

*Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!*

**Schedule of Divine Services**

Saturday, June 3 **5:00 PM +Keith Cosgrove by Debbie & Justin Cosgrove**  
Sunday, June 4 **9:00 AM 40<sup>th</sup> Day Remembrance of +Edward Totin by Mary Ellen Totin**

**Pages for Sunday’s Divine Liturgy: Pages 211 - 213**

Web Liturgy for Week of June 4, 2023 sponsored by  
**John and Beverly Woessner**

*Sanctuary Candle* is lit from June 4 – June 17  
**+Father Dennis Bogda by Elaine Bogda**

**2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Saturday, June 10 **5:00 PM +Fr. Dennis Bogda by Elaine Bogda**  
Sunday, June 11 **9:00 AM +Michael Totin, Jr. by Mary Ellen Totin**

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

Regular Offertory	\$2,288.00
Maintenance Fund	663.00
Holy Day	394.00
Loose Cash	82.00
Candles	92.81
Cemetery	240.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$3,759.81</b>

**Live Stream**

**\$40 in Memory of +Richard Lesko by Dean & Kathy Montgomery**

**Special Donation**

**\$50 in Honor of Mike & Diane Pochron on the occasion of their 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary by Andrea Guthrie**

*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 BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK**

- 4 Gregory & Anna Marie Checkan (Anniversary)
- 4 Steven & Jennifer Kovatch (Anniversary)
- 5 David & Marsha Hrabik (Anniversary)
- 5 Teri Phares
- 6 Bernadette Thorwart
- 6 Michael & Patricia Matus (Anniversary)
- 7 Carol Oriss

**In person Attendance:** *Saturday, May 27: 41; Sunday, May 28: 103*  
*5<sup>th</sup> All Souls Remembrance: 10*  
*Pentecost Monday/Memorial Day: 18*

**Live Stream Viewing:** *Saturday, May 27: 27 (WS); 22 (FB)*  
*Sunday, May 28: 46 (WS); 37 (FB)*  
*5<sup>th</sup> All Souls Remembrance: 12 (WS); 7 (FB)*  
*Pentecost Monday/Memorial Day: 14 (WS); 9 (FB)*

## **ETERNAL MEMORY**

+**Helen Braszo** passed from this life to the next on May 4, 2023. 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 Helen in His Kingdom forever!*

## **MANY YEARS**

Our Parish Family extends our prayerful best wishes to **Reader Tyler Wisniewski**, a seminarian of the Archeparchy, who will be ordained a sub-deacon and deacon on Sunday, June 4, 2023, 3 PM at the Cathedral. *May God grant to Deacon Tyler peace, health and happiness for many years!*

## RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

With the World Health Organization declaring an end to the emergency phase of the Covid-19 Pandemic, we have been directed to return to the traditional method of distributing Holy Communion. Effective the weekend of June 4, 2023 we will resume distributing the Eucharist through the use of one spoon. **Just a reminder of the proper way to receive Holy Communion: open your mouth widely, tilt your head slightly back and the Eucharist will be placed into your mouth. Please do not close your mouth upon the spoon.**

## “KATHEDRAL KITCHEN”

We have Stuffed Cabbage: ½ dozen: \$18; dozen: \$30; *Chili & Beef Vegetable, Beef Noodle, Chicken noodle, Turkey, Stuffed Cabbage, **Meatless: Mushroom, Vegetarian Vegetable** soups* for \$7. Pirohi \$10/dozen. If you would like to buy any please see Patty Bovee, Diane Pochron or Fr. Andrew. **Bold denotes meatless.**

## 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.

## UPCOMING CATHEDRAL EVENTS

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

## **HEAVEN IS NOT JUST SOME FUTURE PLACE OR STATE**

It's a big mistake to think of things like Heaven and sainthood as some future place and state. Too often we seem to fall into false thinking concerning the present and the future, and life and death. Death is often discussed (and portrayed in books, TV and movies) as liberation from the prison of the body; and that a future state is a goal that is more important than our present state. Both of these teachings are false according to our faith. The danger in adhering to this false thinking is that we can fall into the trap of thinking we have tomorrow to be doing what we should today – namely leading a prayerful life on a daily basis for our growth as human beings. The Pharisees and other people in the Bible missed the entire significance of Jesus' presence among them and that the kingdom of God was already here. They kept looking toward some future state of when God's kingdom would arrive not knowing it was among them already. People think and act like this today. Since God exists in the ever present now, the most important part of our lives is every present moment. *-Theosis*



# Attentive to the Word

*Sunday of All Saints*

*Hebrews 11: 32 - 12:2*

*Matthew 10: 32-33, 37-38 & 19: 27-30*

“Beloved, we are God’s children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.”

Is this a fantastic promise to us who believe and accept Jesus as Lord? ‘We shall see him as he is.’ Is seeing him one day as he is worth all sorts of sacrifices rather than selfishness? Is seeing God as he is worth extending a measure of mercy and forgiveness rather than holding on to anger, frustration, and eventually dying with a fractured heart, as so many have chosen to do? Is the promise of seeing the Lord as he is worth all the good works of generosity, kindness, seeing the distress of others and acting on it, rather than imitating the avoidance of the priest and the Levite in the story of the Good Samaritan?

Is seeing Jesus as he is in all his glory one day worth all the crosses we end up carrying along this journey? Is it worth being persecuted for his name, which is a very popular game today? Is every breath we take, every move we make on behalf of him who was crucified worth our steadfast devotion, so that we can see him as he is?

There’s a whole slew of rugged-looking men, women, and children over the centuries who answer all these questions and more with a resounding “Yes.” They’ve come to find out it’s all worth it. If all the sacrifices of all the Saints in the Holy Communion of the Church, sacrifices driven by the Spirit, and made for others, could be gathered into a bushel basket, they would never measure up to the one sacrifice made on Golgotha by one Good Teacher who had few friends at the end of his life. Yet, every good deed by all the Saints ever performed through prayer and action, including ours, is an extension of his sacrifice.

The force behind today’s feast of All Saints is found in the words, “That we will see him as he is.” That’s what drove them to live lives of holiness. To see him one day as he is. But how about the people we’ve known and loved? The ones who are blessed to already see him as he is? Do we rejoice in their vision? Or, do we worry about their eternal state? This is why we have All Souls Day tomorrow, where we pray for those who do not yet see him as he is.

This blessed day of All Saints is a day of commemorating the actions of the Saints, imitating their lives to some measure, and bonding our lives with their Christian virtues. Along with name All Saints Day, I also like the title, “Taking On the Saints Day.” Taking on being a peacemaker, and not a warmonger, which none of them were at the end of their lives.

Or taking on being merciful, and not vengeful. Taking on being persecuted for every truth of Jesus Christ, and not watering it down to satisfy the urges of man. Taking on the poor in spirit, and not seeing riches as paramount that can somehow satisfy our souls. The saints

teach us that that's not possible. Taking on a life of prayer and silence, and not magnetizing ourselves to the endless babble of cable news, nightly news, newspapers, and media who care only for your dollar and nothing for your soul.

There's 1000 good reasons why our Christian faith invites us to learn more about the Saints, and imitate them, and take them on. They teach us the truest meaning of the Gospel.

But I finish by calling attention to the lesser-known saints, if you will. It's great to know and imitate John the Baptist, Mary Magdalene, Catherine of Siena, Teresa of Calcutta, John Paul of Poland, and the endless stream of popular Saints who adorn the Church's history.

But let's not forget the lesser-known saints who have also influenced and impacted our lives. The ones we've lived with, spoken with, hugged and cried with, attended their funerals with both sadness and joy. The ones we miss more than the well-known Saints. What virtue of theirs do we carry forward with us on this day of ALL Saints?

For them, there are some who see him as he is. And there are some who have not yet seen him as he is. Which is which, is a guessing game on our part. But we remove much of the guessing in the Church's gift of All Souls Day.

## **THE FAST OF THE HOLY APOSTLES**

According to the ancient tradition of the Byzantine and Orthodox Churches there is a period of fasting before the celebration of the feast of Sts. Peter and Paul. This fast begins on the Monday after the Sunday of All Saints and continues until the feast itself. Since the celebration of All Saints depends on when Easter is observed, the fast for Sts. Peter and Paul varies from a couple of weeks to a month or more. For example, this year the fast starts on June 5th and is kept until the 29th, about four weeks.

Most people do not follow this fast since it is not obligatory now, but this does not mean that it is not observed. We may ask why should we fast, especially now at the beginning of summer and school vacation time. Let us say, first, that this is not an easy time to fast; but we should remember that fasting is never easy. The very purpose of fasting is to discipline ourselves and this requires hard work and sacrifices.

The discipline of fasting leads us to be open to God's Spirit and His Word. We look for consolation to today's problems and difficulties and we seek answers in many places. The only true and lasting place to find meaning to the crises that face us is to return to God; but it is only in silent waiting for God to speak to us through His Spirit that we can find this consolation.

The fasting and discipline asked of us by the Church during this period of preparation for the feast of Sts. Peter and Paul can be a better teacher. We can learn how to free ourselves from the sway of convenience by fasting at the beginning of summer. The free avoidance of foods (meat products is the minimal fast) on Wednesdays and Fridays along with prayer can give us the strength and insights to see what things are really needful for our lives. The wisdom of this world can be met with a spiritual wisdom that can build our character and our relationship with God.

## 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.