

*Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever!*

**Schedule of Divine Services**

Saturday, November 18 5:00 PM +Magdaline Ostheim by Elaine & Jane Savko

Sunday, November 19 9:00 AM +Joan Bodnar by Irene Grzyb & Theresa Kiska

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

Web Liturgy for Week of November 19, 2023 sponsored anonymously  
**In honor of Bishop Nil Luschak, OFM**

*Sanctuary Candle* is lit from November 19 – December 2  
 +Joseph & +Ann M. Evans by Evans & Hosni Families

**ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS**

**Monday, November 20, 7:00 PM +Margaret Tima by +Betty Pristas**

**Wednesday, November 22, 7:00 PM Divine Liturgy of Thanksgiving for Parish Family**

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

Saturday, November 25 +Agnes Onofrey by Maryanne (Pavucsko) Sciomacco

Sunday, November 26 +Ronald Lutka by Nicholas & Barbara Sowko

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

Regular Offertory	\$3,616.00
Maintenance Fund	569.00
Holy Day	232.00
Archdiocesan Charities	120.00
Candles	21.00
Loose Cash	30.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$4,588.00</b>

*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:** *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*, Paul Cherep

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

## **NURSING HOMES/REHABILITATION CENTERS/ASSISTED LIVING**

Elsie Urban, Eleanor Chekan, Sue Goda

## **NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES THIS WEEK**

22 Barbara Gomolak

24 Kaylee Scott

25 Andrew Glaid IV

**In person Attendance:** *Saturday, November 11: 38; Sunday, November 12: 75*  
*Archangel Michael & All Angels: 17*

**Live Stream Viewing:** *Saturday, November 11: 21 (WS); 11 (FB)*  
*Sunday, November 12: 48 (WS); 30 (FB)*  
*Archangel Michael & All Angels: 12 (WS); 6 (FB)*

**Special Cemetery Donation: \$30 in memory of +Rudick Family (+Mary, +Andrew & +Evelyn) by Ruth Carroll**

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

## **VISIT BY BISHOP NIL OF MUKACHEVO**

**Bishop Nil Luschkak, OFM**, Apostolic Administrator of the Eparchy of Mukachevo, Sub-Carpathia Ukraine will celebrate the Divine Liturgy in Slavonic on Sunday, November 19, 2023 at the Cathedral. In addition a moleben to Blessed Bishop-Martyr Theodore Romzha will be celebrated at 3:00 p.m. with Bishop Nil as guest homilist. The surrounding parishes and public are invited. A reception with light refreshments will follow the moleben.

## **MANY YEARS**

Our Parish Family extends its prayerful best wishes to **Tyler & Emily (Wahal) Smith** who were united in marriage on November 11, 2023. *May God grant to Tyler and Emily peace, health and happiness for many years!*

### “CATHEDRAL KITCHEN”

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

### KOLACHE ORDERS

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.

### HOLIDAY KOLBASSI SALE

Ss. Peter & Paul Men’s Club, Duquesne is once again selling kolbassi. Cost is \$7/lb. Sign-up sheets are at the church entrances. *Please order by December 3, 2023* and DELIVERY IS SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17 AND SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18 2023. Thank you for your support.

### CHRISTMAS CONCERT

Enjoy a free concert on **Sunday, December 10, 2023 at 3:30 PM – 5:30 PM** at our Cathedral Center as presented by *The East Winds Symphonic Band*. Seating will be on a first-come basis. The concert will be live-streamed on YouTube. Light refreshments will be provided. A forthcoming link to that will be published soon. A free will offering will be welcomed.

### PARISH CHRISTMAS BRUNCH

Our Parish will have its Christmas Brunch on **Sunday, 17 December 2023 following the 9 AM Divine Liturgy**. There are sign-up sheets in the vestibules of the church.

### “NEATH THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM”

The Archieparhial Choir invites all to share the spirit and joy of the Holy Nativity of our Lord on **Sunday, December 17, 2022 at 2:00 PM** at St. Elias Church, Munhall. A hospitality reception will follow. All are welcome.



# Attentive to the Word

25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

*Ephesians 4: 1-6*

*Luke 12: 16-21*

Today Jesus speaks about the attitude his followers should have regarding wealth and possessions. To those who had an abundance of wealth He spoke this parable of a rich fool. The question here is: does the possessor control his wealth or does the wealth control the possessor?

There is no other parable in the gospels which is so full of the words, I, me, my, mine. Instead of finding his happiness in sharing and giving to others, the fool tried to keep his harvest for himself as though his prosperity would never end or he would never have to die. The ancient Romans had a proverb which said that money was like sea water; the more a man drank the thirstier he became.

So long as a man's attitude is that of the rich fool his desire will always be to get more and more - and this attitude is the reverse of the way of Jesus. No possession will ever save us from illness, catastrophe or death. No possession will ever put its arm around us when we are in pain and say, "I care about you - I will stay with you throughout this time of pain and support you." Only a loving person will be there and no one can be paid to love or care.

Jesus sees life and living as far more than possessions. Wealth and possession inherently have the capability of luring a person into a false sense of security. This is directly opposed to the faith that Jesus says is necessary for entry into the kingdom of God.

Faith means that one places one's security in God alone. Faith trusts God in difficult circumstances for one cannot totally rely on persons (even a skilled doctor), institutions or on one's own strength.

Fools, Jesus points out, invest their time and energy in amassing property. The only possessions worth striving for are those which death cannot take away. Wealth can corrupt the best of persons because the possessions can craftily come to possess the possessor and can turn God's world of values upside down. God created mankind in his image in order that mankind might reflect God's creative love to all persons. If one is absorbed in gaining things, persons become manipulated, unimportant and meaningless.

It is tragic beyond words that one may discover too late that one's life has not only been wasted on acquiring things but that there is now no way to change. The cost of foolishness is the loss of eternal life.

*By Father John Krenzke*

## **FEAST OF THE ENTRANCE OF THE THEOTOKOS**

The feast of the Entrance of the Mother of God into the Temple praises and glorifies God for His plan of salvation. God prepares for Himself a holy dwelling place. The Byzantine Church never tires of praising the Mother of God for her role in our salvation. She is called the "Heavenly Tabernacle" in the Kontakion of the Feast, and the "Living Tabernacle of God" in the Hirmos. She

is given these titles because in her womb the Word of God has taken flesh and dwelt among us. Her body is the living tabernacle of the Incarnate Word and, through her, God has taken on our human nature and elevated us to become 'sharers of the divine nature" (2 Peter 1: 4). God, Who is beyond our reach and beyond our grasp, comes to dwell among us. This is God's plan, and in the Virgin Mary, this plan of salvation was achieved. In the Icon of the Entrance of the Mother of God, Mary is shown as a young girl being escorted to the Temple by her parents, Joachim and Anna. She is also accompanied by the holy virgins carrying candles. In all the icons of the Presentation, the High Priest greets the holy family at the entrance of the Temple. The presentation into the temple is the main event, so the figures of the holy family and the High Priest are predominant. The Church honors the Virgin Mary as the God-bearer, (in Greek: Theotokos) the one who, in God's plan of salvation, would give birth to God the Word. In the upper corner of some icons the Virgin Mary is seen already seated in the Temple, and being cared for by the Angels. Thus, Mary, the young girl, is not only presented but also participates in the very task of her temple life. Through the Icon, we celebrate and share this mystery in the life of the Virgin.

TROPARION – "Today is the prelude of the benevolence of God and the herald of the salvation of man, for the Virgin plainly appears in the temple of God and foretells Christ to all. Let us also with full voice cry out to her: 'Hail, Fulfillment of the Creator's Plan.'"

*God With Us Icon Study*

## **THANKSGIVING**

Over four hundred years ago, a small number of grateful Pilgrims gathered in prayerful tribute to God for an abundant first harvest. This launched a meaningful custom which is one of our most cherished holidays, Thanksgiving Day.

Thursday, we celebrate Thanksgiving Day. It is an appropriate time for us to reflect on our blessings. It is a day to express our gratitude to Almighty God for His abundant gifts. He is the source of all blessings, as we pray in the Ambo prayer of the Divine Liturgy. "For every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from You, the Father of Lights."

There is no true prayer without thanksgiving. God expects gratitude. Thanksgiving forces us to take stock of our situations. The blessing we are able to count forces us to conclude we are much better off than we thought we were. Someone once said, "No man is in true health who cannot stand in the tree air of heaven, with his feet on God's free turf, and thank his Creator for the simple luxury of physical existence."

Today we take good things too much for granted. In the hot dry desert when the sun beats down unmercifully, we treasure water more than gold. After being without food for a few days, we know the importance of food. When our pockets are empty, we realize the value of money. When we are ill, we finally acknowledge the wonders of health. We can go on and on to enumerate how we take so many things for granted and it is only when we are deprived of them that we really begin to appreciate them. We do have reason to be thankful, don't we?

## 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.