

November 29, 2020  
Twenty Sixth 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 V'iki!*

Divine Services for the Week:

<b>SUN., NOV. 29</b> <b>8:30 A.M.</b>	<b>TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST</b> <b>DIVINE LITURGY</b> + <b>Susan Zimmerman</b> , requested by granddaughters Ella and Serafina
<b>SUN., DEC. 6</b> <b>8:30 A.M.</b>	<b>TWENTY SEVENTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST,</b> <b>ST. NICHOLAS HOLY DAY</b> <b>DIVINE LITURGY</b> + <b>Hermancia Ermay</b> , requested by Sr. Mary Virginia

**You are Freed from Your Infirmary!**

The incarnation of the Word and his assumption of human nature took place for the overthrow of death, destruction and the envy harbored against us by the wicket Serpent, who was the first cause of evil. This is plainly proved to by the facts themselves. He set free the daughter of Abraham from her protracted sickness, calling out and saying, “Woman, you are loosed from your infirmity.” A speech most worthy of God, and full of supernatural power! With the royal inclination of His will He drives away the disease. He also lays his hands upon her. It says that she immediately was made straight. It is now also possible to see that His holy flesh bore in it the power and activity of God. *(Saint Cyril of Alexandria)*

**Happy Birthday Greetings This Week:**

December 1: Joseph Yurosky, December 2: Amy Hagan, December 5: Peggy Chabala

**Wedding Anniversaries this Week:**

None for the week

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

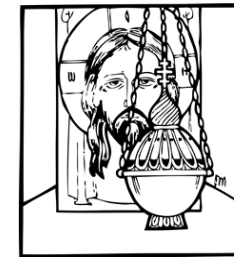
**HOME** – Eileen Batcha, Rebecca Dickun, Marianne Dove, Jean Herdt, Rebecca Hutcheon, Kevin Joray, Mary Ann Jugan, Neil Jugan, Josephine Maruhnich, Mary Salamon, John Simunick, Bonnie Taylor

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

**Epistle Readers - Nov. 29: Prudy Peya – Dec. 6: Reaghan Cody**

**Ushers– Stand in as needed**

**Troica Holders – Nov. 29: J. Yurosky – Dec. 6: R. Mudron**



**THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP**  
November 29 – December 5, 2020

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

+ **David Bobanic**

*(In Loving Memory)*

Offered By:

Butch & Judy Dzumba



*Your regular attendance and sacrificial offerings benefit the overall welfare of our Parish*



**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.*

**Christmas Basket Raffles**

We are selling raffle tickets to win beautiful Christmas baskets to benefit our Church. The price for tickets per basket are \$5.00 for one ticket or \$20.00 for five tickets. Tickets can be purchased today through December 20. The winning tickets will be drawn on December 20. The baskets are on display in the narthex.



**Father Christmas Basket**



**Frosty Basket**

**Upcoming Divine Services Schedule**

December 6 .....	St. Nicholas Holy Day, Sunday Liturgy here as usual 8:30 AM
December 8 .....	Maternity of St. Anna Holy Day - Divine Liturgy at <b>St. Mary</b> at 6:00 PM
December 11 .....	Vigil Divine Liturgy for Our Lady of Guadalupe at <b>St. George</b> at 6:00 PM
Christmas Eve .....	Great Compline, caroling, and Divine Liturgy at <b>St. George</b> at 7:00 PM
Christmas Day .....	Divine Liturgy at <b>St. Mary</b> at 9:00 AM
December 26 .....	Divine Liturgy for the Synaxis of the Theotokos at <b>St. George</b> at 9:00 AM
December 27 .....	Protomartyr St. Stephen Holy Day, Sunday Liturgy here as usual 8:30 AM
December 31 .....	Vespereal Divine Liturgy for the Circumcision/St. Basil at <b>St. Mary</b> at 6:00 PM

“Come, O Jesus, our Savior, redeem and save us!”

**Nativity Fast Nov.15 - Dec.24**

*How can we prepare for Christ’s arrival?*

One way is by increasing our prayer. “The two great movements of the soul have always been withdrawal and return...withdrawal into God’s presence through prayer for strength...without prayer, the quality of our service deteriorates. Without prayer we forget the world; with prayer we remember.” Advent is a time to remember that in God, we move and breathe and have our being, and we must be *with* Him and consciously *in* Him before we can have authentic love and relationship with others.”

~ Fr. Anthony Coniaris



**Parish Almsgiving Collection**

We are now in the midst of our Nativity Fast as we prepare for the celebration of our Lord's nativity. It has been the tradition of the Church from earliest days that fasting is combined with two other practices: Prayer and Alms-Giving. Alms-giving, or Charity, is particularly appropriate during the Nativity Fast, as we are entering the colder winter months and our thoughts and prayers turn toward those among us who are most in need. For this reason, and in obedience to our Lord who said, "Whatsoever you do to the least of these, my brothers, you do to me," are collecting non-perishable food items now through December 13. A donation box is in the narthex. *Thank you!*



**Christmas Market:** There is a “Christmas Market” set up in the Center. Please visit the Market before or after Liturgy and if there is anything you like, simply leave a donation for your purchase. There are ornaments, home décor and many other Christmas items. Please stop by.

**Christmas Basket Raffles:** See page 5 of the bulletin for details.



**December First Friday Fellowship: Herb Bailey**

On Friday, December 4 at 6:00 PM we will have our monthly **First Friday Fellowship** at St. Mary's Church in Ambridge. Our speaker this month is **Herb Bailey**, the Ministry Director at Uncommon Grounds Cafe in Aliquippa. Uncommon Grounds is not only a coffee shop, but a ministry which seeks to serve the least, the last, and the lost in Aliquippa. Run by evangelists and volunteers, the Cafe features art programs and community outreach which aim at proclaiming the good news of Christ through listening and offering dignity. Herb will share with us about the ministry of the cafe and the exciting things that are happening there.

**Altar Candles for Christmas:** A sign-up sheet is now available to donate altar candles for Christmas in memory of a deceased loved one or friend or for the health and well-being of a loved one or friend.

## ECF Reflection: Twenty Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

### GOSPEL: LUKE 13: 10 - 17

Today, the Church presents for our consideration the image of the woman who was bent over and unable to stand up because of the evil spirits that afflicted her. As the Fathers of the Church explain, this woman is a symbol of our human nature oppressed by a sinful life – the life of vice and of sin. As Saint Athanasios explained in his great work *On the Incarnation*, man having “rejected the contemplation of God” was weighed down by sin and unable to lift up his eyes to contemplate heavenly realities. It is for this reason, Saint Athanasios explained, that God became man and was born in a manger—that we who were bent over like the animals and feeding ourselves on earthly things might meet God face to face in the feed trough of the manger and be raised in him and returned to our proper stature to contemplate the things above. The following is the most famous part of his explanation:



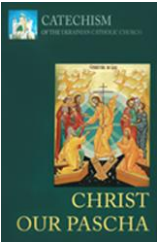
*“Seeing that men, having rejected the contemplation of God, and with their eyes downward, as though sunk in the deep, were seeking about for God in nature and in the world of sense, feigning gods for themselves of mortal men and demons; to this end the loving and general Savior of all, the Word of God, takes to Himself a body, and as Man walks among men and meets the senses of all men half-way, to the end, I say, that they who think that God is corporeal may from what the Lord effects by His body perceive the truth, and through Him recognize the Father. So, men as they were, and human in all their thoughts, on whatever objects they fixed their senses, there they saw themselves met half-way, and taught the truth from every side. For if they looked with awe upon the Creation, yet they saw how she confessed Christ as Lord; or if their mind was swayed toward men, so as to think them gods, yet from the Savior's works, supposing they compared them, the Savior alone among men appeared Son of God; for there were no such works done among the rest as have been done by the Word of God. Or if they were biased toward evil spirits, even, yet seeing them cast out by the Word, they were to know that He alone, the Word of God, was God, and that the spirits were none. Or if their mind had already sunk even to the dead, so as to worship heroes, and the gods spoken of in the poets, yet, seeing the Savior's resurrection, they were to confess them to be false gods, and that the Lord alone is true, the Word of the Father, that was Lord even of death. For this cause He was both born and appeared as Man, and died, and rose again, dulling and casting into the shade the works of all former men by His own, that in whatever direction the bias of men might be, from thence He might recall them, and teach them of His own true Father, as He Himself says: "I came to save and to find that which was lost." (Lk 19.10). (Inc. 15)*

### PRACTICAL QUESTIONS

1. What does it mean to be weighed down by sin?
2. Why does sin make us only see the things of this world and unable to see as God sees?
3. How does the Incarnation help us to “see” again?

### Excerpt from Christ Our Pascha: The Mystery of the Eucharist

**The Eucharistic Offering:** Christ offers himself to us so that we in turn would offer ourselves to him. Christ offers himself as Gift: “Take, eat ... Drink of it, all of you ....” To these words we respond, offering the gifts and ourselves: “We offer to you, yours of your own ....” We do this because of all that he has done for us. At the Divine Liturgy we perform the memorial of Christ’s offering of himself as gift, in order to respond with our gift offering. Christ’s offering is eternal and ever-present, while we need to ever renew and deepen our gift-offering. (#443)



*"To live rightly in the presence and communion of God is to live in a state of constant thanksgiving. For from Him we receive all that we have – our life and existence, all good things, the hope of redemption, and the joy of communion... The offering of our heart in the giving of thanks is itself an act of joy and of love. It is a moving away from ourselves as the center of our existence and the recognition that our true life is centered elsewhere – in Christ Himself."*

Fr. Stephen Freeman

### MATCHING GIFTS FOR SEMINARY

The Greek Catholic Union Board of Directors has authorized a **Matching Funds Campaign** through December 6, 2020. The GCU will match total donations to the Seminary of Ss. Cyril & Methodius up to \$10,000 during this campaign. Those who wish to donate may do so online at [www.GCUusa.com](http://www.GCUusa.com). If you would prefer to mail in a donation, checks should be made out to: St. Nicholas Charity Dinner and sent to: GCU St. Nicholas Virtualthon, 5400 Tuscarawas Rd., Beaver, PA 15009.

**Sanctuary Candles for 2021:** The 2021 weekly sanctuary candle intentions sign-up is available in the Narthex for you to sponsor with your intention in memory of a deceased loved one or for the health and well-being of a friend or loved one.

### Church Mice



SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH



1001 Clinton Street- Aliquippa, PA 15001

**PASTOR: FATHER GEOFFREY MACKEY**

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

Religious: Sr. Mary Virginia O' Carm

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

OFFICE PHONE: 724-375-2742

FAX: 724-375-8776

ST. GEORGE CENTER: 724-375-6652

PARISH EMAIL: [stgbyz@gmail.com](mailto:stgbyz@gmail.com)

PARISH WEBSITE: [www.stgeorgebyzantinecatholicchurch.org](http://www.stgeorgebyzantinecatholicchurch.org)

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



*O Christ the Savior, most holy Fruit of the most pure Virgin, come to us and save us!*