

*Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!*

**Schedule of Divine Services**

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

**Pages for Sunday’s Divine Liturgy: Tone 1 pages 125 – 127 & pages 261 - 262**

Web Liturgy for Week of September October 1, 2023 sponsored by  
**Ronald and Arletta Lutka**

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

**19<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

Saturday, October 7 5:00 PM +Mark Dumblosky by George Serechin  
Sunday, October 8 9:00 AM +Mark Cifrulak by Nancy Cifrulak

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

Regular Offertory	\$2,134.00
Maintenance Fund	505.00
Holy Day	15.00
Candles	121.25
Loose Cash	4.00
Cemetery	35.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$2,814.25</b>

**Special Donation: \$80 given anonymously**

**Live Stream: \$25 Pat Evans**

*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, Patrick Singer, 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

## **OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK**

- 1 Elaine Bogda
- 1 Allison Tima
- 6 William Banyas
- 6 Michael Pochron
- 6 Michael & Karlee Scott (Anniversary)

**In person Attendance:** *Saturday, September 23: 41; Sunday, September 24: 53*

**Live Stream Viewing:** *Saturday, September 23: 23 (WS); 14 (FB)*  
*Sunday, September 24: 62 (WS); 49 (FB)*

## **MANY YEARS**

Our Parish Family extends its prayerful best wishes to **Stephen and Miranda Pavasko** who were united in marriage on September 16, 2023. *May God grant to Stephen and Miranda peace, health and happiness for many years!*

## **ETERNAL MEMORY**

+**Joan Bodnar** passed from this life to the next on September 26, 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 Joan in His Kingdom forever!*

## **SPAGHETTI DINNER**

Ss. Peter & Paul Parish Club, Duquesne extends their sincere thank you to all who supported their successful Spaghetti Dinner.

## **UPCOMING CATHEDRAL EVENTS**

October 15	Coffee and Doughnut social
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.

## **“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.

## **KOLACHE ORDERS**

We are now accepting Kolache orders for Thanksgiving and Christmas. Deadline to order Kolache for Thanksgiving is November 5, 2023. Deadline to order Kolache for Christmas is November 26, 2023. Order sheets are located in the vestibules of the church. *Kolache price will remain \$15.00 each.*

## **BOBALKI ORDERS**

Once again, we will be taking orders for bobalki in 1 pound bags. Each 1# bag will cost \$7. Order sheets are located in the vestibules of the church.

## **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.

## **WINE TASTING**

St. Stephen Byzantine Catholic Church, 90 Bethel Rd., N. Huntingdon invite you to a Wine Tasting, provided by Bushy Run Winery on Saturday, October 7, 2023. The doors to the church hall will open at 6:15 and the event will take place from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. Tickets: \$20.00. For tickets, please call Jodi at 412-554-2390.



# Attentive to the Word

*Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Feast of the Protection of the Theotokos*

*2 Corinthians 9: 6-11*

*Luke 6: 31-36*

Our Gospel lesson takes us back to the very first teachings of Jesus in Galilee, and, in particular, to the Sermon on the Mount in St Luke's abridged version of it". The very short gospel read today (Luke 6:31-36) deals with loving one's enemies. Do unto others as you would that men should do unto you. If you love only those who love you, if you do good only to those who do good to you, if you lend only to those who lend to you, you act no differently from sinners themselves, and nothing more. It is your enemies you must love, you must do good to them, and lend to them, for only in this way will you show yourselves to be children of God, who himself extends his goodness to those who are evil.

The idea of not doing to others what we would not wish them to do to us was familiar to Jesus' Jewish contemporaries, and was part of rabbinical teaching. But Jesus goes beyond this negative precept and requires us to treat others as we would like to be treated by them. However, this new commandment, this positive commandment, risks being misunderstood by us. We might be led into doing good to others in the hope that they would respond by doing good to us, and that there would be some sort of reciprocity between our attitude and theirs. This is why Jesus immediately insists on the principle of disinterestedness. Our love must be freely given and go out to those from whom we expect nothing in return. The climax of today's gospel is the saying: 'Be ye therefore merciful as your Father also is merciful'. Here, we are very far from a trite moral injunction such as: love other people without hoping for reward. For this phrase confronts us with all that is absolute and - though one hesitates to say so - inaccessible in the Christian duty to love. To be merciful as the Father is merciful does not mean that our mercy could ever reach to the infinity of divine mercy; but, that in our own small measure, we should be inspired by the same feelings as the Father; it is from the ocean of the Father's mercy that the minute drops of water which are our acts of mercy must come, and it is into this ocean that they must finally flow. We are not able to perform the merciful acts of the Father, but we can share in his spirit of mercy. A first sign of this spirit is never to think of a man as utterly lost. 'Love ye your enemies . . . hoping for nothing again', today's gospel tells us. This is not a humanitarian and superficial optimism: after all, a man is never entirely bad; he can change. And another thought can inspire our attitude: if God never ceases to do good to a sinner, if he is always ready to open his arms to him, who am I to dare to be stricter than God? Even in the greatest

sinner, the most hardened criminal, the `image of God' is still present. What is important is to know how the `image of God' in me can meet the `image of God' in my enemy - or in a wrong-doer.

*By a Monk of the Eastern Church*

## **FEAST OF THE PROTECTION OF THE THEOTOKOS**

The Church has always glorified the most holy Mother of God as the Protectress and Defender of the Christian people, entreating, by her intercession, God's loving-kindness towards us sinners. The Mother of God's aid has been clearly shown times without number, both to individuals and to peoples, both in peace and in war, both in monastic deserts and in crowded cities. The event that the Church commemorates and celebrates today proves this constant protection of the Christian people by the Mother of God. On October 1st, 911, in the time of the Emperor Leo the Wise (or the Philosopher), there was an all-night vigil at the Blachernae church of the Mother of God in Constantinople. The church was crowded. St Andrew the Fool for Christ was standing at the back of the church with his disciple Epiphanius. At four o'clock in the morning, the most holy Mother of God appeared above the people with a veil spread over her outstretched hands, as though to protect them with this covering. She was clad in gold-encrusted purple and shone with an unspeakable radiance, surrounded by apostles, saints, martyrs and virgins. Seeing this vision, St Andrew gestured towards it and asked Epiphanius: 'Do you see how the Queen and Lady of all is praying for the whole world?' Epiphanius replied: 'Yes, Father; I see it and stand in dread.' As a result, this commemoration was instituted to remind us both of this event and of the Mother of God's constant protection whenever we prayerfully seek that protection, that shelter, in distress.

## **DEANERY PASTA DINNER**

The Pittsburgh Protoperesbyterate (Deanery) invites ALL our faithful to a Deanery Pasta Dinner which will take place at St. Elias Church on Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup>, from 3:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. This pasta dinner will be prepared and served by the priests and deacons in our Pittsburgh deanery. This is a free/free will offering event. ***If you are planning to attend, please use the sign-up sheet in the church narthex by Sunday October 8.***

## **CLOTHING DRIVE**

This is the final weekend we are accepting donations for our annual clothing drive. This year some of the clothes will be given to families from Ukraine who will be settling in the Greensburg area.

## 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.