

June 11, 2023
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!
Слава Иисусу Христу! Слава на вики!*

Proprs for this Sunday: See handout

Divine Services for the Week:

SUN., JUNE 11
8:30 A.M.

SECOND SUNDAY after PENTECOST
DIVINE LITURGY

+ Roberta Dzumba, 20th year after passing, offered by husband, John Dzumba

SUN., JUNE 18
8:30 A.M.

THIRD SUNDAY after PENTECOST, Father's Day
DIVINE LITURGY

+ For our deceased Fathers, Grandfathers, and Godfathers
God's Blessings for our Fathers, Grandfathers, and Godfathers

Some May Wonder

Peter and Andrew scarcely had any possessions. Just how much did they leave behind when the Lord called them to follow him? On this point we should look at their actions rather than at the level of their wealth. A man who has little and gives up everything to follow the Lord leaves behind a lot. Peter and Andrew left behind a lot. Yes, they left behind their meager material possessions (and for them that was a lot). But they also left behind something more – the very desire to own (which can lead to extreme greed, which is called covetousness). What will you leave behind to follow Christ? Are you attached to Christ or your stuff? Choose one.

Слава Иисусу Христу! Слава на вики!

Happy Birthday Greetings:

June 13: Dwight Dickey, June 14: Michael Bobanic, June 16: Gretchen David

Wedding Anniversaries:

None for the week

Please Pray For Our Sick and Shut-ins

Eileen Batcha, Rebecca Dickun Marianne Dove, Jean Herdt, Rebecca Hutcheon, Kevin Joray, Mary Ann Jugan, Neil Jugan, Mary Salamon, Marian Yurosky

Josephine Maruhnich – **Beaver Elder Care** (616 Golf Course Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001)

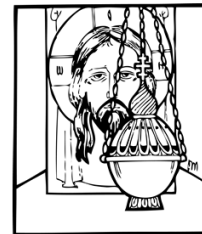
Betty Polas – **Apple Blossom Senior Living** (125 Apple Blossom Way, #307, Moon Twp., PA 15108)

Carol Huchko – **Concordia at Villa St. Joseph** (1040 State St, Baden, PA 15005)

Epistle Readers – June 11: JoAnn Hersh – June 18: Louisa Hersh

Ushers – Stand in as needed

Troica Holders – June 11: F. Hersh – June 18: M. Bobanic



THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP

June 11 - 17, 2023

Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:

Our Parishioners
Living and Deceased

Truth to Live by

Honor the Lord with your wealth and with the first fruits of all your produce; then your barns will be filled with plenty, and your vats will be bursting with wine.

(Proverbs 3:9,10)

Teachings of Christ the Savior

"Truly, truly, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."

(John 6:53-54)

Flea Market flyers and yard signs are available in the narthex and Center. Please take some to help advertise.



Father's Day Breakfast Next Sunday



Join us for a nice sit-down breakfast for Father's Day following the Divine Liturgy next **Sunday, June 18**. Our hard-working cooks will prepare this delicious **homemade** breakfast in honor of our fathers, grandfathers, godfathers, and those who play a fatherly role in our lives. Whether your father is with you or not, join us in their honor. *Everyone is invited!*

Flea Market Fast Approaching!

Our Flea Market, Haluski, and Bake Sale is coming up **Friday & Saturday, June 23 & 24**. We will need plenty of advertising for this event. We will need signs in the community, ads in the paper, notices on Facebook, flyers on community bulletin boards or at your place of employment, etc. Yard signs are now available, please take some and place them in your neighborhood and at nearby intersections. Any of these you can help with will be greatly appreciated. *Thank you!* Don't forget we will also need Bake Sale items, so please consider baking. Your help will be greatly appreciated. **Setting up of the Flea Market will begin on Monday, June 19.** *Thank you!*



Help spread the word! Advertise!

Donations for the Flea Market are still very welcome. Consider donating items.

Flyers and yard signs are available in the narthex and Center. Please take some to help advertise.

A Note from Fr. Geoff

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

St. Paul's Letter to the Romans is the longest epistle in the New Testament and is not the easiest book to read. Paul's reasoning on law and gospel, grace and nature can be complex and difficult to understand. How this epistle is interpreted is part of what can sometimes divide Christians of various ecclesial communities.

But in our epistle reading for this Sunday, one of the things St. Paul writes about is the judgment of those who are "apart from the Law" - that is, the Gentiles, the non-Jewish people. The Jews, of course, are God's people; they have been given the Torah, the Law. This was God's own instructions, both moral and ceremonial, regarding how he expected his chosen people to live, worship, and behave. So the question at hand was: does God judge non-Jews according to a Law which they were not given? And St. Paul answers: No. *"When Gentiles, who do not have the Law, do by nature things required by the Law, they are a Law for themselves."* (Rom. 2.14). In other words, God is **just**, he is fair. He does not judge people based on what they have not had access to.

But this idea of having the Law "written on our hearts" isn't only about Jews and Gentiles. God's plan from the beginning was that, eventually, when the Spirit is poured out on all people, we will not have to follow merely external and imposed laws, but we will be so immersed in the Lord that God's Law will be written deeply in our hearts.

The Prophet Jeremiah proclaimed: *"This is the covenant that I will make with the people of Israel after that time," declares the Lord. "I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will they teach their neighbor or say to one another, 'Know the Lord,' for they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest."* (Jeremiah 31.33)

This is an appropriate truth to meditate on in these weeks after Pentecost, when the Spirit of God was given to us. Christ taught us that the *greatest* of all the commandments of the Law was that we should love God above all and love our neighbors as ourselves. *"On these two commandments," Jesus says, "hang all the Law and the Prophets."* (Matt 22.37-40) And St. Paul writes to the Romans that, *"The love of God has been poured into our hearts."* (Romans 5.5)

So let us consider the wonderful truth that this Law of Love has been given to us. He has poured his *own life of love* into our hearts and given us ears to hear his Word. He has given us his Spirit to empower us. And he has written his Law in our hearts.

Lord Jesus, ever increase in us a knowledge of and desire for your Law of Love. Give us ever deeper understanding of your truth. And make us ever more ready and willing to seek and serve you with reverence for our neighbors.

Yours in Christ,
Fr. Geoff

M	I	W	E	R	D	N	A	P	M
S	U	L	E	D	E	B	E	Z	E
E	J	A	M	E	S	T	N	E	U
E	A	E	N	I	E	H		B	A
D	E	E	A	R	O	J	H	U	N
E	M	L	R	J	E	N	A	L	R
B	S	I	M	O	N	P	I	U	E
E	I	L	A	T	H	P	A	N	P
Z	N	A	D	R	O	J	S	C	A
N	U	G	U	B	E	Z	I	N	C

GALILEE CAPERNAUM ZEBULUN
NAPHTALI JORDAN ISAIAH
SIMON PETER ANDREW
JAMES ZEBEDEE JOHN

Second Sunday after Pentecost

Jesus said to them: “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.” They immediately left their nets and followed Him. - Mt. 4:19-20

On this Second Sunday of Pentecost, we listen carefully to the Gospel reading from the holy apostle and evangelist Matthew (4:18-23) in which we witness the calling of the first apostles: Andrew, Simon-Peter, James, and John.

There is a story about a little bird lying on its back in a field, its legs stretched up to the sky. Another bird saw this and landed next to it. “Little brother,” he said, “What are you doing?” “Hush,” the bird on its back said, “Don’t disturb me. It might be fatal for all of us!” “What are you doing?” “Don’t you understand,” the bird answered, “I am carrying the sky. If I turn around, it will crash all over us.” At that moment a gust of wind blew through a nearby tree. A branch fell off with a big crack and landed just behind the bird on its back. The frightened bird turned around and flew off. The sky remained in its place! In many cases we act as if we are carrying the whole world on our shoulders. We shouldn’t. It will wear us out in no time.

Our Lord did not want to be left all by Himself when he started His ministry among us. One of the first things He did was to find some company. He needed comfort and support in his human nature. He had company around Him up to the last moment of His earthly life. In the garden of Gethsemane, He pleaded with the disciples to remain with Him and not to fall asleep. From the cross, He was comforted by the compassion of the murderer on His side and by the presence of His mother Mary and the beloved disciple John.

He advised us not to remain alone on our way. He tells us to come to Him to ease our burden. If we all go to Him, we also come together to carry the weight of our task in this world side by side. Only in that way will we be able to work in the direction of the realization of God’s vision for us, a peaceful and just world, the reign of God.

Remember the words of Our Savior: “I shall be with you all days.” It is in Jesus’ continuing presence that we find the courage to follow Him. Are we making the daily effort to realize that presence with us?



Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men.

About Byzantine Catholics...

Byzantine Christian Worship: God With Us



Byzantine Catholic worship joyfully celebrates the presence of the Kingdom of God on Earth in and through its divine services and liturgical life. Byzantine Catholics are witnesses to the reality of the Resurrection and Ascension of Christ, and follow Christ, in and with Him, to His heavenly Kingdom in the Divine Liturgy, the principal liturgical service of the Byzantine Church. In the Divine Liturgy, we begin worship by assembling together as the Body of Christ and celebrating the presence of Christ among us with psalms and hymns. Standing attentively in His presence, we are taught by His Words in the Epistle and Gospel and learn how to apply the Gospel to our lives in the sermon. We then respond to God by freely offering the sacrifice of our own lives to Him in the form of bread and wine, and, uniting our sacrifice with Christ’s own eternal sacrifice, we ascend with and in Christ to His table in His heavenly Kingdom, where He feeds us with the gift of His Body and Blood, transforming us into His Body, making us bearers of Christ and partakers in His nature, and uniting us with Him in His Kingdom. Following the Divine Liturgy, we return to the world as “witnesses to what we have seen” in the unfolding of the Kingdom of God before our eyes, and as missionaries to the world, sanctifying it with the presence of Christ.

Byzantine Catholic worship also celebrates the time of salvation in which we live, sanctifying the time of the world with the presence of Christ at regular periods each day. For Byzantine Christians, following the Jewish tradition of reckoning time, the day begins at Vespers, the ancient service of evening prayer which makes present the finality of the present world and the dawn of the eternal new day in Christ, celebrating the birth of the Kingdom of God which itself begins with the end of this world, with the ‘evening’ of this world. At Vespers, we chant psalms and hymns that celebrate the creation and fall of this world, and its redemption, renewal and transfiguration inaugurated by Christ’s Death and Resurrection. At Dawn, the Byzantine Church runs to greet the Risen Lord in the prayer service of Matins (Greek: Orthros), where the dawn of new life made possible through the Resurrection of Christ is made present in psalms, chants and hymns. At Matins, we praise the dawn of the ‘day without evening’ and glorify God who has fulfilled all things in Himself. During the course of the day, the Byzantine Church remembers the saving presence of God, and in particular the events of Christ’s suffering passion for us, in a series of brief services known as the Divine Hours.

Byzantine Christians, in celebrating the divine presence among them at worship, recognize this presence in all senses and forms of expression, realizing that with the advent of His Kingdom, Christ has filled all things with Himself, and made all things sacred and beautiful in His sight. Byzantine Christian worship is therefore holistic in content and expresses and manifests this beauty in various forms -- ancient sacred religious poetry and hymns, moving chanting styles, bright, brocaded vestments, the burning of incense, the use of candles, the veneration of icons. The Byzantine Christian worships God with his whole person, and recognizes the presence of God in all of his senses, bearing witness to the fact that, in Christ, there is no distinction between ‘sacred’ and ‘profane’, but that in the Kingdom of God, which is manifested in this world by the Church, all things are fulfilled in Christ to be what they were created to be – namely, a means of communion with Him.



ST. GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

1001 Clinton Street- Aliquippa, PA 15001

PASTOR: FATHER GEOFFREY MACKEY

Fr. Geoffrey's Direct Line: (412) 356-3698

OFFICE PHONE: 724-375-2742

FAX: 724-375-8776

ST. GEORGE CENTER: 724-375-6652

PARISH EMAIL: stgbyz@gmail.com

PARISH WEBSITE: www.stgeorgebyzantinecatholicchurch.org

Religious: Sr. Mary Virginia O' Carm

Holy Protection Convent, 1000 Clinton St. 724-378-0238



Cantors: Jo Ann Hersh, Louisa Hersh, David Klacik Facilities Supervisor: John Poiarkoff

Grounds Keepers: Rich Mudron, Rob Dzumba, Francis Hersh

Holy Mystery of Reconciliation Before and after Liturgies, or by appointment

Holy Mysteries of Initiation Contact the pastor

Holy Mystery of Anointing Contact the pastor prior to surgery or in the event of illness

Holy Mystery of Marriage Contact the pastor six months prior to wedding

Pirohi Sales 2nd Friday of each month

St. George Ladies' Guild & Men's Club Everyone welcome to participate

Opportunities for StewardshipChurch and grounds cleaning and maintenance: Every Saturday,

Pirohi making: 2nd week of each month.

"Every time the Gospel is preached, I see no one else but Peter or Andrew and the whole choir of Apostles spread out the Evangelical Net" (or the Net of the Gospel). St. John Chrysostom