

May 30, 2021
Sunday of All Saints



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: pp. 211 - 213

Divine Services for the Week:

SUN., MAY 30
8:30 A.M.

SUNDAY OF ALL SAINTS
DIVINE LITURGY

+ Departed parishioners

Blessing of graves at Mt. Olivet cemetery

2:00 P.M.

Today we will have the Blessing of Graves at Mt. Olivet Cemetery at **2:00 P.M.** We will gather at the Cross at the main entrance of the cemetery for a Panachida Service then proceed to bless the graves of our deceased loved ones. Come and pray for your deceased family members.

SUN., JUNE 6
8:30 A.M.

SECOND SUNDAY after PENTECOST
DIVINE LITURGY

+ Sr. Rose Elizabeth, requested by James Mudron

Eternal Memory - Lifelong parishioner, Mary Poiarkoff fell asleep in the Lord on Thursday, May 27. Our church family offers prayerful condolences to the Poiarkoff family. Mary was a faithful member of our Church, a catechist, cantor, caretaker of the church and house, pirohi worker and much more. There will be a Parastas at Huntsman Funeral Home on Tuesday at 6:30 P.M. Her Funeral Divine Liturgy will be on Wednesday at 10:00 A.M.

Our parish family extends its heartfelt sympathies to Isabel and Ed Maruhnich On the death of Isabel's mother, Philomena Rossi, who fell asleep in the Lord on May 21.

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Violet Hayes, formerly of Aliquippa and St. George Church, who fell asleep in the Lord on January 24. Her Funeral Divine Liturgy was held here Friday, May 28.

In blessed repose, grant O Lord eternal rest to the souls of Your departed servants Mary, Philomena and Violet and remember them forever! *Vičnaja jim pamjat'!*

Happy Birthday Greetings This Week:

June 5: John Dzumba

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, Mary Salamon, John Simunick

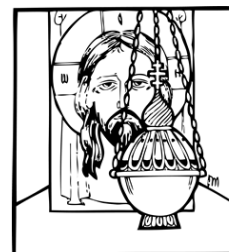
Hunter's Care Home (1916 Main St, Aliquippa, PA 15001) – Mary Poiarkoff

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

Epistle Readers – May 30: JoAnn Hersh – June 6: Reaghan Cody

Ushers – Stand in as needed

Troica Holders – May 30: Francis Hersh – June 6: Louisa Hersh



THIS WEEK'S SANCTUARY LAMP

May 30 – June 5, 2021

Burns before the real presence of our Lord for:

+ Stephen & Elizabeth Hodavanich

(In loving memory)

Offered By:
Daughter, Joanne

The Church is the body of Christ, His bride, the world to come, and the temple of God. The members of His body are all the saints. However, not all of the saints who will please God have yet appeared, nor yet is thus complete, nor the world to come yet filled. I say this about God's Church. There are, though, many unbelievers in the world today who will believe in Christ; many sinners and debauched who will repent and change their lives; many undecided who will be persuaded. There are many, a great many, up to the sound of the last trumpet, who will prove well-pleasing to God and who have not yet been born. All those who are foreknown by God must be born, come into being, before the world beyond our world, the world of the Church, of the first-born, of the heavenly Jerusalem, is filled up. Then shall the end come and the fullness of the body of Christ be complete.

Those who have long enjoyed such privileges forget in time that men have died to win them

Franklin D. Roosevelt

It's St. George Flea Market Time!



Our Flea Market, Haluski and Bake Sale will return this summer here at St. George Church, on June 25 - 26. We are in need of new donations. Consider donating items you no longer need to our Flea Market, no clothing please. Items can be brought to the Center every Saturday from 9:00

Flyers are available in the narthex and Center. Please take some to pass out and to hang up to help advertise. Yard signs are coming!

A.M. - 11:00 A.M. or any time you are here. Ask family and friends to consider donating items to our Flea Market. Your help with this event will be greatly appreciated. *Thank you!*

Blessing of Graduates, June 13

There will be a blessing of Graduates on **Sunday, June 13**, following Divine Liturgy. If there are any in our Church family who graduated from High School or College this year, please inform the Church at stgbyz@gmail.com so they can be included. Graduates who should have had a blessing last year should also plan on receiving a blessing and contact the Church as well.

Father's Day Breakfast, June 20

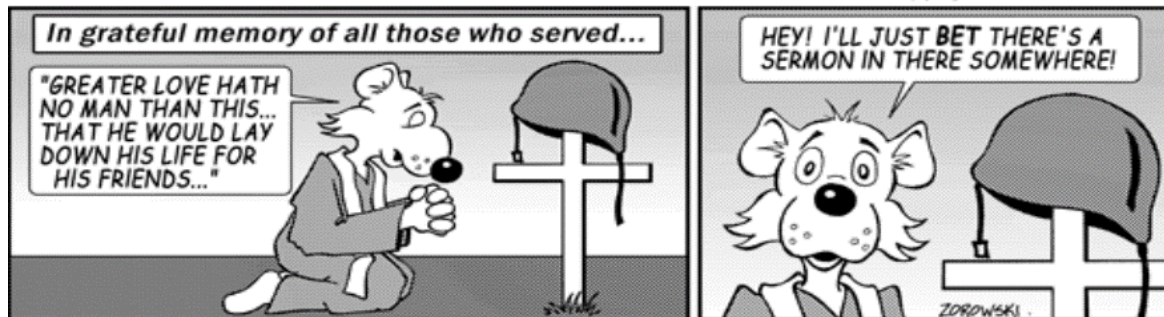
On **Sunday, June 20**, following the 8:30 AM Divine Liturgy, the Ladies Guild will be serving a Father's Day Breakfast. We will come together as a Church family in honor of all Fathers, Grandfathers, Great-grandfathers, Godfathers, Spiritual Fathers, and all who portray a fatherly role in our lives. **Everyone is invited!**



Summer Reading - We have many books and resources for you to borrow this summer from our Church Library. There are new titles available. **Check out the many titles and resources and relax with a good book!**

Church Mice

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A Note from Father Geoff

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

On this Sunday of All Saints we commemorate all of those, both known and unknown, who have lived and died in every age as servants and friends of our Lord. This commemoration always falls the week after Pentecost, because it is the logical outcome of the gift of the Holy Spirit: God himself has given us his *Breath*, his *Life*, so that we, too, might become children of God by adoption and grace. St. Paul writes in his Letter to the Romans:

"For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, 'Abba! Father' it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ..." (Rom. 8.15-17)

In our Epistle for the Liturgy this morning, we hear a portion of the famous passage of Hebrews in which the writer recalls many of the saints of the Hebrew era, of which there are too many to recount: Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, David, Samuel, the prophets, etc. The ranks of those who love and serve the Lord is far more vast than we can ever recall.

And in the Wisdom of Sirach, we learn that it is not only the "famous" saints that we give thanks for. *"But of others,"* it says, *"there is no memory; they have perished as though they had never existed; they have become as though they had never been born...but these also were godly men."* (see Sirach 44).

We give thanks for and celebrate the *whole* communion of saints. Today we are believers because of the faithfulness of those who have gone before us. Generation after generation the holy ones of God passed on the faith by word and deed until it came to us in this present day. And they now dwell in the nearer presence of God and intercede for us who are still running "with perseverance the race that is set before us." (Heb. 12.1)

The great Tradition which has been given to us - that is, the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ - is now ours to pass on to others. As those "called to be saints" (1 Cor. 1.2), we have the great privilege to take up our place in the great chorus of friends and servants of God.

To God be the glory now and ever and forever!

Fr. Geoff

Confession with the Lips Leads to Salvation

Adapted from St. John Chrysostom's Homily on Today's Gospel

The Son does not here speak soothing words but instead speaks of the consequences of denial. Note carefully: It is not by some power within yourself that you make your confession but by the help of grace from above. But if you deny me, the Son, he is saying, then I will deny you in the presence of the Father. Someone may then object: "How then am I to be blamed if God, forsaking me, denies me?" The answer is, your being forsaken is the fault of you yourself, the forsaken person, not of God.

"But why," you object, "should I need to confess faith with my mouth if I confess faith in my mind?" No. We must confess with our mouths in order that we may be steadily trained to speak boldly. It is only through this more abundant love and determination that we will be raised on high.

In this way Jesus addresses himself to each one of us personally. He is not here addressing only his original disciples but also every one of us who follows after his disciples in accord with their witness to him. One who learns this lesson will teach it in boldness to others, prepared to suffer all things easily and with a ready mind. That is why so many have come to have faith in the witness of the apostles and the saints to this Word.

Matthew 10:32-33 - "So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven; but whoever denies me before men, I also will deny before my Father who is in heaven."

The Peter and Paul (Apostles) Fast

On Monday, May 31, we begin in our Liturgical calendar the Apostles Fast, during which the Holy Church prepares the faithful with prayer and fasting for the feast of the Holy Apostles Peter and Paul whose memory we celebrate on June 29th. This fast concludes on Monday, June 28. According to the Pastoral Handbook of the Byzantine Catholic Archeparchy of Pittsburgh, simple fast or abstinence (from meat) is observed on Wednesdays and Fridays during this fasting period. The Ruthenian Metropolia has identified this period as a penitential season, a time when Eastern Christians traditionally celebrate the Mystery of Holy Confession. This period of fasting assists us in preparing for the great Feast of Saints Peter and Paul, the prime apostles to our Lord. The Feast of Saints Peter and Paul is a holy day of obligation for us. Even though this fasting period in honor of the Apostles has been forgotten by many in our Holy Church, let us do our best in observing our spiritual patrimony.

So everyone who acknowledges me before men, I also will acknowledge before my Father who is in heaven

Memorial Day Prayer

O God, our Father, endless source of life and peace, welcome into Your merciful embrace the fallen of the war that raged here, the fallen of all wars that have bloodied the earth. Grant that they may enjoy the light that does not fail, which, in the reflection of Your splendor, illumines the consciences of all men and women of good will. You, Who in Your Son Jesus Christ gave suffering humanity a glorious witness of Your love for us, You, Who in our Lord Christ gave us the sign of a suffering that is never in vain, but fruitful in Your redeeming power, grant those who yet suffer for the blind violence of fratricidal wars the strength of the hope that does not fade, the dream of a definitive civilization of life, the courage of a real and daily activity of peace.



Give us your Paraclete Spirit so that the people of our time may understand that the gift of peace is much more precious than any corruptible treasure, and that while awaiting the day that does not end we are all called to be builders of peace for the future of Your children. Make all Christians more convinced witnesses of life, the inestimable gift of Your love, You Who live and reign for ever and ever Amen.

Sunday of All Saints Reflection

The Sunday following Pentecost is the Sunday of All Saints, celebrating the gift of the Holy Spirit in the hearts of all those who have faith. The Holy Spirit is the Life of God, and faith is the total giving of ourselves to the One Who has shared His Life with us. When this communion between man and God takes place in the hearts of believers, we are transformed, divinized, and made children of God, sharing a common nature and life with our Heavenly Father. Thus, we attribute to believers an attribute proper to God: holiness. To be a "saint" is to be one who is in communion with God, one who shares in the life of God. While many think of saints as those who have died and, having been confirmed by miracles, are now declared to live with God, this is only half of the story. No one **becomes** a saint after death! Either a person lives God's life now, and is therefore a living saint, or they will surely die in their sins.

CHALLENGE QUESTIONS

1. What is faith?
2. What is a saint?
3. Am I a saint?
4. According to the final sentence of the Epistle, what must I do to be a saint?

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfection of our faith. Amen.

SAINT GEORGE BYZANTINE CATHOLIC CHURCH



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Cantors: Jo Ann Hersh, Louisa Hersh, David Klacik 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



The People of God have different gifts, roles and responsibilities, yet all are under one head, Christ Jesus – sisters and brothers in Him.