

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND SHUT-INS

AT HOME: Richard Lesko, *Ronald & Arletta Lutka*, Margie Seman, *Elizabeth Pristas*, Teri Phares, Raymond Petro, Jr., Luke Pasternak, Marissa Stout, Tara Seman, Michael Matus, Patrick Singer, Joan Bodnar, Mary Ann Urban, Carole Srsic, Pauline Johnson, *Ann Havrilscak*, Aaron Spang, Janet Ducar, Mary Pavasko, Suzie (Wargo) Bodziach, Betty Martin, Teresa Sekel, Patty Schneider, Jeannie Pasternak, Janet Myers, Ethel Wahal, Joanne Smoley

Italicized names indicate Parish Shut-ins. Other names are submitted prayer requests.

NURSING HOMES/REHABILITATION CENTERS/ASSISTED LIVING

Elsie Urban, Len Stagon, Dorothy Hritz, Eleanor Chekan, Sue Goda

JUNE/JULY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

21 Diane Lobaugh
26 Eleanor Chekan
26 Richard Myers
28 Melinda Banks
29 Anne Lazarov
30 Michael & Magdalene Semego (Anniversary)
1 John Hoblack
2 Ethel Wahal

May God grant to His servant peace, health and happiness for many years!

In person Attendance: *Saturday, June 18: 41; Sunday, June 19: 63*

Live Stream Viewing: *Saturday, June 18: 29 (WS); 64 (FB)*
Sunday, June 19: 74 (WS); 45 (FB)

Special Anniversary Donation:

\$100 by M/M M. Koval

SUMMER SEMINARIAN

Please welcome **Seminarian Joshua Johnson**, a seminarian for the Eparchy of Phoenix, who has been assigned to our Cathedral Parish for the summer. He will be with us from June 24 to July 31.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 26	Parish Anniversary Dinner
June 26	Eastwinds Symphonic Band Concert – 2 PM
July 10	Fr. Andrew's 25 th Anniversary Celebration
July 16	Too Groovy Toy Show Kitchen
July 16/17	Breaded Chicken Dinner

ANNIVERSARY CONCERT

In honor of the 125th Anniversary of our parish founding, we will host a concert by the East Winds Symphonic Band on **Sunday, June 26, 2022 at 2 PM**. The concert will be held outdoors (weather permitting) and is free and open to the public. Please bring a lawn chair. Light refreshments will be shared. Invite your family and friends to join us as we celebrate this anniversary.

CALLING ALL GRADUATES

Our Parish Family would like to honor all of our 2022 graduates from High School, College, Graduate School, etc. on Sunday, July 17. Please inform us of the names of our graduates, high school/college of graduation, degree/major by dropping a note in the collection basket by Sunday, July 10.

PARKING LOT SEALING

We have contracted with Sailor Excavation & Paving to seal coat our parking lot in an effort to protect our investment with that project. The seal coating will take place on **Wednesday, June 22, Thursday, June 23 and Thursday, June 30**. If you have to come onto the property any of those days, please be aware of blocked sections.

100th ANNUAL GCU & BYZANTINE CATHOLIC FAMILY DAY

Thursday, July 28, 2022. Discounted tickets may be purchased through the Parish: (ages 4-64): \$25; (age 65+): \$22. A catered lunch is also available: (age 11+): \$17; (ages 4-10): \$10. Admission and Lunch tickets must be prepaid. Deadline, to order tickets, is Sunday, **July 3, 2022**.



Attentive to the Word

Third Sunday after Pentecost

Romans 5: 1-10

Matthew 6: 22-34

Jesus instructs his followers in today's Gospel reading with three themes that tell us to trust in God.

First, he relates his teaching to our senses so that we might understand more easily. We all know how valuable light is, and how we rely on our eyesight every day. He explains that as the "eye is the lamp of the body," allowing light in, so too the mind is the lamp of the soul. Our mind must be clean and wholesome so that our soul can follow a Christian way of life.

Second, we cannot obey and serve two masters. We frequently try to maintain an attachment to both earthly goods and heavenly treasures. Both demand full allegiance, and therefore we must choose one over the other.

Third, we must trust in the Lord for all we need. Jesus explains this by showing many examples of how God takes care of the "birds of the air" and the "lilies of the field." And since we are "more valuable than they," God will certainly take care of those who strive for the kingdom of God and his righteousness.

As we sometimes worry about small, unimportant problems, we should remember that our Heavenly Father looks after us and will be with us always. We should not permit the details of each day that consume our energy take our focus from Jesus, our Lord.

FEAST OF THE BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

This feast is the story of the fidelity of God, and of his servants. The first reading at Vespers compares the story of Elizabeth and Zechariah to Abraham and Sarah. Abraham and Sarah were barren until their old age and had lost hope of being able to pass on life to a new generation. But beyond the bounds of all hope, God told Abraham that he and Sarah would have a child, and, indeed, not just any child but the founder of Israel, of the people of God, and of all who believe in his name. Elizabeth and Zechariah also had lost all hope of new life, and for them it was a shame before the people. Yet the angel of the Lord appeared to Zechariah in the holy place and told him that Elizabeth would give

birth to a son, and again, not just any son, but the forerunner of the Messiah, who would give life to all by his resurrection. We see the fidelity of God - he will bless us with life, he loves us beyond all limits, beyond our despair, beyond all hopes. However, these stories also tell us of what it means to be faithful, for Abraham and Sarah, and Zechariah and Elizabeth had to live most of their lives in barrenness and discouragement. God blesses us when we think no blessing is possible.

By Archpriest David M. Petras

FEAST OF THE HOLY APOSTLES PETER AND PAUL

God seems to enjoy choosing the most improbable people to move his purposes forward. The great King David committed adultery and conspired in a murder (2 Samuel 11:2-27). A cowardly Jonah fled from God's commission to preach to the Ninevites (Jonah 1:1-3). A childless Sarah became the mother of all Israel (Genesis 18:1-14). Again and again, God has manifested his power by turning weakness into strength and sinners into saints. And so in keeping with this tradition, he chose a brash fisherman to be the rock upon whom he would build his Church. Peter was the first to acknowledge Jesus as the Messiah and Son of God, and for this insight, Jesus entrusted him with the keys of the kingdom (Matthew 16:13-19). Peter was a man of great love and loyalty, but he also had his flaws and failings. He frequently acted impetuously he once boasted that he was ready to die with Jesus, only to reverse himself under pressure and deny knowing him (Luke 22:34). Yet Peter also knew that Jesus loved him unconditionally, and his humble knowledge of this love kept him from giving in and giving up. During the final years of his life, this chief apostle led the Christian community in Rome and, true to his Master's call, gave up his life there in the ultimate act of love and devotion. Even with his imperfections, Peter was able to fulfill the commission Jesus had given him. Like Peter, we, too, have been called to follow Jesus. The call may appear daunting at times, but God wants to give us confidence that we can accomplish much if we try to rely on the Holy Spirit in spite of our weaknesses and imperfections. When God chose Peter, he had a vision for what this zealous, hot-headed man could become. Jesus didn't give up on him when he fell but kept urging him to put off his old attitudes. God has a beautiful vision for each of us too, and he never loses sight of it. All he asks is that we cooperate with him in his desire to purify us so that this vision can become a reality.

Mission Statement

Saint John the Baptist Byzantine Catholic Cathedral is a member of the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Church of Pittsburgh who through the Holy Spirit is called to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ. As a community and family, we grow in faith and in the image and likeness of God by dedicating ourselves to welcoming, celebrating and caring for all of God's people.

Mysteries of Initiation (Baptism, Chrismation & Eucharist): Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the parish family. Pre-baptism instructions are required. Contact Fr. Andrew to schedule.

Mystery of Crowning: Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the parish family. Must meet with Fr. Andrew before setting date and reserving your banquet hall. Pre-Cana program is required and three sessions with Fr. Andrew. The ceremony will be celebrated according to the prescription of the liturgical book of the Byzantine rite.

Mystery of Reconciliation: Celebrated Saturdays, 4:00 PM - 4:30 PM and upon request.

Mystery of Anointing: Celebrated upon request. Ideally celebrated in Church the Sunday before undergoing any surgical or other medical procedure.

Visitation of the Sick: The parishioners confined to their homes or nursing homes due to health reasons are visited monthly. Also, persons who are hospitalized are visited when Fr. Andrew is notified. It especially is important that a family member contact Fr. Andrew whenever a loved-one is hospitalized.

Funerals: Families of the deceased or the funeral director must contact Fr. Andrew before setting and publishing the day and time of the funeral.

Parish Membership: We welcome anyone to become a parishioner of St. John the Baptist Cathedral Parish. Only those who are registered are considered members of the Parish. When one registers to become a parish member they assume the responsibility of rendering stewardship of time, talent and treasure to this parish family. Worship at this parish is always expected. Registration is done only through the pastor by appointment. The Parish Office should be notified as soon as possible of any change of address within the Parish as well as one's leaving.

Godparent/Sponsor Letters: Must be a registered, active, supporting member of the parish.

Rectory Office Hours: Judy is in the parish office Monday – Friday from 9:00 AM – 2 PM. Father Andrew is available on other days and times by appointment.