August 18, 2019 Tenth Sunday after Pentecost Post Festive Day of the Dormition



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. 125 – 127, Tone 1 and pp. 352 - 355

Divine Services for the Week:

SUN., AUG. 18	TENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST, post-festive day of the Dormition
8:00 A.M.	Holy Rosary
8:30 A.M.	DIVINE LITURGY
	For the Parishioners

The Lord's Day is the original feast day... a day of joy and freedom from work

SUN., AUG. 25	ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
8:00 A.M.	Holy Rosary
8:30 A.M	DIVINE LITURGY
	+ Sister Theresa Margaret Bealer, offered by Sister Mary Virginia

He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly, I say to you, if you have faith as a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, `Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you. But this kind never comes out except by prayer and fasting."

Origen - When someone has total faith, such that he no longer disbelieves in anything found in holy Scripture and has faith like that of Abraham, who so believed in God to such a degree that his faith was reckoned to him as righteousness, then he has all faith like a grain of a mustard seed. Then such a man will say to this mountain – I mean in this case the deaf and dumb spirit in him who is said to be epileptic – "Move from here to another place." It will move.

Happy Birthday Greetings this Week:

August 18: Francis Hersh (Sr.), August 22: Eric Popovich, August 23: Paul Valiga, August 24: John Sirko

> Wedding Anniversaries this Week: None for the Week

Please Pray For Our Sick and Shut-ins

HOME – Margaret Barilla, Eileen Batcha, Natalie Jugan-Diaz, Rebecca Dickun, Marianne Dove, Alice Haber, Jean Herdt, Rebecca Hutcheon, Kevin Joray, Neil Jugan, Marion Malackanich, Josephine Maruhnich, Carole Panella, Mary Salamon

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) - Paul Valiga, Angie Yuhasz

> **Epistle Readers** – Aug. 18: Jo Ann Hersh – Aug. 25: Louisa Hersh Ushers – Aug. 18: J. Yurosky/E. Maruhnich – Aug. 25: R. Dzumba/F. Hersh Troica Holders – Aug. 18: M. Bobanic - August 25: J. Yurosky



Irenaeus (120?-200), "Thus, then, they who are of faith shall be blessed with faithful Abraham, and these are the children of Abraham. Now God made promise of the earth to Abraham and his seed; yet neither Abraham nor his seed, that is, <u>those who are justified by faith</u>, do now receive any inheritance in it; but they shall receive it at the resurrection of the just. For God is true and faithful; and on this account He said, "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth." (Against Heresies, Book 5, chapter 32, par. 2)

Upcoming Calendar of Events August 20 & 22 Walking Club, 7:00 A.M. August 29 ... 6:30 P.M. Divine Liturgy, Beheading of St. John the Baptist, Holy day Aug. 31 & Sept. 1 Otpust, Annual Pilgrimage in Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help September 2 Labor Day September 8 Nativity of the Mother of God Solemn Holy Day September 13 Pirohi sales return September 14 9:00 A.M. Liturgy, Exaltation of the Holy Cross Holy Day September 15 Catechetical Sunday, not just for kids!

Pirohi Sales return September 13

Pirohi time is back!!! Our pirohi sales return on Friday, September 13 and will continue the second Friday of each month thereafter. Our pirohi project accomplishes two things; it raises money to help support our Church AND **brings**

us together for a sense of community. Won't you join us for this important tradition for our St. George Church? Schedules will be announced soon. Any amount of time you can spare will be greatly appreciated. Plan on purchasing your dinners from our pirohi sales on the second Friday of every month. Spread the word and come and help! Thank you!

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Flea Market Note

Many of our Flea Market items were also donated to Goodwill Industries. Again, our hard work benefitted not just our Church but other charities as well. Thank you again for your help. *Goodwill of Southwestern Pennsylvania is a human service agency and network of not-for-profit businesses whose mission is to help people overcome barriers to employment and enjoy the dignity and benefits of work and improved quality of life.*

Church Family News...

Do you have any news you would like published in our bulletin? Please send articles and/or pictures to: style="text-align: center;"/>style="text-align: center;"/>style="t

Faith and works should travel side by side, step answering to step, like the legs of men walking. First faith, and then works; and then faith again, and then works again -- until they can scarcely distinguish which is the one and which is the other.

-William Booth in Christianity Today

A Note from Fr. Geoff

Dear Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

As I begin to settle in as your new pastor and get to know you all, I thought perhaps you'd like to know a little about me and my family as well. I have not always been a Byzantine Catholic. I thank God that I was received into this Church by Holy Chrismation almost 10 years ago. But since my childhood, I had always felt a vocation to pastoral ministry.

Work for the church comes naturally to me. My grandfather, father, three uncles, and an aunt are or were pastors in various protestant denominations. Not only that, but I have two brothers who are both in ministry: one as an Episcopal priest and the other as a priest in the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. All of these differences make for lively discussions and debates at family reunions! But we all are also united in the love of our one Lord and the service of God's people. It goes without saying that ecumenical work and prayer for the unity of Christians is very dear to my heart!

I am also married and have three children. Many of you have had the chance to meet my wife, Erin, and our children Gabriel, Alexandra, and Josephine. They are as excited about my new pastoral work as I am and I am so grateful for their love and support.

In addition to my work for St. Mary's and St. George's, during the week I serve as the Dean of Students at Trinity School for Ministry, the Anglican seminary in Ambridge. I have worked there since 2006 and it is a blessing to be able to serve parishes right in the area where I've lived for the last 13 years.

So that's a little bit about me and my family. I look forward to getting to know all of you better, little by little, as we grow together in Christ who has called us into communion.

"May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit." (Romans 15.13)

In Christ, Fr. Geoff

In Case of Emergencies

Father Geoffrey's phone number is posted on the back cover of the bulletins in case of an emergency.

Our religion is founded on spiritual experience, seen and heard as sure as any physical fact in this world. Not theory, not philosophy, not human emotions, but experience.

Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

At that time, a man came up to Him and kneeling before Him said, "Lord, have mercy on my son, for he is an epileptic and he suffers terribly; for often he falls into the fire, and often into the water. And I brought him to Your disciples, and they could not heal him."

In today's Gospel reading Our Lord helps us put into perspective the giants that intimidate and try to control our lives. He tells His disciples and us, "If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there', and it will move, and nothing will be impossible to you."

The Gospel is telling us that there is no difficulty bigger than God. He is bigger than any temptation, any sin, any failure,

and any problem. When we place our lives in His hands, through a personal act of faith, He gives us the power to become bigger than we ever dreamed we could be – bigger than an illness, bigger than our weaknesses, bigger than our hatred, bigger than our prejudices, bigger than our defeats. With Christ we can have a giant within us. Saint John writes in his first epistle: "He who is in you (that is Christ) is greater than he who is in the world (that is Satan)" (1 John 4:4).

In today's Gospel, Jesus Himself restores a boy to his right mind after His own disciples fail because they doubted the powers He had given them. In those disciples we easily see ourselves when we confront the giants and mountains of life. The secret to understanding and undoing them is to believe that no person, no situation, no set of circumstances is bigger than God.

A man whose life was guided by that kind of belief was Saint Paul. He was afflicted with a serious physical infirmity which he talks about in his second letter to the Corinthians. He calls it his "thorn in the flesh". Even though he prayed to be delivered from it, God instead gave Him the power to live with it. That thorn in the flesh did not make the apostle Paul an invalid; it drove him to greater dependence on Christ and to greater power.

Let us to face the mountains in our own lives with the conviction that faith can and will move them. Amen.



Taizé Worship



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Taizé Prayer comes out of the daily life of the ecumenical monastery of Taizé, France. This contemplative form of worship is characterized by repetitive chants, reflection, silence, petitions, and candlelight. It is able to touch the mind and open

one's spirit to the presence of God. Two nearby religious houses offer regular Taizé Prayer opportunities:

The Sisters of St. Joseph (1020 State Street, Baden) will offer Taizé Prayer on September 4 and October 2 at 6:00 PM. (For questions, call 724-888-6809.)

The Community of Celebration (809 Franklin Ave., Aliquippa) will offer Taizé Prayer on September 1 and October 6 at 7:30 PM. (For questions call 724-375-1510.)

September 15, 2019 is National Back to Church Sunday! Who will you invite?

Imagine if everyone in your community came to Church. This September, join 13,000 churches and be a part of the national movement to invite everyone in America back to church. National Back to Church Sunday is a single day focused on involving everyone in the Church in an effort to reach out and invite everyone to give church a try.



Only 2% of Church-going people invite someone to Church in a given year. That means 98% of Church-goers never extend an invitation in a given year!



Excerpt from Christ Our Pascha - "The Freedom and Responsibility of Humankind" The most profound dimension of human freedom consists in being able to freely choose God and to be with Him. This is the good. Yet with this same freedom, we can also reject our relationship with God – and this is evil. To be free is to possess the capacity for unfettered self-determination. Evil, in fact, does not belong to creation; it only appears when humanity renounces the choice for good, and thus abuses its freedom. As God's gift, freedom is strengthened through a very free choice of the good. On the other hand, it is limited when humanity becomes dependent upon

85th Annual Pilgrimage in Honor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help

evil which is the consequence of its renouncing the good. (#137)

Aug. 31 & Sept. 1: The Pilgrimage is the oldest and largest Byzantine Catholic Pilgrimage in the United States. The Sisters welcome all people of faith to share in this special ministry and in its many blessings. Location: 500 West Main Street, Uniontown, PA 15401



SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH



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PARISH WEBSITE: www.stgeorgebyzantinecatholicchurch.org

Cantors: Jo Ann Hersh, David Klacik,	E.C.F. coordinator: Jo Ann Hersh
Louisa Hersh	Facilities Supervisor: John Poiarkoff
Holy Mystery of Reconciliation	Before and after Liturgies
Holy Mysteries of Initiation	Contact the church office
Holy Mystery of Anointing	Ask prior to surgery or serious illness
Holy Mystery of MarriageCon	tact the church office eight months prior to wedding
Religious Education ClassesSepte	mber 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
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God has entrusted St. George Church to us; its future is in our hands.

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