

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!

Schedule of Divine Services

Saturday, October 21 **5:00 PM** +Carol Serechin by Agnes Borsh

Sunday, October 22 **9:00 AM** +Michael & Anna Szerbin by Michele May

Pages for Sunday’s Divine Liturgy: Tone 4 pages 141 - 142

Web Liturgy for Week of September October 22, 2023 sponsored by
Michael & Mary Novak

Sanctuary Candle is lit from October 22 – November 4
sponsored by **Joseph Onoffrey in Memory of +George & +Catherine Onoffrey**

22nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Saturday, October 28 **5:00 PM** +Joseph Deskevich by Robert & Madeline Martinazzi

Sunday, October 29 **9:00 AM** 40th Day Remembrance of +Michael Matus

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

Regular Offertory	\$3,855.00
Maintenance Fund	469.00
Archdiocesan Charities	20.00
Candles	90.58
Loose Cash	25.00
Cemetery	75.00
TOTAL	\$4,534.58

Special Donations

In Memory of +Joan Bodnar: \$25 by Agnes Borsh; \$25 by Rita Hilla; \$50 by Mike & Diane Pochron

*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

24 Mary Ann Seman

24 Steven & Joann Osheim (Anniversary)

In person Attendance: *Saturday, October 14: 52; Sunday, October 15: 60*

Live Stream Viewing: *Saturday, October 14: 27 (WS); 15 (FB)*
Sunday, October 15: 61 (WS); 43 (FB)

SAINT NICHOLAS CHARITY EVENT

The *Annual "St. Nicholas Celebration"* benefitting the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of Saints Cyril and Methodius **at St. John Cathedral** is Sunday, December 3, 2023. A Moleben will be celebrated at 3 PM in the Cathedral followed by a social hour and dinner in the Center. **Adults tickets are \$45 and children (12 and under) are \$20. All families and parishioners are encouraged to attend. Please see Fr. Andrew for more information. Deadline to order tickets is November 12, 2023.**

SEMINARY BENEFIT RAFFLE

In conjunction with the annual St. Nicholas Banquet, a raffle is being conducted that benefits our Byzantine Catholic Seminary. Each ticket cost \$10 and is based on the PA Daily 3-digit Number. If you are interested in purchasing a ticket, please see Fr. Andrew.

SARRIS' CANDY ORDERS

Order forms for Sarris' Candy are located in the vestibules of the church. Please return order forms by November 12, 2023.

GIFT CARDS AND LOTTERY TICKETS

If anyone is able to donate gift cards or lottery tickets for our raffle trees at the 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.

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

Sunday, November 12, 2023, 12-4 PM, Cathedral Center. There will be 30+ baskets, a variety of vendors, eat in or take out pork chop dinner, 50/50 raffle and more. Tickets must be purchased in advance. For tickets, please call Diane at 412-303-6534. Your place for Christmas gift ideas.

ANNUAL MOLEBEN FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF THE CAUSES

The Annual Marian Moleben for the Causes of Beatification and Canonization of our Four Saintly Ruthenian Byzantine Catholic Bishops: Blessed Bishop-Martyr, Theodore G. Romzha; Blessed Bishop-Martyr, Paul P. Gojdich, OSBM; Blessed Bishop-Martyr, Basil Hopko, and Alexander Chira on **Sunday, October 29, 2023 @ 3:00 p.m.** at Holy Ghost Byzantine Catholic Church, 225 Olivia Street, McKees Rocks. You are cordially invited. Information on the lives of these holy prelates, along with refreshments will be served following the liturgical service. Please help us by your prayers and presence to advance their Causes.

ETHNIC FESTIVAL

St. John the Baptist Church, 201 East Main St. Uniontown, Sunday, October 29, Noon to 5 PM. The afternoon includes ethnic foods, baked goods, entertainment, presentations, craft sales, raffles and more. Everyone is welcome, admission is free.

STEELER TAILGATE PARTY

Sunday, November 19, 2023, 11:30 AM to end of Game. St. John Chrysostom Church, 506 Saline Street. Adults - \$15; Children (age 5-12) - \$8 includes food and non-alcoholic beverage. Additional Football Pools, Raffles and Basket Auctions. **PRESALE ONLY – NO TICKETS WILL BE SOLD AT THE DOOR.** If you are interested in attending, please call John Niskach at 412.209.8397.

VA PITTSBURGH DONATION WISH LIST

VA Pittsburgh Healthcare System depends on the goodwill of benefactors and volunteers who wish to give something back to America's heroes, and they accept material donations to provide enhanced services to Veterans receiving treatment at their facilities. As part of our Parish Philip's Fast almsgiving, we will be collecting items to donate to the Vets. Below is a list of items they could use:

Personal Care Items:

- *Body Wash*
- *Denture Adhesive & Cleaner*
- *Roll-on Deodorant*
- *Combs, Toothpaste*
- *Tooth Brushes*
- *Shaving Cream*
- *shampoo & conditioner*
- *disinfectant wipes*
- *hand sanitizer*
- *tissues*
- *reading glasses*
- *gloves*

Refreshments:

- Chips, pretzels, snack crackers, and granola bars (single serve sizes)
- Sugar in a can
- Soda (two-liter bottles of regular and diet, caffeine free is preferred)
- Raisins
- Pudding cups
- Slim Jims
- Soup Cups

- Coffee (regular or decaf) and coffee creamers
- Grocery gift cards

Assorted Items:

- Disposable cups, napkins, plates, forks and spoons
- Gift Cards for outpatient programs
- Markers for art projects
- Chess and checkers sets
- Books (for the Canteen)
- Puzzle Books
- Large, flat-screen TV (for Wii bowling)
- Karaoke Machine
- Headsets for dialysis patients

NO USED ITEMS ARE BEING ACCEPTED AT THIS TIME.



Attentive to the Word

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Ephesians 2: 14-22

Luke 10: 25-37

What we do to others we do to God (because of God's association with us in the Incarnation of Jesus). What we do to others we do to Jesus. We could say that in many different ways the Gospels put this teaching before us and once again today the Parable of the Rich Man and Lazarus (Luke 16:19-31) asks to reflect on this amazing fact. What we do to others we do to God. What we do to others we do to Jesus. The rich man is not condemned for being rich. Instead he is condemned because he did not show charity to a poor man called Lazarus. Lazarus wanted just the scraps from the rich man's table but we are given the impression that he didn't receive even the scraps.

Notice that there is no mention of poor Lazarus being envious. Envy doesn't enter into the parable at all because in fact the rich man had nothing to make someone envious of him. He had riches, yes, but not true riches. This is clearly seen when both men are in the next life and then we see who has true riches, poor Lazarus, and the rich man has nothing. Even though the rich man appeared to have everything one could want he may have felt quite empty. Money cannot buy everything. This is how Pope Benedict comments on this parable in his book *Jesus of Nazareth* (p 215).

The Lord wants to lead us from foolish cleverness toward true wisdom; he wants to teach us to discern the real good. And so we have good grounds, even though it is not there in the text, to say that...the rich glutton was already an empty-hearted man in this world, and that his carousing was only an attempt to smother this interior emptiness of his. The next life brings to light the truth already present in this life.

It is selfish spending gone out of control that is critiqued by Jesus in his parable. Jesus' teaching asks us to show solidarity and not selfishness. This parable is spelling out of what Jesus means when he says we must love our neighbor as ourselves. We see the same insensitivity of the rich to the situation around them in the first reading also (Amos 6:1,4-7). The Lord said through the prophet Amos that the rich were living lives of luxury and ignoring the collapse of Joseph around them, i.e. ignoring the collapse of Israel (Joseph=Israel). Once again the problem is not the rich being rich, because we see examples in Scripture of the rich doing good. The rich man, Joseph of Arimathea, went to Pilate after Jesus died and asked for the body of Jesus (Matt 27:57). Nicodemus brought a huge amount of myrrh and aloes to anoint Jesus' body after he died showing that he also was a rich man who wanted to use his wealth appropriately (John 19:39). We also see a rich tax collector named Zacchaeus undergoing a conversion experience (Luke 19:1-10).

What is being critiqued in the Scriptures today is when we ignore what is happening around us. Indifference to those who are in need and who are suffering is what the Scriptures put

before us today as sinful. We could put it another way; we cannot go to God without our brothers and sisters around us who are suffering.

Lazarus continues to knock at our door and so the Church has many initiatives to help the poor. How many hospitals, schools, hospices, shelters have been founded by the Church to heed the call of Christ to care for the poor. Saints in this country are known for their care for the poor. In first place we think of the saint nearest to us, St. Elizabeth Ann Seton. She founded a convent in Emmitsburg which became the Sisters of Charity, and she founded a Catholic school in Emmitsburg, the first free Catholic school in the country. From Emmitsburg many other convents and schools were founded so that this part of the country has had a profound influence on the Catholic education of this country. St. Frances Xavier Cabrini founded the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart to help Italian immigrants and by the time of her death she had founded 67 institutions to help them. We think of St. Katharine Drexel dedicating her life to help Native Americans and African Americans. Because the poor man Lazarus continues to knock at our doors in every century in new ways the Church continues to help the poor. So in the latter part of the last century the Vatican founded the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace which is an arm of the Curia to reach out to the poor Lazarus of this world. The annual Peter's Pence Collection is entirely given by the Pope to help the poor of the world. We have many Catholic Church aid agencies scattered throughout the world to help those in underdeveloped countries.

As individuals we also reach out in many ways. Whenever there is a natural disaster or calamity of some kind people are known for their generosity. Some people very generously tithe. In our time we could say that those who are most poor and vulnerable are the unborn. They are the Lazarus knocking on our door for protection. Governments also have many programs to give aid to developing nations but what a pity that some of these programs are tainted by supporting immorality, in particular by not being open to life or by supporting abortion programs in other countries.

What is the parable saying to us? Surely it is asking us to reflect once again on our consumption to see whether it is moderate or gone out of control. Surely it is asking us to reflect on whether we are sufficiently sensitive to the needs of those around us who are suffering in any way. What is being critiqued in the Scriptures today is when we ignore what is happening around us. Indifference to those who are in need and who are suffering is what the Scriptures put before us today as sinful. What we do to others we do to God. What we do to others we do to Jesus.

By Fr. Thomas Lane

HONORING OUR VETERANS AND MILITARY PERSONNEL

On *Saturday and Sunday, November 11th and 12th* our Parish will honor in a special way our Veterans and Military Personnel. This celebration will include prayerful supplications and a blessing at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy. If you served in the armed forces of our country and are planning to attend this celebration, please notify the parish office. We ask that you please submit to the parish office by **Wednesday, November 8th** the names of Veterans in your families (deceased and living).

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.