vegas, Nev.



During the homily at the last liturgy of our last year of our diaconal studies program, the rector of the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of SS. Cyril and Methodius, Father Robert Pipta, told the 17 men sitting before him that we should continue to discern our vocation.

Father Robert encouraged each of us to pray to God to discern if it is, indeed, His will that we be ordained as deacons in the Byzantine Catholic Church. Our respective Bishops may be eager, he noted, but it is still important that we discern the call, even at this late stage.

I thought to myself, we had just completed the coursework of the fourth year of a four-year program of deacon formation. We had completed our practicums and demonstrated our ability to serve in the Divine Liturgy, Matins, Vespers and the Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts. We had practiced the incensations, intonations and even distribution of the Holy Mysteries (using unconsecrated bread and wine, of course). Yet, we were being instructed to continue to discern.

We were still being encouraged to listen for God's still small voice. This was a rather profound moment and lead to some real reflection on my experience in

this the fourth and final year of the program.

For the second and third years of the program we were prevented from attending the Seminary in person due to the pandemic. The program remained vigorous and was more convenient for some of us, allowing us to learn from home and on our own schedule. Of course, these two years of online classes, submitting sermons and practicum assignments via video, were challenging for students and professors alike.

Returning to the Seminary for our fourth and final year was, I believe, universally a joy for us deacon seminarians. We were able to really reconnect and share our struggles and triumphs. We helped each other to serve the liturgies well. We prayed together, including at a Sunday Divine Liturgy at a local parish where most of us attended and four of us served on the altar.

After 13 and 14-hour days, including three two-hour classes and one and sometimes two liturgies, we usually ended our nights in the basement, sharing a beverage and even playing a little music. We were all aware of just how special this was, our time together.

This year we were joined by three Deacons who were graduates of the last class. They volunteered to return to the Seminary to serve in the liturgies, preach homilies, and share their experiences of life in the real world. They answered questions and were in fellowship with us. This was a wonderful addition to our experience at the



The 17 deacon students at SS. the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of SS. Cyril and Methodius with Rev. Christiaan W. Kappes, PhD, SLD, Academic Dean and Director of Intellectual Formation (left) and Sandra A. Collins, Ph.D., Director of Information Services and Academic Advisor, and Very Rev. Robert M. Pipta, Rector (right).

Seminary.

Academically, the fourth year of our studies included the final two scripture classes, one on the Old Testament and the other on Johannian literature. As it turned out, these classes were taught on the same day and so were able to build on and reflect each other in a way that was quite remarkable.

Each day also included a practicum class where the real nuts and bolts of the deacons work in the liturgy was presented and practiced. The weekends included classes in Pastoral Leadership that were two of the most practical and useful classes in the entire program. In the second week we were immersed in the study of Catholic Social Doctrine as well as the Second Vatican Council.

After four years of study that covered Canon Law, Moral Theology, Dogmatics, Homiletics,

Spirituality, Scripture, Holy Mysteries, Marriage, Sexuality, and Bioethics, Liturgy, Liturgical Reading, Pastoral Care and Counseling, Pastoral Leadership, Eastern Church History and more, we are still discerning.

I expect most, if not all, of the 17 men who will complete this program by submitting our final four papers sometime before next Spring, will discern that it is God's will that we be ordained. Yet I so appreciate hearing that we should continue to prayerfully consider what we believe to be God's will for our lives. That process of listening, of discerning, should be a lifelong process.

So, this, the fourth and final year of our diaconate studies, is not the end. It is the beginning of the rest of our lives in the service of Christ and his Holy Church. ■

OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

“Our Children: Providing Inner Strength for Challenging Times”

WORKSHOP SPONSORED BY THE OFFICE OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION PROVIDES GUIDANCE TO HELP CHILDREN

by The Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh Office of Religious Education

A workshop titled “Our Children: Providing Inner Strength for Challenging Times” was sponsored by the Office of Religious Education on Aug. 13.

It is vitally important for Catholics to come to terms with what the Church teaches about life, death, suffering and a loving God. These beliefs are carried out in ordinary life experiences and influence our decisions.

More than ever today, children cannot be isolated from the topics of violence, tragedy, life and death. This workshop provided guidance and support to catechists, parents and grandparents on addressing these difficult topics with

children.

Dr. Regina Boerio, Ph.D, a Professor of Psychology at Franciscan University shared two Power Point presentations. The first was helping children make healthy decisions and tips for relationship building. The second addressed talking to children in times of violence.

Amanda Singel, Assistant to the Office provided a resource on the value of hope in teaching our children the importance of a positive attitude.

Sister Marion Dobos, Director of the Office of Religious Education shared Eight Strategies for Communicating with Parents.

All efforts to connect with parents are important, because parent communication and



LEFT: Sister Marion Dobos, Bill Dzuricsko, Lorri George, Renee McEwen, Nicola McDonald, Helen Kennedy, Amanda Singel and Seminarian Tom Donlin RIGHT: Dr. Regina and Victor Boerio

engagement are vital to the success of religious education programs. These resources are available through the Office of Religious Education.

Participants attending the

workshop were from St. Michael, Hermitage; St. Gregory, Upper St. Clair; St. John, Uniontown; St. Mary, Bradenville and the Seminary. ■

PARISH NEWS

SS. PETER AND PAUL IN WARREN, OHIO

Parish picnic and more

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

What a weekend it was on Aug. 20 to 21! With the retirement of Father Simeon Sibenik officially taking place, Father William Rupp has been assigned to our parish.

Father Will gave his first Liturgy as our new Administrator on Saturday, and he did not disappoint with his beautiful clear voice and interesting homily.

Then on Sunday our patriotic-themed Parish Picnic kicked off with Father Will giving the blessing. Then Seminarian John Welch honored Father Simeon and Father Will with many

blessed years.

A delicious picnic-style meal was served with a large selection of yummy desserts. A 50/50 drawing, a Lottery Wreath Raffle, activities for children, and the Dice Wheel for adults were included in the festivities. Two beautifully decorated cakes were served: one for Father Simeon's Retirement and one welcoming Father Will.

Thank you Father Simeon for all you have done for our parishioners for the past seven years!

We also thank Father Michael Huszti for substituting for Father Simeon and Seminarian John Welch for his assistance at the Liturgies. ■



Father Michael Huszti, Father Will Rupp, Father Simeon Sibenik and Seminarian John Welch



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHEDRAL, MUNHALL, PA.

Dinner is served

The week-end of Sept. 10 to 11, saw the Cathedral Kitchen at St. John the Baptist Cathedral in Munhall, Pa. serve a take-out stuffed cabbage dinner. ■



Photos by Nick Havrilla Sr.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST IN PITTSBURGH, PA.

Cleaning up the South Side

by Elizabeth Harbist
St. John the Baptist, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Father Miron Kerul'-Kmec and parishioners of St. John the Baptist on Pittsburgh's South Side took the first steps to clean the church and churchyard.

It started on Sept. 9 with weeding, raking leaves, mowing the lawn and trimming trees. On that first day, Barb and Bev Rebovich

and Christine Jones along with Father Miron were there to kick off the project. Several more days and many other parishioners have signed up for this ongoing process.

St. John the Baptist is a focal point of the South Side and we want to keep our church and property beautiful and welcoming to our members, visitors and neighbors. ■





88TH ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE IN HONOR OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP

“THEOTOKOS, THE SEEKER OF THE LOST”

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2 TO MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2022

MOUNT ST. MACRINA, UNIONTOWN, PA.

“JESUS KNEW HE HAD TO GO TO JERUSALEM.
WE KNOW THAT WE HAVE A MISSION;
SO WE NEED TO GET BACK TO THAT MISSION.”

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



*“We pray this year to Our Lady of Perpetual Help
to intercede to seek and to find those who are spiritually lost.”*
— Metropolitan Archbishop William Skurla

■ METROPOLITAN ARCHBISHOP WILLIAM’S HIERARCHICAL DIVINE LITURGY HOMILY ■

We welcome the pilgrims to the 88th Annual Pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help. Our theme this year’s pilgrimage is the Theotokos the Seeker of the Lost.

With great joy, we have returned to our regular schedule for this year’s

Pilgrimage. We extend our thanks to the Sisters of Saint Basil the Great, the monastery staff, the Basilian Associates, and the army of volunteers who make this Pilgrimage possible each year.

Prayers and pilgrimages to Mary the Mother of God date back to the

first Christian Churches. The devotion to the icon under the title “Seeker of the Lost” is the American translation linked to the Slavic icons under the name of “Seeker of the Perishing.” According to one of the first written references, an icon was painted or written in a

village in Russia during the seventeen hundreds. Several copies with the same names are now found around the world.

According to the Slavic story, a Russian man traveling by horse and cart was stranded in a January blizzard on the feast of

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88TH ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE IN HONOR OF OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP
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Homily

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the Theophany. Unable to continue his journey, he prayed to Mary the Queen of Heaven. He promised her that if he were rescued that he would donate an icon with the name of the “Seeker of the Perishing” to the local church.

He was saved by a peasant who nursed him back to health. True to his promise to the Mother of God, the man donated an Icon to the church. The icon was a source of many miracles. Other Icons dedicated to the “Seeker of the Perishing” likewise provided help to those who were in desperate situations due to addictions, poverty, and plagues. They received help from God through their intercession to Mother of God to save themselves or others who were lost.

The Bible is full of stories which Jesus searches for the lost. In Gospel of Saint Luke, he proclaims that He came to bring salvation to those who were lost. A good example of Jesus mission to save the lost is seen in his seeking Zacchaeus. Jesus and the apostles were passing through the ancient city Jericho. Instead of going the houses of the leaders of the city or synagogue, he went to house of Zacchaeus the tax collector. Tax collectors were hated by all and considered to be worthless and lost. Of all the people in Jericho, Jesus seeks him and goes to his home to lead him back to salvation. There are countless other stories of Jesus seeking and reaching out to the poor, the sick, and lowest people of society. Like Jesus, Pope Francis also reaches out to those that are lost where ever he travels.

The Old Testament prophet Ezekiel foretold Jesus’ mission to seek the lost. Ezekiel wrote that as a shepherd looks for his scattered sheep when he is among

the flock, so I will look for My flock. I will rescue them from all the places to which they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness.

I will seek that which was lost, and bring again that which was driven away, and will bind up that which was broken, and will strengthen that which was sick, but I will destroy the fat and the strong. I will feed them with judgment. Ezekiel 34:16

Fulfilling Ezechial’s prophecy, Jesus told the similar parable of the shepherd who leaves the flock of ninety-nine sheep to seek the lost sheep and return it to home. The one that was lost was found and returned to the flock.

For the past three years, we continuously prayed for ourselves, for our families, and for our friends who have been lost during the time of pandemic and during the time of recovery from the shutdown. We pray especially for those who are still unable to return to church services due to fear of the pandemic. We pray that we be delivered from the continuing effects which hold us back. We pray that those who are spiritually lost will be found and return to the Lord.

We pray to Mary to protect the over five million Ukrainians who have fled and lost their homes. We pray to Mary to intercede with her Son to bring peace and justice to the war torn Ukraine where hundreds to thousands are being killed each day. We pray for a just peace and those who have been scattered and lost will be returned home.

We pray this year to Our Lady of Perpetual Help to intercede to seek and to find those who are spiritually lost. In the past, the prayers of the pilgrims have been heard and miracles have happened. We pray that your prayers today will be heard by the Mother of God and that they will be granted by Our Lord and God and Savior Jesus Christ. ■





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St. John the Baptist, Uniontown, Pa. at Pilgrimage



Parishioners and friends gathered at St. John the Baptist's social hall in Uniontown, Pa. to prepare 263 dozen pirohi, which were donated for the Pilgrimage to be sold at the light lunch stand.



Father Vasyly Symyon and parishioners of St. John the Baptist played an active role at this year's 88th annual Pilgrimage. Father Vasyly Symyon concelebrated many services, as well as hearing confessions. Parishioners parked cars, provided transportation services, served as ushers, assisted in the shrines and gift shop, participated in the processions and services, made and donated pirohi, and helped beautify the grounds. The rain did not dampen the spirits of those who volunteered and attended.



“We have a wonderful village”



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

following the Hierarchical Divine Liturgy at the 88th annual Pilgrimage in Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help.

Glory to Jesus Christ!

Well, even the rain does not deter us. We're strong; we're indomitable. We're pilgrims at Mount Macrina.

Thank you for being here. Thank you for sticking around. We knew the rain was going to slow up; we just wanted to make sure the thunder and lightning were out of the area for everyone's safety.

I would be remiss if I didn't say a number of thank you's. First of all, to my Sisters, who are amazing. The amount of work that goes into this Pilgrimage every year; as our Metropolitan William said, we start tomorrow. We'll start evaluating this week and we already start planning for next year. That's through the tremendous heart and soul that is Mount Macrina; our Sisters who live here and also live in other places throughout the state, who are tremendous workers in the Lord to prepare and plan and execute the plan.

We're very grateful for 88 years and we've got another few years left in us so keep on coming back.

We thank Sister Carol Petrasovich, who is our Pilgrimage coordinator — she's going to start looking in her book tomorrow for next year already — and our Associates and our volunteers without whom we could not possibly prepare and plan and execute this Pilgrimage every year. So we thank them so much.

Our extraordinary employees who work tirelessly; from our head of maintenance, Ted and his crew all the way to everyone who's working in our food service, who's working in our housekeeping. It's an extraordinary job to put together a Pilgrimage and again, this starts now. And the grounds crew who makes sure everything is just perfect, and the folks who came for Helping Hands in June and August, sponsored by our GCU.

It can just go on and on and

on. The wonderful women — you know who you are — who walk the grounds and weed in June, July, August, to make this property look so beautiful.

We are so very grateful to all of you and we couldn't do it without you. We simply could not. Thank you all so very much for everything you put into this Pilgrimage.

It takes a village and we have a wonderful village.

To our seminarians, our clergy and certainly, our bishops who are part of the planning, part of the whole process from beginning to end. We thank you all for being here. The fact you want to be here with us and pray with us really speaks volumes to us and speaks volumes to the pilgrims here present. We're very grateful for all of you.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention, as others have, the ongoing struggle in Ukraine. I think it's important for all of you to know, especially those who have contributed so generously here at Mount Macrina

We're part of an international Order. We may be a little bit smaller here right now but there are 400-plus of us worldwide. We have a large representation in Ukraine of our Sisters; they are right in the midst; along with Sisters in Croatia, Poland, Romania, Slovakia...those countries that are right in that general area.

I want to let you know a little bit about what we are doing with your donations that you have so generously given to us. We have received thousands of dollars...we know it has been going directly to the people who need it the most. We give it to our Sisters, particularly in Slovakia and in Romania...because our Sisters in Romania they've made about 12 or 13 trips into Ukraine already with a lot of goods — human necessities. They all take bus loads and transfer it over the border and our Sisters pick it up there and distribute it to those who need it. We have been doing that regularly.

We continue to do that and we are continually grateful for your generosity and continued support.

We are dedicated, as a Province and as a member of the Order, to continue supporting our Sisters in whatever ways they need the support. They've been supporting the refugees, obviously; they've been way stations for people as they move across the country into safer areas. They're also working to create areas not only for the great amount of orphans that have been victims of this war but also for the elderly and infirm and those who have special needs.

I am not only proud but I am

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"We have a wonderful village"

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extraordinary humbled by the service they are giving and continue to give. I wanted you to know there are ongoing efforts by our Sisters who are present there in the midst.

The war is still going on. It may not always be front page news here but it's still going on. If you can't give financial support, your prayerful support is really needed and honestly, they feel it. They know it and they feel it. So please keep up the good work.

A group I want to address in particular are our young folks, the little ones you see everywhere. Hasn't that been great? Our Pilgrimage is getting younger. The Children's Procession was a great length. We have a ton of teens, we have a lot of young adults. I am really psyched for the next several years because we have so many young people who want to be here. Please keep coming back. We are thrilled.

To those of you who are young at heart: you are the ones who have created the prayerful aura over Mount Macrina over the past 88 years. You just keep coming and we will keep putting up a big tent because we want you back.

This is the 88th annual Pilgrimage. On Sept. 3, 1934, is when Mount St. Macrina was dedicated at that first Pilgrimage. What you may not know is we purchased the property a year before in 1933. So next year we're celebrating 90 years here at Mount Macrina. That's a milestone.

It's time to head back down the mountain from Tabor back into the world. We know what kind of world it is out there but we also know that we've been fortified. The Apostles James and John wanted to just build some tents on the mountain and asked, "Can we stay here forever?" Well, Jesus knew that he had to go to Jerusalem and we know that we have a mission; so we need to get back to that mission. But we hope and we pray that you take with you all of our prayers and the prayers of our clergy, our bishops and all the other pilgrims who have uplifted us

If you can't pray for yourself, rely on those prayers that have been prayed here. This is real spiritual muscle here at Mount Macrina. We're aware of it, we know it, we feel it all through the year. Take this with you. Carry this with you and please come back next year. We'll be here and we'll leave the light on for you.

God bless you. ■



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



ST. NICHOLAS OF MYRA IN NANTY-GLO, PA.

Celebrating 25 years

By Eugene Ostinowsky
St. Nicholas in Nanty-Glo, Pa.

Very Rev. Andrew Deskevich was the main celebrant at the Sunday Liturgy on Aug. 7 at his home parish of St. Nicholas of Myra in Nanty Glo, Pa. The event marked the 25th anniversary of his ordination.

Father Robert Oravetz, current pastor at St. Nicholas, also participated.

Father Andrew has served as pastor at numerous churches

in Pennsylvania and Ohio in the past 25 years and is currently Protosyncellus for the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh and Rector at St. John the Baptist Cathedral in Munhall, Pa.

He is the son of Andrew and Linda Deskevich of Nanty-Glo and has a sister, Mary Ann (Deskevich) Ostinowsky.

A covered dish dinner was held in the church hall following the Liturgy where church members gave him a royal greeting and were eager to congratulate him. ■



Twin celebration

By Eugene Ostinowsky
St. Nicholas in Nanty-Glo, Pa.

Although the sacrament of Baptism has been celebrated many times over the years at St. Nicholas in Nanty Glo, Pa., it is a rare occasion to celebrate the baptism of twins.

That's exactly what took place earlier this year. The babies' names are Ophelia and Veronica, the daughters of Marlana and Justin Freshour.

The Godparents are Robert

and Shannon Melcotti and Dylan and Maria Styles. Rev. Dr. Robert Oravetz officiated the ceremony and Father Edward Pyo concelebrated during a Sunday Liturgy.

Everyone in attendance was invited to a dinner held in the church hall.

As we welcome Ophelia and Veronica into our church family we ask that God Bless them and grant them many happy and healthy years. ■



ST. ELIAS IN MUNHALL, PA.

Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Father Vitalii Stashkevych celebrated liturgy for the Exaltation of the Holy Cross at St. Elias in Munhall. ■



ST. GREGORY IN UPPER ST. CLAIR, PA.

New school year celebrated

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

Blessed with beautiful weather we gathered on Sunday, Sept. 18, for the Sunday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

Prayerful supplications were offered for the anniversary of the Consecration of St. Gregory's, and the beginning of the new

school year 2022-23.

At the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy, our dedicated ECF Teachers together with our students received a special blessing.

Following the Divine Liturgy, we continued with our parish picnic. Food trucks, good music, and games were enjoyed by all. ■

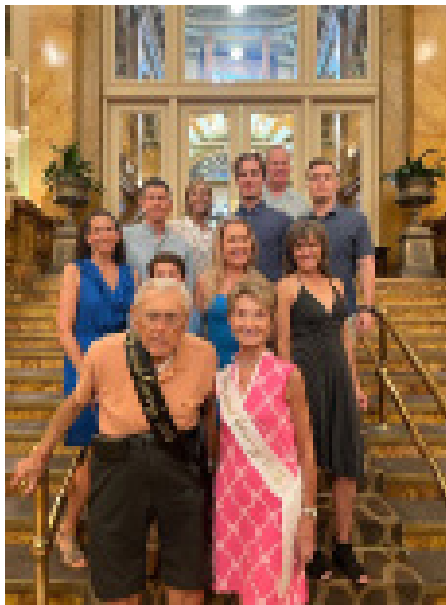


Happy anniversaries

ST. NICHOLAS IN GREENSBURG, PA.

John and Gerry Gomolak of St. Nicholas in Greensburg, Pa. celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary Aug. 18.

They were joined by their three children and spouses and their four grandchildren. Father Regis Duscina bestowed a special blessing on the couple. ■



HOLY TRINITY IN CONEMAUGH, PA.

Stephen M. and Theresa A. Mitnick celebrated their 50th Golden Wedding Anniversary on Sunday, Aug. 14. at Holy Trinity in Conemaugh, Pa.

During the Divine Liturgy, they received an Anniversary Crowning from their pastor, Father Robert F. Oravetz. They were married in Holy Trinity Church on Aug. 19, 1972. ■



ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM IN PITTSBURGH, PA.

Blessings for new school year

by Elizabeth Harbist
St. John Chrysostom, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Following Divine Liturgy at St. John Chrysostom in Ruska Dolina on Sunday, Sept. 11, Father Miron Kerul'-Kmec blessed all the students and teachers in the parish as they embark on a new academic year.

From pre-schoolers to home-schoolers, high schoolers and university coeds, the parish children were eager to receive the blessings and prayers for a



successful new school year. The teachers were also especially happy to receive blessings! ■



CHURCH OF THE RESURRECTION IN MONROEVILLE, PA.

By the book

Church of the Resurrection in Monroeville, Pa has installed a free library which allows people to give or take a book.

Thanks to parishioner Jim Kisak for building and setting up the box and Judy Schall for doing the lettering. ■



ST. MICHAEL IN HERMITAGE, PA.

Working together

By William Dzuricko
St. Michael, Hermitage, Pa.

Lodge # 258 members presented a check to Father Kevin Marks at St. Michael in Hermitage, Pa. on Sunday, Aug. 28.

The matching funds check for

\$5,000, matched the proceeds from the very successful Chinese Auction held last October.

Proceeds are going to the St. Michael Building and Grounds Maintenance Fund. ■



Alyssa Vasil, Secretary Joan Walker, Father Kevin Marks, Lucy Mallick, President Bill Dzuricko, and Mike Vasil.

ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST IN UNIONTOWN, PA.

Parish picnic

Sunday, August 21 marked the annual parish picnic at St. John the Baptist in Uniontown, Pa.

A BBQ meal was prepared along with covered-dish items which the parishioners brought.

The day included children's activities, raffles, and a 50/50

drawing. August birthdays were also recognized at the picnic.

Although the forecast looked ominous for stormy weather, it turned out to be a beautiful day to share fellowship with one another. ■





THOUGHTS FOR OUR DAY

by Archpriest David M. Petras

BAPTISM: RITUALS AND WORDS



The rituals of the Church are made up of words and gestures. While it is conceivable that a particular ritual might only be a physical gesture, in the Church all ritual actions are accompanied by a word. St. Augustine observed this about church rituals: “The word comes to the element and a sacrament happens” (Tract on John 80,3). It is to deal with this observation, that, we say a “sacramental mystery” is a ritual action made up of a human word and a physical element. I think this can be generalized to any ritual action.

The liturgical worship of the Church is different from other religious systems. It is true that the Church does consider its sacramental system a “mystery,” but it is not a mystery in the same sense as other ritual religions. For the Christian, “mystery” does not denote a complex, elitist, gnostic-type system, but a relationship with God that is open to all human beings. For the Christian, “mystery” is not something hidden from the masses of people, but is open to all. St. Paul says about “mystery,” “I am a minister in accordance with God’s stewardship given to me to bring to completion for you the word of God, the mystery hidden from ages and from generations past. But now it has been manifested to his holy ones, to whom God chose to make known the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; it is Christ in you, the hope for glory” (Colossians 1:25-27). He is, of course, not speaking here about ritual as such, but the same principle applies to the content of our faith as to the ritual that expresses it. Having said that, note, in regard to mystery, Christianity is

a plain message, accessible to all, not hidden in obscure myths or esoteric magic rites.

For a period in the early history of the Church, there was a period in which the rites of the church were emphasized as a kind of hidden knowledge. Catechumens were taught the basics of the faith, but they were dismissed before the sacramental mystery was



The ritual actions of anointing and baptism are accompanied with formulas, proclaiming that we are entering into the life of the Holy Trinity.

celebrated. They were not able to see the bread and wine, to hear the prayer of offering and to partake of Holy Communion until they were baptized. Then, the rites were explained to them after baptism in a series of instructions called “mystagogia.” However, this was not to make Christianity an esoteric religion, but instead was intended to instill a respect for the rituals of the church in the mass of people who were being converted from paganism or from unbelief. There must, however, be a moderation here. We need some standard of faith, and we yet need to instill respect for the way we express faith in worship, but we must also not make of Christianity an elitist religion. That is what is important.

Some people erroneously believe that we must put “mystery” into our worship by our own human powers. We should use obscure rituals that no one can understand without explanation, or we should worship

in a foreign language, sometimes called a “sacral language”, because we should not be able to understand the mystery. St. Paul has told us in Colossians that the mystery has been revealed. Even after its revelation, we remain unable, of course, to understand the depths of God’s wisdom and love, but that does not mean we should deliberately try to make it obscure. And this is why our Christian worship is a combination of gesture and word. Word to guide us in understanding, gesture because not everything can be said in words. We may say we love our children, or husbands and wives may say they love each other, but love is not complete unless we embrace and kiss one another.

In the course of our articles, we have been looking at how we become members of the people of God - the rites of initiation. We have seen the beginning of the process, how we come to faith, how we become a candidate for baptism, how we become a “learner,” the technical word “catechumen,” though most of us enter the Church as infants. We then saw how we were “anointed,” becoming other “Christs,” for the Greek word “Christ” means “the anointed one.” Finally, we saw how we were reborn through water, the source of life and cleansing. Jesus, in fact, promised, “whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life” (John 4:14).

Each of the steps in this process are accompanied with words, for Christ is “the Word of God,” and we are rational creatures that offer to God our sacrifices of words. There are prayers for making a catechumen and for our freedom from the evil one through exorcism - not the dramatic exorcisms that entertainment likes to provide,

but the power of God to free us from the world of selfishness, deceit, and power over others, and to enter the kingdom of God established on love for one another. At the beginning of the rites of initiation, the words are not just empty wishes, but the proclamation of the action of the Holy Spirit. The baptizer performs a gesture, laying his hand upon the candidate and proclaiming, “Free this person from the ancient deceit and fill him (her) with faith in you, hope in you and love for you, that they would know that you are the only true God.”

The ritual actions of anointing and baptism are accompanied with formulas, proclaiming that we are entering into the life of the Holy Trinity. When being anointed with oil, then, the priest says the words, “The servant of God is anointed with the oil of gladness in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” When washed with water, the priest proclaims, “The servant of God is baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” The initiation is not yet complete, but after baptism in water, the priest prays, guiding us into the fullness of the beginning of the life in Christ, “Now, to your newly enlightened servant, you have been pleased to give new birth by water and the Spirit, for the forgiveness of his (her) voluntary and involuntary sins. Now, O Master and gracious King of all, grant him (her) also the seal of the gift of your holy, almighty, and adorable Spirit, and the communion of the holy body and precious blood of your Christ.” It is to the mysteries of Chrismation and Holy Communion that we must now turn our attention. ■

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.

St. John the Baptist Cathedral
Munhall, Pa.
www.stjohnsbyzantinecathedral.com

Holy Ghost
McKees Rocks, Pa.
www.holyghost-byzantinecatholic.org
www.youtube.com, then type Holy Ghost Church Live Stream

St. John Chrysostom
Pittsburgh, Pa.
www.sjcbcc.com

St. Gregory
Upper St. Clair, Pa.
www.facebook.com/stgregoryusc

St. Michael
Campbell, Ohio
www.facebook.com/st.michaelbyz.campbell

St. Elias
Munhall, Pa.
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

St. Mary
Windber, Pa.
<https://www.facebook.com/StMaryDormition>

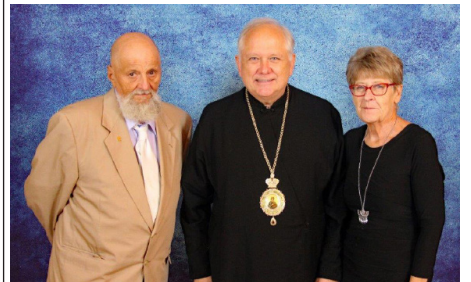
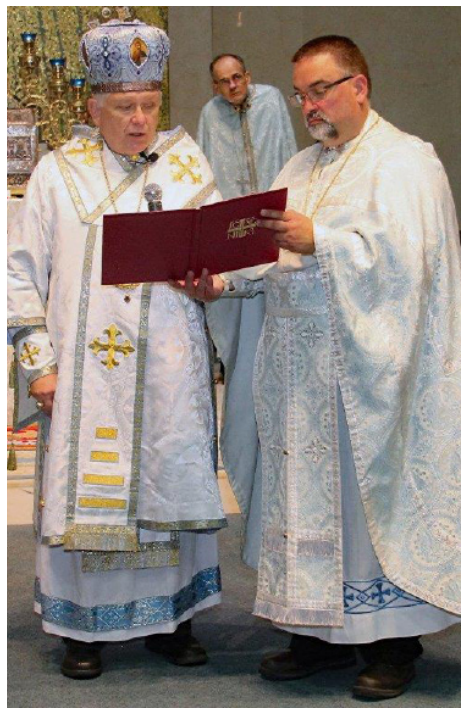
A Celebration of Marriage

Forty-two couples were recognized for many years of faithfulness to their marriage vows Sept. 11 during "A Celebration of Marriage" at St. Elias in Munhall, Pa.

The occasion honored couples from parishes in the Archeparchy with milestone anniversaries from 10 to 65 years in 2022.

This is the first year since 2019 the event was held in-person at St. Elias due to the pandemic.

The afternoon Divine Liturgy was celebrated by Metropolitan Archbishop William Skurla. ■





Photos by Nick Havrilla Sr.

AROUND THE ARCHEPARCHY



YOUNG ADULT RETREAT — 7 p.m. Friday, Oct. 21 to noon Sunday, Oct. 23, Mount St. Macrina House of Prayer, 510 W. Main St., Uniontown, Pa. 15401. “The Courage to Pray: Answering God’s Invitation.” Sponsored by the Sisters of St. Basil the Great. Ages 18 to 40. Offering: \$110. Registration due Oct. 14. Space limited – register early. Scholarships available. Masks are required indoors. To register, call 724-438-7149 or email hpmsm@verizon.net. Please pay by check and send in with registration. Registration form available at archpitt.org.

ANNUAL PICNIC — Starts at noon Sunday, Oct. 2, Ascension of Our Lord, 318 Park Ave., Clairton, Pa. Adults: \$10; children 10 and under: \$5. \$25 max per family. Raffle, 50/50, bingo and children’s games. For more information call Trish at 412-233-7814.

WALK-THROUGH BASKET PARTY IN NANTY GLO – Noon-5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 8, Noon-3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 9, St. Nicholas of Myra, 1191 Second St., Nanty Glo, Pa. Drawings begin at 3 p.m. on Sunday.

ADULT EASTERN CHRISTIAN FORMATION CLASSES —Are you interested in learning more about our Byzantine Catholic faith? Each month, Father Michael Kunitz sets aside a Saturday afternoon to give an educational talk on a new topic related to our Eastern Catholic faith. Sessions are held at Holy Spirit, 4815 Fifth Ave., Pittsburgh (Oakland), Pa. and St. Pius X, 2336 Brownsville Road, Pittsburgh, Pa. ■ 1 p.m. Oct. 15 (St. Pius X): *What is a Byzantine Catholic?* ■ 1 p.m. Nov. 19 (Holy Spirit): *What is Philipovka (Philip’s Fast)?* ■ 1 p.m. Dec. 10 (St. Pius X): *Celebrating the Holy Supper*. Do you have a topic you’d be interested in discussing? Please contact Father Michael and let him know! frmichaelkunitz@gmail.com.

SPAGHETTI AND BASKET RAFFLE — Noon-3 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 16, St. John the Baptist, 525 Porter Ave., Scottdale, Pa. Dinner includes spaghetti, meatballs, salad, roll, dessert and beverage. Donation: \$10, adults; \$5, children under 12 years old. 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.

ICONOGRAPHY WORKSHOP — Marylyn Barone will conduct an iconography workshop for adults at all levels of experience Oct. 20 to 23 at Most Holy Name of Jesus Parish, 1700 Harpster St., (Troy Hill) Pittsburgh, PA 15212. You will write an icon of The Immaculate Heart of Mary. The classes will be Thursday evening, Friday evening, all day Saturday and noon until finishing on Sunday. You must be able to attend all four days to have a completed icon. The cost of \$135 will cover all supplies. All icons will be on an 8 x 10 gesso covered board. Using a prepared prototype, you will learn techniques for faces, garments, 23-karat gold gilding and background. Participants from three or more of my previous workshops may elect to do an icon of their choice. The theology of iconography and specifically the two icons will also be presented There will be the opportunity to attend services. Snacks as well as coffee and tea will be provided on all days. A deposit of \$25 is required and the class will be limited to 15 people. For further information, call Marylyn at 412-678-9453 or email her at mwbarone@comcast.net.

TAKE-OUT ONLY ETHNIC DINNER — 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 22, St. Mary, 4480 Route 981, Trauger (Latrobe), Pa. Dinner includes: halupki, haluski, pirohi, kolbasi and cake. Drive around and pick up in back of Social Hall. Tickets for \$15 must be purchased in advance. Extra halupki may be preordered: \$25/12, \$15/6 and also extra haluski: \$7 per quart. Call or text Marlene at 412-526-0285, Marge at 724-787-5631, or call the rectory at 724-423-3673. Last day to pre-order or purchase tickets is Oct. 13 .

ANNUAL CRAFT/VENDOR SHOW AND FOOD FESTIVAL — 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 22, St. John the Baptist Cathedral Center, 210 Greentree Road, Munhall, Pa. Dozens of tables of crafters and vendors, crafter showcase auction, raffles, ethnic favorites including stuffed cabbage and dumpling haluski, eat in or take out. St. John’s baked goods, famous kolache and more. For information, call 412-461-0944.

FUNDRAISER SPAGHETTI DINNER — Noon-4 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 23, Ascension of Our Lord, 318 Park Ave., Clairton, Pa. Benefits cost of roof repairs. Dinner includes spaghetti with homemade sauce, meat balls, salad, rolls, coffee, tea and lemonade. Adults: \$12; children 10 and under: \$5. Homemade baked goods and pop available to purchase. Eat in or take out. To pre-order take outs call Julie at 412-334-2199 or Trish at 412-233-7814.

SLAVIC DINNER IN CONEMAUGH — 11 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 23, Holy Trinity, 217 Fourth St., Conemaugh, Pa. Take-out only. Cost: \$12. Menu includes halupki, three pirohi, halushki and a Gob. Pagach available for \$3 per slice. Pre-orders may be ordered by Oct. 9 at 814-242-2083.

40TH ANNUAL CARPATHO-RUSYN CELEBRATION — Noon-5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 30, St. John the Baptist, 201 E. Main St., Uniontown, Pa. Divine Liturgy at 10:30 a.m. (some parts in Church Slavonic). Ethnic foods include holubki, pirohi, haluski, kolbasi, sauerkraut, soup, pagach, baked goods (long rolls, a variety of pastries, cakes, kolachi, breads, and more). Performances of Rusyn Folk music by “Rusynsky Betjare” begins at 12:30 p.m. Presentations on Rusyn customs and traditions. Display of artifacts, authentic costumes, models of Rusyn wooden churches, photographs, and documents. Demonstrations such as pysanky, embroidery, iconography, bobbin lace making, as well as a church tour, children’s activities and crafts, and raffles. Handicapped accessible. Admission is free. For information call 724-438-1382 M-F 9AM-3 PM, (leave message). NOTE: This year’s event may be modified due to the uncertainty of COVID. Check <http://www.stjohnbaptist-byzcath-uniontown.org/> or www.facebook.com/StJohnByzUniontown.

HOLIDAY BASKET EXTRAVAGANZA & MORE — Sunday, November 13, 2022—1 to 4 pm St. John Cathedral Center—Doors Open-1 pm; Dinner—Dine in or Take Out Served 1:30-2:30 pm includes: Beef Tips over Noodles, salad, roll, butter & dessert. Additional take out dinners \$12 each. Door prizes every 15 minutes from 1:15-3:45 pm. Must be present to win. All Angel Auction Basket drawing at 3:45 pm. 50/50 Raffle also will be available. Variety of vendors to begin your Christmas shopping early. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Deadline to order tickets is November 6. Contact Diane Pochron at 412-303-6534.

CHRISTMAS MARKET — 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 26, St. Michael, 405 Robinson Road, Campbell, Ohio. Vendors with holiday crafts, art, jewelry, décor and more. Amazing Slavic food and drink, basket auction and prizes, music and meet Santa Claus. No charge for admission. For more information, call Annette at 330-540-4334 or visit www.stmichaelbyzcampbell.org.

DATES TO REMEMBER



OCT. 1
Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos

OCT. 2 to 6
Clergy Retreat

OCT. 15
Ordination of Minor Orders
St. John the Baptist Cathedral, Munhall, Pa.

OCT. 23
Pittsburgh Deanery Pasta Dinner
St. Elias, Munhall, Pa

OCT. 29
Celebration for the Blessed Bishop Peter Oros
St. Mary, Hillsborough, N.J.

OCT. 30
Moleben for Martyred Bishops
3 p.m. Holy Ghost, McKees Rocks, Pa.

See more upcoming events at www.archpitt.org



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**SUBMISSIONS
DEADLINE:**
OCTOBER 19