

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Schedule of Divine Services

Saturday, July 30 **5:00 PM +George & Julia Danscak by Danscak Family**

Sunday, July 31 **9:00 AM +Christine Colorito by Mary Ellen Totin & +Michael Totin**

Pages for Sunday's Divine Liturgy: Tone 7 pages 156 - 158

Web Liturgy Intention for Week of July 31, 2022 sponsored by
Mike & Sue Johnson

Sanctuary Candle is lit from July 31 – August 13
+Mark Cifrulak by Nancy Cifrulak

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

Friday, August 5 7:00 PM +Alexander Danscak by John, Barbara, Evon

9th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Saturday, August 6 **5:00 PM +Richard Fialkovich by Anna Fialkovich**

Sunday, August 7 **9:00AM Special 85th Birthday Intention of Ernest Varhola by Mary Ann & Family**

OUR RETURN TO THE LORD FOR ALL HE HAS GIVEN ME:

Regular Offertory	\$3,228.00
Maintenance Fund	675.00
Holy Day	122.00
Peter's Pence	15.00
Candles	87.50
Loose Cash	125.00
TOTAL	\$4,252.50

Special Donation: \$50 by Beverly Vatrál

During these challenging times we thank you for your kindness and generosity.

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

JULY/AUGUST BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

31 Andrew G. Hornyak
31 Jennifer Kovatch
1 Robert & Joan Bodnar (Anniversary)
2 Helen Fialkovich
5 Margaret Condon
3 Gertrude Chingwa
6 Nicholas Havrilla

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

In person Attendance: *Saturday, July 23: 48; Sunday, July 24: 71*

WEB SITE UPDATED

As with all technology, our web site needed to be updated. We are up and running again with our parish website. Current bulletins and photos can now again be posted and viewed. Take some time to look at the new website. It will continue to be fine tuned. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

LIVE-STREAM

For the past few weeks our Live-stream was experiencing some extreme technical difficulties. Part of the problem was with the “fiber board” which needed to be replaced by Verizon. In addition we had to upgrade our internet. These difficulties affected many people who rely on this modem for worship because of their present life situation. I thank everybody for their patience and understanding during these transition times.

ETERNAL MEMORY

Our Parish Family extends its sympathy to *Claire Hildenbrand* upon the death of her brother **Richard Coopie**, who fell asleep in the Lord on July 17, 2022. May he rest in the bosom of Abraham, in the abode of the saints, where there is no pain, sorrow, nor mourning. *May the Lord God remember his departed servant +Richard in His Kingdom forever.*

PARISH FINANCIAL PRESENTATION (CHANGE OF DATE)

I will give a presentation on the first half of 2022 on **Sunday, August 21, 2022**. The presentation will be held in the Cathedral Center. A luncheon will follow the presentation. If you plan on attending, please sign your name to one of the sheets so that the Center can be to set up properly.

“CATHEDRAL KITCHEN”

The “Kathedral Kitchen” has been restocked. We have *stuffed cabbage*, packaged in ½ dozen for \$18 or 1 dozen for \$30 and quarts of *Halushki & Wedding, Chicken Noodle, Potato/Green Bean, Chicken Gnocchi, Vegetarian Vegetable, Mushroom and Beef Vegetable soups and Chili* for \$7. If you would like to buy any please see Patty Bovee or Fr. Andrew.

CENTER CLEANING AND REORGANIZING

Saturday, August 20, 2022 beginning at 9 AM has been set aside to give the Cathedral Center kitchen a good cleaning as well as reorganizing certain areas of the Center. No matter what time or for how long your help will greatly be appreciated.

GIFT CARDS AND LOTTERY TICKETS

If anyone is able to donate gift cards or lottery tickets for our raffle trees at the Craft Show & Basket Extravaganza, please put them in an envelope in the collection basket and mark it “Lottery Tree.” Thank you in advance for any help you may be able to give.

BASKET EXTRAVAGANZA BASKETS

We will hold our Basket Extravaganza on Sunday, November 13, 2022. We are in need of completed baskets or items to complete a basket. You can contact Diane Pochron at 412-303-6534 for any information or ideas for basket items. Thank you in advance for any help you may be able to give.



Attentive to the Word

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

1 Corinthians 1: 10-18

Matthew 14: 14-22

Jesus is in a deserted place and is concerned that people be fed. By the simple gesture of a blessing, Jesus provides food for thousands of people and there is some left over. The people not only marvel at this but they seek Jesus out at a later time, looking for more. Jesus is disappointed that they come because they were fed with the fish and the bread. He wants them to understand that this was a sign. All the miracles of Jesus were signs. A sign is something that points beyond itself to something else.

The multiplication of the loaves and the fish was a beautiful moment in itself. But the meaning of the miracle goes beyond the moment. And what, you might ask, is the meaning of the moment? In this particular instance, I think this involves two things. First, the multiplication of the loaves and the fish symbolize the abundance of God's love. Jesus explodes with love upon the earth. He is the Son of God; He is the Holy One of God; He is the Prince of Peace.

When Jesus says the blessing and the bread and fish become abundant, He is inviting His audience to look beyond the bread to appreciate that they are in the presence of the Son of God, that God is literally visiting His people. This beautiful expression is given by St. Paul today in the second reading. Paul asks a very human question: "Who will separate us from the love of God?" He names a number of things including anguish, distress, persecution, danger or the sword. If you look around our world today I think you will see that these things seem to separate us from God. But Paul does not ask the question from the perspective of this world. He asks the question from the perspective of God entering into this world in Jesus Christ. And he concludes that nothing can separate us from the love of God that is given to us in Christ Jesus. Paul puts his confidence in Christ and rejoices in the abundance of love.

The second sign that marks the multiplication of the loaves and the fish is the Eucharist. Jesus takes bread and says a blessing and the people are fed. This is a sign of the Eucharist. In the Eucharist Jesus is giving Himself to us out of love when the bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ. This is precisely why the Eucharist is so important. This is precisely why I keep saying that the most important thing we do each week is celebrate Sunday Liturgy. And this is precisely why I hope you come each week.

By Rev James M. McNamara

THE FAST OF THE DORMITION OF THE HOLY THEOTOKOS

During the first fourteen days of August during each year, our Church enters into a period of fast in honor of the Mother of God, the Virgin Mary. We, as Byzantine Catholics have a high regard for the Blessed Virgin Mary, the Mother of God, for her special role in the salvation of mankind. St. John of Damascus, one of the Church fathers, pointed out that when the Blessed Virgin Mary became the Mother of God and gave birth to Christ, the Redeemer of Mankind, she became the mother of mankind. We call the Virgin Mary “Theotokos”, from the Greek, which means “The Birth-Giver or the Bearer of God.” This is the highest title that can be bestowed upon any member of the human race.

Every year the Byzantine Church sets aside the first fourteen days of August in honor of the Virgin Mary. This fast period is climaxed on August 15th, when the Church gathers to celebrate the Great Feast of the Dormition (Falling-Asleep) of the Theotokos.

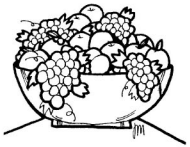
Let the peace and holiness that only the Mother of God can give you enter into your life. “Let us lay aside all earthly cares,” and let us truly, during these fifteen days, participate in the fasting and prayer life of the Church so that we can “taste and see that the Lord is good” and so that we may fully experience the spiritual blessings that the Church offers to us at this holy time.

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION

“We love everything brilliant on earth: gold, silver, precious stones, crystal, bright clothing - why, then, do we not love the future glory to which the Lord calls us? Why do we not aspire to shine like the sun? 'Then shall the righteous shine forth as the sun in the kingdom of their Father' (Matt. 13:43). It is because we have perverted the nature of our soul by sin, and have attached ourselves to earth instead of to heaven, to corruptible things instead of to incorruptible ones; because we love earthly, transitory, perishable, and seductive splendor. But why is there such a love for everything bright in us? Because our soul was created for heavenly light, and was originally all light, all radiance; thus light is inborn in it, the feeling and desire for light are inborn in it. Direct this aspiration to seeking for heavenly light!”

St. John of Kronstadt, My Life in Christ: Part II, Holy Trinity Monastery pg. 272

BLESSING OF FRUIT



As is customary in the Eastern Church on the Feast of the Transfiguration, **GRAPES AND FRUITS** will be blessed following the Festal Divine Liturgy. Grapes are indicative of wine which is “transfigured” into the Precious Blood of Christ during the Consecration of each Liturgy. The first fruits of summer are blessed to acknowledge our gratitude to Almighty God for the blessings of a new and abundant harvest received. Don’t forget to bring a basket of grapes and fruits to be blessed. Just as you share your blessings with others – so will God share His blessings with you. **In addition fruit will be blessed after each Divine Liturgy on August 6 & 7.**

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.