

*Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!*

**Schedule of Divine Services**

Saturday, November 19 **5:00 PM +George & +Anne Bodnar by Danscak Family**

Sunday, November 20 **9:00 AM +Elaine Geraci by Jean Repine & Family**

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

Web Liturgy for Week of October November 20, 2022 sponsored by  
**Lori Urban Lyons in Memory of +John J. Urban & +Betty Lyons**

*Sanctuary Candle* is lit from November 20 – December 3  
**In Memory of +Michael Szerbin by Michele May**

**ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS**

**Monday, November 21 7:00 PM +Dan Perhach by Richard & Boys**

**Wednesday, November 23 7:00 PM Divine Liturgy of Thanksgiving for Parish Family**

**25<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENECEOST**

Saturday, November 26 **5:00 PM +Richard Fialkovich by MM Dennis Dvorjak**

Sunday, November 27 **9:00 AM +Carole Collins by George Serechin**

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

Regular Offertory	\$2,548.00
Maintenance Fund	392.00
Holy Day	572.00
Archdiocesan Charities	82.00
Candles	63.01
Loose Cash	30.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,687.01</b>

**Special Offering: \$500 given anonymously**

**Parking Lot: \$50 in Memory of +Raymond Petro, Sr. by Petro Family**

**\$100 in Thanksgiving for the Health of Jane Brown by Joe & Peg Barron**

**Live Stream: \$50 by Joe Onoffrey**

*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, Eleanor Chekan, Sue Goda

## **NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK**

22 Barbara Gomolak

24 Karlee Scott

25 Andrew Glaid, IV

**In person Attendance:** *Saturday, November 12: 48; Sunday, November 13: 58*

**Live Stream Viewing:** *Saturday, November 12: 32 (WS); 44 (FB)*  
*Sunday, November 13: 57 (WS); 67 (FB)*

## **ETERNAL MEMORY**

+**Dorothy Hritz** passed from this life to the next on November 12, 2022. May she 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 Dorothy in His Kingdom forever.*

## **EMMANUEL MOLEBEN**

The Pittsburgh Deanery will celebrate two Emmanuel Molebens for the Philip's Fast. The first will be celebrated on **Sunday, November 20, 2022 @ 3:00 p.m. at St. Gregory Church, Upper St. Clair.** The second will be celebrated on **Sunday, December 18, 2022 @ 3:00 p.m. at St. John the Baptist Church, Lyndora.** There will be opportunity for the celebration of the Mystery of Reconciliation. All are invited and encouraged to attend as we prepare for the Feast of the Nativity.

## **PHILIP'S FAST GIVING TREE**

Our parish will once again sponsor a "**Christmas Giving Tree**" to help those in need. This year our donations will help the Boys and Girls Club of McKeesport, an after school program in Duquesne, PA. This year, donations will be in the form of specific gift cards. Giving Tree envelopes will be available on the tree located in the front vestibule starting this weekend. Please **return** your gift card(s), in the envelope from the tree, **no later than Sun., Nov. 27.** Thank you for your consideration.

## **PARISH CHRISTMAS BRUNCH**

Our Parish will have its Christmas Brunch on **Sunday, 18 December 2022 following the 9 AM Divine Liturgy**. There are sign-up sheets in the vestibules of the church.

## **KOLACHE ORDERS**

**Thanksgiving pick up is the weekend of November 20.** If you need them earlier, please let Fr. Andrew know. 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.***

## **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 \$7. Order sheets are located in the vestibules of the church.

## **FINAL GCU LODGE MEETING**

The final GCU Lodge 602 meeting will take place at Rockbottom, Waterfront, on **Sunday, November 27, 2022** from Noon until 3 PM. Luncheon cost is \$10. Please inform Patty Bovee 412.462.6385 if you are attending.

## **HOLIDAY KOLBASSI SALE**

Ss. Peter & Paul Men's Club, Duquesne is once again selling kolbassi. Cost is \$7/lb. Sign-up sheets are at the church entrances. ***Please order by December 11, 2022*** and DELIVERY IS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17 AND SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18 2022. Thank you for your support.

## **CHRISTMAS CONCERT**

Enjoy a free concert on **Sunday, December 11, 2022 at 3:30 PM – 5:30 PM** at our Cathedral Center as presented by *The East Winds Symphonic Band*. Following the County Covid guidelines, masks are optional. Seating will be on a first-come basis. The concert will be live-streamed on YouTube. Light refreshments will be provided. A forthcoming link to that will be published soon. A free will offering will be welcomed.

## **A BYZANTINE CHRISTMAS**

The Archieparchial Choir invites all to share the spirit and joy of the Holy Nativity of our Lord on **Sunday, December 11, 2022 at 2:00 PM** at Holy Spirit Church, Fifth Ave, Oakland. A hospitality reception will follow. Sponsored by the Archeparchy's Campus Ministry. All are welcome.



# Attentive to the Word

*Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost*  
*Ephesians 2: 14-22*  
*Luke 12: 16-21*

In order to fully appreciate its significance, today's gospel should be understood as a small portion of the lengthy instruction Jesus imparted to his followers en route to Jerusalem (Luke 9:51-19:28). Just prior to this lesson on greed and undue attachment to material wealth, Jesus had counseled his disciples against all anxiety, telling them that the God who knew their needs and wants would never forget them. Therefore, they need not live in fear of anything or anyone; the presence of the Holy Spirit would sustain them in every circumstance (12:1-12). In today's gospel, and in response to the question of "someone in the crowd" (v. 13), Jesus challenges those who seek to allay their fears by making an abundance of material goods their base of security and their insurance against the future. As Luke Timothy Johnson (*The Gospel of Luke, The Liturgical Press, Collegeville* 1991) has pointed out, "Jesus' teaching to this point (in the gospel) has stressed a lack of fear before the immediate threat of life, how much less should fear generate an obsessive concern with possessions.

Jesus' lesson about greed and wealth was prompted by a request that he act as arbiter in a dispute over an inheritance. Certainly, Jesus had wisdom and intelligence sufficient to settle the issue. However he chose not to become embroiled in matters material, particularly since he was directing the attention of his disciples toward the more enduring treasure of the kingdom. As his followers, they would become heirs of an eternal inheritance; therefore all their other needs and wants were to be subordinated and ordered accordingly. Because earthly possessions do not guarantee life (v. 15), Jesus taught his own that their energies should not be spent in having more but in becoming more and more like him.

Whereas the rich man in the parable, regarded his riches as blessings and found peace and contentment in the fact that his grain bins were full, the disciples of Jesus are to find blessedness in divesting themselves of their surpluses and even of their substance so as to see to the needs of the hungry, thirsty, sick, lonely and poor. By calling the rich man a fool, Jesus referenced the Hebrew Scriptures (see Psalm 13:1) which described a fool as someone who had denied or forgotten God. Charles H. Talbot (*Reading Luke, Crossroad Pub. Co., New York* 1984) has explained that the foolish, rich man's striving for additional wealth, when he already had enough, did not guarantee his security but, rather, his status as an idolater. He had chosen reliance on things rather than on God; his allegiance was misplaced and his untimely and unexpected death would prove to be a rude awakening.

No doubt, most would prefer to experience their "awakening" before death, while there is still time to respond to it appropriately. A recent television, documentary featured several people who claimed to have had such an awakening; each had had experienced some trauma or calamity which had resulted in severe losses. One woman looked on helplessly as her home was swallowed up by a mudslide and the tumbled down the cliff into the bay below. An elderly couple had survived the tornado that ripped the roof off their home and flung all of its contents into the air. Another person had returned from a trip to find his home and business in ashes. Yet another told of losing all he owned in a faulty investment. When asked how they had coped with their losses and what they had learned, every

person interviewed shared a similar insight. "Yes, we've lost everything," one responded, "but that's precisely the point. . . we lost things. What matters is that we are alive!" Each person emerged from their experience of loss having learned the same life lesson Jesus wished to impart to his disciples. Each had gained a keener appreciation of their authentic needs and a newfound freedom from useless and transitory wants. Each resolved to live life more carefully and wisely, aware that this day is God's gift and that tomorrow may never come.

## **FEAST OF THE ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS INTO THE TEMPLE**

The feast of the Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary is an event that is not recorded in the gospels. But it is found in an extra-biblical source called the Infancy Narrative of James. According to that text, Mary's parents, Joachim and Anne had been childless, but then they received a heavenly message that they would have a child. In thanksgiving, they brought the child Mary to the Temple to consecrate her to the Lord. It was believed that Mary remained in the Temple to be formed and prepared for her role as the Mother of God. The focus of this feast is to show that even in her childhood Mary was completely dedicated to God. It is from this account that arose the feast of Mary's Presentation. A further reflection on this feast would also make us think about the environment at home and the formation that we are giving our children and our family members. The Christian home is to be a sanctuary of prayer where the members can grow in holiness and in the ways of the Lord. When our will is nothing less than to do the will of God, then together with Mary, we will present our lives as an offering that is pleasing to God.

*By Rev Fr Stephen Yim*

## **THANKSGIVING**

Over four hundred years ago, a small number of grateful Pilgrims gathered in prayerful tribute to God for an abundant first harvest. This launched a meaningful custom which is one of our most cherished holidays, Thanksgiving Day.

Thursday, we celebrate Thanksgiving Day. It is an appropriate time for us to reflect on our blessings. It is a day to express our gratitude to Almighty God for His abundant gifts. He is the source of all blessings, as we pray in the Ambo prayer of the Divine Liturgy. "For every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from You, the Father of Lights."

There is no true prayer without thanksgiving. God expects gratitude. Thanksgiving forces us to take stock of our situations. The blessing we are able to count forces us to conclude we are much better off than we thought we were. Someone once said, "No man is in true health who cannot stand in the tree air of heaven, with his feet on God's free turf, and thank his Creator for the simple luxury of physical existence."

Today we take good things too much for granted. In the hot dry desert when the sun beats down unmercifully, we treasure water more than gold. After being without food for a few days, we know the importance of food. When our pockets are empty, we realize the value of money. When we are ill, we finally acknowledge the wonders of health. We can go on and on to enumerate how we take so many things for granted and it is only when we are deprived of them that we really begin to appreciate them. We do have reason to be thankful, don't we?

## 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.