

November 12, 2023
Twenty-Fourth 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!

Proper for this Sunday: Resurrectional Tone 7, pp. 156 - 158

Divine Services for the Week:

- SUN., NOV. 12**
8:30 A.M.
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST
DIVINE LITURGY
+ Alice Haber, 3rd year after passing, offered by daughter, Darlene & John Simunick
- SUN., NOV. 19**
8:30 A.M.
TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST
DIVINE LITURGY
+ George David, offered by Butch & Judy Dzumba
- MON., NOV. 20**
6:00 P.M.
ENTRANCE of the THEOTOKOS HOLY DAY
VESPERAL DIVINE LITURGY
+ George Peya, offered by daughter, Prudy

(At St. Mary: Tue., Nov. 21, 6:00 P.M. Divine Liturgy for Entrance of the Theotokos Holy Day)

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

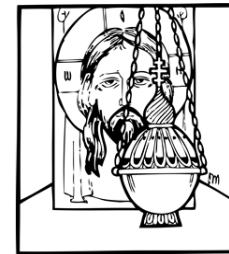
The Lord teaches that the man going down was the neighbor of no one except of him who wanted to keep the Commandments and prepare himself to be a neighbor to everyone that needs help. This is what is found after the end of the parable, “Which of these three does it seem to you is the neighbor of the 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)

Happy Birthday Greetings:
November 15: James Mudron, November 16: Jo Ann Hersh

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
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 – November 12: Joanne Futato – November 19: Dan Pinchot
Ushers – Stand in as needed
Troica Holder s – November 12: R. Mudron – November 19: F. Hersh



THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP
November 12 - 18, 2023

Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:

+ George Seech
(In Loving Memory)

Offered By:
Butch & Judy Dzumba

Practical Questions:

Is it easy to love God with our whole heart, and with all our soul, and with all of our strength and with all of our mind?

If someone loves God with their whole self, will he have any love left for others?

What are some real and practical ways that we can “love God?”

What is the relationship between the Divine Liturgy and the love of God?

Our Byzantine Catholic Faith is Life Itself

Book Study:

This Is My Body: A Call to Eucharistic Revival at St. Mary's concludes **TODAY** at 3:00.

***The Story of Scripture, Part 1 Bible Study at St. George continues
November 22 and December 13 at 6:00 PM***

20th Annual St. Matrona Cookie Walk

Ss. Peter & Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church (220 Mansfield Blvd., Carnegie) will be holding their 20th annual St. Matrona Cookie Walk on Saturday, December 9 from 10 AM - 2 PM (or until sold out). A variety of Eastern European holiday cookies, traditional favorites, homemade nut rolls & gluten free cookies will be available. Most cookies sold by the pound. For questions, email: smladiessociety@gmail.com.

Free Christmas Day Dinner in Beaver Falls

Christian Assembly in Beaver Falls will be hosting their 30th annual Free Christmas Day Dinner so that folks without family or friends will not have to be lonely or hungry on Christmas Day. They are looking for donations of new clothing: sweat shirts, sweat pants, blankets, gloves, hats, scarves, and socks for all ages, birth to adult. If you'd like to donate, please call their CARE Outreach ministry at 724-846-3751. If you'd like to volunteer, please contact Darcy Casey at 724-333-1375.

A Note from Fr. Geoff

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

As we continue this "month of thanksgiving," I want to share with you another section of the Akathist of Thanksgiving. This portion (Kontakion 4) speaks of the great graces we receive when we meditate and contemplate the Lord and when we converse with him in prayer.

***What sweet delight you give to them who think of you,
How life-creating is your holy Word.
Softer than oil and sweeter than honeycombs is converse with you.
Prayer to you takes wing and quickens;
With what dread is the heart then filled
and how all life and nature become then wise and magnificent!
Where you are not, there nothingness.
Where you are, there wealth of soul.
There the song pours forth in a living cascade: Alleluia!***

C.S. Lewis once said that he believed in Christianity in the same way he believed in the sun: not just because he could see it, but because by its light, he could see everything else.

So it is with the Lord. We believe in him, yes. And we cling to him in prayer. But also *by* our clinging to him and our belief in him, we come to understand the deeper meaning in everything else. As the Akathist says, prayer takes wing and "how all life and nature become then wise and magnificent!" By being in close communion with the Lord, even the world around us becomes a book of wisdom and a source of ongoing prayer.

As we look forward to Thanksgiving, let us give thanks that God has provided a way for us to be in intimate and loving communion with him. Let us not look on our prayer as an obligation or a drudgery, but as a means to beholding the beauty of the Lord who loves us and desires us to be close to him.

Gratefully yours,
Fr. Geoff

Слава Иисусу Христу! Слава на вики!

S	D	N	A	G	I	R	B	I	N
R	U	O	B	H	G	I	E	N	A
E	R	E	R	S	N	D	A	H	R
T	E	L	E	V	I	T	E	E	I
S	T	T	Y	P	I	N	G	R	T
A	E	S	W	R	N	I	T	I	A
M	N	A	A	I	B	E	E	T	M
Y	R	M	L	E	L	I	F	R	A
W	A	L	A	S	I	R	P	I	S
S	L	T	E	T	E	R	N	A	L

LAWYER
ETERNAL
BRIGANDS
LEVITE

MASTER
LIFE
BEAT
SAMARITAN

INHERIT
NEIGHBOUR
PRIEST
INN

Twenty-Fourth 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 read today’s Gospel reading carefully, you will see that the Samaritan was enlightened! While the Priest and Levite were blind to the needs of the other, the Samaritan was able to SEE. He perceived the situation and used his mind to come to a good conclusion. This means that he was not ruled by his mind, but by the deeper reality of his human nature, the image of God within. The Samaritan was awake... The eye of his soul was open. The Samaritan was not so busy thinking that he could not perceive the value of the moment at hand, “There is no place more important to be than here, no one more important than this poor man who is bleeding by the road and nothing more important for me to do than care for this one who is in need.”

By the Samaritan’s gracious response we know what Christ intended to show us. The Good Samaritan had come to be a lover of God. He had learned how to be love. You see, the mind, if not watched, is always trapped in the past or the future, but the awakened eye of the soul perceives each moment and knows it to be the only thing that is real. We “run from silence” by refusing to live in the moment. The Priest and the Levite could not wait to be somewhere else, but the Samaritan knew there was no place else to be, in truth, than where he was. A great theologian, Metropolitan Kallistos tells us that the way to recognize the voice of the devil and the voice of the Lord is this: the devil always says, “Yesterday” or “Tomorrow”, but the Lord Jesus always says “TODAY”! He also writes that “the great tragedy of the fall is that we are not able to be fully present in the moment in which we live.”

To love the Lord with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength it is necessary to be to fully awake to every moment, to be at peace within and to love silence. It calls to mind the famous words of our venerable father Seraphim of Sarov, “Make peace within and thousands around you will be saved.”



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.

Nativity Fast Nov.15 - Dec.24

November 15 marks the beginning of our journey through the PHILIPPIAN FAST. It is called the Philippian Fast (*Filipovka* in Church Slavonic) since it begins the day after the Apostle Philip’s Feast. It is comparable to the Western Rite’s Advent Season. The Byzantine Catholic Church does not use the Latin Language to describe this penitential season, since its traditional language is based on the Greek. This minor penitential period directs us to prepare ourselves for the spiritual meaning of Christmas. May we allow Him to be reborn in our souls by sanctifying the temple of our Body. Through prayer, abstinence, almsgivings of mercy, frequent confession of sins, and additional attendances at the Divine Liturgies we can accomplish this end.



Together as a parish, let us collectively join to practice simple abstinence (no meat) or an equivalent penance on Wednesdays (recommended) and Fridays (required) for the intention for the return of our beloved back to the fullness of the Faith.

The Promise of the Messiah’s Coming

The fall of Adam did not turn away the love of God for humanity. God shows mercy to the fallen human race: “And the Lord God made garments of skins for the man and for his wife, and clothed them” (Gn 3:21). By offering the promise of salvation, God assures us that with respect to our growth in God-likeness, divine adoption, and divinization, God’s plan remains immutable. The power of God’s promise is stronger than the weakness of human sin: “[We] have gained still greater things through Christ’s unspeakable grace than we had lost through the devil’s malice.”¹³⁵ In the Old Testament preaching of the prophets, God’s promise is gradually associated with the figure of God’s Anointed One, the Messiah, who “in the fullness of time” (see Gal 4:4) appears as the incarnate Word of God.

Stay for Fellowship Hour

We extend a warm welcome to our parishioners, visitors, and friends. We are thankful that you have come to worship with us today. We invite you to extend to join us following the Sunday Divine Liturgy for Fellowship Coffee and doughnuts every Sunday!

We invite **EVERYONE** to **STAY** and join us.



ST. GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH



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Religious: Sr. Mary Virginia O' Carm

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



Cantors: Jo Ann Hersh, Louisa Hersh, David Klacik, Dan Pinchot

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 Stewardship Church and grounds cleaning and maintenance: Every Saturday,

Pirohi making: 2nd week of each month.

How is the Divine Liturgy the first way in which we can begin to love our neighbor?