

*Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!*

**Schedule of Divine Services**

Saturday, September 17 5:00 PM +Richard Fialkovich by Richard Daley

Sunday, September 18 9:00 AM Special 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Intention of Joan Bodnar by Family

**Pages for Sunday's Divine Liturgy: Tone 6 page 152 & pages 258 - 260**

Web Liturgy Intention for Week of September 18, 2022

**In Celebration of the 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Joan Bodnar by MM Nicholas S. Havrilla, Sr.**

*Sanctuary Candle* is lit from September 11 - 24

**In Memory of +Father Dennis Bogda by Elaine Bogda**

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

Saturday, September 24 5:00 PM +Luther Bovee by Family

Sunday, September 25 9:00AM +Margaret Tima & Mary Filko by Beverly Tima

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

Regular Offertory	\$6,348.00
Maintenance Fund	548.00
Holy Day	473.00
Candles	276.71
Loose Cash	3.00
Cemetery	30.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$7,678.71</b>

**Parking Lot**

**\$100 by Joe & Peg Barron**

**Special Donation**

**\$150 in Memory of +Elizabeth Pristas by Gloria Erney**

*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 Havrilscaak*, 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

## **SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK**

19 Joan Bodnar  
19 Mark Simko  
21 Margaret Seman  
24 Timothy Oriss  
24 Shirley Petro  
21 William & Nancy Hosni (Anniversary)  
24 Richard & Patricia Goda (Anniversary)

**In person Attendance:** *Saturday, September 10: 42; Sunday, September 11: 56*  
*Exaltation of the Holy Cross: Evening: 25*  
*Morning: 15*

**Live Stream Viewing:** *Saturday, September 10: 31 (WS); 49 (FB)*  
*Sunday, September 11: 57 (WS); 61 (FB)*  
*Exaltation of the Holy Cross: Evening: 19 (WS); 32 (FB)*  
*Morning: 13 (WS); 14 (FB)*

## **GCU LODGE MEETING**

The quarterly Lodge meeting will be held September 18, Noon at Ascension Church, Clairton.

## **GCU LODGE CLOTHING DRIVE**

The GCU Lodge 602 is holding its annual clothing drive during the *last 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.

## **UPCOMING CATHEDRAL EVENTS**

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

## **COFFEE & DONUTS-SEPTEMBER 18<sup>TH</sup>**

The Bodnar Family invites their parish family to a Coffee & Donut Social after the 9:00 AM Sunday Divine Liturgy on September 18, 2022 in honor of Joan Bodnar.

## **SPAGHETTI DINNER**

SS. Peter & Paul Parish Club, Duquesne is sponsoring their annual Spaghetti Dinner on **Sunday, September 25, 2022 from 1-5 PM**. Adults: \$11; Children 6-10; \$6 Children 5 & Under; free. Raffles & baskets...and as always all proceeds benefit the Church.

## **“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.

## **MEDOVNIKI**

The Sisters of St. Basil have extra medovniki (honey cookies) from the pilgrimage available to purchase. If you would like to purchase any, you can call Mt. St. Macrina Motherhouse at 724-438-8644 between the hours of 9 AM and 2 PM.



# Attentive to the Word

*Sunday after the Elevation of the Cross*

*Galatians 2: 16-20*

*Mark 8:34 - 9:1*

When our Lord first revealed to the Apostles that He must be crucified, St. Mark reports that St. Peter reacted very strongly against the idea (Mark 8, 31). In response to Peter's objections, Jesus went on to announce that all His followers would have to share in His cross, that the cross alone points the way to salvation. (Mark 8, 34 - 9). To understand the full impact of Jesus' words in today's Gospel, we must understand what the cross represented to the people of His time and what the Jewish people expected their promised savior to be.

For Eastern Slavs, the three-barred cross is a source of pride and a symbol of our identity. For us, the Cross has lost its power to shock, to repel, to scandalize. To the Apostles, the cross was simply an instrument of torture so horrible that, under Imperial law, Roman citizens were spared it. Crucifixion was particularly loathsome to Jews on account of the words of Deuteronomy 21, 23: "God's curse rests upon him who hangs on a tree." St. Paul deals with this passage in his letter to the Galatians 3, 13, and we can presume that it was a problem for the early converts from Judaism to Christianity.

In no way did the shame and pain of the cross coincide with what the Jewish people hoped for as they chafed under Roman rule. They expected a Savior, A Messiah ("God's anointed one") who would be a glorious, powerful figure, a second and even greater King David. Their hopes were nourished by prophecies like Micah 5, 1-3: "But you, Bethlehem - Ephrathah, ... from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel; whose origin is from of old, from ancient times ... He shall stand firm and shepherd his flock by the strength of the Lord, in the majestic name of the Lord, his God; and they shall remain, for now his greatness shall reach to the ends of the earth; he shall be peace."

The Apostles and the first generation of Christians frequently cited another set of prophecies, however, which describe the sufferings, apparent failure and final triumph of God's Servant. These prophecies, found in the Book of Isaiah 42, 1-4; 49, 1-7; 50, 4-11

and 52, 13-53, 12, are very probably among the scripture passages that Jesus Himself used to explain to His Apostles who He is and what His mission involved. In the Tradition of the Church, these prophecies have always been interpreted in terms of the Passion and Death of Christ. Consider these lines from the 4th “Servant Song”:

“Yet it was our infirmities that he bore, our sufferings that he endured, while we thought of him as stricken, as one smitten by God and afflicted. But he was pierced for our offenses, crushed for our sins, upon him was the chastisement that makes us whole, by his wounds we were healed. We had all gone astray like sheep, each following his own way; but the Lord laid upon him the guilt of us all. Though he was harshly treated, he submitted and opened not his mouth; like a lamb led to the slaughter or a sheep before the shearers, he was silent and opened not his mouth. Oppressed and condemned, he was taken away, and who would have thought any more of his destiny?...If he gives his life as an offering for sin, he shall see his descendants in a long life, and the will of the Lord shall be accomplished through him. Because of his affliction he shall see the light in fullness of days; through his suffering, my servant shall justify many.” (Isaiah 53,4-11)

It is understandable that the Jewish people, oppressed as they were, chose to dwell on the uplifting, glorious promises God made. Religious faith is often used as a crutch, an escape from the unpleasant facts of life. We can learn two things from Jesus’ harsh but honest lesson to His Apostles.

The Cross is a promise of happiness, a sign of victory, a source of life. But it points towards these “happy endings” only down a path of self denial that is not always easy or painless. We cannot choose from God’s Word or God’s Will what suits us, only what coincides with our own plans and pleasures. Today Jesus urges us to hear the whole message of Scripture - the difficult commandments as well as the comforting promises. The Cross teaches us to empty ourselves of selfishness only so that God can fill us with His peace, with His presence, with the good things that alone last for life eternal.

*By Fr. John Custer*

*We bow to Your Cross O Christ and we glorify Your holy Resurrection!*

## 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.