

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Schedule of Divine Services

Saturday, September 23 5:00 PM +Donald Lebedda by Sandy Hornak

Sunday, September 24 9:00 AM +Luther Bovee by Family

Pages for Sunday’s Divine Liturgy: Tone 8 pages 161-163

Web Liturgy for Week of September 24, 2023 sponsored by
Leonard & Felicia Simko

Sanctuary Candle is lit from September 24 – October 7
sponsored by **Diane Pochron in Memory of +Dr. Patricia Kupec**

18th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS

Saturday, September 30 5:00 PM +Charles Cordell by Kovatch Family & Linda Stofko

Sunday, October 1 9:00 AM +Paul Chekan by Joseph M. Chekan

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

Regular Offertory	\$2,588.00
Maintenance Fund	697.00
Holy Day	252.00
Candles	78.75
Loose Cash	5.00
Cemetery	130.00
TOTAL	\$3,750.75

Special Donation

\$2,500.00 in Loving Memory of +Leonard Stagon by Stagon & Morris Families

*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, Michael & 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

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK

24 Timothy Oriss

24 Shirley Petro

24 Richard & Patricia Goda (Anniversary)

25 Andrew & Tracy Fedoris (Anniversary)

26 Margaret Kardell

29 Steven Dumblosky

30 Thomas Bodnar

In person Attendance: *Saturday, September 16: 37; Sunday, September 17: 63*
Exaltation of the Holy Cross, evening: 16; morning: 16

Live Stream Viewing: *Saturday, September 16: 16 (WS); 6 (FB)*
Sunday, September 17: 67 (WS); 40 (FB)
Exaltation of the Holy Cross: evening: 18 (WS); 7 (FB)
morning: 11 (WS); 4 (FB)

ETERNAL MEMORY

Our parish family extends its sympathy to Timothy Oriss upon the death of his father **Bernard Oriss**, who fell asleep in the Lord on September 13, 2023. *In blessed repose, grant O Lord eternal rest to the soul of Your departed servant Bernard and remember him forever!*

MANY YEARS

Our Parish Family extends our prayerful best wishes to **Joseph Hancharik and Michael Yewcic** who were recently ordained deacons for service in our Archeparchy. *May God grant to Deacons Joseph and Michael peace, health and happiness for many years!*

NEW SEMINARY RECTOR

Our Parish Family extends its prayerful best wishes to **Fr. Ronald Barusefski**, who was appointed the 16th rector of our seminary by Metropolitan William effective September, 18, 2023.

UPCOMING CATHEDRAL EVENTS

October 15	Coffee and Doughnut social
October 21	Fall Craft Show
November 12	Basket Extravaganza

CLOTHING DRIVE

Our parish will hold our annual clothing drive during the *last three weekends of September*. Our past closing drives have been very successful. Let's continue giving to those in need. This year some of the clothes will be given to families from Ukraine who will be settling in the Greensburg area.

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.

"CATHEDRAL KITCHEN"

The "Kathedral Kitchen" has been restocked. We have quarts of *Halushki & Chili, Wedding, Tomato Basil, Potato/Green Bean, Chicken Gnocchi, Stuffed Pepper and Beef Vegetable soups* for \$7. If you would like to buy any please see Patty Bovee or Fr. Andrew.

BASKET EXTRAVAGANZA BASKETS

We will hold our Basket Extravaganza on Sunday, November 12, 2023. We are in need of completed baskets or items to complete a basket. You can contact Diane Pochron at 412-303-6534 for any information or ideas for basket items. Thank you in advance for any help you may be able to give.

FLAVORS OF FALL BUS TRIP

"October in Ohio", Tuesday, October 10, 2023. \$159 per person. Depart Thompson Club at 7:30 AM. For questions or to reserve a place call Carole at 412.462.4590 or Alberta at 412.714.8450. Schedule of places that will be visited on flyer on bulletin board.



Attentive to the Word

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

2 Corinthians 6:16 - 7:1

Luke 5: 1-11

During a period of economic depression in the more distant past a very rich man used his money to help others. Unfortunately, through a serious miscalculation, he himself lost everything he had and was reduced to extreme poverty. Not long after that, the man died. The story is told that, when he faced Christ, he was judged worthy of heaven and given a magnificent mansion. He was greatly surprised to be given this reward. He was also puzzled that the mansion looked and felt so familiar, so "homey." He had seen it before, but where? And then he remembered an orphanage he had financed back in his days on earth when he was wealthy. The mansion was of the same architecture. And he remembered our Lord's words, "What you do for the least of My brethren, you do for Me."

Certainly most of us are not wealthy according to worldly standards. But we are able to and should be building ourselves a spiritual treasure in heaven. It takes money to make money, and it also takes grace to gain grace with God. The obvious difference is that grace is available when money isn't.

We live in a world that is frantic, caught up in hatred, international tensions, racism, murders, robberies and selfishness. The ancient Romans quite succinctly observed, "Homo homini lupus est. Man is a wolf to man". Perhaps our contemporary is the philosophy "dog eat dog." In our hedonistic culture, as in ages past, we uncover little acknowledgement of the blessings of God on man or reverence of man towards his God. We do read a great deal about man's freedom being defined as the ability to do as one wants to do and not as one ought to do. In our contemporary world it has become quite easy to lose a sense of the eternal and spiritual. It becomes easy to ask, "Why be good?" "Why keep the commandments of a God we never see?" "Why adhere to the pastoral

direction of a Church that speaks of virtue instead of earth, pleasure and fulfillment of material needs?" "Why pray?"

Because the world asks such questions, the world cannot give an answer. It is too narcissistic to hear and to understand. When Saint Paul wrote to the Galatians he told them (and us) that a man will surely reap whatever he sows. If he sows in the field of the flesh, he will reap from it a harvest of flesh. But if he sows in the field of the spirit, he will reap everlasting life (Gal. 6:7-9).

Why be morally better than those contaminated with an -attitude of self-indulgence? Because we labor to serve God and to sow for ourselves a great harvest in heaven. Like everything else today, goodness costs dearly. Who can put a price on obedience, respect, kindness, justice, truthfulness, integrity or prayer? These things are all worthless and inhibiting to those who sow in the flesh. When the world sees Christian committed people doing things for God and neighbor, it says, "How silly and how naive; I wouldn't do that even if they paid me." The fact is the committed Christian seeks no remuneration; he does it for God's sake, not looking for payment in kind. The world laughs, as it seems always to have and will, while the good Christian serves his God and stores up spiritual riches.

The world may seem happy now. But in eternity, how long will such light hearted cheer last? Perhaps those faithful to God's holy laws are less happy on earth than a world that is pleasure and leisure mad, a world that cannot satisfy its senses fast and intensely enough - until death's release and the grave's nirvana. But when the world itself will lie quiet in depth and corruption, then those faithful will begin to live. Commitment will turn into joy, sowing into reaping, and time into eternity.

In today's world it is far from easy to be good, to value the spiritual more than the material. It never has been easy! But remember the example of the good people who have gone on before us and who serve as a support and encouragement. Keep in mind the advice of Saint Paul to the Galatians, "Let us not grow weary of doing good; for if we do not relax our efforts, in due time we shall reap our harvest" (Gal. 6:9).

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.