

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Schedule of Divine Services

Saturday, August 12 5:00 PM +Irene J. & Clarence Hornak by Sandy Hornak

Sunday, August 13 9:00 AM +Margaret Kostovny by Dolores Zoretich

Pages for Sunday's Divine Liturgy: Tone 2 pages 130 – 132

Web Liturgy for Week of August 13, 2023 sponsored by
John and Kathy Shinosky in memory of our parents

Sanctuary Candle is lit from August 13 - 26

In memory of Cosgrove (+Robert, +Maryhelen, +Keith & +Keily); Milhalchik (+Michael & +Helen); Suchta Families (+Dolores) by Kim & Kristie Cosgrove

DORMITION OF THE THEOTOKOS

Tuesday, August 15 9:00 AM + Eugene Lucas by Family

7:00 PM +Clement Braszo by Family

12th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Saturday, August 19 5:00 PM +Marge Porvaznik by Drew Porvaznik

Sunday, August 20 9:00 AM 40th Day Remembrance of +Ronald Ditillo by Carol Beavers

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

Regular Offertory	\$2,915.00
Maintenance Fund	1,025.00
Holy Day	395.00
Loose Cash	50.00
Candles	44.98
Cemetery	145.00
TOTAL	\$4,574.98

*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, Patty Matus

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

NURSING HOMES/REHABILITATION CENTERS/ASSISTED LIVING

Elsie Urban, Eleanor Chekan, Sue Goda

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

- 17 Ronald Stagon
- 18 Robert Shrum & Teresa Sekel (Anniversary)
- 19 George Serechin

In person Attendance: *Saturday, August 5: N/A; Sunday, August 6: 57*

Live Stream Viewing: *Saturday, August 5: N/A (WS); N/A (FB)*
Sunday, August 6: 63 (WS); 50 (FB)

2024 DIVINE LITURGY AND SANCTUARY CANDLE INTENTIONS

We have received our 2024 desk calendar and are now accepting requests for Divine Liturgy and Sanctuary Candle intentions. Remember they are scheduled on a first come, first serve basis.

Special Donations

\$5,000 by David & Betty Banyas in honor of their Anniversary

\$50 In memory of Donald Bajus by Karen Rae Hennon

\$50 In memory of +Leonard & +Irene (Ondo) Schwab & +Michael & +Mary Vatral by Beverly Vatral

Live Stream

\$75 Leonard & Felica Simko

UPCOMING CATHEDRAL EVENTS

- September 9/10 Stuffed Cabbage Dinner
- October 21 Fall Craft Show
- November 12 Basket Extravaganza

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.

BLESSING OF FLOWERS

On the Feast of the Dormition in the Byzantine Church we bless flowers, not simply because they were found in the tomb of the Virgin, but because they are the seeds of next year's plantings. What we see in any bloom now is the seed of another one to come, and therefore a strong symbol of resurrection. Besides seeds, we also bless herbs on this day. The prayers speak of all these things, flowers, herbs and seeds, as medicine. There is a *healing that comes from death*, as contradictory as that might sound. St. Gregory Nyssa once referred to death as "the final remedy." Things which cannot be set right in this world can be made right in the next. **Bring your flowers to the Church for blessing. Flowers will be blessed after each Divine Liturgy.**

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 Cimballa, 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.



Attentive to the Word

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

1 Corinthians 9: 2-12

Matthew 18: 23-35

The Lord puts the parable of the unforgiving debtor before us that we may learn from it. He has no desire for us to die, so he warns us: This is how your heavenly Father will deal with you if you, any you, fail to forgive your brother or sister from your heart.

Take notice now, for clearly this is no idle warning. The fulfillment of this command calls for the most vigorous obedience. We are all debt to God, just as other people are in debt to us. Is there anyone who is not God's debtor? Only a person in whom no sin can be found. A is there anyone who has no brother or sister in his debt? Only if there be someone who has never suffered any wrong. Do you think any can be found in the entire human race who has not in turn wronged another in some way, incurring a debt to that person? No, all debtors, and have others in debt to them. Accordingly, God who is just has told you how to treat your debtor, because he means to treat hi the same way.

There are two works of mercy which will set us free. They briefly set down in the gospel in the Lord's own words: Forgive and you will be forgiven, and Give and you will receive. The for concerns pardon, the latter generosity. As regards pardon he says, "Just as you want to be forgiven, so someone is in need of forgiveness." Again, as regards generosity, consider when a beggar asks you for something that you are a beggar too in relation to God. When we pray we are all beggars before God. We are standing al door of a great householder, or rather, lying prostrate, and beg with tears. We are longing to receive a gift—the gift of God himself

What does a beggar ask of you? Bread. And you, what do you ask of God, if not Christ who said: I am the living bread that has come down from heaven? Do you want to be pardoned? Then pardon others. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Do you want to receive? Give and you will receive.

If we think of our sins, reckoning up those we have committed by sight, hearing, thought, and countless disorderly emotions, I do not know whether we can even sleep without falling into debt. And so, every day we pray; every day we beat upon God's ears with our please; every day we prostrate ourselves before him saying: Forgive us our trespasses, as we also forgive those who trespass against us. Which of our trespasses, all of them or only some? All, you will answer. Do likewise, therefore, with those who have

offended you. This is the rule you have laid down for yourself, the condition you have stipulated. When you pray according to this pact and covenant you remember to say: Forgive us, as we also forgive our debtors.

By St. Augustine (Sermon 83, 2. 4: PL 38, 515-516)

FEAST OF THE DORMITION

The Feast of the Dormition of the Mother of God is celebrated in our Holy Church every year on August 15th. The word itself “Dormition” is a Latin word meaning “Falling asleep”. As our journey of the Dormition Fast will come to an end, we continue to contemplate upon the life of our Lady, and we recognize that through her womb, heaven and earth were joined together. Through her, all mankind has been reborn. Her death and burial show us the completion of God's plan for all mankind. This Feast celebrates the Mother of God as the Mother of Life.

On this Feast of the Dormition we celebrate the wondrous way in which the Theotokos left this earthly life and was taken into heaven in a miraculous way: both body and soul. The Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ received her soul and body into heaven. What was left behind was an empty tomb filled with the fragrance of flowers.

For us this Major Holy Day recalls the physical glorification of Mary as she shares in the resurrection life of her Son, Our Lord, God and Savior, Jesus Christ. When, at her death (or falling asleep, that is, dormition), Jesus Christ received her body and soul into heaven, He, in a way, gave all humanity a preview of the transfiguration that awaits all of us in the Kingdom to come. Holy Tradition tells us that all the Apostles, except Thomas, were transported mystically to Jerusalem in order to be with the Mother of God as she died and present at her burial. When Thomas arrived the next day, they opened the tomb so that he could say his farewell. They found only an empty tomb filled with sweet-smelling flowers. As a Church we continue to bless sweet-smelling flowers in remembrance of this great sign of her holiness.

Come, all you ends of the earth, let us praise the blessed passing of the Mother of God. She delivers her sinless soul into the hands of her Son; through her holy Dormition the world is given new life. With psalms and hymns and spiritual canticles, the whole world celebrates in joy together with the angels and apostles.

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 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM. Father Andrew is available on other days and times by appointment.