

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Schedule of Divine Services

Saturday, June 24 **5:00 PM** +Vasil, +John, & +Eva Krenitsky by Family

Sunday, June 25 **9:00 AM** +Michael & +Emily Danscak by Danscak Family

Pages for Sunday's Divine Liturgy: Tone Three pages 135 - 137

Web Liturgy for Week of June 25, 2023 sponsored by
Oliver and Jean Guthrie

Sanctuary Candle is lit from June 18 – July 1

95th Birthday Remembrance of Dorothy Vojtko by Dorothy & Michael Moyta

FEAST OF PRE-EMINENT APOSTLES PETER & PAUL

Wednesday , June 28 7:00 PM +Donald Loyd

5th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Saturday, July 1 **5:00 PM** +Michael Stofko by Cathy Schohn

Sunday, July 2 **9:00 AM** +Michael Szerbin by Michele May

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

Regular Offertory	\$3,236.00
Maintenance Fund	609.00
Holy Day	165.00
Loose Cash	60.00
Candles	45.50
TOTAL	\$4,115.50

*During these challenging times we thank you for your kindness and generosity.
Please consider remembering St. John Cathedral in your will
as a lasting legacy for future generations!*

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK AND SHUT-INS

AT HOME: *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*, Patty Schneider, Jeannie Pasternak, Janet Myers, Ethel Wahal.

Italicized names indicate Parish Shut-ins. Other names are submitted prayer requests.

NURSING HOMES/REHABILITATION CENTERS/ASSISTED LIVING

Elsie Urban, Eleanor Chekan, Sue Goda

JUNE/JULY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

26 Richard Myers

28 Melinda Banks

29 Anne Lazarov

30 Michael G. & Magdalene Semego (Anniversary)

1 John Hoblack

In person Attendance: *Saturday, June 17: 46; Sunday, June 18: 64*

Live Stream Viewing: *Saturday, June 17: 25 (WS); 18 (FB)*
Sunday, June 18: 52 (WS); 41 (FB)

UPCOMING CATHEDRAL EVENTS

August 13 Parish Picnic

August 13 Outdoor concert by East Winds Symphonic Band at the Cathedral

CALLING ALL GRADUATES

Our Parish Family would like to honor all of our 2023 graduates from High School, College, Graduate School, etc. on Sunday, July 16. Please inform us of the names of our graduates, high school/college of graduation, degree/major by dropping a note in the collection basket by Sunday, July 9.

Live Stream

\$25 Leonard & Felicia Simko

METROPOLITAN ASSEMBLY

Metropolitan Archbishop William C. Skurla and the Council of Hierarchs of the Byzantine Catholic Metropolitan Church of Pittsburgh will be hosting the 3rd assembly of our Church on Thursday, November 2 to Sunday, November 5, 2023, at St. Mary's Byzantine Catholic Church, Hillsborough, NJ. The Assembly's theme is Living Our Faith: Moving Forward, Appreciating Our Past.

The Assembly will consist of two tracks. A clergy track will be presented on Thursday and Friday, November 2nd and 3rd. A laity tract will occur from Friday to Sunday, November 3rd to 5th.

Registrations may be made through the Assembly website or by mail beginning June 15. The fee includes meals, breaks, presentations, materials, and the gala on Saturday evening. The Assembly cost is \$250 for individuals and \$400 for couples. The Maria Theresa Foundation will underwrite the registration fees of individuals and couples between the ages of 18 and 35.

For more information, contact the Assembly coordinators, Fr. Ed Cimbala, at 212-677-0516 or Fr. Yuriy Oros at 609-394-5004. The assembly website is byzantineassembly2023.org, and the email is byzantineassembly2023@gmail.com.

CATHEDRAL COOKBOOK

It has been suggested, and people have volunteered to organize, another Cathedral Cookbook. We are looking for submission of recipes to publish in our cookbook. Please consider sharing some of your favorite recipes. We would prefer electronic submissions, but paper copies will also be accepted and formatted. If you would like to be a part of this project, please inform Fr. Andrew.

ANNUAL GCU & BYZANTINE CATHOLIC FAMILY DAY AT KENNYWOOD

Thursday, July 27, 2023. Discounted tickets may be purchased through the Parish: (ages 4+): \$25. A catered lunch is also available: (age 11+): \$25; (ages 3-10): \$20. Admission and Lunch tickets must be prepaid. Deadline, to order tickets, is Sunday, **July 2, 2023**. *Discounted tickets are good only on July 27, 2023.*

A CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE

Metropolitan William and the Archeparchy of Pittsburgh will honor all those couples celebrating their milestone wedding anniversary of 10, 15, 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 55, 60, 65 or beyond years during this calendar year of 2023. The Archieparchial celebration will take place at St. Elias Church, Munhall on Sunday, **10 September 2023** at 3 PM.

Please inform the Parish Office, by **July 23**, if you are celebrating one of these milestone anniversaries this year, so that your names can be submitted to the Chancery. Thank you in advance for your prompt attention to this.



Attentive to the Word

Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Romans 6: 18-23

Matthew 8: 5-13

The majestic beauty of a perfectly shaped tree is lost when strong winds snap off one of its larger branches. An opening appears along the contour of its wavy outline and the gap instantly calls attention to the obvious that an important part of the tree is missing. Whether a piece of the tree is missing or whether we are just looking at it from an awkward angle, the annoying imbalance of its shape tells us immediately that something is not right with that tree.

Imbalances also enter into our lives between our outlook of ourselves, our outlook of the world, and our outlook on God. For a period of time in the history of the human race, our concept of ourselves, of the world, and of God stemmed from a single point of view like the single trunk of a young tree. As our ability and our way of thinking continued to grow, the various schools of the arts, sciences, religion, etc. progressed and began to branch out with their own distinguishing contribution like the main branches of a developing tree. This branching out is necessary and healthful. However, when one or more of these branches become isolated from the main tree, we experience an imbalance or a weakness in our outlook or understanding of life.

Jesus marveled at the great faith of the centurion – not his religious piety – but his faith. The centurion admits that he is not worthy to have Christ come into his home. Yet, despite his unworthiness, the soldier knew the power of God and he was aware of the authority of Christ. The question is “How did the centurion learn about God?” The centurion learned about God through his experience as a soldier. He knew and understood what it meant to give and receive orders. And that is how he knew Christ — as a man of authority.

How do we know or understand Christ and God? Through what vocational discipline or livelihood do we experience Life? A scientist or engineer may learn about God in the scientific laws of the universe and in the structure of materials and, therefore, see God as a well-disciplined and orderly Being. A lawyer may look upon God as being very precise and strict in regulations. A farmer may see God as life-giver through the new life which springs up from the seeds. No matter what field of life we are in – mechanic, doctor, seamstress, architect, sportsman, hobo, pilot, patient in a sickbed, accountant, artist, etc – God teaches us about Himself through that particular experience or outlook of life. If we have experienced love and kindness, then God is loving and kind. If we have

only experienced hatred and bitterness, then we can only see God as a tormentor and persecutor.

As we concentrate more and more into our particular area of life, we learn more and more about God and His ways. But we must remember to keep that study in perspective or balance with faith and not isolate it from Christ's teaching. Otherwise, we become lifeless and annoying like the dead or missing branch of a tree.

What is our particular experience of life? What particular trade or talent is prominent in our life? What are we best at? By looking at ourselves and our experiences we come to learn about God but we must keep them in balance with trust and love in order to have a complete picture of life.

FEAST OF THE PRE-EMINENT APOSTLES PETER AND PAUL

We call Saints Peter & Paul "Leaders of the Apostles and Teachers of the World" in the troparian for their feast day. They are known as the pillars of the Church because they had a major role in establishing the early Church. They preached about Jesus Christ and baptized many people in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

After the Apostles received the Holy Spirit, Saint Peter "stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and proclaimed" (Acts 2:14) to the Israelites that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. We read in this story about Saint Peter's sermons that people wanted more about Jesus. They wanted to know what they must do to become followers of Jesus.

Saint Peter told them they must give up their old ways to follow Jesus, in return they would receive the Holy Spirit. He said, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit" (Acts 2:38). By the end of the day about 30,000 people accepted Saint Peter's invitation to be baptized.

In the New Testament are many stories about Saint Paul teaching the people about Jesus. In one story he asked the people who are baptized about John, "Did you receive the holy Spirit when you became believers?" (Acts 19:2). They did not know of the Holy Spirit and asked to be baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. "And when Paul laid [his] hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied" (Acts 19:6). This story is just one of many that took place as Saint Paul traveled to different cities and established many churches for the people he baptized. We can read about his travels in his letter that are included in the New Testament.

Both Saints devoted their life to preaching about Jesus Christ and inviting people to be baptized members of the Church. Also both were martyred for this belief in Jesus Christ. In Rome probably in 67 A.D. Saint Peter asked to be crucified with his head downward when he was told he was to be put to death. In 65 A.D. Saint Paul was beheaded because he was a Roman citizen and could not be crucified.

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.