

August 16, 2020  
Eleventh 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!*

Divine Services for the Week:

SUN., AUG. 16      ELEVENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST  
Post-festive Day of the Dormition  
8:30 A.M.      DIVINE LITURGY  
+ Angie Yuhasz, requested by Prudy Peya

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

SUN., AUG. 23      TWELFTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST  
8:30 A.M.      DIVINE LITURGY  
+ Paul Valiga, requested Richard Mudron

**THANK YOU**

GCU District 15 has recently gifted the parish a generous donation of \$500 to help with costs during this time of COVID-19. We want to give a public "thank you" to the GCU for their generosity in ensuring the ongoing work of the parish. May God bless them in return!

*"If you ever feel distressed during your day, call upon our Lady, just say this simple prayer: 'Mary, Mother of Jesus, please be a mother to me now.' I must admit, this prayer has never failed me." - St. Teresa of Calcutta (Mother Teresa)*

**Happy Birthday Greetings This Week:**

August 17: Janice Gural, August 18: Francis Hersh (Sr.), August 22: Eric Popovich

**Wedding Anniversaries this Week:**

None for the week

**Please Pray For Our Sick and Shut-ins**

**HOME** – Eileen Batcha, Natalie Jugan-Diaz, Rebecca Dickun, Marianne Dove, Jean Herdt, Rebecca Hutcheon, Kevin Joray, Mary Ann Jugan, Neil Jugan, Josephine Maruhnich, Mary Salamon, John Simunick, Bonnie Taylor

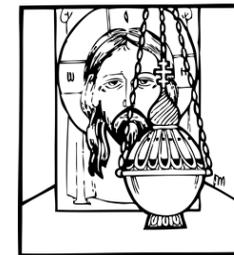
**Hunter's Care Home** (1916 Main St, Aliquippa, PA 15001) – Mary Poiarkoff

**West Hills Health & Rehab Center** (951 Brodhead Road, Coraopolis, PA 15108) – Alice Haber

**Epistle Readers** – Aug. 16: Louisa Hersh – Aug. 23: Joanne Futato

**Ushers** – Aug. 16: R. Dzumba/R. Mudron – Aug. 23: F. Hersh/R. Dzumba

**Troica Holders** – Aug. 16: F. Hersh – Aug. 23: R. Mudron



THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP

August 16 - 22, 2020

*Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:*

+ Mary & Michael Popovich

*(In Loving Memory)*

Offered By:

Diane & Mary Ann



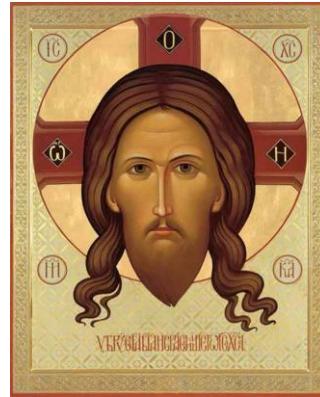
**Prayer to St. Michael the Archangel:**

*Saint Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle, be our protection against the malice and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him we humbly pray; and do thou, O Prince of the Heavenly host, by the power of God, thrust into hell Satan and all evil spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls. Amen.*

## THE ICON “NOT-MADE-BY-HANDS”

**August 16: Translation of the Icon of our Lord, God, and Savior Jesus Christ, the icon “not made by human hands,” from Edessa to Constantinople, 944.**

The Icon "Not-Made-By-Hands" refers to the early Church Tradition that Christ made an image of Himself by pressing His face to a napkin and sending it to King Abgar of the neighboring kingdom of Edessa. The king had leprosy and believed that if he could just see an image of Christ, Whom he had heard so much about, that he would be healed, and this healing came to pass (except for one small spot on his face) when the image came to him. Christ also sent him a message telling him that one of His Disciples would come later and instruct the king. After the Ascension, the Apostle Jude Thaddeus came and baptized the king and the people of his kingdom, so that Edessa became the very first Christian kingdom. The last spot of leprosy was also healed at the time of King Abgar's baptism.



*We have this icon in our Church. Can you find it?*

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**Forgiveness Requires Forgiveness** – The God of all men releases us from the difficulties of our faults, according to the parable. This is what is signified by the forgiveness of the debt of the ten thousand talents. But this happens only on the condition that we ourselves release our fellow servants from the hundred denarii, that is, from the few minor faults they have committed against us. (*St. Cyril of Alexandria*)

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*Our Lord Jesus Christ..., who came to liberate mankind, in which both males and females are destined to salvation, was not adverse to males, for He took the form of a male, nor to females, for of a female He was born. Besides, there is a great mystery here: that just as death comes to us through a woman, Life is born to us through a woman; that the devil - defeated - would be tormented by each nature, feminine and masculine, since he had taken delight in the defection of both.*

*(St. Augustine of Hippo)*

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### Excerpt from Christ Our Pascha

**Humankind—the Crown of Creation:** Humankind, as the image of God, always aspires to its Prototype: “As a deer longs for flowing streams, so longs my soul for you, O God” (Ps 41[42]:2). The Holy Fathers referred to this aspiration as the longing of humankind to attain the likeness of God. In the words of Gregory of Nyssa, “truly herein consists the real assimilation to the Divine, that is, in making our own life in some degree a copy of the Supreme Being.”<sup>105</sup> Saint John of Damascus believes that “the phrase ‘after his likeness’ means likeness in virtue [to God] so far as that is possible.” (#123)

## *Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost*

*“So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart.” - Matthew 18:35*

Forgiveness is the expression of mercy, and Jesus has blessed the merciful: “Blessed are the merciful, for they shall obtain mercy” (Mt. 5:7). Mercy is one of the eight Beatitudes in which Christ summarized the true righteousness and clarified the way to the Kingdom of God: “I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the Kingdom of God” (Mt. 5:20). To enter the Kingdom of God one needs to be like God. That is why Jesus, after having spoken of the love of the enemies, concluded: “You, therefore, must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect” (Mt. 5:48). This same sentence is expressed in the Gospel according to St. Luke in the following way: “Be merciful even as your Father is merciful” (Luke 6:36). If you can forgive like God, and be merciful like God, you can reach the perfection of God. Mercy is one of the eight Beatitudes, and it is also one of the seven sentences of the Lord's Prayer: “forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us”. The conclusion of the Lord's Prayer is also suggestive: “For if you forgive men their trespasses, your heavenly father also will forgive you; but if you do not forgive them their trespasses, neither will your father forgive your trespasses” (Mt. 6:14-15).



Forgiveness is a gift from God, and a gift is not a gift unless it is accepted. Forgiveness begins with our being forgiven first, and our accepting God's forgiveness. If we are full of hatred, God cannot fill us, because even God cannot fill which is already full. That is why we need to repent: to allow God to empty us of hatred. Then he can fill us with Himself, with His Love and forgiveness to enable us to forgive others.

By forgiving us our sins, God gave us his peace. Let us not lose this peace by filling our hearts with bitterness to others. We have received from the Holy Spirit the gift of forgiveness. Let us share this gift with others. And on this Sunday let us remember the words of St. Paul to the Ephesians: “Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, in whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, with all malice. Instead be kind and tenderhearted to one another, forgiving one another, as God has forgiven you in Christ” (4:30-31).

# SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

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**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 Anointing ..... Ask prior to surgery or serious illness  
 Holy Mystery of Marriage ..... Contact 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

Happiness is a pure heart, for such a heart becomes the throne of God.

St. Nektarios of Aegina

