

*Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!*

**Schedule of Divine Services**

Saturday, August 20 **5:00 PM +Veronica Thompson by Frank & Carol Lipchick**

Sunday, August 21 **9:00 AM +Christine Soley by Rebecca Michalco**

**Pages for Sunday's Divine Liturgy: Tone 2 Pages 130 – 132 & pages 352 - 355**

Web Liturgy Intention for Week of August 21, 2022 sponsored by  
**Greg & Anna Marie Chekan in memory of Sam & Alice Egidi**

*Sanctuary Candle* is lit from August 14 – August 27  
**+Sam Egidi by Greg & Anna Marie Chekan**

**12<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Saturday, August 27 **5:00 PM +Fr. Robert Karl, by Karen Repasi**

Sunday, August 28 **9:00AM +Margaret Kostovny by Dolores Zoretich**

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

Regular Offertory	\$4,300.00
Maintenance Fund	513.00
Holy Day	423.00
Candles (8-7-22)	72.92
Candles (8-14-22)	77.69
Loose Cash	30.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$5,416.61</b>

**Parking Lot: \$32**

**Live Stream:**

**\$25 Leonard & Felicia Simko**

*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, 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 Havrilcsak*, 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

## **AUGUST BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK**

- 22 Andrew Glaid, V
- 23 Ann Havrilcsak
- 23 Nancy Hosni
- 23 Timothy & Gloria Erney (Anniversary)
- 25 Helen Koval
- 27 Kimberly Simko
- 27 Richard & Barbara Gomolak (Anniversary)

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

**In person Attendance:** *Saturday, August 13: 53; Sunday, August 14: 57*

*Dormition of the Theotokos: Morning Liturgy: 35; Evening Liturgy: 33*

**Live Stream Viewing:** *Saturday, August 13: 31 (WS); 62 (FB)*

*Sunday, August 14: 59 (WS); 60 (FB)*

*Dormition of the Theotokos: Morning Liturgy: 21 (WS); 59 (FB)*

*Evening Liturgy: 27 (WS); 38 (FB)*

## **Special Donation:**

**\$10,000 in Honor of the VA; Doctors, Nurses and all Veterans, given anonymously.**

**\$300 in Memory of +Anthony Tountas by Nicholas & Bonnie Frankos**

**\$230 given anonymously**

**Special Parking Lot Donation: \$100 by Joe & Peg Barron**

## **Special Cemetery Donation:**

**\$100 in Memory of +Michael Totin by Homestead Lions Club**

## **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 set up properly.

## **UPCOMING CATHEDRAL EVENTS**

September 10/11	Stuffed Cabbage Dinner
October 22	Fall Craft Show
November 13	Basket Extravaganza

## **“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, and Beef Vegetable soups and Chili* for \$7. If you would like to buy any please see Patty Bovee or Fr. Andrew.

## **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.

## **ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO MOUNT SAINT MACRINA**

The Sisters of St. Basil the Great are pleased to announce that the Annual Pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help will be held at Mount St. Macrina on Friday, September 2 through Monday September 5, 2022.

## **GCU LODGE CLOTHING DRIVE**

The GCU Lodge 602 is holding its annual clothing drive during the first three weekends of September. We are in need of hats, sweaters, jackets, pants and socks (socks must be new). Past closing drives have been very successful. Let’s continue giving to the needy.



# Attentive to the Word

*Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost*

*1 Corinthians 9: 2-12*

*Matthew 18: 23-35*

Ask a child to apologize, to admit his or her wrong-doing, and you will discover the early limits of our empathy.

Being corrected is painful, for it brings to mind how we have failed, especially how we have let down those we love. Asking for forgiveness is an act of humility. And yet perhaps as challenging as asking for forgiveness is the granting of forgiveness. After all, forgiveness heals relationships by requiring us to let go, to turn the page, to refuse the right to hold on to bitterness and anger. Forgiveness, in short, sets things right again. Forgiveness is a powerfully healing force but also an incredibly difficult thing to receive or share.

The parable in today's Gospel lesson springs directly from its context. It all began with a question asked by Peter. He said to Jesus, "If my brother sins against me and I forgive him seven times, will that do?" He obviously expected Jesus to say, "Splendid, Peter! You could not possibly act more nobly than that," After all, Peter had some kind of right to feel that he was doing well, for there was a Rabbinic saying. which said, "If a man transgresses once, forgive him; if a second time, forgive him; if a third time, forgive him; if a fourth time, do not forgive him." What Peter had done was to take the Rabbinic limit of forgiveness, multiply it by two, add one, and then sit back and say. "Am I not a wonderful fellow to be willing to forgive like that?" Jesus put His answer in the form of this parable.

But Jesus, as he often does, poses a radical suggestion: not seven but 77 times are we to forgive. Of course, what Jesus is suggesting is not a larger ledger upon which we can keep track of offenses. He's not merely requiring an additional number of gracious acts. Instead, he is suggesting there is no need for a ledger whatsoever. Forgiveness is a deep reservoir of grace that ought never to run dry. Why not?

As we answer this question, we should note Jesus' parabolic response. Jesus seems to treasure teaching in parables. He is a vivid storyteller. He casts simple but memorable stories that communicate profound and life-altering truths. This might explain the continued ubiquity in our culture of the images Jesus cast and the perpetuity of his teachings.

In this particular parable, Jesus tells of a king settling debts with his servants. It may be that the servants are in the state they are in precisely because of the burden of their debts. That is, they may be slaves as a way to compensate their aggrieved creditors. One of these servants carries a massive financial obligation to his king, a debt too great ever to be repaid. And so the king decrees that the nameless debtor and his family ought to be sold in order to pay the debt. If he will not receive the amount due, at least the king can receive some compensation in exchange for the slave's labors.

Knowing his whole life was about to be crushed, the debtor begs for more time, more patience but receives something unexpected instead: a wholesale remission of his debts.

The motives of the king are simple: pity. Perhaps he is moved by the man's plight and their common humanity. Perhaps he is touched by the desperate situation in which this slave finds himself. Perhaps he sees the crippling intergenerational chains of debt that might bind this slave's children and grandchildren. Perhaps he is a compassionate person. Though perhaps he may only see an economic opportunity; it may be worth more to see this servant free, to exchange an unpayable financial debt for a more useful personal obligation to the king.

We never learn of the source of the king's pity. His motives could be pure or muddled. This insight is an excellent reminder that Jesus' parables are rarely simply allegories, wherein characters can be easily attached to God or us in the drama of salvation. Not all kings are stand-ins for God in the parables; instead, we may find God in the interstices of this stories as much as in their explicit characters.

The now liberated servant leaves with a whole new life available to him. However, in short order, he shifts from servant to lord, debtor to creditor. Encountering one of his fellow slaves, he demands that a relatively smaller debt be fulfilled immediately. Unable to pay, the slave is thrown in jail. Once the king hears of his erstwhile slave's callous reaction, the king demands that the (former) slave be tortured "until he would pay his entire debt" (verse 34). The implication of this conviction is gruesome though left largely to the imagination.

Jesus concludes by noting the seriousness of our forgiveness of others. Just as the faithful hold the ability to bind and loose, our unwillingness to forgive will redound on us. Forgiveness is neither optional nor contingent. Why? Because God's forgiveness knows no end and so also should our relationships be governed by a grace that knows no bounds.

## 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.