

August 10, 2025

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost/Post-Festive Day of the Transfiguration



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: Resurrectional Tone 8, Pg. 161. For the Transfiguration: pg. 350

St. George Divine Services for the Week:

SUN., AUG. 10 NINTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST
POST-FESTIVE DAY of the TRANSFIGURATION

8:30 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY
For the People of St. George, St. Mary, and St. Nicholas Chapel

TUE., AUG. 12 Holy Martyrs Photius and Anicetus

6:00 P.M. DIVINE LITURGY
+ Sr. Rose Elizabeth, requested by Sr. Mary Virginia

WED. , AUG. 13 Leave-taking of the Transfiguration

7:00 A.M. First & Third Hours

THUR., AUG. 14..... DORMITION of the THEOTOKOS HOLY DAY, *Anticipated*

9:00 A.M. Paraklesis
5:00 P.M. Great Vespers with Litija for the Dormition
6:00 P.M. DIVINE LITURGY, Procession with Dormition Shroud,
Blessing of flowers & herbs, Obligation
Private Intention, requested by Jocelyn Sabol

SUN., AUG. 17 TENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST
POST-FESTIVE DAY of the DORMITION

8:30 A.M. MATINS
10:00 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY
+Mary and Michael Popovich, requested by Mary Ann and Diane

Birthdays

None for the week

Wedding Anniversaries:

None for the week

Please Pray for Our Sick, Shut-ins, and those in need of prayer

Eileen Batcha, Rebecca Dickun, Marianne Dove, Joanne Futato, Jean Herdt, Rebecca Hutcheon, Kevin Joray, Mary Ann Jugan, Neil Jugan, Mary Elizabeth Olack

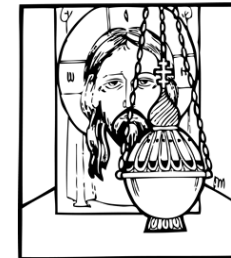
Josephine Maruhnich – **Beaver Elder Care** (616 Golf Course Road, Aliquippa, PA 15001)

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

Epistle Readers – August 10: Dan Pinchot – August 17: JoAnn Hersh

Ushers – Stand in as needed

Troica Holders – August 10: F. Hersh– August 17: R. Mudron



THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP

August 10 - 16, 2025

Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:

+ Connie Hersh

(In Loving Memory)

Offered By:

Joanne Futato

It is Good for us to be Here -Therefore, since each of us possesses God in his heart and is being transformed into his divine image, we also should cry out with joy: *It is good for us to be here* – here where all things shine with divine radiance, where there is joy and gladness and exultation; where there is nothing in our hearts but peace, serenity and stillness; where God is seen. For here, in our hearts, Christ takes up his abode together with the Father, saying as he enters: *Today salvation has come to this house*. With Christ, our hearts receive all the wealth of his eternal blessings, and there where they are stored up for us in him, we see reflected as in a mirror both the first fruits and the whole of the world to come.

Regular Confessions Offered

St. George 4:45-5:45 P.M. on Thursdays and **before** every Sunday Divine Liturgy

St. Mary: 4:45-5:45 P.M. on Wednesdays and **following** every Sunday Divine Liturgy

St. Nicholas 4:00-4:45 P.M. before Vigil Liturgy on Saturdays

Beaver County Byzantines Happenings...

NEXT SUNDAY: Parishes Picnic

The annual St. George picnic for our Byzantine Catholic Parishes is next **Sunday, August 17**, on the grounds of St. George Church. The day will begin with a **10:00 AM Divine Liturgy** followed by the activities. St. George’s Men’s Club will supply and grill the meats, and St. George’s Ladies Guild will prepare the main side dishes and set up the picnic buffet. There will be a dunk tank to dunk Fr. Anthony, bingo, games, food, and other fun. **Everyone is asked to bring (potluck) side dishes, desserts, or beverages. Bring your donations of already made gift baskets for the raffle. Invite and bring family, friends, and neighbors. All are welcome!**



“For where two or three have gathered together in my name, I am there in their midst.”
(Matthew 18:20)

Blessing of Flowers and Herbs

According to our Byzantine Catholic Tradition, flowers are solemnly blessed on the Feast of the Dormition of the Theotokos. From ancient times we have been taught that when Mary, the Mother God, fell asleep the whole company of the Apostles - except Thomas - was miraculously brought together in Jerusalem. Amid divine and heavenly praises, they commended her soul into the hands of God and placed her body in a little tomb in Gethsemane. For three days a choir of Angels continued to sing above her tomb. And on the third day Thomas arrived. So that he could venerate the body that had given birth to Christ God, the Apostles opened the tomb. They found not the body of the Mother of God but the winding sheet and the most beautiful and sweet-smelling flowers. Mary's body had been taken up into the heavens by her Son. Flowers were blessed from the earliest times in both East and West. Over time seeds and herbs used for medicinal purposes were also blessed, in commemoration of the many healings and blessings that were bestowed upon the pilgrims at Mary's tomb.



Blessing of flowers & herbs will take place at the Feast Day Divine Liturgies.

O Most Holy Theotokos, Save Us!
Presvjataja Bohoridice, spasi nas!

St. Mary Divine Services for the Week:

WED., AUG. 13 Leave-taking of the Transfiguration
6:00 P.M. DIVINE LITURGY
+ Dan Hubner, requested by Carol Fellenstein

FRI., AUG. 15 DORMITION of the THEOTOKOS HOLY DAY
9:30 A.M. Matins
11:00 A.M. DIVINE LITURGY, *Blessing of flowers & herbs*, **Obligation**
+ Robert Givens, requested by Dante List

SAT., AUG. 16 TENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST
7:00 P.M. Great Vespers

SUN., AUG. 17 NO LITURGY AT ST. MARY

St. Nicholas Chapel Divine Services for the Week:

FRI., AUG. 15 DORMITION of the THEOTOKOS HOLY DAY
6:00 P.M. DIVINE LITURGY, *Blessing of flowers & herbs*, **Obligation**
For the People of St. George, St. Mary, and St. Nicholas chapel

SAT., AUG. 16 TENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST
5:00 P.M. DIVINE LITURGY
For the People of St. George, St. Mary, and St. Nicholas chapel

"It is a Ghost! And They Cried Out for Fear."

This is the way the Lord constantly deals with our fears. He does not hesitate to bring on worse things, even more alarming then before. They were troubled here not only by the storm but also by the distance from the land. Note that He did not too easily remove the darkness. He did not come quickly to their rescue. He was training them, as I said, by the continuance of these fears and instructing them to be ready to endure.

(St. John Chrysostom)

August 15, The Dormition of the Theotokos, is a Holy Day of obligation on which the faithful are bound in conscience to attend the Holy Liturgy and to abstain from their daily work.

A Note from Fr. Anthony

Dear parishioners,

I will offer the Paraklesis at St. George on Thursday, August 14th at 9:00am. This is a beautiful prayer of supplication to the Theotokos and a wonderful way to prepare for the Dormition. Celebrating this divine service is a longstanding tradition at St. George. There will be no hours at St. Mary's this week.

The feast of the Dormition is a **Holy Day of Obligation**. We will have full liturgical observance (Vespers and Matins) and Divine Liturgy at all three of our Churches. **We will have the blessing of flowers and herbs after each liturgy. Following liturgy at St. George we will have a procession with the Dormition Shroud.** Make sure to plan your schedule accordingly so you can attend the celebration of this great feast!

Please let me know if you desire envelopes for the upcoming Church year if you are not currently receiving them. We have to order them soon.

Please up for the parish picnic at St. George following a combined 10:00am Divine Liturgy on August 17th. **There will be no liturgy at St. Mary's**, but we will still have the 5:00pm Saturday liturgy at St. Nicholas Chapel. Since we only have one liturgy Sunday morning, we also will have Matins at 8:30am at St. George.

Please sign up your children for ECF and give me or Claire Arnold the forms by today! We plan to have the children come to the parish picnic and assign each of them a patron saint there and allow them to meet the teachers.

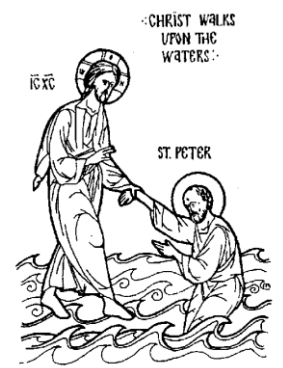
In Christ,
Fr. Anthony

Fr. Anthony on Retreat

Fr. Anthony will be away until Wednesday, Aug 13th on Retreat. Please call Fr. Joseph Raptosh, our Protopresbyter, at St. Michael Byzantine Catholic Church in Canonsburg at 724-745-7117 in case of a sacramental emergency and you desire a Byzantine priest. You may also call St. Augustine Parish at 724-846-7540 as they are in Beaver County and may be able to respond more quickly. Tuesday liturgy will proceed with newly ordained Fr. Luke Iyengar as celebrant.

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Last Sunday's Gospel reading told us of a great miracle: the feeding of an enormous crowd of many thousands with five loaves and two fish. The disciples of Christ themselves, through whose hands this miracle was performed, were dumbfounded. And as the Gospel says, Christ at once compelled them to enter a boat and go before Him to the other shore while He dismissed the crowd. *"Then he made the disciples get into the boat and precede him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. After doing so, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When it was evening he was there alone. Meanwhile the boat, already a few miles offshore, was being tossed about by the waves, for the wind was against it. During the fourth watch of the night, he came toward them, walking on the sea."* (Mt. 14:22-25)



A wonderful image of the Church of Christ is drawn for us here. The boat, as it were, represents the Church: its sides are the rules and canons of the Church; the disciples are all of us Christians; and the stormy sea is the sea of our life. And now too Christ has ascended a mountain, which means He is sitting at the right hand of the Father. He sees our Church boat and directs it. The Gospel says that the disciples went to the other side, not of their own will, but *"Then he made the disciples get into the boat and precede him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds."* (Mt. 14: 22). This means they were doing it out of obedience to Christ. And when they found themselves in danger, He walked to them on the water.

"When the disciples saw him walking on the sea they were terrified. "It is a ghost," they said, and they cried out in fear. At once [Jesus] spoke to them, "Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter said to him in reply, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." Peter got out of the boat and began to walk on the water toward Jesus. (Mt. 14:26-29).

Notice this moment: Christ did not call Peter but only permitted Peter. Here obedience changed to boldness, this came from Peter himself. He felt such a surge of faith, such elation, that everything seemed possible to him. But here something happened. A wave, a high wave for a second hid Christ from Peter. He found himself alone. At once cold reason set to work. It was as if he came to himself and thought, what was he doing? Foolishness. Reason took from him the lightness of faith in which he walked, and he started to drown. A desperate cry rang out: *"Lord, save me." And immediately Christ stretched forth His hand to him and said to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?"* (Mt. 14:30-31).

What happened to Peter? Well, what happened to him can happen to each of us: he became frightened, his faith was shaken. And this happened because he stepped over the side of the boat. What a profound lesson is hidden for us here: in Christian living there should be evenness, there should be quiet. And for this to be so, we must never step over the side of the Church boat. We must keep the statutes of the Church, must live the life of the Church. And then, even if we find ourselves amid the stormy sea of life, we will be able to cry out, "Lord, save me." And He, the Merciful One, will stretch out His saving hand to us, too, as He did to Peter, and we will find ourselves in the boat of the Church, and a great calm will come.

ST. GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH



1001 Clinton Street- Aliquippa, PA 15001
PRIEST: FATHER ANTHONY COSTANTINO

Fr. Anthony's Cell #: (878) 226-0878

OFFICE PHONE: 724-375-2742

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, Dan Pinchot

Grounds Keepers: Rich Mudron, Rob Dzumba, Francis Hersh

Holy Mystery of Reconciliation Thursdays 4:45-5:45 P.M. & before Sunday Liturgy

Holy Mysteries of Initiation Contact the priest

Holy Mystery of Anointing Contact the priest 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, Oct. - May

St. George Ladies' Guild & Men's Club... All men & women are members and welcome to participate

Opportunities for StewardshipChurch and grounds cleaning and maintenance: Every

Saturday, Pirohi making: 2nd week of each month, October – May, Flea Market and food sale: June



Beaver County Byzantines Happenings...



Parish Picnic

*Saint George's Parish family invites
you to join us for our Annual Picnic
for our Byzantine Catholic Parishes:
Food / Games / Family / Fun*

*For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst."
(Matthew 18:20)*

Sunday, August 17

Divine Liturgy: 10:00 A.M.
Picnic: After Liturgy (around 11:30 A.M.)

*Divine Liturgy, Picnic Buffet & Grill, Basket Raffle,
Bingo, Games, Dunk Tank, and more being planned!*

On the Grounds of:

St. George Byzantine Catholic Church

1001 Clinton Street
Aliquippa, PA 15001



Everyone is asked to bring (potluck) side dishes, desserts, or beverages.