

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Schedule of Divine Services

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

Pages for Sunday's Divine Liturgy: Tone 3 pages 135 – 137 & pages 352 - 355

Web Liturgy for Week of August 20, 2023 sponsored by
Joseph Onoffrey

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

13th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Saturday, August 26 5:00 PM +Michael & +Ann Totin by Mary Ellen Totin

Sunday, August 27 9:00 AM +Helen Braszo by Family

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

Regular Offertory	\$3,650.00
Maintenance Fund	510.00
Holy Day	115.00
Peter's Pence	10.00
Loose Cash	5.00
Candles	109.25
Cemetery	95.00
TOTAL	\$4,494.25

Live Stream Donations

\$25 by Joana M. Dizak

\$50 by Oliver & Jean 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 Havrilcsak*, 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

- 20 Agnes Borsh
- 20 Paul & Darlene Chervenak (Anniversary)
- 22 Andrew Glaid V
- 23 Timothy & Gloria Erney (Anniversary)
- 23 Ann Havrilcsak
- 23 Nancy Hosni
- 25 Helen Koval

In person Attendance: *Saturday, August 12: 37; Sunday, August 13: 62*
Feast of the Dormition: AM: **37**; PM: **36**

Live Stream Viewing: *Saturday, August 12: 31 (WS); 20 (FB)*
Sunday, August 13: 51 (WS); 41 (FB)
Feast of Dormition: AM **35 (WS); 21 (FB)**
PM **14 (WS); 7 (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.

ANNUAL PILGRIMAGE TO MOUNT SAINT MACRINA

The Sisters of St. Basil the Great are pleased to announce that the Annual Pilgrimage in honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help will be held at Mount St. Macrina on Friday, September 1 through Monday September 4, 2023.

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.

STUFFED CABBAGE DINNER

We will be having a take-out only Stuffed Cabbage Dinner on Saturday, September 9 and Sunday September 10. The dinner includes: Stuffed Cabbage, mashed potatoes, vegetables, roll & butter. **Price is \$12.00 per dinner. Dinners can be picked up on Saturday, September 9 from 3 – 6 PM and on Sunday, September 10 from 10 AM – 1 PM.** In addition we will be selling quarts of haluski and soup, our kolache and other baked goods as well as raffle tickets.

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

October 21	Fall Craft Show
November 12	Basket Extravaganza

GIFT CARDS AND LOTTERY TICKETS

If anyone is able to donate gift cards or lottery tickets for our raffle trees at the Craft Show & Basket Extravaganza, please put them in an envelope in the collection basket and mark it "Lottery Tree." Thank you in advance for any help you may be able to give.



Attentive to the Word

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

1 Corinthians 15: 1-11

Matthew 19: 16-26

In our Gospel reading this morning we find a rich young man talking to Jesus about a very important matter. This young man is deeply concerned about eternity and wants to know what he must do achieve everlasting life. But when Jesus offers him with some very good advice, the man isn't ready to make that investment.

Jesus wants the rich, young man to take a good look at his present life, at his priorities, and start thinking about changing some of them in order fulfill his desire for everlasting life. Part of what Jesus expects from him is sacrifice.

It is misleading for this young man and us to think that salvation comes without a price. Remember the struggles the disciples went through and the price they paid for following Jesus. They gave up a lot for their salvation. Some of the disciple abandoned their homes and families, some their businesses to follow Jesus. Didn't Peter say that "... we have left everything and followed you. What are we to have then?" (Matthew 19:27 TNJB)

Jesus knew exactly what was important to this rich young man. This young man's biggest obstacle was that he valued his wealth more than God. So Jesus is testing him to see how serious he is about following Him. In order for him to change the course of his life, Jesus tells this young man to sell all he has and follow Him.

Having said that, don't you find it odd that the commandment Jesus gives the rich man does not include the words, "You shall honor no other God but Me." Instead, Jesus tells the rich man to sell all he has and give his money to the poor. Why do you suppose Jesus left out that first and most important commandment? Well, Jesus actually does allude to that commandment but in a roundabout way. By selling all his possessions and giving it to the poor, Jesus was in fact saying, "Get rid of your false god and accept the true God." The rich man needed to let go of his god of wealth so that he could allow the one true God to come into his life. But in order to change his lifestyle, the process had to begin in his mind first. The Greeks call this *metanoia*. In English, repentance.

Towards the end of the Gospel, Jesus tells his disciples that it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for the rich man to enter Heaven. Jesus knew that it is almost impossible for a rich man to give up his wealth even for life everlasting. Jesus said it like this, "Where your treasure is there will your heart be also." If our treasure is in this world where moths consume and rust corrodes, our life will pass away just like our treasure. In order to achieve Eternal life we must seek the "things that do not pass away, that moth and rust cannot consume or thieves break in and steal," That is our number one priority.

Mrs. Jones was asking the local lawyer about the death of the town's richest man. "You knew him well," she remarked, "how much wealth did he leave?" With a tip of his hat the lawyer

replied, "All of it madam, all of it!" That's an important thing to remember when we allow wealth to become our master.

So, once we put our priorities in order and decide to live by them, then and only then will our lives change. That is how Jesus was dealing with the young man. After He advises the rich man to get rid of his wealth, his god, then Jesus beckons the rich man to follow Him. Had the young man followed Jesus advice and began worshiping the true God, eternal life would have been his. But, he bows his head and walks away saddened. But, he still has his money to cheer him up. So, what is it about money that can lead us to lose our salvation? Is money really that evil?

You see, there are two basic attitudes about wealth in the Bible. In the Old Testament wealth is considered a blessing from God. God chose Abram and promised to bless him and make his name great (Genesis 12:1-3). Solomon's wealth was seen as a sign of God's favor (1 Kings 3:13;). Does this mean that God hates poverty? No! Does he begrudge us having money? No!

When Jesus talks about money in the New Testament, it is done mainly with stories or parables, which show the dangers of wealth. i.e. the parable of the seed and the sower. (Luke 8:14); The destructive nature of wealth in the story of the rich farmer (Luke 12:16-21); But in our world wealth and success are a measure one's worth.

Jesus considered money or wealth a spiritual power (Matthew 6:24), an object of worship, and a rival to God. That is why Jesus often asked people to turn away from it not because it was money as such but rather the adverse effect it has on some people. (Matthew 19:21). Look at Zacchaeus. He offered to give half of his possessions to the poor as a sign of his desire to follow Christ. (Luke 19:8). So, the only way to defeat the power of mammon is to give it away (Acts 20:35).

St. Paul also warned against the power of money. In (1 Timothy 6:10 TNJB) he says : "For the love of money is the root of all evils, and there are some who, pursuing it, have wandered away from the faith, and so given their souls any number of fatal wounds." Paul may be implying that people who love money will do anything in order to get it. The desire for money has a way of enslaving the person seeking it. By this parable, Jesus is teaching us that we should never allow money to be our master but rather a servant used for ethical purposes.

Christians are to recognize that God's kingdom is more important than money (Matthew 6:33). God, the owner, gives us material wealth to use, and to share with others in stewardship. Just because we worked hard to amass a sizeable amount of wealth, we must not let that be a justification for spending it all on ourselves. At all times we are to keep in mind that we will one day give account to God for the use of our wealth.

It is perfectly Christian to possess money but not be possessed by it. The pursuit of wealth as an end in itself, shows that we are truly materialistic individuals. We as Christians must guard against the persistent idolatry of materialism that focuses on the material stuff of this world and not on 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 8:30 AM – 1:30 PM. Father Andrew is available on other days and times by appointment.