

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Schedule of Divine Services

Saturday, October 1 5:00 PM +Cosgrove (+Robert, +Maryhelen, +Keith, & +Keily);
+Mihalchik (+Michael & +Helen); +Suchta (+Dolores)

Sunday, October 2 9:00 AM +William Basalla by Kathy Zavada & Jacki Basalla

Pages for Sunday's Divine Liturgy: Tone 8 pages 161 - 163

Web Liturgy Intention for Week of October 2, 2022

Sponsored by Ronald and Arletta Lutka

Sanctuary Candle is lit from September 25 – October 8

In Memory of +Steve & +Margaret Tima by Steve, Janine, Sam, Rachel, & Allison

17th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Saturday, October 8 5:00 PM +Karen Bilock Stehle by Elaine & Jane Savko

Sunday, October 9 9:00AM +Mark Cifrulak by Nancy Cifrulak

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

Regular Offertory	\$2,038.00
Maintenance Fund	465.00
Holy Day	45.00
Candles	80.34
Loose Cash	37.00
TOTAL	\$2,665.34

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 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

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

- 5 Richard & Doreen Schwab (Anniversary)
- 6 William Banyas
- 6 Michael Pochron
- 6 Michael & Karlee Scott (Anniversary)
- 7 Doreen Schwab

In person Attendance: *Saturday, September 24: 44; Sunday, September 25: 48*

Live Stream Viewing: *Saturday, September 24: 24 (WS); 41 (FB)*
Sunday, September 25: 64 (WS); 55 (FB)

DEANERY PASTA DINNER

The Pittsburgh Protoperesbyterate (Deanery) invites ALL our faithful to a Deanery Pasta Dinner which will take place at St. Elias Church on Sunday, October 23rd, from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. This pasta dinner will be prepared and served by the priests and deacons in our Pittsburgh deanery. This is a free/free will offering event. *If you are planning to attend, please use the sign-up sheet in the church narthex by Sunday October 16.*

CRAFT SHOW

Our Parish will conduct our Fall Craft Show on **Saturday, October 22, 2022** from 10 AM – 3 PM. There will be **60** crafters/vendors. We will be selling Stuffed Cabbage, haluski, pirohi and lasagna, eat-in or take-out, as well as our kolache and other baked goods.

UPCOMING CATHEDRAL EVENTS

October 22	Fall Craft Show
November 5	Too Groovy Toy Show Kitchen
November 13	Basket Extravaganza

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Ss. Peter & Paul Parish Club, Duquesne extends their sincere thank you, with prayers for God's blessings, to all who supported their successful Spaghetti Dinner.

KOLACHE ORDERS

We are now accepting Kolache orders for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Deadline to order Kolache for Thanksgiving is November 6, 2022. Deadline to order Kolache for Christmas is November 27, 2022. Order sheets are located in the vestibules of the church. *Due to the increase in ingredients, all kolache are \$15.00 each.*

"CATHEDRAL KITCHEN"

The "Kathedral Kitchen" has been restocked. We have quarts of *Halushki & Wedding, Chicken Noodle, Chicken & Dumpling, Potato/Green Bean, Chicken Gnocchi, Mushroom, Creamy Potato, Vegetarian Vegetable, and Beef Vegetable soups* 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.

BOBALKI ORDERS

People have been inquiring about bobalki for Christmas Eve Dinner. We will be taking orders for bobalki in 1 pound bags. Each 1# bag will cost \$6. Order sheets are located in the vestibules of the church.



Attentive to the Word

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Corinthians 6:16 - 7:1

Luke 6: 31-36

Today's Gospel presents us with another of those frightening injunctions of Christ namely to love our enemies. It is frightening both because of the magnitude of the task and its seeming impossibility. And yet it is not enough for us as followers of Christ to love those who love us, to do good to those who do good to us and to lend to those who lend to us. We are told categorically that even sinners do the same. So what credit is it to us if we cannot go further than that? No. "Love your enemies, and do good and lend, expecting nothing in return; and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the selfish." Now we know already that our good acts are returned to us both practically and scripturally. And we may have met those who have so little apparently and yet give it away and by God's grace achieve unimaginable ends. I am referring to people like Mother Teresa of Calcutta. "Cast your bread upon the waters and it shall be returned unto you" is a familiar verse from scripture whose truth many of us will have experienced.

But Christ is talking about something much more courageous, involving self-denial and faith, in the sense of abandonment to divine providence. It also involves danger in that we are taking the fight to evil and challenging his power by imitating God and making no distinction between friends and enemies by doing good to all. In the Gospels Christ experiences the reality of life in people when he heals the ten lepers and only one returns to thank him. He does not stop his acts of charity because of ingratitude by some. "Power came forth from him and he healed them all", we are told. But the twist in the story is not the ten- percent response but the irony of the gratitude coming from the lowest and most socially despised, the Samaritan. It seems that acts of goodness when performed through love and for no personal gain produce responses for the Kingdom in the most unexpected places. And in this act of giving unconditionally there is a glorious freedom for us in that we can see how God can use and bless the simplest act of ours.

At the end of the Beatitudes there is another of those apparently simple but frightening sayings of Christ: "Blessed are you when men shall revile you and persecute you and say all manner of evil falsely against you for my sake. Rejoice and be exceeding glad for great is your reward in heaven." How does this work practically? Is it just an instruction to grin and bear it till you die rather like an indoctrinated modern terrorist who, to me at least, appears like a person who has quite lost it mentally and is programmed fanatically towards suicide? This does not look like Christ's behavior in the

purple livery of mockery and abuse before the soldiers prior to his death or like the experience of the early martyrs such as Stephen who went to his death praying for his enemies.

Perhaps a clue to what is happening is to be found in the writings of St. Nikolai Velimirovic, a Serbian Orthodox bishop, who met his death in the Dachau concentration camp. "Bless my enemies, O Lord. Even I bless them and do not curse them. Enemies have driven me into your embrace more than friends have. Friends have bound me to the earth; enemies have loosed me from the earth.....persecuted by enemies I have found the safest sanctuary having placed myself beneath your tabernacle where neither friends nor enemies can slay my soul." So what he is saying in effect is that our enemies are vital in the process of our salvation and more than that are the very doorway to our personal salvation. This sounds very much like the advice of the fathers to walk bravely and confidently towards the Cross which is being presented to us as the means of our salvation.

But finally, in the discussion of our enemies I should like to quote further from this beloved saint. "Enemies have taught me to know what hardly anyone knows, that a person has no enemies in the world except himself." And he also prays, "Multiply them so that my heart may become the grave of my two evil twins: arrogance and anger. Yes the real enemy is what is within us not outside us. As Christ himself says, "It is what comes out of a man that defiles him, not what goes in."

So in a strange way the prayer for our enemies is really a prayer for ourselves and the two are in fact inseparable. Few of us have the courage to endure what this saint endured for the Gospel. Nevertheless, the path and rules of the spiritual life are the same. Prayer for those who hate us will ultimately expose what is evil in ourselves and by God's strength and grace will lead through repentance to our healing.

So may God give us the desire increasingly to love and pray for our enemies earnestly, as Christ has bidden us, knowing that our prayer for their salvation is ultimately bound up with ours also.

By Welsh Newton

YOUNG ADULT RETREAT

The Sisters of St. Basil the Great will be sponsoring a Young Adult Retreat for ages 18-40. Friday, October 21, 7 PM through Sunday, October 23, Noon, Mt. St. Macrina House of Prayer, 510 W. Main Street, Uniontown, PA 15401. *Theme: The Courage to Pray: Answering God's Invitation.* Offering: \$110 Donation. Registration due October 14, 2022. Space Limited. Register Early. Masks will be required indoors. hpsm@verizon.net. www.sistersofstbasil.org.

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.