

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Schedule of Divine Services

Saturday, July 15 5:00 PM +Joseph & +Julia Organiscak by MM Nicholas Havrilla
& Family

Sunday, July 16 9:00 AM Health of Hope Chiamopoulos by James Fizer

Pages for Sunday's Divine Liturgy: Tone Six pages 152 – 153 & pages 341 -342

Web Liturgy for Week of July 16, 2023 sponsored by
Richard and Barbara Gomolak

Sanctuary Candle is lit from July 16 - 29
+ Edward Borsh by Agnes Borsh

FEAST OF THE HOLY PROPHET ELIAS

Thursday, July 20 9:00 AM +Leonard Stagon by Blaise Horgas & Family

8th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Saturday, July 22 5:00 PM +Joanne Smoley & Alexander Scripp
by Steve & Lorraine Dumblosky

Sunday, July 23 9:00 AM +Donald Bajus by Ernest & Mary Ann Varhola

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

Regular Offertory	\$3,462.00
Maintenance Fund	493.00
Holy Day	10.00
Peter's Pence	100.00
Loose Cash	75.00
Candles	55.44
TOTAL	\$4,195.44

Special Donations

\$200 in honor of Nick Havrilla by Anita & Ed Wisniewski

\$200 in memory of +Helen & +Clement Braszo and Diane Brannen by Family

\$30 by Bryan Gross

*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

JULY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

16 Mary Ann Martin
16 Drew Porvaznik
18 Douglas Duda
19 Arden Bovee
19 Robert & Claire Hildenbrand (Anniversary)
20 Elizabeth Martin
20 John & Christine Munsie (Anniversary)
21 Kim Cosgrove
21 John Ducar

In person Attendance: *Saturday, July 8:* **42**; *Sunday, July 9:* **59**

Live Stream Viewing: *Saturday, July 8:* **29** (WS); **17** (FB)
Sunday, July 9: **62** (WS); **48** (FB)

PARISH PICNIC

Sunday, August 13, 2023 has been set aside for a *Parish Picnic*. The picnic will be held on our Cathedral property. The Parish will provide all the food. We ask those attending, to bring cookies for us to share with those attending the concert. Keep the date open and plan to have a fun afternoon with your fellow parishioners. We hope to see all of you there! A sign-up sheet is located in the vestibules of the church.

SUMMER CONCERT

The *East Wind Symphonic Band* will hold a concert on **August 13, 2023**. All are invited to this free LIVE outdoor concert of band music in celebration of summer. The concert will be performed on our Cathedral property from **3:00 pm – 4:30 pm**. Please bring a lawn chair. Again, the concert will take place weather permitting.

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 Cimbalá, 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

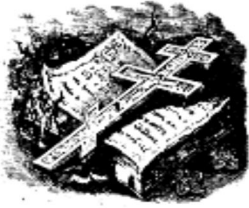
It has been suggested, and people have volunteered to organize, another Cathedral Cookbook. We are looking for submission of recipes to publish in our cookbook. Please consider sharing some of your favorite recipes. We would prefer electronic submissions, but paper copies will also be accepted and formatted.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

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



Sunday of the Fathers of the Six Ecumenical Councils

Romans 15: 1-7; Hebrews 13: 7-6

Matthew 9: 27-35; John 17: 1-13

In the Byzantine Church the Sunday that falls between July 13th and 19th is dedicated to the memory of the “Holy Fathers” who took part in the first six Ecumenical Councils of the Church. We remember their collective witness to Catholic doctrine. Today we remember the first 6 of these councils and #7 defending holy icons at Nicea 2 is remembered in October. Well, why are these ecumenical councils so important and what were they?

A general or ecumenical council is an assembly of the bishops of the undivided Church gathered together to consider and make decisions on Church matters of doctrine, discipline, liturgy and life of the Church. The first seven were held in the Greek-speaking East but councils before the great split or schism of 1054 are shared by the whole church – East and West. We focus on what we believe and share in common.

Our Church this third Sunday of July remembers the first six Councils.

The First Ecumenical Council - Nicea, Asia Minor, 325 A.D. - Formulated the First Part of the Creed. Defining the divinity of the Son of God. (We remember this council on its own on the Sunday before Pentecost.)

The Second Ecumenical Council - Constantinople, 381 A.D. - Formulated the Second Part of the Creed, defining the divinity of the Holy Spirit.

The Third Ecumenical Council - Ephesus, Asia Minor, 431A.D. - Defined Christ as the Incarnate Word of God and Mary as Theotokos.

The Fourth Ecumenical Council - Chalcedon, Asia Minor, 451A.D. - Defined Christ as Perfect God and Perfect God and Perfect Man in One Person.

The Fifth Ecumenical Council - Constantinople II, 553 A.D. - Reconfirmed the Doctrines of the Trinity and Christ. 1 God in 3 divine persons.

The Sixth Ecumenical Council - Constantinople III, 680 A.D. - Affirmed the True Humanity of Jesus by insisting upon the reality of His Human will and action.

We have been reading Romans during July but for this special Sunday we will read Hebrews (13:7-16) for the Epistle. This final chapter of Hebrews concludes with simple admonitions for a healthy community life. Clearly we are told to “remember our leaders who spoke the Word of God to you...” and “do not be carried away by all kinds of strange teaching...” Our Feast this weekend helps us to remember those who stayed true to the Word of God while others were proclaiming false doctrines. Strange teachings are still with us too. Just pick up any newspaper or listen to the media and we can hear “good Christians” teaching false doctrine. For example, I recently saw a national figure going to workshop at his church carrying a Bible. This is admirable, true, but this same person publicly professes his belief that it is right to have the choice to kill an unborn baby in the womb. How can the Word of God trick this person into believing

pro-choice/death is the way to go? What other “strange teachings” have been heard? What “strange teachings” have we let into our lives? Do we have the courage, as did the “Fathers” of the early Church, to remain true to Christ and the Church?

Our Gospel reading from Matthew (5:14-19) has Jesus telling us that we are to be “salt of the earth” and “lights of the world” and we are to let “our light shine before all.” We are to be inspirations to others that they “may see goodness” in our actions. The “Fathers” of the early Councils certainly were witnesses to Jesus and the truth of His Gospel. Can God expect no less from us today?

Salt for the ancient world was an invaluable commodity. The followers of Jesus are to be to the world what salt was to the ancients. Our life-styles as Christians is vital for the world’s welfare? Should our life-styles cease to be genuine, then we would be as useless as flat salt. Light also exemplifies the public character of the Christian vocation. In a one-room, windowless house, a light from a lamp was important for all in the household. The disciples likewise live for others. People do notice what we do and don’t do. Hopefully, they will see the good we do by our lifestyles and give glory to God and follow us in being Christ’s disciples. Our world, our country certainly needs the light of Christ to shine through so much darkness!

FEAST OF THE HOLY PROPHET ELIJAH

Elijah boldly called on God to reveal himself to the people through a consuming fire. Yet even before he made this prayer, his confidence in God's sovereignty above any man-made gods was evident in the playful taunts he aimed at the prophets of Baal who were seeking his life. Elijah wasn't worried at all that some false god might outshine Yahweh, the one true God, Even his simple prayer for so mighty a feat - only sixty-two words long-showed how confident Elijah was that God would not disappoint him (I Kings 18:36-37). How do we compare to Elijah? The challenges to faith that most of us face are usually quite minor compared to this high-stakes bake-off against the pagan and false prophets. We meet with small annoyances like a flat tire, a burnt dinner, an irritating disagreement at work, or a noisy fight between children at home. In these situations, do we trust in God's power moving in us and around us? If Elijah can laugh at a life-and-death situation, surely we can walk through these challenges. The tire may still be flat, the dinner ruined, and the people around us hard to deal with, but we will be able to handle the situation with God's peace reigning in our hearts, Are you easily upset by the curves the day throws at you? There's nothing unusual about that. We all fall into dark moods and get irritable at times. But when we do, the knowledge of the abiding presence of God can lift us up out of defeat and help us stand again in our rightful place of freedom and joy as his children. Of course, in many situations we need not only the serenity to get through but also the wisdom to know how to deal with the problem at hand. Life's challenges spur us to seek out God's answers. Here, too, Elijah is a great example. He called on God. Let's pray for the wisdom we need each day. And let's always remember that God loves us more than we can possibly imagine. He wants to be involved in our daily lives, if only we will let him. "O Lord, you have shown me the path of life, and I am filled with joy in your presence. I praise you with all my heart."

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.