

September 29, 2019
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost



SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

Fighting the Good Fight with Faith

Glory to Jesus Christ! Glory Forever! ~ Slava Isusu Christu! Slava Na V'iki!
Propers for this Sunday: pp. 156 - 158, Tone 7

Divine Services Schedule:

SUN., SEPT. 29

8:00 A.M.

8:30 A.M.

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST

Holy Rosary

DIVINE LITURGY

+ **Wilma Dobo**, offered by Ed & Isabel Maruhnich

SUN., OCT. 6

8:00 A.M.

8:30 A.M.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST

Holy Rosary

DIVINE LITURGY

+ **Wilma Dobo**, offered by Brenda and Gary Winter

Are you a son of the Most High? – “Lend to those from whom you do not hope to receive in return.” “And what sort of a loan is this,” he says, “to which there is no hope of return attached?” Consider the force of the statement, and you will admire the kindness of the Lawmaker. When you have the intention of providing for a poor person for the Lord’s sake, it is at the same time both a gift and a loan. It is a gift because of the expectation of no repayment. It is a loan because of the great gift of the Master who pays in his place and who, receiving trifling things through a poor person, will give great things in return for them. (*St. Basil the Great, Homily on Psalm 14*)

*Invite others to our Church Services and to our Church events!
Family, friends, those who have fallen away from the Church.*

Happy Birthday Greetings this Week:

September 29: Josephine Mackey, October 1: Pamela Kapaldo,
October 4: Gladys Chabala, Carole Panella

Wedding Anniversaries this Week:

None for the week

Please Pray For Our Sick and Shut-ins

HOME – Eileen Batcha, Natalie Jugan-Diaz, Rebecca Dickun, Marianne Dove, Alice Haber, Jean Herdt, Rebecca Hutcheon, Kevin Joray, Mary Ann Jugan, Neil Jugan, Josephine Maruhnich, Mary Salamon, Bonnie Taylor

Hunter’s Care Home (1916 Main St, Aliquippa, PA 15001) – Mary Poiarkoff

West Hills Health & Rehab Center (951 Brodhead Road, Coraopolis, PA 15108) – Margaret Klacik

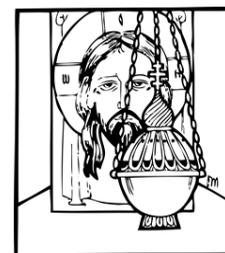
Beaver Meadows (5130 Tuscarawas Rd, Beaver, PA 15009) - Angie Yuhasz

Brighton Rehabilitation and Wellness Center (246 Friendship Cir, Beaver, PA 15009) - Marion Malackanich, Carole Panella,

Epistle Readers – Sept. 29: Louisa Hersh – Oct. 6: Reaghan Cody

Ushers – Sept. 29: E. Maruhnich/M. Bobanic – Oct. 6: J. Yurosky/F. Hersh

Troica Holders – Sept. 29: R. Dzumba – Oct. 6: R. Dzumba



THE SANCTUARY LAMP

September 29 – October 5, 2019

Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:



The Parishioners

(Health & God's Blessings)

Our Church Library, under the mantle of our ECF program, will soon move to its own space where you can sit and read, relax and enjoy coffee. Watch for it and utilize it!



Upcoming Calendar of Events

September 29 Youth ECF Classes, 10:15-11:30
October 1 Protection of the Theotokos Holy Day
October 6, 13, 20, & 27 Youth ECF Classes, 10:15-11:30
October 9, 16, 23 ... Next Live Webinar “Making Disciples, The Art of Bringing Other to Christ”
October 11 Pirohi Sale
October 12 Parish Bon Fire Night (info in bulletin)
November 8 Synaxis of the Archangel Michael Holy Day
November 9 Spirituality Conference (info in bulletin)



Come to the Parish Bon Fire Night, (Vatra*)

Saturday, October 12

6:30 P.M.

Rain Date: October 26

Come hang out with your church family and get warm and toasty by the fire! Bring your folding chairs.

Enjoy some fire grilled hot dogs and tasty s'mores!

Is any pleasure on Earth as great as a circle of Christian friends by a fire?
C.S. Lewis

*Vatra: A bonfire in which Rusyns gather around the fire to share food, music and each other's company.

New!

Upcoming Live Webinar MAKING DISCIPLES

The Art of Bringing Others to Christ
Presented by Rev. Alexander Wroblecky
Wednesdays, October 9, 16, & 23
8:00 – 9:30 P.M. Eastern Time

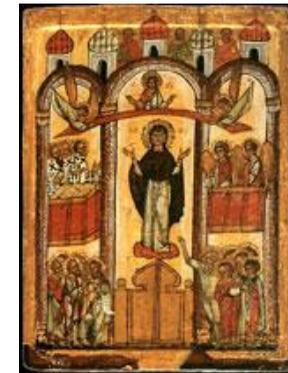
Many faithful Catholics are inspired by the Church's call to a new evangelization, yet don't know where to begin, because evangelization is more of an art than a science. In this 3-part series, Fr. Alex will guide us in how to create room in our communities for people to grow into a mature and life-giving faith.

Register at: <http://easterncatholic.org/events>. All webinars will open 30 minutes ahead of time for questions and pre-class discussion. Please join us! Flyers are available in the Center.

Change takes time but we cannot be afraid – Saint John Paul II

Protection of the Theotokos Holy Day

Tuesday, October 1 is the patronal feast of our sister congregation, St. Mary's in Ambridge. They will be celebrating this feast with a Divine Liturgy at **6:00 PM**. All are warmly welcomed and invited to join them. Fr. Geoff will be the celebrant and Fr. Will Rupp, Director of Spiritual Formation at the Byzantine Catholic Seminary, will be the guest preacher.



The Icon commemorates the Protection of the Mother of God. October 1st remembers this historic occasion in the 10th century in which the Mother of God appeared in the Blachernae Church in Constantinople while the city was under attack and joined in prayer with the faithful, saving them from destruction.

Father Geoff to Attend Retreat

Father Geoff will be joining the other priests and many of the deacons of our Archeparchy for their annual retreat from October 6-10. In your kindness, please keep our clergy in your prayers during this time, that they would be refreshed and renewed and that God would work in them in this time away. In the meantime, should an urgent pastoral need arise, the clergy of Ss. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church have graciously offered to be available. Fr. Michael Polosky, pastor of Ss. Peter & Paul, can be reached at their parish number: 724-266-2262.

Seminary Fundraiser Raffle

The annual GCU St. Nicholas Celebration for the benefit of the Byzantine Catholic Seminary of Ss. Cyril and Methodius will take place on Sunday, December 8, 2019 at St. John Cathedral in Munhall. As they have done in the past, they are including an additional fundraiser to benefit the Seminary: They are holding a raffle in which the winner will receive twelve \$15 gift cards to popular national restaurants in addition to \$1,500 in cash. Each parish has received 14 tickets to sell at \$10 apiece. Please see Father Geoff if you would like to purchase one of these tickets. The winning number is based on the PA Lottery Evening Pick 3 Number drawn on Sunday, December 15, 2019.

Eastern Christian Formation classes began on September 15. Please remember regular attendance of Divine Liturgy along with Sunday school is a very important step in a child's path of Christian faith. If Sunday school is treated as something important, it WILL be something important. Please make the effort to bring your child to Sunday school every Sunday. And everyone can bring friends!

The Golden Rule

What is the Golden Rule? Simply stated the Golden Rule is “*Do unto* others as you would have them do to you.” (Luke 6:31) Sound familiar? In other words, treat other people like you want to be treated. Now what are some ways that we would like to be treated? What kinds of things would you like other people to do to us or for us? Jesus goes on in today’s passage to talk about four things that we should do to others. He said we should love others, do good to them, lend to them expecting nothing in return and be merciful to them.

How can we **love** other people? St. Paul says in 1Corinthians 13:4-7 that “love is patient and kind; love does not envy; does not behave rudely; does not seek its own; is not provoked; thinks no evil; does not rejoice in iniquity, but rejoices in truth; bears all things; believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.”

How can we do **good** to others? Right before Jesus taught the Golden Rule, He told His disciples a couple other things to do to others. Jesus said to ‘bless those who curse you and pray for those who spitefully use you’ (v.28). What does bless mean? It comes from the Greek word ‘eulogia’ which literally means ‘good words’. So, we should only use good, positive, up-building words when we speak to other people.

How can we **lend** to others expecting nothing in return? Whenever someone asks to borrow something from us we can give it to them happily. Jesus is not talking about giving money to panhandlers or to people who will use money for an evil purpose.

How can we be **merciful** to other people? What does ‘merciful’ or ‘have mercy’ mean? It literally means to heal but it also means to forgive.

So what’s the Golden Rule? Do unto others as you would have them do unto you? And what are the four ways we do this? 1) **Love** them, 2) Do **good** to them, 3) **Lend** to them, 4) Be **merciful** to them.

Why should I exercise the Golden Rule? If we do this, if we love our enemies, if we do good, if we lend hoping for nothing in return, especially if we do it to our enemies, that our reward will be great and we will become “children of God”.

Excerpt from Christ Our Pascha – The Fall of the Angels: The fall of the angels was a consequence of pride – self-assertion in opposition to God and in the desire to become his equal. The angels faithful to God spoke out against those who fell: “Who can be equal to God?” “Who is like God?” (in Hebrew, Michael). In the liturgical tradition, the Archangel Michael who led the battle against the fallen spirits, is called Archistrategos Theou, “the chief commander of God’s army.” The Church commemorates the feast of the Archangel Michael and other bodiless powers on November 8/21, and also dedicates to them the Monday of every week. (#143)

“If but ten among us lead a holy life, we shall kindle a fire which shall light up the entire city.”

BYZANTINE SPIRITUALITY

CONFERENCE

“The Journey to Emmaus Continued”

Saturday November 9, 2019

St. John the Baptist Cathedral
Munhall, PA

Mark your calendars and plan on attending. **We would like to have a significant sized group from St. George attend the conference.** Will you to step up and work towards Discipleship for the future of our Churches? Information is available in the Center. We will register as a group. Please see JoAnn Hersh to sign-up. **Flyers are available in the Center.**

October is Respect Life Month: Christ Our Hope: In Every Season of Life

From the time we are knit together in our mothers’ wombs until we take our final breaths, each moment of our lives is a gift from God. While every season of life brings its own challenges and trials, each season also gives us new opportunities to grow in our relationship with God.

Today the gift of life is threatened in countless ways. Those who are most vulnerable, rather than receiving the protection they deserve, are all too often seen as a burden and as expendable. As new attacks on human life continue to emerge, we can be tempted to despair, but Christ instead offers us unflinching hope.

Hope is not false optimism or empty positivity. Christian hope is something much more profound and goes to the very depths of our identity as followers of Christ.

Hope is the virtue “by which we desire the kingdom of heaven and eternal life as our happiness, placing our trust in Christ’s promises and relying not on our own strength, but on the help of the grace of the Holy Spirit” (CCC, 1817).

Like us, Christ entered the world through the womb of a woman. He willingly experienced the fullness of human suffering. He breathed his last on the Cross at Calvary in order that He might save us. Therefore, “God is the foundation of hope: not any god, but the God who has a human face and who has loved us to the end” (*Spe salvi* 31).

Christians know “they have a future: it is not that they know the details of what awaits them, but they know in general terms that their life will not end in emptiness” (SS 2).

For this reason, a woman experiencing a difficult pregnancy can find the strength to welcome her precious child into the world. A man facing a terminal diagnosis can see that the end of his earthly life is only the beginning of eternal life with Christ.

The Church teaches us that “the one who has hope lives differently” (SS 2). Christ’s promise of salvation does not mean that we will be spared from suffering. Rather, the promise of salvation ensures that even in the darkest moments of our lives, we will be given the strength to persevere. By virtue of this Christian hope, we can face any challenge or trial. When the seas of life swell and we are battered by the waves, hope allows us to remain anchored in the heart of God. May we hold fast to Christ our hope, from the beginning of life to its very end.

SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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FAX: 724-375-8776

ST. GEORGE CENTER: 724-375-6652

PARISH WEBSITE: www.stgeorgebyzantinecatholicchurch.org



**Cantors: Jo Ann Hersh, David Klacik,
Louisa Hersh**

**E.C.F. coordinator: Jo Ann Hersh
Facilities Supervisor: John Poiarkoff**

Holy Mystery of Reconciliation.....Before and after Liturgies
Holy Mysteries of Initiation.....Contact the church office
Holy Mystery of AnointingAsk prior to surgery or serious illness
Holy Mystery of MarriageContact the church office eight months prior to wedding
Religious Education Classes.....September through May, following Sunday Divine Liturgy
Pirohi Sales 2nd Friday of each month, Sept. through May
St. George Ladies' Guild & Men's Club..... Everyone welcome to participate

"We need a revolution of Religious education and formation of our membership to understand their baptismal commitment to be part of the Body of Christ and their role as active evangelizers."

Bishop Nicholas Samra