

November 10, 2019
Twenty Second 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 Viki!
Propers for this Sunday: pp. 146 - 148, Tone 5

Divine Services Schedule:

SUN., NOV. 10	TWENTY SECOND SUNDAY after PENTECOST
8:00 A.M.	<i>Holy Rosary</i>
8:30 A.M.	DIVINE LITURGY , <i>Blessing of Veterans</i> Health & God's Blessings for John Simunick, offered by Connie & Francis Hersh
SUN., NOV. 17	TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY after PENTECOST
8:00 A.M.	<i>Holy Rosary</i>
8:30 A.M.	DIVINE LITURGY + Wilma Dobo, offered by Jim & Laura Corrado

Honoring our Veterans and Military Personnel

As a parish family, we come together today to honor all our St. George's Veterans and Military Personnel. If you have served in the armed forces of our country, please come forward at the conclusion of the Divine Liturgy for a special blessing.



Parish Almsgiving Collection

The annual Parish Advent Almsgiving collection will be November 15 through December 15. We will be collecting non-perishable food for the local food bank. A donation box will be in the narthex and in the Center.
Thank you!



Happy Birthday Greetings this Week:

November 10: Alexandra Mackey, November 11: Mary Dickey,
November 15: James Mudron, 65 years!, November 16: Jo Ann Hersh

Wedding Anniversaries this Week:

None for the week

Please pray for our parishioners and friends who struggle with sickness, pain, hardship, or any special need:

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, John Simunick

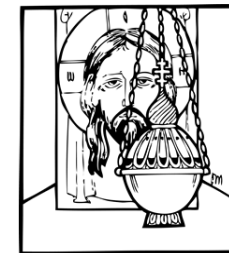
Hunter's Care Home (1916 Main St, Aliquippa, PA 15001) – Mary Poiarkoff

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) - Carole Panella, Bonnie Taylor

Epistle Readers: Nov. 10: Jo Ann Hersh – Nov. 17: Prudence Peya
Ushers: Nov. 3: Nov. 10: J. Yurosky/E. Maruhnich – Nov. 17: R. Mudron/M. Bobanic
Troica Holders: Nov. 10: F. Hersh – Nov. 17: R. Dzumba



THE SANCTUARY LAMP

November 10 - 16, 2019

Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:

+ Mildred Peya
(In Loving Memory)

Offered By:
Daughter, Prudy



WHAT CAN WE DELIGHT IN?

Take delight in all things that surround us. All things teach us and lead us to God. All things around us are droplets of the love of God — both things animate and inanimate, the plants and the animals, the birds and the mountains, the sea and the sunset and the starry sky. They are little loves through which we attain to the great Love that is Christ. Flowers, for example, have their own grace; they teach us with their fragrance and with their magnificence. They speak to us of the love of God. They scatter their fragrance and their beauty on sinners and on the righteous.

- Elder Porphyrios

Our Byzantine Catholic Faith is Life Itself

UPCOMING CALENDAR OF EVENTS

November 10, 17, 24 Youth ECF Classes, 10:15-11:30
November 9 Spirituality Conference
November 15 St. Phillip’s Fast Begins, (Advent)
November 15 Annual Christmas Almsgiving Collection Begins
November 20 6:00 P.M. Vespereal Divine Liturgy, Entrance of the Theotokos Holy Day
November 21 Entrance of the Theotokos Holy Day
December 1 Christmas Market Opens
December 6 St. Nicholas Day
December 8 63rd Annual St. Nicholas Banquet
December 17 Advent Journey: A Pilgrimage through Prophecy, 6:00 P.M. (info in bulletin)
December 22 Annual Christmas Party (Details to follow)

Coming in December!

Advent Journey: A Pilgrimage through Prophecy

Join us here at St. George Church on **Tuesday, December 17 at 6:00 P.M.** for an adult ECF forum. We will "walk" through the Old Testament from the Creation and Fall of humanity, through the calling of Israel, the anointing of Kings, the Prophetic predictions of the Messiah, and end with the Annunciation to Mary and her Visitation to Elizabeth - showing how the coming of Christ is the fulfillment of all of the history of redemption.

*As the harvesters of the Lord’s vineyard, it is **our duty** to be educated and well-informed of our Eastern Catholic faith in order to build up the Kingdom of God and to grow in our own personal relationship with the Most Holy Trinity.*

Byzantine Bakery

We will once again have a Christmas nutroll sale. Nutrolls will need to be ordered in advance and will be \$15.00 each. Orders will be ready for pick-up on Sunday, December 22. Order sheets are in the center and narthex. **Let us do the baking for you!**

The annual Christmas party for the parishes of St. George and St. Mary will be on Sunday, December 22. Details to follow.

And More...

New FREE resource available from our Library: *(In the Center)*

St. Philip’s Fast for Families ~ *Activites for the whole family for the weeks of the St Philip’s Fast from November 15 to December 24. **Please take one!***

A Note from Fr. Geoff

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Last week, as I traveled on business for Trinity seminary, I had a wonderful opportunity to spend an afternoon at a sacred shrine, El Santuario de Chimayo in New Mexico. A little adobe church, El Santuario was built between 1813 and 1816 over the spot where a miracle was said to have occurred:

On Good Friday, 1810, a local landowner saw, in the hills of Chimayo, a patch of land glowing. He began digging in the spot of the light and found, to his surprise, a large crucifix. It was carried 8 miles to the nearest church and set up for veneration, but the next day it was gone - miraculously returned to the spot from which it was dug. This happened three times. After the third time, the local bishop instructed that a church be built over that spot - the church that still stands today.

It's a small place, and very ornate in the folk art style of much Mexican Catholic art - bright colors, stylized figures, sometimes gruesome in detail. Crutches, baby shoes, photographs, and *milagros* left behind by pilgrims witness to the miracles that are said to take place at this holy shrine. I knelt at the site where the cross had been found, to the left of the main altar, and prayed for those back home before taking some of the sacred dirt to bring back for our family icon corner.

What strikes me whenever I have the good fortune to visit holy sites in various cultures is how *different* our spiritualities can be. The polychrome, graphic nature of Mexican art is so vastly different from our staid and stoic Byzantine iconography. How different is the music of a festive Spanish folk Mass from our heritage of Carpatho-Rusyn plainchant! And yet, beneath the surface, there is something profound that holds us all together in the Christian Faith. St. Paul wrote, "There is one body [the Church] and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all." (Eph. 4.4-6)

And this diversity, far from being a cause of division in the church, is actually a sign of the *catholicity*, the *universality* of the Church. Christ came to redeem all of humanity in our various cultures and contexts. It is this diversity of spirituality within the one Catholic family that enables the Word of God to be proclaimed and heard throughout the world. Let us give thanks for the many gifts of the Holy Spirit which find expression in many and various ways! Gloria a Jesuchristo! Gloria por siempre!

In Christ's Love and Unity,
Fr. Geoff

Nativity Fast Nov.15 - Dec.24

The six weeks prior to Christmas (the Nativity of our Lord in the Flesh) is a fasting period that many call Advent. Advent means “coming.” It is that period of time when we find ourselves waiting for the coming of the Messiah, the Anointed One, the Christ. (All three terms mean the same thing.)

For most of us, we are anxious to get to the feast — we want the days to rush by. Our preparation usually consists of shopping and decorating, not to speak of the endless parties that we are invited to attend. Here is where the notion of waiting comes into play. We must discipline ourselves through self-control and patience. We are to read the Scriptures, specifically the prophecies that speak of the coming of the Messiah. We are to turn our focus to a Godly way of life that calls for sacrificing and almsgiving (acts of mercy). Let us think of charity and the giving of our time, talents, and resources to others that may be in need. There is no better way to imitate Christ than to be loving and charitable towards others.

A word to the wise — put Christ back into Christmas. Find the meaning of the feast by understanding the importance of the Son of God taking on human flesh. Remember the real reason for the season is that Jesus, the Son of God, the Messiah, came into the world and dwelt among men, taking on Himself the sins of the world so that we might have life in Him.

During this fast it was the custom to observe a strict abstinence on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday and a lesser abstinence (mitigation from wine and oil) on Tuesdays and Thursdays. The Ruthenian Metropolia has identified this period as a penitential season. This fast may be observed voluntarily, partially or in its entirety.

Christmas Altar Candles

A sign-up sheet is now available to donate altar candles for Christmas in memory of a deceased loved one or friend or for the health and well-being of a loved one or friend.

Advent Day of Reflection

The Sisters of St. Joseph in Baden invite you to ease into the Advent season with an unhurried, prayerful day with them on Sunday, December 1, from 1:00 to 4:00 PM. Following a brief prayer service, you will have the option of private reflection or time to enjoy soft music, wine, and cheese. Bring your Christmas cards and addresses and get started! We'll even have some Christmas cards designed by our sisters available for purchase. This is a **free** event, but please register online at <https://www.stjoseph-baden.org/event-calendar/> or call 724-869-2151.



You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.

Twenty Second Sunday after Pentecost

At that time, a lawyer stood up to put Jesus to the test, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” He said to him, “What is written in the law? How do you read?” And he answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” And He said to him, “You have answered right; do this, and you will live.”

If you do not love your neighbor you do not love the Lord

The Lord teaches that the man going down was the neighbor of no one except of him who wanted to keep the Commandments and prepare himself to be a neighbor to everyone that needs help. This is what is found after the end of the parable, “Which of these three does it seem to you is the neighbor of the man who fell among robbers?” Neither the priest nor the Levite was his neighbor, but – as the teacher of the law himself answered – “he who showed pity” was his neighbor. The Savior says, “Go and do likewise.” (Origen)



Excerpt from Christ Our Pascha

The Consequences of the Fall. As a consequence of sin, the human will to choose good was weakened and the inclination toward evil increased. Through sin, we found ourselves in a state of interior division, as the *law of sin* within us op-posed the *law of God*. Then, as the holy apostle Paul teaches, we do not do the good that we love, but rather the evil that we hate (see *Rom 7:19-21*). “Instead of the visible Eve, I have the Eve of the mind: the passionate thought in my flesh, showing me what seems sweet; when-ever I taste from it, I find bitter.” (#150)

Lifting Our Hearts to God From the Depths - St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Aleppo welcomes you to "**Lifting our Hearts to God from the Depths**," an evening of Adoration presided by Father Boniface Hicks, OSB. Fr. Boniface, a monk of St. Vincent's Archabbey in Latrobe, is the director of Spiritual Formation at St. Vincent Seminary, the General Manager of We Are One Body (WAOB) Catholic Radio, and the co-author of *Spiritual Direction: A Guide for Sharing the Father's Love*. This event will be held on **Friday, November 15** at **St. Mary's Church**, 444 Glenfield Road, Sewickley, PA 15143 at **7:00 PM**.

Book Launch: The Lord's Prayer

Dr. Wesley Hill, a resident of Ambridge and a colleague of Fr. Geoff at Trinity seminary, will host a book reading, wine reception, and book signing of his forthcoming new book, ***The Lord's Prayer: Praying the Our Father***. This event will be held at 7:00 PM at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 325 Oliver Ave. in Pittsburgh. Copies of the book will be available for \$10.00.

SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH



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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

“God is with us! Give ear O you nations, be humbled, for God is with us!” (Isaiah 8:9)